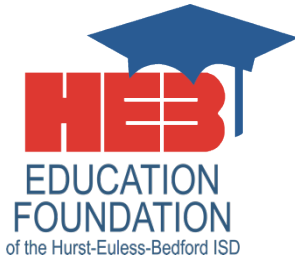


2020
AWARDS *of*
Excellence
—20th ANNIVERSARY—



MARCH 19, 2020 | HEB ISD - PAT MAY CENTER



WELCOME TO THE 20th ANNUAL HEB ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION'S AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE DINNER AND CEREMONY.

Honoring 33 outstanding high school seniors and their teacher mentors
from L.D. Bell, Trinity, KEYS, and Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy.

Thank you to the many donors of the Education Foundation for supporting our mission and making our program of work possible.
A complete list of donors is available in the program.

Special thank you to the caterer for this evening.



Additional thanks go to the HEB ISD Technology Department, Pat May Center Staff, HEB ISD PR & Marketing,
and the HEB ISD Administration and Board of Trustees for making this evening extraordinary.

PROGRAM

Dinner Buffet

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Jeff Burnett
Education Foundation Board Member
First Baptist Church of Hurst

Awards of Excellence Ceremony

Closing Remarks

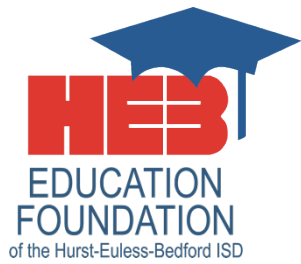
Dr. Jeff Burnett

Student Award Recipient Group photo at the end of the program.

A few program notes:

The award recipients will be receiving their awards in the order of the photo program.
Teacher Mentors not able to attend the Awards of Excellence ceremony will be represented by the Principal
from their school during the awards portion of the program.

The awards portion of the program has been pre-recorded.



AWARD RECIPIENTS

Listed in order of award presentation



Sofia Dominguez
L.D. Bell High School
Art

Honors: 9th grade Superintendent's Scholar, 11th grade National Merit Commended Scholar Incoming Senior, CIEE Summer Abroad and Global Blue Raider Scholarship for Tokyo, Japan, 12th grade National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar, 12th grade UNT Presidential Scholarship.

Activities: Academic Quiz League, Creative Writing Club, National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society.

Community Involvement: 11th grade AP World History tutoring, 12th grade Creative Writing and NAHS collaborative artworks, volunteer work for the City of Hurst at holiday events.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend the University of North Texas, pursuing an undergraduate in Pre-Communication Design. After obtaining my bachelor's degree, I plan to attend an art college or university to pursue a master's in sequential art.

Goals for the Future: I plan to become a full-time artist, while currently keeping my options open to being either employed with a company or working for myself. I also have a lot of very vivid ideas swimming around in my head for stories I wish to tell, so no matter what, I plan on working towards getting published as both a traditional novelist and a graphic novelist. As something of a side note, I have also set myself a goal of returning to Japan by the time I'm 30, this time, permanently.

Teacher Mentor: Kent Wooley

Mr. Wooley has been a large part of my life since my sophomore year. In his class, I not only learned the history of the world through new and fascinating lenses, but I learned the skills that got me through these last three years: study habits, note-taking, and, most importantly, self-confidence. Mr. Wooley encouraged us to do exactly what we could do, to be mindful of ourselves, our work, and our time, while also striving to do better. He's always willing to talk to us, work with us, be stern when need be and give all praise where it is due. I am also grateful for when he invited me to join the Academic Quiz League, the only club I have attended for all three of my years at L.D. Bell, and now, one of the places I feel most at home. Thank you for being honest with us and allowing me to be honest with you. I know that you're always there for us.



Mahanga Uhilamoelangi
KEYS High School
KEYS - Student of the Year

Honors: Student Ambassador, KEYS Student of the Year

Activities: I'm in a praise band for my church.

Community Involvement: I help feed more than 50-60 homeless people every Sunday.

Plans After Graduation: My plans after high school are to go to TCC and study law enforcement.

Goals for the Future: My goal is to be 80 years old and know that I did something useful in my life. I want to know that I helped out in my country in some important way. I want to be on the police force for about 20 years and then be a pastor in Hawai'i.

Teacher Mentor: Shawn Bemis

Mr. Bemis was the one I liked sharing stories with the most. He believed in me when no one else did. He also pushed me to better myself. To the limits that I never thought I could reach. Mr. Bemis always had a way of making me laugh. He could make dad jokes out of anything- the king of dad jokes. I'm going to miss Mr. Bemis. I enjoyed having you as one of my teachers.



Allyrica Williams
Trinity High School
Art

Honors: Academic Excellence Scholarship, Best of Show & 1st Place All Things Texas for the Cotton Festival's Photography Contest, 1st Place Automotive for 4 States Fair's Photography Contest.

