

\$47,000 in AREA Scholarships awarded to 2007 graduates

This year AREA awarded scholarships totaling \$47,000. Although the Board initially approved twelve scholarship awards earlier in the year, it was obvious during the evaluation process that there were more than twelve deserving applicants. The Scholarship Committee asked the board to approve seven additional \$1,500 awards. The board unanimously endorsed the proposal and the number of awards was increased so we were able to award scholarship monies to nineteen of the twenty-five qualified applicants. How much has AREA awarded over the years? I am proud to tell you that \$299,795 in awards has been made to 181 deserving students since the AREA scholarship program's inception in 1985. A brief recap of each recipient's accomplishments and college plans is shown on pages 12-15.

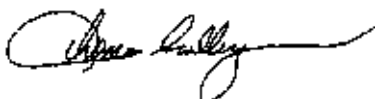
This was a banner year for the AREA Scholarship Program. With forty-six applications received and twenty-five of those meeting AREA criteria, 2007 laid claim to having the highest participation rate since the program began, and with nineteen awards it also stands out as having the most awards ever made in a single year. Having said that, I would be remiss if I failed to mention how funds have been and continue to be made available for this outstanding "AAFES Employee Oriented" program. The program garners support from both industry partners and from many within our own ranks who choose to recognize loved ones with a donation to the AREA Scholarship fund. Industry support and individual donations are key factors to the program's past and future success.

Here's a description of the scholarship evaluation process. Each application was screened to see if it met minimum requirements. After meeting the "AAFES Employee, Son or Daughter" and minimum academic criteria, all qualifying applications had individual information masked to assure anonymity throughout the evaluation. Qualified applicant files were reviewed privately by each member of the evaluation committee and ranked using academic achievement, awards, school and outside activity participation, letters of recommendation and finally, an essay themed on why "...I deserve this scholarship..." All scores were aggregated, ties were broken and the award roster finalized. After that, Chuck Poffenbarger, AREA President, sent each awardee a letter detailing his/her AREA scholarship.

Applicant's academic standing was exceptional again this year. All applicants, including those who did not meet AREA's minimum scholarship requirements, should be justifiably proud knowing they reflect great credit on themselves and the families who support them. It is obvious that I was most impressed with the high quality of each and every applicant but committee members were equally impressed. Speaking of the evaluation committee, I personally want to thank all five members of the committee who voluntarily took time and applied exceptional judgment to the evaluation process. The members are: Duane Walsh, Vivian Skalsky, Don Smith, Jim Sawyer and Richard Sheff.

And finally, don't forget about next year. If you know a qualifying high school senior entering the first college semester in 2008, make sure an AREA Scholarship application and sent in.

!!! We love to award monies to deserving students !!!



Tom Gallagher
Director, AREA Scholarship Program

AREA Scholarship Winners



Where did we get the \$47,000 for the 19 scholarships?

This year's program certainly overshadows all other years in both number of scholarships and dollar amount of the program. Here are the 2006 sources of income that funded this year's 19 2007/2008 scholastic year awards.

✓ Individual Donations.....	\$8,207
✓ AREA General Fund.....	\$3,000
✓ Dan Daniel's Golf Tournament.....	\$8,000
✓ Dallas/Fort Worth ALA.....	\$5,000
✓ DFW ALA given in the name of Marilyn Iverson.....	\$10,000
✓ <i>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS....</i>	<u>\$34,207</u>
✓ Plus: Scholarship Fund Unreserved Amount.....	<u>\$12,793</u>
 <i>GRAND TOTAL.....</i>	 <i>\$47,000</i>

Scholarship Fund Unreserved Amounts

The program for funding the annual scholarship program was approved at the January 20, 2004 board meeting, as shown below.

