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DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARDS DINNER

May 3, 2018 □ Eldorado Country Club



DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARDS DINNER

Thursday, May 3, 2018

Eldorado Country Club



Tonight's Distinguished Student Awards presentation is a celebration of everything that McKinney ISD represents. We are here tonight to honor 45 students who have earned the highest level of recognition at the end of their elementary and secondary school years. We would like to thank the parents, teachers and administrators that have helped influence these students along the way.

In addition to these exceptional students, we will be honoring some of McKinney ISD's finest teachers. Each student was asked to select the teacher who made the most significant impact on his/her life. These dedicated teachers will be honored this evening with the McKinney ISD Inspirational Teacher Award.

THE DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARD



The Distinguished Student Award is the highest honor a student can receive from the McKinney Independent School District. Only 15 seniors from each high school are presented with the award each year. In addition to academics, recipients are selected based upon their overall commitment and dedication to one of the following areas: English, Science, Social Studies, Mathematics, Career & Technology, Foreign Language, Fine Arts, Athletics, another specific field of study (At-Large), and the Valedictorian and Salutatorian from each high school.

Congratulations to the 45 distinguished students and their inspirational teachers.

ENGLISH HONORS



Julia Wilhelm [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Thespian Board Member, Performed in Theatre Plays & Musicals, AP Scholar with Distinction

College Plans

Louisiana State University—History

Inspirational Teacher: Colin Bado (AP U.S. History)

Coach Bado's commitment to teaching as well as his genuine and individual focus on each of his students gave me an example to strive for. Every day I was excited to go to class due to his constant energy and the empathetic way in which he framed the United States' complicated and nuanced history. It made me realize the power of understanding the past, and that I wanted to spend my time in college studying what I'm passionate about.



Andrew Bellah [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

Making Friends and Acclimating to my New Hometown, Making my Family Proud, Maintaining a High Class Rank—Top 10, Getting into Yale, Going to State Multiple Times in Debate, Running Cross Country and Not Giving Up, Challenging Myself with AP Classes, Being a Leader and Role Model in Debate

College Plans

Yale University—Political Science then Law School

Inspirational Teacher: Carol Winters (English/Humanities)

When I first moved to McKinney, I knew no one and felt disconnected from everything. Mrs. Winters was my English teacher and was always so warm and friendly, encouraging isolated people like myself to express themselves in writing or challenge themselves in their work. Without her, I wouldn't be half the reader, writer or academic that I am today—she represents the qualities of teaching that extend beyond the classroom to positively influence students' lives and their future.



Katie Thompson [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

MNHS Orchestra Vice President, MNHS ASL Club President, AP Distinguished Scholar, National Merit Commended Scholar, National Honor Society, DSO Teen Council, Greenville Oaks Church Student Leadership Team

College Plans

ACU or Pepperdine—Biology & then Medical School for Psychiatry

Inspirational Teacher: Sarah Adams (World Geography)

Through Mrs. Adams' U.S. History, class she inspired me to succeed academically; her positive energy was always welcome at the start of my day. Her commitment to academics is what made her a such a good teacher, but her constant support of me and my goals were what really allowed me to shine in her class. I am so thankful to have had such a wonderful teacher during my time at North, and I'm sure that she has and will inspire other students like me.

SCIENCE HONORS



Andrew Bowman [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

First Team Basketball Academic All-State, City of McKinney declared October 3 “Rimshaker Day” in Honor of Recreational Basketball Team for our Community Service, NHS (2 yrs.)

College Plans

University of Oklahoma—Dentistry

Inspirational Teacher: Stefanie Jones (Pre-AP & AP Biology)

I really admire Mrs. Jones’ experience. As someone who plans to take a variety of different science courses, it is not only encouraging, but exciting to know I have a teacher that has the knowledge to prepare me for these next steps in my life. I am extremely grateful for the relationship I have built with Mrs. Jones over the years, and I will continue to seek her advice throughout the rest of my life.



Loren Smith [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

District Member of National Fraternity of Student Musicians; MHS All-Girls Rocketry Team, Animatronics Team and Fashion Design Team; Candidate for National Piano Guild High School Diploma, Secretary of MHS Engineering Club

College Plans

University of Texas at Dallas—Biochemistry

Inspirational Teacher: Katharine Watson (Chemistry)

Mrs. Watson is the embodiment of positivity and energy. Her constant enthusiasm and infectious passion for chemistry has inspired me to pursue biochemistry in college and has encouraged me to always keep a joyful attitude. Her devotion to her students and willingness to help them succeed exemplifies to me what it means to be a truly excellent teacher, and I have thoroughly enjoyed every day of the two years I have spent in her classes.