Activities: National Art Honor Society, photography, AP Art Studio, Trinity High School Volleyball, NAHS Homecoming Hallway Committee.

Community Involvement: Veteran Affairs Summer Program, Jump for Joy volunteer, elementary field day volunteer, Community Christmas mentor.

Plans After Graduation: I am going to University of Louisiana Monroe to study Atmospheric Science.

Goals for the Future: I plan to get my PhD in Meteorology/Atmospheric Science and become a forensic meteorologist. As a forensic meteorologist, I will take my place in the courtroom to justify specific weather roles in unusual events and casualties.

Teacher Mentor: Susan Kaufman

I became Mrs. Kaufman's student at the beginning of my junior year. She has always lent a helping hand when I needed it as well as an ear to listen. Throughout the last two years, Mrs. Kaufman has looked after me like I was one of her own, walking me through tough times while guiding me with the kindest words. Her help has kept me sane through the intensity of my senior year, and for that, I am forever grateful.



Mason Hunter-Gray
*L.D. Bell High School
Band*

Honors: TMEA All-Region Trombone Player, Division 1 Solo and Ensemble Musician, All-District and Area Champion, and Regional Finalist in Track and Field, 31st Texas Christian Athlete of the Year Nominee.

Activities: Drum Major for the LD Bell Blue Raider Band, varsity discus thrower of the LD Bell High School track team, member of the LD Bell Interact Club, member of the LD Bell Senior Class Council.

Community Involvement: Participated in the HEB Community Orchestra.

Plans After Graduation: Take a nice long break, study Biomedical Engineering at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Goals for the Future: I plan on studying to become a dentist and eventually opening up my own practice.

Teacher Mentor: Jennifer Choate

Dr. Choate not only has impacted me in my academics but inspired me in my career profession. She has demonstrated the true meaning of "hard work pays off." Through giving me advice for college and in life, Dr. Choate reminded me that through all the trials and errors, up and downs, loss, and triumphs that you may face, always be persistent in what you do and find your purpose in what you want to accomplish.



Lyra Ehninger
*L.D. Bell High School
Choir*

Honors: Member of the All-State Choir in 2019 and 2020; Student Director of the A Cappella Choir at Bell

Activities: A Cappella Choir, Bell System

Community Involvement: I sing in the St. Andrew Lutheran Church choir, as well as attend Bell choir functions within the HEB community.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend UNT and become a music major, with the intent to pursue a career in music.

Goals for the Future: In the future, I hope to become a capable composer and performer, and I hope to share my musical abilities with the world to make a change for the better.

Teacher Mentor: Jo Ann Antinone

I have had the privilege of being Mrs. Antinone's student for three years now. She has been such a positive force in my life, pushing me to be my best self as well as cultivating a love of music that is invaluable to me. Under her direction, I have become a better scholar, musician, and human being. I want to thank her for her endless kind words and support, which have helped me, and many other students grow and learn.



Khaezer Xann Bellen
*Trinity High School
Band*

Honors: Trinity Marching Band Head Drum Major, Spanish Honor Society Treasurer, Outstanding Rookie Drum Major Award from Drum Major Camp, Qualifier for the Region Band, Qualified with an ensemble group for the UIL State Ensemble Competition.

Activities: Trinity Band, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, International Club.

Community Involvement: I frequently volunteer at HEB ISD Music events such as junior high concerts, region band concerts, HEB honor band concerts, HEB honor band auditions, HEB marching competitions, HEB drumline competitions, winter drumline competitions, and winter color guard competitions.

Plans After Graduation: Attend the University of Texas at Dallas for a degree in Finance. Join the ROTC Program and enlist into the Army after graduating college. Audition to be in the Band at UTD.

Goals for the Future: Rise in the ranks of the US Army. Get a future in the finance field through either the corporate or investment fields.

Teacher Mentor: Mario Casanova

Although Mr. Casanova was just my band director, the lessons he taught me went far past band. He taught me how to be a leader among my peers. He taught me a work ethic that will help me later in life, put me in a position to help me grow into a more mature young individual, and helped instill a mindset that never allowed me to be satisfied with mediocrity. All the while, helping me further my development on my instrument, but more than that, he taught a deeper understanding of music that gave me a newfound respect for the craft. His raw passion for music is unparalleled, and that very passion radiates to those around him, making you love it as much as he did. To make a long story short, I would not be the individual I am today if I had never met Mr. Casanova and joined the Trinity Trojan Band.



Giandr  Dejes s
*Trinity High School
Choir*

Activities: Harmony Show Choir, A Capella Choir, enlisted in the Marine Corp so I go over there to train once a week.