- ✓ That the reserve contingency fund amount to two (2) years of the annual scholarship grants; (Based on the anticipated \$36,500 program for 12 scholarships for 2007/2008, that's \$73,000)
- ✓ That the awards, as determined by the Scholarship Committee, be flexible in both number and amounts based on caliber of the applicants. (The Committee recommended 7 additional awards at \$1,500 each based on the quality of the applicants.)
- ✓ That a period of 5-10 years be established to bring the award levels and investment fund goals in line. The \$12,793 came from this unreserved amount.

How do our scholarship recipients fare in college? A recent graduate tells us...

Christina Garcia was awarded a \$2,000 AREA scholarship in 2005. She was asked to tell about her experience in college and the impact her scholarship had on her first year of higher education. Cristina's story appears in the AREA Scholarship Winners booklet being distributed this year (see next page).

The AREA scholarship helped tremendously in my first year of college when the sticker shock of tuition was still present.

I am grateful for the financial help AREA gave me because it helped make higher education possible for me.



Christina Garcia

While at the University of Texas at Austin I have worked as a general reporter for the Daily Texan, been Public Relations Officer for the University of Texas Hispanic Journalists Organization, and am currently working for La Voz Newspaper.

The college experience has been invaluable and has taught me learning and sharing knowledge with the world is the job of a good citizen.

AREA... We're people helping people

AREA Scholarship Program 2007

Honoring the 2007 AREA Scholarship Recipients



We're pleased to offer this program for the benefit of dependents of AAFES and assigned military personnel. Over the years, AREA members and AAFES vendors have supported this worthwhile program. We're people helping people...it's the right thing to do!

AREA introducing scholarship booklets to honor students

For several years now, members have asked us if we had contact with previous years' scholarship recipients and how the AREA scholarship contributed to their college education. We have not kept track of students as we really didn't have a program for address, e-mail, etc updates. Someone suggested an annual scholarship booklet (cover shown above) to feature each scholarship recipient with a section explaining our desire to keep track of the students' academic progress. A change of address page will be included in the booklet. The booklet will contain much of the same information that appears in the Newsletter; however, it will be smaller in size (5 1/2" x 8 1/2") and have limited distribution. Full page vendor "ads" will pay for the printing and distribution.

The first booklet, for the 2007/08 academic year, will be published in mid-July. Copies will be distributed to each student, AAFES senior management official and each vendor which purchased an "ad". In future years, we'll have more articles to feature several students from previous years awards on how their life and interests are developing. We will also feature these articles in the Newsletter.

—Chuck Poffenbarger

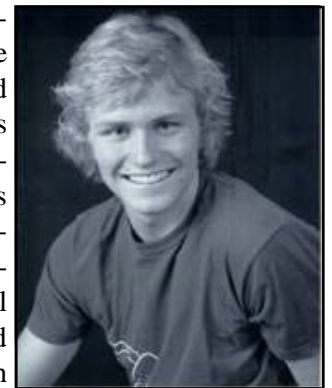
2007 AREA Scholarship Winners

Kristi Forsch: Kristi, the daughter of Trent and Genevieve Forsch, is the recipient of the inaugural Marilyn Iverson Memorial award. This \$5,000 endowment is given to the top AREA Scholarship recipient for outstanding academic achievement and community involvement. This fall Kristi enters Oklahoma City University to seek a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a major in Theater Performance. At Klein Oak High School in Spring, TX, Kristi managed to balance her academics, school activity participation and community involvement in outstanding fashion.



Academically she was a member of the National Honor Society, Abbit Society (A, B Honor Roll) and garnered statewide recognition with a first place for a video she produced. She also received a first runner up for her one act play. Kristi held several offices in her high school Drama Club. She also found time to volunteer as a Certified Nurses Assistant and a Food Bank Aide and with other worthwhile community oriented organizations.

