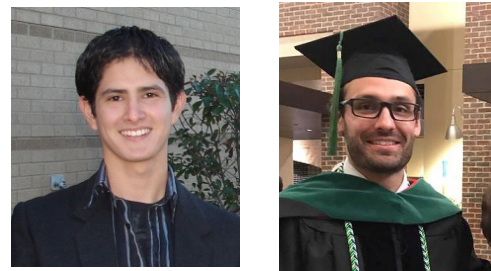
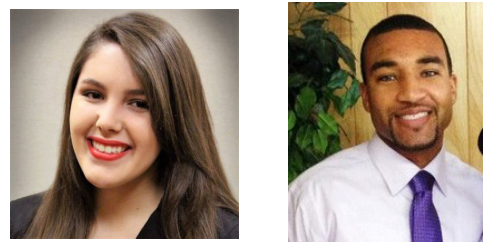


ALACRITY

Volume: 10
Edition: 1



Of all the professions, Honors Northeast in its 10 years, has contributed most to medicine. Above, Alexander Villalobos, and Matt O'Neal received their Doctor of Medicine degrees from the Universities of Texas and Arkansas this past summer. Villalobos produced our first film back in 2009, and O'Neal remains the only student who ever survived baseball and honors simultaneously at NTCC!



Above, Kayleah Cumpian has just graduated from Texas Tech and has made Med School at the Medical Branch at Galveston this fall. Damico Hill, after being voted "Student of the Year" at the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants is now a medical officer in the Navy, and learning how to fly. Cumpian won our last Boe Award

Our Alacritous Alumni

in 2014, and Hill placed in our 2010 McGraw Hill Poster Contest.

Our "met in honors" married couple, Nick and Brooke Shaver, are racking up higher degrees, and living in Houston.

In business, we are quick to recall Thibaut Guidet, and Stephani Calderon. Guidet, below, is a Financial Analyst at Rackspace, a cloud management company based in San Antonio that serves half of the Fortune 100. Stephani Calderon is a Consulting Analyst, and Speaker for Accenture in Dallas, an international firm.

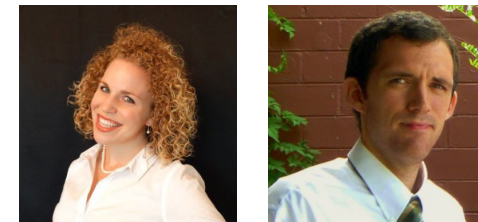


Our first Presidential Scholar, Ashley Shew, and the one who made perhaps the most remarkable turn-around, Lisa Lageschaar, have stories. Lageschaar, recently became Miss Rodeo America, and Shew's



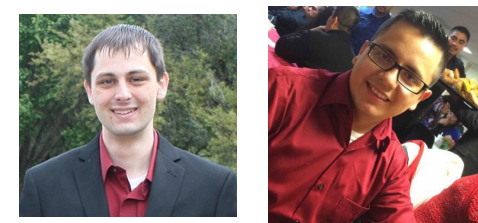
interests led to this encounter with the Minority Leader of the House, Nancy Pelosi (below left).

Two of our first group of Presidential Scholars have already gained enviable experience as educators. This includes: Kristin Ellermann, and Zachary Richardson



above. Ellermann taught in the Republic of Georgia as a member of the Peace Corps, and Shanghai, China. Richardson, who just got married last summer, has a full-time teaching position at El Centro College in Dallas.

Our engineering graduates have made some surprising forays: Last time we checked with Matthew Jordan, he was



working for the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Carlos Mendez is an Automotive Professional for Avanzar Interior Technologies, a Toyota supplier.



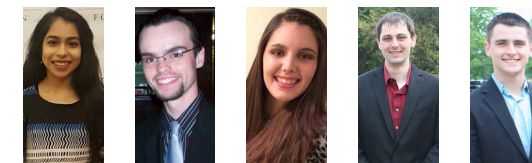
Emmalea Ryan Shaw with her prize-winning, and now published work on integration in Northeast Texas

NTCC Leads Nation in Guistwhite Awards

Houston's Lone Star College, the 8th largest institution of higher learning in the U.S, has won 3 of the 125 prestigious Guistwhite Scholarships of Phi Theta Kappa (listed since the award's website recorded this data in 2011). This makes it 3rd, nationally, of 1,500 community colleges. But in first? That honor belongs to Northeast Texas Community College with twice as many Guistwhite awards, six, 5% of the total!