Community Involvement: In the show choir, we sang and danced for elementary schools, nursing homes, and retirement homes.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to keep training so I'm ready for boot camp in August and I plan to go to college during my time in reserves.

Goals for the Future: I plan to finish my job in the Marine Corp then, find a well-paying job, start a family, then retire to relax with my family.

Teacher Mentor: Michael Dean

Mr. Dean has always been someone I've looked up to since junior high when he came to the choir room to talk to the kids. He helped me out with all sorts of things throughout my life, so I thank him for that.



Elizabeth Perry
L.D. Bell High School
Communications

Honors: National Speech and Debate Association Member with Excellence, National Merit Commended Scholar, Member of the International Thespian Society, Mu Alpha Theta Officer, National Honor Society Member.

Activities: Debate Captain, Manager of Bell's improv troupe (Wisecracks), Quiz League Captain, Mock Trial Captain.

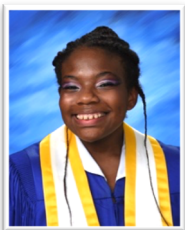
Community Involvement: Frequent volunteer at 6Stones.

Plans After Graduation: Attending university to study political science or the Spanish language to eventually get a law degree and specialize in immigration law.

Goals for the Future: I'm hoping to be an immigration attorney with the overall goal to help people and give back.

Teacher Mentor: Allen Matthews

Mr. Matthews is not only the best speech and debate coach we could ask for but also a great support system for all of us. He not only encourages us to work diligently for debate, speech, and mock trial, but he creates a space where everyone can be themselves. Some people may say that he's mean or tough, but we all know that's because he cares.



Kierra Ashford
L.D. Bell High School
CTE Business and Industry

Honors: National Honor Society

Activities: National Honor Society, Color Guard, Forensics Club.

Community Involvement: National Honor Society

Plans After Graduation: Pursuing a computational engineering degree.

Goals for the Future: Becoming a Senator, tech developer for a company, philanthropist, commissioner.

Teacher Mentor: Alyssa Nabors

Ms. Nabors constantly instills confidence in me and drives me to pursue my degree in computational engineering and computer programming. Without her, as my teacher, I would not reach my full potential, and I wouldn't be who I am right now.



Asim Adhikari
Trinity High School
Communications

Honors: Rotary Regional Speech Champion, Top 4 debater at Hockaday Debate Tournament, Second place at Newman Smith Debate Tournament.

Activities: Debate, Theatre, Engineering Club, Computer Science Club.

Community Involvement: Volunteer at local Nepali temple by serving food and teaching students math, and meal packing event for Haiti.

Plans After Graduation: Major in computer science, while exploring philosophy and expanding my interest in speech and debate in college.

Goals for the Future: Would like to start a non-profit startup that helps promote social justice, whether it be helping bring more people in computer science or figure out solutions for issues like climate change and human trafficking.

Teacher Mentor: Stormee Massey

Ms. Massey has always been there for me, whether it was coaching me in debate, helping me academically through college applications and my extended essay, or providing a supportive community in her classroom where I could feel more at home. Encouraging me to lead, while also taking into account other circumstances in my life, she has helped me grow into a better person. Be it through being a good teacher or through her vibrant personality, Ms. Massey has set an example by promoting an inclusive, non-toxic environment. I am grateful for everything she has done for me and others around me.



Kameron Dancy
Trinity High School
CTE Business and Industry

Activities: Basketball

Plans After Graduation: I plan to go to college after I graduate.

Goals for the Future: Haven't thought about it yet.

Teacher Mentor: Amanda Collins

Mrs. Collins has impacted me by showing me what it's like to live life to its fullest. She comes to school every day with a bright and happy mentality. She loves helping her students while also having fun with it. Her energy is unmatched, and it seems like she never has a bad day. The biggest thing that I will take away from her class is to find a job that you love and have a passion for and do it to its maximum potential. She lives a happy life every day, and I want to do the same. Thank you, Mrs. Collins.

**Erin Brewer**

*Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy
L.D. Bell High School
CTE Business and Industry*

Honors: Perfect Attendance for the year 7th grade, 8th grade, 9th grade, 10th grade, A/B honor roll 8th grade and 11th grade, won the Kids Fit competition for Culinary Arts in Fall of 2019.

Activities: Culinary Arts, Dance.

Community Involvement: School takes up a lot of my time, especially with culinary completion coming up.

Plans After Graduation: My plan is to go El Centro College for Culinary Arts or Navy's Culinary program.

Goals for the Future: My long-term goal for my future is to finish culinary school, get a degree, and open my own restaurant.

Teacher Mentor: Courtney Koder

Chef Koder has been the one to push me to where I am today. She is the one to say, in situations that seem to go wrong in the kitchen, "it's okay" and "you will get it." Her passion for this industry is a big reason I want to pursue it in my future.