Jeffery Whitehead [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Football Team Captain, Ranked 10th in Class, Student Council

College Plans

Texas A&M University—Business

Inspirational Teacher: Kendall Brewer (Astronomy)

Coach Brewer has inspired me as a student, as an athlete and as a person. He displays great passion in his field of teaching, which drives students to do their best. As a coach he pushed me to my limits after laying the foundations for my success. Most importantly, Coach Brewer’s ultimate goal has been to make me a better man, and he has helped me succeed in all my endeavors.

SOCIAL STUDIES HONORS



Matthew Daley [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Sam Johnson's Congressional Youth Advisory Council, Superintendent's Advisory Council, Principal's Advisory Council, Honors Orchestra, Varsity Cheerleader/UCA All-American

College Plans

Texas A&M University—Engineering

Inspirational Teacher: Kristina Steinhauser (BNN & Asst. Cheer Coach)

Cheer coach, BNN's mastermind and an outstanding role model, Coach Steinhauser has guided me through my senior year. She has been there to push me through early morning practices and slow, drab days. She taught me useful ways to manage stress during the day and to find the right time to enjoy life. She also knows how to make boring classwork fun and engaging so that students can learn in a fashionable manner—and how to have a good laugh when the work is done.



Neelam Bohra [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

NHS President, Editor of manestreamnews.com, Copy Editor of The Lion Yearbook, UIL Journalism Team State Competitor/All-State Journalism Staff, Interdisciplinary Study and Mentorship in Political Journalism under the Dallas Morning News Editorial Board, AP Scholar with Distinction, NMSC Commended Merit Scholar, Varsity Orchestra

College Plans

University of Texas—Journalism & Government

Inspirational Teacher: Mark Bayer (AP Human Geography)

Mr. Bayer taught me for two years and sponsored my club for two more. He inspired me to challenge set definitions to a soundtrack of jokes and wit, and he has answers for every question. On my first day of school, I got lost and walked in to Mr. Bayer's class late. It's a metaphor—I didn't have a sense of direction, but I found a home between the maps and clocks on his classroom's walls.



Alexandra Villalon [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Band (4 Yrs.), Cross Country (4 Yrs.), National Honor Society Member (2 Yrs.), TMEA Texas Music Scholar, All-Region Band (2 Yrs.), Academic All-State in Cross Country, Multiple Poems Published in Various Books

College Plans

Colorado Christian University

Inspirational Teacher: Tanya Smith (AP U.S. History)

Having Mrs. Smith as my AP U.S. History teacher, it has become obvious that she has a passion for what she teaches. In her class, she never reads off a PowerPoint or simply hands out textbooks, but actually knows the information she teaches—all 400+ years of it—by heart. Through her detailed lectures, she challenges her students academically, but she also cares for them personally and is a great example of what a teacher should be.

MATHEMATICS HONORS



Kristi Doleh [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

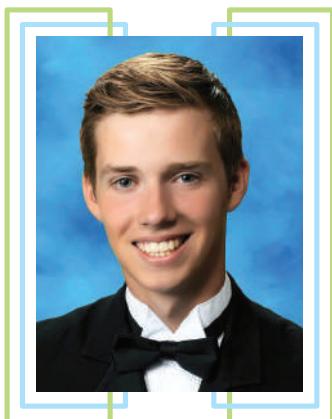
Academic All-State First Team; Varsity Basketball Captain; Collin County Animal Shelter Adoption Counselor; AP Scholar; Red Cross and Key Club Officer; NHS; Green Cord; Academic Excellence in Mathematics, Debate and Foreign Language

College Plans

University of Texas at Dallas—Electrical Engineering & Education

Inspirational Teacher: Kelsey Gleason (AP Calculus BC)

For the past three years I have had the privilege of being taught by Ms. Gleason. From Algebra II to Calculus BC, she has challenged my intellectual curiosity for math while simultaneously creating a learning environment conducive to success beyond the classroom. She has inspired me to find joy in all my endeavors and pushed me to grow as an individual. I will forever be grateful for the fond memories, guidance and support that she has given me. Thank you, Ms. Gleason, for being an inspiration, role model and friend.



Liam Landrum [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

District AMC Champion (3 Yrs.), Grand Champion of Garland Math and Science Contest, Math Student of the Year (All Years the Award has Been Given), President and Founder of Mu Alpha Theta Charter at MHS, State Marching Band Contest, AP National Scholar, More than 25 UIL Contest Placements, Royal Pride Band Student Leadership Team (2 Yrs.)