Fifteen to twenty, \$5,000 Guistwhite Awards are announced each spring. Judges seek students with outstanding academics, and leadership--plus activity in Phi Theta Kappa. This year's NTCC phenomenon, Emmalea Shaw, attested again to the synergy between student success and support. Shaw is an athletic, winsomely proactive biomed major with the look and demeanor of a 1950s film heroine. Her interview agenda for her two studies on racial in-

tegration and Title IX athleticism in Northeast Texas marks her as perhaps the most personable scholar in NTCC history. She also is our first Texas National Heritage Bank Scholar, with exemplary tuitional support coming from our Daingerfield patron (see story below). Like all 6 of our winners, she exuded leadership in our annual feature-length honors films; like 5, she presented at the National Collegiate Honors Conference, and like 4; she wrote a prize-winning work of research. Our Honors Committee emboldened all 6--beforehand as "Presidential Scholars." Our 5 others appear below: Angelica Fuentes, Isaac Griffin, Kayleah Cumpian, Matthew Jordan, and Noah Griffin:



Anonymous Donor Provides 10th Thank You Dinner



At TYD, Adriana Rodriguez, NTCC President Brad Johnson, Brenda Godoy

The meetings of the 2008 Abilene Great Plains Honors Council, or the 2016 Webb Meeting in Las Colinas were glittering events. Our scholars walked away with remarkable awards. But the most synergistic events of our 10 years together undoubtedly have been our Thank-You Dinners, covered, ironically, by the donors we hope to thank! For 10 years, we have had the luxury of bringing together in one evening our top donors, scholars, and college personnel. This last March, we enjoyed an especially serene as well as delectable escape to the Selah Inn of Talco.



Honors Northeast

College Leaders

President, Dr. Brad Johnson
VP Instruction, Dr. Ron Clinton

Honors Committee: Joy Cooper, Erika Garza, William Jones, Dr. Drew Murphy, Sarah Spiker, Heidi Wooten.

Honors Professors: Dr. Andrew Daniel, Dr. Melissa Fulgham, Dr. Mary Hearron, Dr. Karyn Skaar, Dr. Paula Wilhite, and Dr. Andrew Yox.

Honors Secretary: Delbra Anthony

Like to Help?

Query our Honors Northeast website, and you may find the largest collection of prize-winning essays, films and poems about a single region--in this case, Northeast Texas--in the world. Our benefactors have enabled this "above-and-beyond" culture of scholarship. If you would like to contribute, contact VP Dr. Jonathan McCullough, 903-434-8229, Nita May, 434-8113, nmay@ntcc.edu, or Andrew Yox, 434-8229.-



Want more information?

903-434-8229 • ayox@ntcc.edu
www.ntcc.edu/honors

NTCC is an AA, ADA, Equal Opportunity institution.

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Our Beneficent Benefactors



Texas Heritage National Bank recently presented the Northeast Texas Community College Foundation with a second gift of \$4,000 to sponsor a second Presidential Scholar in Honors Northeast, now for 2017-18! This type of gift both liberates our scholars to be scholars, and provides the kind of special prestige found with endowed chairs. Stay tuned for the name of the recipient!

At left, Mr. John Bryan, Dr. Jonathan McCollough, and CEO, Dwyatt Bell.

We are also indebted this last semester for generous gifts from First Methodist Church of Mount Vernon (above), Lynda Watson, Glenda Brogoitti, and Danny Moss. The support of our donors for honors here in the last ten years has provided remarkable new pathways of academic metabolism, and success!

Spring and Summer Sensations



Ryan-Rose Mendoza and Melody Mott recently became the 3rd and 4th scholars of our history to receive the Terry Scholarship. Their total awards for up to three years are \$64,000 for Mendoza, for the University of Houston, and and \$58,000 for Mott, for Sam Houston University.