**Kya Jordan**

*L.D. Bell High School
CTE Public Services*

Honors: Merit Award, High Honor Roll Award, Hall Of Fame, Best Performer.

Activities: Band-6th grade to 9th grade, Strings Orchestra-6th to 7th grade, Theatre-11th grade, Creative Writing- 11th grade.

Community Involvement: Church Evangelistic Outreach Ministry Family & Community Service, feeding the homeless outreach, Teacher's Assistant, 6Stones Volunteer.

Plans After Graduation: My plans after graduation are to attend a community college. Then, I will transfer to a university to earn a Bachelor's degree in Education.

Goals for the Future: I want to teach both elementary and secondary education for about ten to fifteen years. In the midst of my teaching I will be setting my goal to obtain my counseling license. I want to be a professional, encouraging sociologist.

Teacher Mentor: John Feters

Mr. Feters has been there with me since I started attending Bell. He is not like other teachers; he takes time out of his day to help students in any way. He taught me the reality of real-life issues as well as education. He is an inspiration to so many and has impacted my life. He is an awesome role model. The fact that he served in the military, understands the purpose of financial responsibility, and is still capable of teaching students is more than innovation and sophistication...it's mind changing heartfelt and determination.

**Yulisa Villeda**

*Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy
Trinity High School
CTE Business and Industry*

Honors: Club president of Future Business Leaders of America 2019-2020, 1st place in public speaking at the 2019 FBLA Area Conference, WHOS'S WHO 2019 Award winner at FBLA State Leadership Conference, 2nd place in Business Plan Report at the 2020 FBLA Area Conference.

Activities: Future Business Leaders of America at Buinger CTE Academy, National Technological Honor Society.

Community Involvement: Participate in the 6Stones Operation Back 2 School, help at my church's food pantry on Saturday.

Plans After Graduation: After high school, I plan on serving my country by enlisting in the United States Air Force.

Goals for the Future: My long-term goals include: to focus on self-improvement, build strong relationships and travel to different places.

Teacher Mentor: Monica Chavez

Ms. Chavez has been the most impactful teacher and friend in my life. She has inspired and motivated me to a higher standard and given me the opportunity to grow and lead. Not only has she encouraged me academically but given me words of wisdom that I will take and use in my personal life. I appreciate her vulnerability and honesty in sharing her experience with me. I truly believe that the guidance Ms. Chavez has given me has shaped my understanding and for a mentor like her, I am forever grateful.

**Marcos De La Llana**

*Trinity High School
CTE Public Services*

Honors: At the tech center, I have received multiple employability skill awards. Along with that, the college I have selected, UNT, has awarded me the Excellent Student Scholarship.

Activities: I am involved in my youth group at church.

Community Involvement: I am involved in the audio team for my local church, Cross City.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend UNT this fall. I will be majoring in Kinesiology in hopes of becoming a Physical Therapist one day.

Goals for the Future: I plan on acquiring a master's degree and eventually a doctorate after my first four years of college. After a couple of years, I would love to open my own Physical Therapy Facility with my family.

Teacher Mentor: Pamela Bracken

I have chosen Ms. Bracken to be my mentor due to her significant impact on my choice of career. I expressed to her that I may want to join the medical field, and with this information, she pushed me to be the best student I can be while helping find out exactly what I want to do in life. Her medical terminology class and clinical sites confirmed my want to work in the medical field. Ms. Bracken allowed me to explore the different medical fields and helped me narrow down what I want to do. Thanks to her, I know what I want to do for the rest of my life.



Savannah Lo
Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy
L.D. Bell High School
CTE Public Services

Honors: TAFE President, First place in a Children's Literature competition (Advanced to state and hopefully nationals), National Technical Honors Society.

Activities: President of Texas Association of Future Educators club, Mentor reader for the Barbara Bush Foundation for Literacy Families, Buinger CTE Academy Ambassador with Elaine Vaughn, I work part-time at In-N-Out.

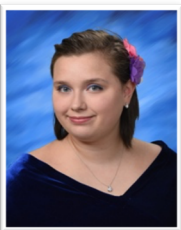
Community Involvement: Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy; mentor read to a second grade every Friday morning to those who are not reading at grade level. I make teacher appreciation gifts for the BCTEA faculty and staff.

Plans After Graduation: I will be attending Texas State University in San Marcos and will be majoring in communication disorders and seeking a teaching certification. I will continue to work at In-N-Out throughout college.

Goals for the Future: I would love to become a speech pathologist and work with the early childhood special education (ECSE) programs, whether it be in schools, hospitals, or private practice.