College Plans

University of Texas—Aerospace Engineering & Mathematics

Inspirational Teacher: Theresa Horvath (AP Computer Science & AP Calculus BC)

As my AP Calculus BC and computer science teacher for the past four years, Mrs. Horvath has been such an amazing inspiration. She has always pushed me to reach my maximum potential and given me the drive to always learn more. Through Computer Science UIL, I enjoyed a variety of trips to amazing locations that have guided me to decide what I will do in my future.



Rebecca Waugh [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

UTA's 5A Jazz Band (3rd Place), District UIL (2nd Place), UIL Math & Science, Advanced Pianist, Off-road Motorcyclist, Scuba Diver, Paragliding Pilot, 3rd in Class at MNHS

College Plans

University of Texas at Dallas—Biochemistry then Medical School & Cardiothoracic Surgery

Inspirational Teacher: Andrew Myers (AP Spanish IV & V)

As my teacher, Mr. Myers has encouraged me to continue taking Spanish, inspiring me to expand my horizons on what I thought I could achieve. Today I plan to minor in Spanish, study abroad during university and hope to join Doctors Without Borders in the future. It was his humorous outlook on life and teaching style that greatly improved my Spanish speaking and listening comprehension, and I am grateful to have had him as my teacher.

CAREER & TECHNOLOGY HONORS



Julie Smith [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Vice President of Technology Student Association, TSA Animatronics State Competition (5th Place), Presidential Scholar in Career and Technology Nominee, Engineering Club, Dallas Arboretum Project, Computer Science Club, National Honor Society, JV Tennis

College Plans

University of Texas at Dallas—Computer Engineering

Inspirational Teacher: Dr. Robert Peterson (Physics)

As my Physics C teacher, Dr. Peterson always comes to class ready to teach and help me understand the confusing concepts in physics. He pushes me and the rest of the class to always try our hardest academically while preparing us for the future. He regularly shows us inspirational sayings at the beginning of class to get us ready to learn. Overall, Dr. Peterson's class has taught me important study skills and has helped prepare me to strive toward my next goal.



Alexandra Macias [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

NASA Student Launch Initiative Team, National Finalist and Qualifier in Technology Student Association Biotechnology Design Competition, Captain of MHS's Team America Rocketry Challenge Team, TARC National Finalist Alternate, Academic Excellence Award, Featured in Enterprise Car Commercial—"Rocket Girl," President of Engineering Club, National Honor Society Member

College Plans

Missouri University of Science and Technology—Mechanical Engineering

Inspirational Teacher: Robert Gupton (Engineering)

Mr. Gupton has served as a mentor and inspiration for the career I want to pursue. I walked into his classroom on the first day, feeling anxious, but my unease quickly turned into eager curiosity as he encouraged us to ask questions, achieve our goals and hold ourselves with confidence. He demonstrates the importance of compassion for his field and his students. Thank you for helping me reach for the stars.



Morgan Woodall [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

President of MNHS HOSA, National Honor Society, Rotary Cord Recipient, Certified Medical Insurance Coding Specialist, Certified Physical Therapy Aide

College Plans

Texas Tech University—Nursing

Inspirational Teacher: Erica Ranel (Social Studies Inst. Coach)

Mrs. Ranel was my third and fifth grade teacher at Press Elementary, and she has inspired me in so many different ways. She has always believed in me to be better academically, as well as morally. She has been there continuously, guiding me and shaping me into the best person I can be. I am grateful to have had her as a role model throughout my school career and the rest of my life. She is a strong leader and the best teacher anyone could ask for.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE HONORS



Jasmine Gagnon [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

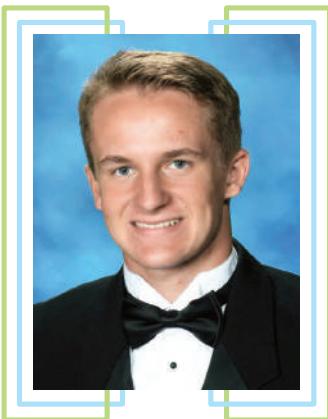
North Star Gymnast of the Year (2012), USA Gymnastics XCEL Diamond Bar State Champion (2015), Concert Tour of Spain & France with Texas Youth Orchestra and Choir (2015), Exemplary Rating at UIL Solo and Ensemble Contest (2017), PASCH Course in Dresden, Germany (July, 2017), Played the Snow Queen in the Dance Studio Network's Nutcracker Ballet (Dec., 2017)

College Plans

Taking a gap year to work, volunteer and travel!

Inspirational Teacher: Jennifer Bennett (Humanities II & ISM)

More than just a humanities teacher, Mrs. Bennett's passion for teaching goes beyond the Russian and French Revolutions, for its soul lies in her profound love and compassion for her students. My time with Mrs. Bennett will forever shine in my memory, and my lasting relationship with her will continue to inspire me in the future.