Neale Allen Shutler: Neale, the son of David and Kathryn Shutler is the recipient of a \$5,000 AREA Scholarship award. He distinguished himself in St. Mark's School of Texas as a National Merit Finalist, was selected as a Duke University TIP Scholar and garnered Honor Roll status throughout his high school career. Interestingly enough, as an Eagle Scout, Neale was selected as the Texas representative to the Boy Scout National Jamboree in 2001. He played lead roles in several of his high school musicals while serving as a member of the Varsity and JV wrestling teams. He also volunteered at a local homeless shelter. Neale enters college seeking a degree in Communications and perhaps a second major in Theater Arts.



Caroline Cook Hickson: Caroline, the daughter of David and Virginia Hickson, was selected for a \$4,000 Area Scholarship award.



She plans to major in English upon entering the University of Texas at Austin this fall.

Caroline was a member of the National Honor Society, was Editor and Chief of her Waxahachie High School paper, received her town's Good Citizen Award, was recognized with a first place award in District UIL Spelling and Vocabulary competition and was a member of her high school band. She also volunteered at the Special Olympics and served as a counselor at a summer camp.

Mary Evelyn Thomas: Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Lora Thomas was awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. Mary enters Navarro College in Corsicana, TX, this fall seeking a degree in



English. While in Midlothian High School in Midlothian, TX, Mary distinguished herself academically while at the same time actively participating in school and community activities.

She was a member of the National Honor Society, listed in Who's Who - American High School Students, received the National Leadership Service Award and was a member of the National Society of High School Scholars. Mary participated in two team sports and was an active member of the school Drama/School Play Club, helped fellow students as a member of PAL (Peer Assistance Leadership) and served on the Yearbook staff. While managing this full schedule, she found time to vol-

AREA Scholarship Winners

unteer at a Pregnancy Resource Center, as a Tutor and a Special Education Teacher Assistant.

Dyann Lynn Lopez: Dyann is the daughter of Flavio and Beatriz Lopez. She was awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. She will use the scholarship to seek a Biology degree as she embarks on her college career this fall at Southwestern University in Georgetown, TX. During her high school years at Red Oak High School in Red Oak, TX, Dyann received a Bishop T. Ernest Scholarship from Southwestern University, was recognized with a first place award in regional competition for Ready Writing UIL, was recognized as a National Hispanic Scholar Finalist and was an AP Scholar. Dyann found time to volunteer at a local Rehabilitation Center, Tutor for Spanish, English and Math and actively participated as a Youth Leader in her church.



Amanda Alyss Ventura: Amanda is the daughter of Anthony and Kimberly Ventura. She has been awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. This fall Amanda enters Arizona State University seeking a Pre-Medical degree. Amanda has been a High Honor student throughout her high school years at H.H. Arnold Wiesbaden High School, was a member of the National Honor Society, was elected as a member of the National Society for High School Scholars and

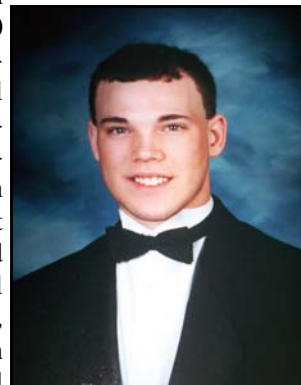


was recognized by her school with awards for "Excellence in Journalism" and "Excellence in Algebra II". In addition to her academic accomplishments, she served as VP of her junior class, played three varsity sports and found time to co-chair a National disaster Relief Committee and organize a clothing drive for Mongolia orphans.

Vorakan Gordon Chalaopak: Vorakan has been recognized with a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship award. He is the son of Kasem and Plearnpit Chalaopak. Vorakan plans to seek a Computer Science degree as he enters the college academic world this fall at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY. Among other honors received during his high school career at Moore High School in Moore, OK, Vorakan garnered first place in C++ Programming State Leadership Conference, and received the Certificate of Merit Mathematics Technology: An Applications Paradigm, received the Scholastic Achievement Award in Advanced Placement U.S. History, is a member of the Business Professionals of America and a member of the National Technical Honor Society. Vorakan was an active member of his high school Table Tennis Club



Shawn McKinley Massey: Shawn, the son of James and Susan Massey, enters collage with a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship this fall as a Pre-Medical major. While in high school at Kenwood High School in Clarksville, TN, Shawn maintained



excellent academic credentials. In that time he was twice recognized with Achievement of Academic

Excellence Awards and an Academic Excellence Award in Biology. He was also a member of the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and a member of the Nation Society of High School Scholars.