Pictured at left, Ryan-Rose Mendoza, and Melody Mott. Above, Left to Right, Emma Shaw, William Jones, and Melody Mott

In the 2017 journal, *Touchstone*, published by the Texas State Historical Association, NTCC students, former students, and a professor accounted for six of the eleven articles! Our three above published as students. Hector Zuniga and Gabriela Quezada published essays submitted while at NTCC.

Regional Vanguard

Thanks to a Whatley Enhancement Award, 12 of our scholars presented work, and our film on *the Texas Cherokee* in Beaumont at the Great Plains Honors Council. At right we had 2 of the 4 Caldwell Award winners of the Webb Society of Texas! Both William Fox, and Rachel Jordan won generous cash gifts for their essays: on the exodus of the Texas Cherokee, and Art in 20th Century Texas.



Spring Happenings



Our thanks again to Drs. Jim and Paula Archer whose financial support facilitated 20 group trips in ten years! Above, as one might read--our group last January: William Jones, William Fox, Aubry Buchanan, Caillee Davidson, Alecia Spurlin, Ryan Mendoza, Erika Garza, Presley McClendon, Cassandra Martinez, Adriana Rodriguez, Emma Shaw, Chesney Davis, Dr. Karyn Skaar, Yox, Brenda Godoy, Yami and Leivy Zuniga, Melody Mott, Rachel Jordan, and Cassidy Watkins.



Our 9th Annual McGraw Poster Contest

included a generous gift facilitated by McGraw Hill's Casey Slagt. Our 4 winners shown below left, from 4th to 1st were Chesney Davis, Cassandra Martinez, Presley McClendon, and William Jones. The contest thrives on the wonderful mentoring of community judges: Dr. Elaine Beason, Glenda Brogoitti, Lisa Ellermann, Edward Florey, Beverly Hinson, Chuck Johns, Jerald and Mary Lou Mowery, Judy Hamilton, Greg Holt, Rev. Dr. Wayne Renning, Andrea Reyes, and Dr. Jerry Wesson.

We are very thankful for the donations that have activated our Chitsey Award for a Scholar that has performed beyond expectations, and for the Eckman Awards, denoting excellence in honors seminars. This spring, left to right, our winners are: Cassidy Watkins shown with Dr. Mary Hearron, (Chitsey) and Presley McClendon, and Chesney Davis (Eckman)



Deo Gratius! And Thanks to So Many of You. By Andrew Yox, Honors Director

Our college years for a better transduction among our students that will convert sterile, non-professional energy into academic energy.

The dream is not oblivious to the possibilities! Our gratitude reels from its own inadequacy as we consider the patrons and makers of Honors Northeast who for ten years have recreated a kind of "oil boom" feeling known to Texans in the 1930s, now among our students! Student scholarship is begetting scholarships. Students are getting it: to learn is to earn. Donations enable new pathways of excellence.

Universities continue to offer teenagers an alluring lifestyle. But we thank God for the transformation of our campus, and our new honors office. The irony is that many of our brightest area-students face a Penalty Dynamic as university freshmen and sophomores. At the crux of the learning endeavor, institutions recognize them as mere numbers. Costs intimidate. Real mentoring is absent. Pride and the fear of failure overshadow the work of our state's great learning factories.

At the same time, being a Texan at our college abounds with possibilities! Texas, perhaps more than any other state in the Union, recognizes the potential for student scholarship, and shows gratitude to those who dare to delineate its culture and traditions. This opens the door to the possibility of "Limelighting our Scholars" through research, poetry, and films. In this way, we can work to center-stage learning, just as football was center-staged a century ago.

In ten years, our "ask-yous," and "thank-yous" have abounded. But, however inadequate, our gratitude abounds. We are not in a wealthy area of the state, yet the "Friends of Honors Northeast" are those of a rare faith-life who courageously affirm our organic connection to the future generation. Their gifts of time, funding, and daring have built learning communities of the first order. Our thanks to the Honors Committee that has stood like a bulwark against lethal requests for a decade. Our NTCC Scholars and Professors have risked money and time to shape profiles, and essays that have brought in over two-million dollars in scholarships. Our administrators have contributed their time and expertise towards insuring the continuity of major experiments in learning. As we sometimes say, we may fall short as individuals, but thanks be to God, we have a great team.