Logan Call [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

Academic Excellence Award (3 Yrs.), Principal's Advisory Council, President and Founder of Interact Club, Rotary Youth Leadership Award, Spanish Club Treasurer, Competitor in Texas Foreign Language Symposium, Youth Leader at Cottonwood Creek Baptist Church

College Plans

Texas A&M University—Mechanical Engineering with Honors

Inspirational Teacher: Ana Maria Ellis (Spanish)

In her Pre-AP Spanish 3 course, I found a passion for the Spanish language and have continued to develop it ever since. She has encouraged me to continue to grow in my speaking skills and genuinely helped me enjoy the language. Her continual motivation and support has helped form me into the student and man I am today. She has been a true mentor and motivator in these important years of my education.



Muhammad Shariq Azeem [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Key Club, Academic Excellence Award, GPA of 3.5 or Higher

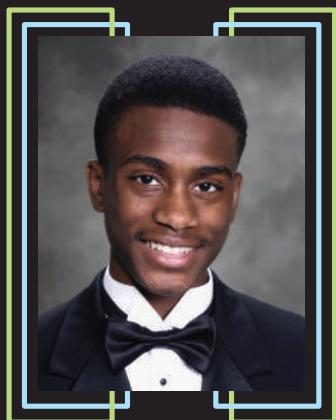
College Plans

Collin College—Computer Science & Software Programming

Inspirational Teacher: Eloy Gonzalez (Pre-AP Spanish II)

Mr. Gonzalez is one of the best teachers I have ever had, not only because the way he teaches is so amazing, but because he is so good at interacting with every student and making sure that we understand every part of the lecture. He makes learning a new language so easy by targeting hard concepts through easy and simple activities and projects. Whenever I go to his class, I feel motivated to do something better.

FINE ARTS HONORS



Bryson Jackson [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Dallas Summer Musicals HSMT Awards “Best Featured Actor” (2016), Broadway Broncos “Best Actor” (2017), Dallas Summer Musicals HSMT Awards Nominee (2016 & 2017), Co-President of MBHS Broadway Broncos

College Plans

University of Oklahoma—Musical Theatre

Inspirational Teacher: Joseph Tomkins (Choir)

Mr. Tomkins has always wanted the best for me and my passion for performing. He has challenged not only my voice, but my character as a young man. When I think of an “outstanding” educator, I think of a teacher who exceeds the requirements for their job and voluntarily takes on tasks that will shape students to be prosperous adults and to be the best they can be. Mr. Tomkins has been an outstanding inspiration to me and the many people around me every day.



Cassandra Cullum [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

Outstanding Achievement in Education and Training, Scored a 4 at VASE Competition (3 Yrs.), Green Cord (4 Yrs.)

College Plans

Oklahoma State University—Elementary Education

Inspirational Teacher: Stacie Entzminger (Ready, Set, Teach!, Child Guidance, Interior Design)

Mrs. Entzminger is my teacher for my Ready, Set, Teach! class. This class has given me the opportunity to more fully understand and explore my passions. Mrs. E is always there for us, helping us have fun but making sure we learn as well.



Alyssa Brown [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

All-Region Orchestra (7-12), All-State Orchestra (10-12), Principal Bassist for Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, All-Region Jazz Band (10-12), All-Region Band (11-12), Top 10 Percent, Best Rhythm Section Performer Award in UTA Jazz Fest (11-12)

College Plans

Boston University—Classical Music Performance

Inspirational Teacher: Nicole Brown (Middle School Orchestra)

Nicole Brown is the reason that I discovered my love for classical music. As a beginner in her orchestra program, I still held on to my childish hope of being a rock star and thought that orchestra was a waste of time. Ms. Brown, through her tireless efforts—staying with me after school every day to help me practice and providing me with extra music to keep me from being bored—is the reason that I found my passion in life and that I am where I am today.

FINE ARTS HONORS



Aaron Katada [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

National Merit Commended Scholar, MBHS Band President, MBHS Honors Band (4 Yrs.), Regional Band (2018), McKinney Lions Club Student of the Month, ISM, Owner of Avant-Garde Percussion, North Park Nursing Home Book Cart Reading Program

College Plans

Oklahoma State University or SMU—Mechanical Engineering

Inspirational Teacher: Josh Boychuk (Percussion Director)

Mr. Boychuk began teaching as our percussion director my freshman year. Learning with him how to function and operate in high school has had a great impact on my life. He has always been supportive of our percussionists, leading us to be successful in academics and in our pursuit of music. As we continued through my years in high school, we have both learned a great deal about how to lead a group of talented musicians.