Andrea Marie Ritter: Andrea is the daughter of William and Karen Ritter. Andrea with a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship enters Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne this fall as a



French Education major. During her high school career at Ramstein American High School, Andrea was inducted into the French Honor Society, recognized with Excellence

awards in French III, Algebra II, U.S. History, Physics Applications and Biology. She also garnered the Award for Academic Achievement in AP French and Chemistry and the Principal's Award: Demonstrating Traits of Caring, Character and Respect. In February 2007 Andrea was selected as a school representative to participate in the Model United Nations conference in Prague and also attended this conference at Ivanovo, Russia in 2006.

Branden Steinmetz: Branden has been awarded a



\$2,500 AREA Scholarship. Branden is the son of Gregory and Kathy Steinmetz. In his senior year at Tomah High School in Tomah, WI, Branden was a member of the National

AREA Scholarship Winners

Honor Society, was elected president of the band, was selected to the Wisconsin All-Star Band and selected to the Dorian Tri-State Symphonic Band among other things. In his freshman through junior years Branden played three team sports. In addition to academic and school activities, Branden volunteered at the local Veterans Hospital and at his church. Branden will seek a degree in Music Performance, Theory/Composition at the University of Wisconsin—La Crosse.

Samantha Jablonski: Samantha was awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. Samantha, the daughter of Steven and Lee Ann Jablonski, will seek a degree in



Education as she enters freshman year at the University of Central Florida this fall. In Coppell High School, Coppell, TX, Samantha was a member of the National Honor Society

and National Spanish Honor Society. She was a member of the Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) and a member of the Spanish Club. Additionally, Samantha was the captain of the Varsity basketball team and played that sport from 2003 through 2006. Samantha was also active in her community. She volunteered for the Christian Community Action Food Pantry and Toy Store, Halloween canned food drives sponsored by the National Honor Society, and at a local nursing home.

Glenna Lynne Schubert: Glenna's parents are Glenn and Alice Schubert. Glenna was awarded a \$2,500 AREA Scholarship. She will be using the scholarship this fall as she enters her college career as a Political Science major. In her time at Kaiser High School, Honolulu, HI, Glenna was an Honor Roll student, received the Departmental Outstanding Social Studies Student, the Departmental Outstanding Foreign Lan-

guage Student and was a National History Day Finalist, Historical Papers in both

2006 and 2007. Glenna was a member of the National Honor Society, served as National Honor Society Historian and was a member of the Pacific Asian Affairs Council.

She served as Student Body Treasurer, served as School Newspaper Editorials Editor and was the President and Delegate to the Model United Na-



tions. Glenna was a precinct official for the 2007 midterm elections and last year volunteered as a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

Paul Lawrence Grzybowski: Paul, the son of Thomas and Cynthia Grzybowski, was awarded a \$1,500 AREA Scholarship. Paul enters Georgia Tech this fall seeking a degree in Chemical Engineering. During his career in Greenbrier High School in Evans, GA, Paul garnered a Distinguished Scholar Award, was selected Student of the Month, was selected to the Augusta State University Conservatory Jazz



Band Award Of Excellence, was awarded an Academic Letter and was a semi-finalist in Immortal Verses Poetry Competition. Paul was a member of his high school cross country

team, played lead trombone in the Greenbrier High School Jazz Band, played bassoon in the Pit Band for "Into the Woods" School Play and was a trombone player in his high school marching band. Paul also has an interest in the martial arts: he holds a black belt in the Style of Chun-Kuk-Do.