Teacher Mentor: Cathy Kazyaka

I've been to five different districts, seven different schools, and three of those seven were high schools. One teacher who has really inspired me is Cathy Kazyaka, whom I've met at my third high schools' career and technical academy at the end of my junior year. Teachers always come and go, but she really took the time to get to know my past, present, and goals for my future. Before having an amazing opportunity at the Buinger CTE Academy, I had no idea what career I wanted to pursue. Taking her instructional practices class allowed me the opportunity to intern as a kindergarten teacher and speech pathologist to see if education was my calling. As a result, I ended up absolutely loving the job of a speech pathologist and will be pursuing the major of communication disorders in college at Texas State University! Mrs. Kazyaka has always pushed me to strive for more and always tells me, "I knew you could do it this whole time, and I do this job for you." Just having her support and her telling me to try things out has opened up my mind and realize we teach because we love, and we love because we care. This has inspired me because I want to be able to be the inspiration for many more children, just as she is to me.



Melanie Butcher
Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy
L.D. Bell High School
CTE STEM

Honors: Participation in the National Junior Honor Society in 8th Grade, Awards in Algebra and Biology in 9th Grade.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to go to Tarrant County College to get the basic classes I need then go to UNT to get a degree in Civil Engineering.

Goals for the Future: To succeed in college and my career choice.

Teacher Mentor: Ken Davis

I have chosen Mr. Davis as my teacher mentor because he has helped me to discover what I want to do as my career and how to achieve my goals. He takes the time to talk through options available to me, which has provided a path to make anything possible.



Indya Bobb
Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy
Trinity High School
CTE Public Services

Honors: NTHS member, High Five Award, AP Scholar Award, Superintendent Scholar freshman year.

Activities: Law and Public Safety Club, Interact Club, Youth member at Mount Olive Baptist Church.

Community Involvement: Volunteer work for 6Stones CPR, Volunteer work with Walk to Recovery at Globe Life Park.

Plans After Graduation: After graduation I plan to complete my undergraduate degree at the University of Louisiana.

Goals for the Future: In the future, I hope to become a successful media lawyer.

Teacher Mentor: Mark Gustafson

I have selected Mr.G as my mentor because he has helped me grow throughout my high school career. He is a teacher that I can trust and rely on whenever I need someone with whom I can confide. Mr.G has seen me through my highs and lows throughout the three years that I have known him.



Antoni Davila
Gene A. Buinger CTE Academy
Trinity High School
CTE STEM

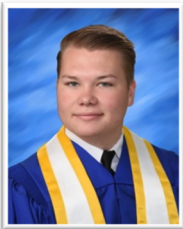
Activities: U. S. Army JROTC for two years.

Plans After Graduation: Attend college to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering.

Goals for the Future: Become a successful engineer and make my family proud.

Teacher Mentor: Ken Davis

I selected Mr. Davis as my mentor because he helped me out a lot when I was new to the district. Mr. Davis helped me get into TRIO, the program that is helping me be the first member of my family to go to college and get a degree.



Grant Trusty
L.D. Bell High School
English

Honors: National Merit Commended Scholar, Mid-Cities Optimist Club Outstanding Student Award, Texas Music Scholar Award.

Activities: Varsity Orchestra and Quartet, All-Area Viola, National Honor Society, Academic Quiz League.

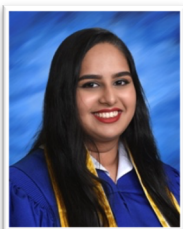
Community Involvement: 6Stones Community Powered Revitalization Service Project, Cowtown Cleanup 2017-2020.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend Texas A&M University and pursue a Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Engineering.

Goals for the Future: In the future, I aim to achieve a graduate degree in Biomedical Engineering and enter the medical industry in the cardiovascular field.

Teacher Mentor: Karen McCurdy

Mrs. McCurdy has been my teacher and mentor for the previous two years, continuously fostering creativity and enriching my perspective toward literature and composition. More than that, however, Mrs. McCurdy has demonstrated to me what it means to exemplify a passion for one's work, and in doing so, influence the lives of those around them.



Tanvi Dalal
L.D. Bell High School
Mathematics

Honors: AP Scholar, National Honor Society, Junior World Affairs Council 20 under 20 class of 2019, Blue Raider Travel Scholarship recipient.

Activities: Junior World Affairs Council, Hindi Club, Students Against Animal Violence, Math Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions.

Community Involvement: Volunteering at the Bedford Animal Shelter, participating in women's events across DFW, volunteering at temple and Indian culture events, volunteering in the HEB ISD district.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend UT Austin as a freshman in the McCombs School of Business to pursue a degree in Business Administration.

Goals for the Future: My goal is to get a master's degree in business and work in downtown Dallas. I would like to stay in Texas near where I grew up but also travel the world during work.