Adriane Gilbreath [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

Member of the ISM Program, Academic Excellence Awards, Stage Manager and Running Tech for MHS Theatre, Directing my Own Show, Graduating High School a Year Early

College Plans

Collin College then University of North Texas—Communications

Inspirational Teacher: Jessica Lawrence (Theatre)

As my technical theatre teacher and director, Ms. Lawrence has helped me become a stronger leader by trusting me to carry my team and encouraging me to be creative in all of my work. She always pushes me to be resilient and daring, which has helped me excel in my passions and expand my skill range beyond my goals. Ms. Lawrence taught me to be confident in my voice and brave with my actions, and her class developed my ability to be independent while still being a collaborative member of a team.



Gabrielle DeMarco [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

AP Scholar with Honor, Texas Thespians Main Stage Finalist and National Qualifier, State Farm Scholar Artist of the Week, ITS Troupe 6460 Tech VP, Green Cord, Academic Excellence Awards, National Honor Society, Co-Head Varsity Theatre Technician

College Plans

University of North Texas—Biochemistry

Inspirational Teacher: Lisa Custer (Technical Theatre Director)

I originally joined technical theatre in order to get my fine arts credit, but I quickly realized that it would become my home for the next three years. Mrs. Custer has taught me many valuable lessons, both on and off the stage that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. Thank you so much for believing in me even when I didn't believe in myself.

FINE ARTS HONORS



Parry Leong [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

TMEA All-State Orchestra, TMEA All-Region Orchestra (5 Yrs.), Winner of MISD Honors Recital for Strings (2015), MBHS Outstanding Bassist (2015-2017), Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra, Boyd Honors Consortium Orchestra, Bass and Cello Conservatory of Dallas, Varsity Swimming

College Plans

University of North Texas—Music Performance

Inspirational Teacher: Michael Link (Orchestra)

Mr. Link inspires me musically. He showed me how to become a better musician and play music with passion. I would not be where I am without him. He was never disappointed in what I did, always aglow with a positive attitude—there's always a next year, always another opportunity. Despite all of the things I considered setbacks, I always had his support, and he has helped me achieve some of my greatest accomplishments.



Austin Henry [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

3rd Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo, TMEA All-State Tenor-Bass Choir (2017), Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Frisco RoughRiders National Anthem Performer, Cover of October 2017 Issue of TMEA's Southwestern Musician, Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (TAAF) State Track Meet 300-meter Hurdler, Taekwondo Competition Team Member

College Plans

Baylor University—Choral Music Education

Inspirational Teacher: Cindy Johnston (Choir)

As my choir director for the past four years, Ms. Johnston has inspired me not only musically but as an individual. Ms. J. has helped me flourish musically, encouraging my growth, while also giving me avenues in which I can prosper as a leader. By giving me many opportunities to shine as a leader and musician, Ms. J. has inspired me to work hard and continue to mature as a singer and as a member of society.



Calli Lustik [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Rotary Cord Recipient, Drill Team Officer (3 Yrs.), Captain—MNHS Northstars

College Plans

Texas State University—Psychology

Inspirational Teacher: Hannah Gassett (Dance)

As my drill team director for the past three years, Mrs. Gassett has inspired me for a lifetime. She has always encouraged me to achieve academically and athletically. Leading by example, she has taught me lessons that will last a lifetime: discipline, respect, humility and servant leadership. Mrs. Gassett has truly helped shape the person and I am today and she will forever be my role model.

ATHLETICS HONORS



Taylor Jordan [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Varsity Soccer (4 Yrs.), Rotary Club Student of the Month, Nation Honor Society (2 Yrs.), MBHS Academic Excellence Award (3 Yrs.), AP Scholar Award, Homecoming Queen, First Team All-District (2 Yrs.), MISD Scholar Athlete of the Week

College Plans

Texas A&M University

Inspirational Teacher: Scott Martin (AP World & AP Euro)

As my AP World and AP Euro teacher, I had the opportunity to really get to know Mr. Martin. The dedication and enthusiasm he has not only for teaching, but for inspiring students has pushed me to do my best. He motivated me every day to work hard, so I would be able to excel not only academically, but also in my future endeavors. I am very grateful to have had his mentorship throughout my high school journey.