Bryse Nicole Ed: Bryse, the daughter of

Bryan and Julie Ed, was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship. She plans to use the scholarship this coming fall as she enters the University of Texas at Austin as a Computer Engineering major. In her high school years at Midway High School in Waco, TX, Bryse distinguished herself as a member of the National Honor Society and recipient of her school's Academic Excellence and



Teacher Recognition Awards. While maintaining her outstanding academic standing, she found time to volunteer in many community and charity endeavors

such as Race for the Cure and Special Olympics, to name a few.

Olivia A Hudson: Olivia received a \$1,500 AREA Scholarship. Her parents are Milton and Sharon Hudson. Olivia will be entering her freshman year at the University of Virginia this fall seek a degree in Education. At Potomac Senior High School, Dumfries, VA, Olivia was a semi-finalist in the University of Virginia Jefferson Scholars competition, received the National Latin Exam Cum Laude Medal of Achievement and was recognized for her academic excellence when her high school awarded her an Academic Letter. She is also a member of the National Honor Society of High School

Scholars and, as a member of her high school band, Olivia was awarded the Medal of Achievement Intermediate Band.



Nicholas Newton: Nicholas was awarded a \$1,500 AREA Scholarship. He is the son of Michelle R. Newton - Faulkner. Nicholas plans to seek a de-

AREA Scholarship Winners

gree in Computer Engineering at Rice University in Houston, TX. Nicholas is a graduate of John Hirschi Math-Science Technology Magnet International Baccalaureate High School in Wichita Falls, TX. He was selected as A Joshua L. Chamberlain Civil War Roundtable Scholar and Senior Editor of his high school paper. Additionally Nicholas Newton was an active member of the varsity track and basketball teams. Nicholas Newton was also active in his church where he was a Faith Center Media Worker. Newton also helped fellow students as an SAT tutor.

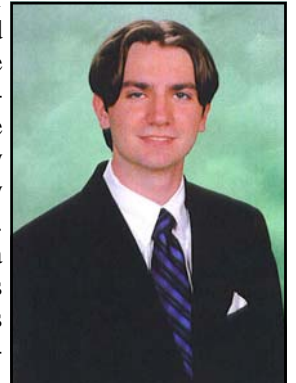


Mallory J. Vaughn: Mallory, the daughter of Doug and Alison Vaughn received a \$1,500 AREA Scholarship. She will use the scholarship this fall as she enters Oklahoma Christian University in pursuit of a degree in Accounting. While attending Colleyville Heritage High School in Colleyville, TX, Mallory was selected as member of the National Society of High School Scholars, was a member of the National Honor Society, was listed in Who's Who Among High School Students and was nominated for the Presidential Classroom Scholar award. She was an active Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) Mentor, a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and a member of Youth Aiding the Really Needy (YARN) Club. Mallory was also a community volunteer with the Grapevine Historical Soci-



ety: The society recognized her with its Volunteer Award.

Charles Edward Wickersham III: Charles is the son of Charles and Karen Wickersham. With his \$1,500 AREA Scholarship, Charles will embark on his college career at Dallas County Community College in pursuit of an Information Systems Security degree. While at Red Oak High School in Red Oak, TX, Charles was a member of the National Honor Society and competed in the Regional Computer Science Fair hosted by the University of North Texas. Charles was a member of his high school's Golf and Debate teams.



Megan White: Megan received a \$1,500 AREA Scholarship award. Megan is the daughter of Robert and Christel White. This fall Megan will enter her freshman year at Baylor University as a Business major. During her time in Millard West High School in Omaha, NE, Megan was listed on the 4.0 & Above Honor Roll and her high school recognized her academic prowess with its Academic Letter award. In the DECA State Qualifier competition she finished tenth in 2007. Megan was a member of the Senior Class Board

and was a member of the Varsity Cheerleading and Competition Team. She was an active member of Big Brothers / Big Sisters and volunteered for Habitat for Humanity.