Teacher Mentor: Lauren Allen

Mrs. Allen has guided me throughout my three years in high school, showing me the beauty in learning and helping me find my interest in mathematics. She is an excellent teacher who made a huge impact on my life and my school decisions.



Charlotte Lewis
Trinity High School
English

Honors: Miss EJH, Hi-Five Award, Superintendent's Award, Volunteer of the Year.

Activities: Volunteering, working two jobs, AP classes.

Community Involvement: Volunteer at every City of Euless event, BESA soccer fests, volunteer at retirement centers.

Plans After Graduation: After Graduation I plan on attending a four-year university, (most likely University of Texas) to study biology, and hopefully attend medical school to become a pediatrician in the coming years.

Goals for the Future: One of my main goals is to study abroad in college. I Love to travel and want to experience other cultures. I also want to work at Cook Children's hospital.

Teacher Mentor: Thomas Montelongo

Mr. "Monty" was an "accidental" teacher. I wasn't supposed to be in his class, but I'm so glad I was. He cares so greatly about every kid that enters his room, his student, or not. He goes above and beyond to help in any way possible. He challenged me in class, taught me great life lessons, wrote me an impeccable letter of recommendation, and even helped with my college essays. Mr. Monty is the type of teacher to forever leave an imprint on his students, and I am forever grateful.



Lexie Barthelemess
Trinity High School
Mathematics

Honors: National Merit Semifinalist, Girls State Delegate and State Elected Official, Youth and Government Outstanding Club Leader Award, AP Scholar with Distinction, Superintendent's Honor Roll.

Activities: Mu Alpha Theta (President), Varsity Tennis (Captain), International Club, Youth and Government, International Baccalaureate.

Community Involvement: Organized school-wide donation of school supplies, organized clothing donations for foster families, National Honor Society, nursing home visits, and tutoring.

Plans After Graduation: Pursue a degree in aerospace or mechanical engineering, while also exploring an interest in criminal law.

Goals for the Future: I hope to be pioneering new research and innovating whatever field of work I am in.

Teacher Mentor: Tammy Brown

I walked into AP Calculus as a junior petrified of embarrassing myself. Months later, I left with newfound confidence and interest in mathematics. This transformation is the product of Mrs. Brown; she encouraged questions and conversations, went beyond just basic explanations and delved into theories, and spent countless hours working with each of her students to make sure each had a deep understanding of the material. While Mrs. Brown is an exceptional math teacher, what makes her stand out to me is the personal connection she formed with not only myself but also my classmates. Mrs. Brown is someone I have laughed, cried, and ranted to about all aspects of my life, and in every moment, genuinely connected with me. To sum it up, (get it, haha?) Mrs. Brown is more than just a math teacher to me; she's also a friend. It's for this reason I chose her to be my mentor.



Myra Gordon
L.D. Bell High School
P.E./Athletics

Honors: 2020 McDonald's All American Nominee, 2019 1st team all-state Texas Association Basketball Coaches, 1st team all-state Texas Girls Coaches Association, District 6-3A MVP, Fort Worth Star-Telegram Girls Basketball Player of the Year.

Activities: 4 yr varsity basketball, National Honor Society.

Community Involvement: Member of Temple Baptist Church.

Plans After Graduation: Basketball scholarship to the University of Alabama.

Goals for the Future: I would like to pursue a career in sports broadcasting and work for one of the major networks.

Teacher Mentor: Andy Bloodworth

Coach Bloodworth has been very important to my high school basketball experience. He always believed in my ability and would push me out of my comfort zone. He pushed me to be a better leader and is someone I always felt like I could talk to, and he would listen.



Alana Rada Pico
Trinity High School
P.E./Athletics

Honors: AP Scholar with Honors Award, National Hispanic Scholar, Superintendent's Scholar, Co-Defensive Player of the Year, Mid-Cities Optimist Club Outstanding Student of the Year.

Activities: Varsity Volleyball, Secretary of Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society.

Community Involvement: Tutoring, Summer League Coaching, nursing home volunteer, volunteer at animal shelters, volunteer at Mission of Arlington.

Plans After Graduation: After graduation, I'm going to continue my education and study to major in electrical engineering. I'm going to travel and study abroad while training to become a yoga instructor.

Goals for the Future: I want to get my bachelor's degree, quickly find a job dealing with software and communications and then potentially go back to school to get my master's degree.

Teacher Mentor: Amelia Langi

Coach Langi and her family have impacted my life ever since I moved here seven years ago. Being my first and last coach, she's helped fulfill my character and maximize my strengths by implementing a sense of courage, integrity, and tenacity within me. She focuses on the importance of gaining knowledge and traits that are useful beyond athletics and academics. She has been fully supportive, and understanding of the importance of education to me and continues to push me mentally and physically in the most rewarding way possible. Even though the season has ended and it's my last year, I still cherish everything she's taught me and look to her as an important figure in my life. I'm so thankful to have her support and encouragement to fuel me and motivate me to achieve my goals and be the best version of myself.