JaMiya Braxton [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

Basketball Offensive Player of the Year (4 Yrs.), Varsity Basketball (4 Yrs.), Academic All-District (4 Yrs.), First Team All-District (4 Yrs.); Homeless Shelter Volunteer

College Plans

Cleveland State University—Pre-Medicine & Basketball

Inspirational Teacher: Debbie Harris (Basketball Coach)

As head coach of the varsity girls basketball team, Coach Harris has impacted my life tremendously since my freshman year. She has not only been my coach, but also a role model and someone I can simply just talk to. She has pushed me to be a verbal, hardworking leader on and off the court. I've grown as a person because of this. She has helped mold my character into someone I hope is perceived as a role model for others.



Jania Martin [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

State Track Team Championship (2 Yrs.), State Gold Medal Winner (5x), State Silver Medal Winner (2x), A/B honor Roll

College Plans

Texas A&M University

Inspirational Teacher: Jessica Richards (PALS & Track Coach)

Coach Richards has been a huge part of my life since my freshman year. Not only has she pushed me out on the track, but also in the classroom. Without her wisdom and guidance, I wouldn't have become the young woman I am today! I thank her every day that she has believed in me throughout my high school career.

ATHLETICS HONORS



Jake Russell [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

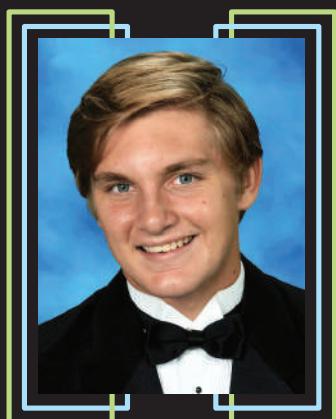
Social Studies Student of the Year (Fr), English Student of the Year (Soph), MBHS Baseball Defensive Player of the Year, Varsity Baseball (3 Yrs.), NHS, Key Club, Mr. Academics (Homecoming), AP Scholar with Distinction, Academic Excellence Award (4 Yrs.)

College Plans

University of Texas/Study abroad in Spain

Inspirational Teacher: Colin Bado (AP U.S. History)

Every day during my junior year I walked in to AP U.S. History with excitement and wonder simply because of Coach Bado. He provided a classroom in which learning was personalized and all the content was introduced with enthusiasm. In addition to his teaching, he has been there for me during hard personal times and always provided insightful advice. It is the compassion and drive that he incorporates into his life that inspires me.



Jacob Smith [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

1st Team All-District Shortstop, 1st team All-District Long Snapper, Academic All-State Honorable Mention, Leadership in Athletics Award, PALS, MHS1 Sports Editor/MHS ESPN Analyst, Young Men's Service League, First McKinney Mission Trips to Germany and Bolivia

College Plans

Howard Junior College—Education & Baseball

Inspirational Teacher: Clint Coffman (World Geography)

Coach Coffman has impacted my life in many ways. He has been my position coach for football the last three years. He has been there for me through both the good times and bad. He has helped me develop as a football player, but more importantly as a young man. He is a great encourager, leads by example and is really funny. He is very approachable and a great role model. Coach Coffman is someone I strive to be like one day as I plan to go down the same career path as a teacher and coach.



Zachary Frazier [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Academic All-District (2 Yrs.), All-District Football Team, Offensive Lineman of the Year, All-District Basketball Team (2 Yrs.), All-Collin County Football Team (2 Yrs.)

College Plans

Oklahoma Baptist University—Football Scholarship

Inspirational Teacher: Mike Fecci (Head Football Coach)

Coach Fecci has made a profound impact on me as a student athlete at McKinney North. He taught me how to be the ultimate competitor while being a role model to younger teammates. He exemplified how to carry yourself as a man and as a coach, finding the balance of pushing you hard to be your best, but also being a mentor when you needed guidance.

AT-LARGE HONORS



Jack Monte [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

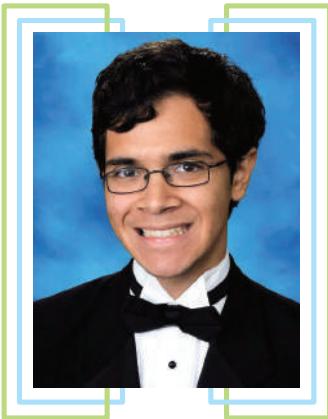
Rotary Club Student of the Month (October), Academic Excellence Award, YMSL, PALS, MBHS Soccer Team Captain (2 Yrs.)

College Plans

Northeastern University—Business and Soccer

Inspirational Teacher: Colby Peek (Soccer & Env. Science)

As my head coach for the McKinney Boyd soccer team for the past year, Coach Peek has helped motivate me academically and athletically, to be the best that I possibly can be. Implementing grade sheets as a way to hold each other accountable has been a huge key to my success in the classroom at McKinney Boyd. Coach Peek inspires me everyday to give 110 percent on and off the field. He is one of the most dedicated, hardest-working people you will ever meet whose intentions are nothing but the best. I couldn't imagine a better role model and mentor for my last year of high school.



Basil El-Hindi [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

National Merit Finalist, National AP Scholar, NHS Historian, Founder and Co-President of WHAB Club, Academic UIL Competitor, Debate Captain, Cross Country & Track

College Plans

University of Texas at Dallas—Computer Science

Inspirational Teacher: Carol Winters (English & Humanities)

Mrs. Winters' class was always the highlight of my day. No other class brought me into the same spaces with my friends while also inspiring me with the creativity that the class encouraged. Mrs. Winters has always been incredibly supportive, and she and her class shaped me into the thinker and student I am today. Her humanities class taught me to think for myself, and Mrs. Winters nurtured us into powerful high school students.



Brendan Corcoran [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Intern for State Senator Van Taylor—District 8, Intern for State Representative Scott Sanford—District 70, Sam Johnson's Congressional Youth Advisory Council, Eagle Scout, Varsity Cross-Country & Track Captain

College Plans

United States Naval Academy

Inspirational Teacher: Faisal Khan (AP Physics I & AP Physics C)

As my AP Physics I and AP Physics C teacher, Mr. Khan challenges me to understand rather than to just learn. As he says, "It's not about the numbers." Mr. Khan has a passion for teaching and it shows in his enthusiastic, "Let's do this," attitude. He continually pushes me to work past failure and to view my mistakes as opportunities to learn.

AT-LARGE HONORS



Sara Schuster [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Choir President, Student Council, NHS, Varsity Golf (4 Yrs.), Assistant Shift Leader at Chick-fil-A, Green Cord Recipient (3x), Youth Ambassador of the American Diabetes Association, Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Scholarship

College Plans

Austin College—Pre-Medicine

Inspirational Teacher: Denise Hachtel (Golf & Geometry)

Coach Hamer and Coach Hachtel, have coached and taught me for four years about the wonderful game of golf, but these women do much more than that. They have been an integral part of my crazy schedule as I hop from choir concerts to Student Council meetings, to work and back to golf practice. They have been patient and understanding in allowing me to participate in all my activities. Without these remarkable teachers, my extra-curricular activities simply would not have worked out. So, thank you for helping guide me through my high school experience, and I will miss y'all like crazy!



Riley Mulligan [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

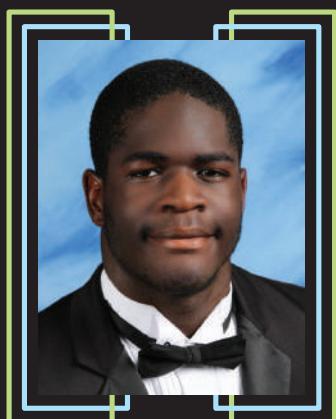
MHS1 Producer, Student Council Treasurer, Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Academic Excellence Award (4 Yrs.), Outstanding Journalism Student (2 Yrs.), Leadership Award (2016), Green Cord Award (2 Yrs.)

College Plans

Texas Tech University—Media and Communications

Inspirational Teacher: Alyssa Boehringer (Broadcasting & Yearbook)

Since the first day of freshman year, I knew that Mrs. Boehringer was going to be a huge influence in my life. She encourages me to challenge myself and show my passions through video production. Her room became my home at MHS, a place where I could be myself without any judgment. She has inspired me to pursue a career in the media and communications field, and I could not be more grateful.



Chi Chi Odo [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

Dallas Morning News Sports Day High School Player of the week (Sept. 1), Student Council Vice President, Anchor Church Student Volunteer, Varsity Football Co-Captain, Questbridge Finalist, Crates Scholarship Finalist, Ranked 11th in Class

College Plans

Davidson College—Pre-medicine/Physical Therapy

Inspirational Teacher: Deanne Pratt (AP Calculus BC)

Mrs. Pratt has impacted my high school career because she loves calculus and is passionate about kids like me! Mrs. Pratt is like a mom to me. She teaches at a high level—even if that means watching calculus seminars all night—to make sure that we're prepared for AP testing and college.—Also, she made finding derivatives fun—and that's really hard to do.