James Mahon VI
L.D. Bell High School
Science

Honors: Congressional Award Bronze Medalist, National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, Graduate of the National Leadership Council.

Activities: Former Delegate and Counselor at Texas Boys State, published contributor to The Christian Science Monitor.

Community Involvement: DFW Ambassador Program, Volunteer Connection Ecuador member, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend the Cockrell School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin to study Computer/Electrical Engineering, with a specific focus on quantum computation.

Goals for the Future: In the future, I would like to get my pilot's license, travel the world, invest in the stock market, and start my own tech company.

Teacher Mentor: Tara Hernandez

Mrs. Hernandez's commitment to her students extends far beyond the classroom. She conducts Wednesday and Saturday reviews for her IB Physics seniors on her own time, provides detailed feedback for students on every single exam, and provides three iterations of feedback for each student on their IB Physics Internal Assessment. Mrs. Hernandez's diligence and caring nature, demonstrated in the classroom every day, serves as an inspiration for each and every one of her students.



Alec Liu
Trinity High School
Science

Honors: FBLA Area 7 Competition-Second Place in Personal Finance and Banking, AP Scholar With Distinction, selected for Lockheed Martin facility tour.

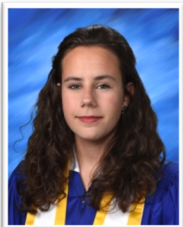
Activities: Future Business Leaders of America-Treasurer, member of Mu Alpha Theta (math honor society).

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend the University of Texas at Austin and major in Mechanical Engineering.

Goals for the Future: I plan to get my bachelor's degree and maybe pursue a master's degree. I also want to get a job at an engineering company.

Teacher Mentor: Amanda Stevens

Mrs. Stevens was the one who selected me for the Awards of Excellence, which I didn't know existed. Throughout my time in physics, I realized what a hardworking person is. She came to teach AP Physics even though she was a biology teacher prior. I was surprised and motivated by her perseverance in learning a whole new field of science to prepare us for the physics test appropriately.



Anna Maria Glowacki
L.D. Bell High School
Social Studies

Honors: National AP Scholar, National Honor Society Vice President, TMTA Piano Theory Gold Medalist, HEB Outstanding Soloist, Flute Section Leader.

Activities: L.D. Bell Band program, Student Council, Fort Worth Youth Orchestra, Academic Quiz League, UIL Math and Science.

Community Involvement: Outreach Chamber Music ensemble for the Fort Worth Youth Orchestra, L.D. Bell Marching Band leadership, HEB Community Orchestra member.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to attend the University of Toronto and double major in biochemistry and flute performance.

Goals for the Future: My long-term goals include pursuing a doctorate in astrobiology and ultimately working for NASA in their astrobiology department.

Teacher Mentor: Kent Wooley

Mr. Wooley has not only been an amazing history teacher, but he also is the sponsor for the Academic Quiz League, one of my favorite clubs. He's incredibly funny and is not afraid to be honest with us about our faults as students, which we all need to improve.



Nicolas Sears
L.D. Bell High School
Theatre Arts

Honors: Bell Theatre Best Supporting Actor 2018-2019, International Thespian Society Board Member, Wisecrack Improv Troupe Captain, 18 College Offers at Texas Thespian Festival for Theatre Education, Qualified for International Thespian Scholarship Auditions at the 2020 International Thespian Festival in Indiana.

Activities: One-Act Play, Wisecracks Improv Troupe, International Thespian Society, Tech Theatre.

Community Involvement: Member of the Boy Scouts of America organization, staff at National Youth Leadership Training Course, volunteer for the TCC Police Academy.

Plans After Graduation: Attending Texas A & M University in Corpus Christi, majoring in Theatre with a track towards Teaching Certification.

Goals for the Future: Move to New York City and audition for Saturday Night Live or work as a stage manager/tech hand for them for several years and then settle down and teach High School Theatre.

Teacher Mentor: Candace Harris

Mrs. Harris, or Hooper as we call her, truly has been a second mother to me and taught me all there is to know about theatre at this point in my life, but has also taught me how to be a leader and man not only for myself but for everyone around me. In the many many years to come, I will never forget what Mrs. Harris has done for me and hundreds of other kids in her years of teaching. You are loved!



Devashree Shah
Trinity High School
Social Studies

Honors: AP Scholar with Distinction

Activities: Junior World Affairs Council (President), Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society, and participated in a Bollywood dance performance for Culture Week.

Community Involvement: Volunteering with 6Stones (Operation Back 2 School and Community Powered Revitalization), meal packing for Haiti every December (Compass Christian Church), creation of the Board of Cultural Affairs (BOCA) to improve cooperation regarding Culture Week.