SALUTATORIAN HONORS



Smriti Natarajan [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

National Merit Finalist, President of MBHS Red Cross Club, Founder and Director of Non-Profit IAD Inc., Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Miss Teen Dallas Second Runner-up (2014-2015), Miss Teen Asian-American Texas Fourth Runner-up (2015-2017), Whitlock State Music Theory Gold Medalist (7x), First Class Honors Graduate of Royal Conservatory of Music

College Plans

University of Texas at Dallas—Biology (Pre-Med) & Spanish

Inspirational Teacher: Stefanie Jones (AP Biology)

Four long years ago, I was frightened at the thought of AP classes and welcomed into the world of packets and textbooks. That was when my AP Biology teacher stepped in. With utmost honor, I am proud to say I had Mrs. Jones as my first AP teacher, and for the past four years, her moral support and work ethic have inspired me to try my best in every thing I do. Mrs. Jones, thank you for guiding me in my journey through high school and making it so memorable.



Ashley Wu [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

Head Drum Major of Royal Pride Marching Band, All-State Clarinetist, Honors Band First Chair, National Merit Finalist, Golden Ambassador, National Honor Society

College Plans

University of Texas—Business

Inspirational Teacher: Amy Smith (AP English III)

As my AP English III teacher, Mrs. Smith made our class feel like a close-knit family, her presence never failing to put a smile on my face. Mrs. Smith made writing essays fun with her vast collection of marshmallow stickers and glitter pens. Not only did she strengthen my writing skills, but she also taught me valuable lessons about how something as simple as a three minute meditation can manage my stress level before the timed writings she was about to give us.



Grace Molera [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

National Merit Finalist, National AP Scholar, President of Environmental Ambassadors, MNHS Band Drum Major, All-State TMEA Symphonic Band, Lone Star Youth Wind Orchestra, Gamma House Student Advisory Council

College Plans

Vanderbilt University or Brown University—Biochemistry

Inspirational Teacher: Stephanie Bird (Statistics)

From the first day of school, Mrs. Bird displayed an enthusiasm for statistics that only grew as we explored the world of standard deviations and probabilities. Her confidence in my abilities as a student has inspired me to constantly improve and work hard in her class. However, Mrs. Bird is truly an outstanding teacher because of the support she has shown me outside of her classroom regarding my extracurricular activities and future endeavors.

VALEDICTORIAN HONORS



Trevor Nguyen [] McKinney Boyd High School

Activities and Achievements

Presidential Scholars Candidate; Emperor Science Award; Bioinformatics Research Intern at UT Southwestern; Software Developer Research Intern at UT Dallas Evolutionary Information Lab; USA Biology Olympiad Semifinalist; AP National Scholar; National Merit Commended Scholar; Computer Science Club Founding President; 40+ Top Awards in UIL Science and Computer Science, Technology Student Association Software Development and Hackathons; Outstanding Student in Science

College Plans

University of Texas (Dean's Scholar & Turing Scholar)—Computer Science & Biology

Inspirational Teacher: Stefanie Jones (AP Biology)

I met Ms. Stefanie Jones during freshman AP Biology summer camp, so I felt comfortable in her classroom as a fish among seniors. Despite my eccentricity, she still appreciated me, even when I came after school to review each test. She gave me the confidence to ask questions and seek my own answers. After I realized that my passion for biology research was worth a career, she supported my endeavors as I found my path.



Udani Satarasinghe [] McKinney High School

Activities and Achievements

State Champion in UIL Feature Writing (2017), Manestream News Co-Editor (3 Yrs.), State Qualifier/Medalist at Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE) (4 Yrs.), National AP Scholar, All-State Journalism Staff (3 Yrs.), Interact Club Vice President, Golden Ambassador, National Merit Commended Scholar

College Plans

Stanford University—Product Design & Economics

Inspirational Teacher: Amanda Hughes (Art)

When I first met her, Mrs. Hughes terrified me—her class was the first time I had unrestrained freedom. But, no matter how ridiculous my vision, she always encourages me to imagine the unexpected. She makes her brain hurt with mine and braves the stress of procrastination with me. She's my idea machine, voice of reason and autocorrect all-in-one. Thank you Mrs. Hughes for the open-ended guidelines and endless sarcasm. I can't wait to show you the mind you inspired.



Samantha Miller [] McKinney North High School

Activities and Achievements

President of Dallas Symphony Teen Council, VASE Art Competition State Qualifier, National Merit Scholar Finalist, Kimball Art Museum Teen Advisor, National AP Scholar, Green Cord, William Gillock Concerto Competition Finalist

College Plans

Rice or BYU—Biology with an emphasis in Medicine

Inspirational Teacher: Loraine Grady (Texas History - SJMS)

As my Texas History teacher, Mrs. Grady, never shied away from challenging material. I admit that I learned how to fail often in her class because of this. However, her faith in me also taught me to persevere and learn from my mistakes. Beyond academics, she teaches selflessness, kindness, bravery, honesty and excellence through her example. Her willingness to make sacrifices in her own life in caring about each of her students—including me—truly distinguishes her.

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