Plans After Graduation: I plan to major in neuroscience and improve my efforts in activism by voting in the upcoming elections, supporting more organizations, and attending events for the causes that I stand for.

Goals for the Future: I hope to research neurological diseases, with a focus on demyelinating ones, such as multiple sclerosis. Additionally, I want to teach later in life to positively impact future generations.

Teacher Mentor: Laurel McClanahan

Every step I have taken at Trinity has been alongside Mrs. McClanahan--from my very first class with her at Trinity to my time in the IB program. She has furthered my love of history and sparked a deep interest in world affairs. Her confidence and straightforwardness have helped me discover aspects of myself and find my voice. Mrs. McClanahan exemplifies diligence in professional matters as well as her dedication to education. She replies to emails more quickly than my friends reply to my texts. She has never turned down my requests for help, whether it be for a small task or mentoring my extended essay. Regarding planning and thorough communication, she shows me what it means to be excellent. She has guided me in leading the Junior World Affairs Council with integrity. In all aspects, she is an amazing mentor who I will always remember.



Zachary Deande
Trinity High School
Theatre Arts

Honors: 4 Time All-Star Actor in UIL One-Act Play Competition.

Activities: Theatre, photography, improv, interior design.

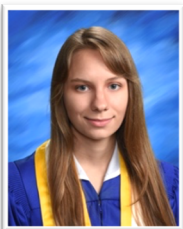
Community Involvement: Community Theatre

Plans After Graduation: Moving out of state, majoring in Musical Theatre

Goals for the Future: One goal and one goal only...BROADWAY!!!

Teacher Mentor: Kendal Fries

Ms. Fries is beyond an excellent teacher. She is a leader, a creator, and above all, an excellent friend. When I met her, the first day of my sophomore year, I knew I was in for a wild ride. I remember her telling me right after our first play that she was so excited to work with me for the next three years. And from that day forward, she has been a highlight in my life. Thank you, Ms. Fries, for pushing me, teaching me, and being the best freaking theatre teacher Trinity High School has ever seen!



Hayley Otteson
L.D. Bell High School
World Languages

Honors: National Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, National German Honor Society.

Activities: Piano lessons 10+ years.

Community Involvement: I participated in a mission trip to Mexico and the annual Night of Hope with my church, First Baptist Hurst. Over the 2019 summer, I organized a community service project to clean up parks within HEB ISD.

Plans After Graduation: I will be attending the Honors College in the University of North Texas and plan to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Geography.

Goals for the Future: I hope to travel and learn as much about the world as I can, so that I can effectively give back to the environment and communities.

Teacher Mentor: Joseph Mendenhall
 Mr. Mendenhall continuously works to create a welcoming and enjoyable classroom for all his students. His mentorship has impacted my life not just by promoting my understanding of German language and culture, but also by inspiring me to travel and experience the world from a different perspective.



Maliabo Diamba
Trinity High School
World Languages

Honors: Spanish Honors Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honors Society.

Activities: President and Founder of International Club, Secretary of Mu Alpha Theta, Spanish Honors Society, Junior World Affairs Council, Varsity Tennis.

Community Involvement: Active member in the French Club of Denton, Multilingual IT'Z Party Host, CIEE Study Abroad participant in Madrid.

Plans After Graduation: I plan on continuing my education at the University of Texas at Austin where I will major in International Relations and Global Affairs.

Goals for the Future: I would like to work for the CIEE Study Abroad program as the Dallas CIEE Coordinator.

Teacher Mentor: Blanca Diaz
 Señora Diaz has always encouraged me to reach my full potential in and outside of the classroom. Her great passion for teaching Spanish is evident through her bright and bold personality. Her endless support and genuine care for her students is what makes her such an exceptional teacher. Thanks to her, I was able to partake in an amazing study-abroad program. I appreciate everything she has done for me, and she will always hold a special place in my heart.

Congratulations to the 2020 HEB ISD Education Foundation's Awards of Excellence Student Recipients and their Teacher Mentors.
 On behalf of the Board of Directors, HEB ISD Board of Trustees, donors, and HEB community, we applaud your achievements and wish you continued success wherever your journey takes you.

The mission of the HEB ISD Education Foundation is to raise and award private funds and community resources to support the HEB ISD's commitment to excellence in education.

The Foundation, established in 1995, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, guided by a volunteer board of directors who have a sincere interest in the success of our students and staff.

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Thank you to the 610 HEB ISD Employees who generously support the Education Foundation through the 2019-2020 annual employee giving campaign donating \$29,900 to provide additional funding to the Education Foundation's Empowered to Excel grant program.

*Please excuse any errors or omissions.
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