



HEADLINERS FOUNDATION OF TEXAS

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12 Texas University Students Win Annual Scholarship Competition

AUSTIN, TEXAS (March 30, 2015)— The Headliners Foundation of Texas today announced winners of \$56,000 in scholarships for the 2015/2016 school year. The awards go to 12 undergraduate students showing outstanding potential in journalism.

A record 63 applications were received from students attending 19 Texas universities. In addition to strong academic records and writing ability, applicants were expected to have demonstrated their interest in journalism by working on student media or as interns for professional media outlets. The scholarships range from \$2,000 to \$6,000.

The winners are:

Founders' Scholarships

Nicole Cobler, Victoria, TX, The University of Texas at Austin
Christina Cox, Agoura Hills, CA, Southern Methodist University
Cassandra Jaramillo, Port Neches, TX, The University of Texas at Austin
Jordan Shenhar, Westport, CT, The University of Texas at Austin
Jacqueline Wang, El Paso, TX, The University of Texas at Austin
Clayton Youngman, Mesquite, TX, Texas Christian University

Darrell K. Royal Scholarship

Jori Epstein, Dallas, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

George Christian Scholarship

Luqman Adeniyi, Arlington, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

Sam Wood Scholarship

Taylor Griffin, Tyler, TX, Baylor University

Stuart Long Memorial Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists

Jordan Gass-Poore', Seguin, TX, Texas State University
Jacob Sanchez, Tucumacari, NM, St. Edward's University

Texas Associated Press Broadcasters Scholarship

Eleanor Dearman, Denton, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

Applications were received from students attending the following 19 universities: Abilene Christian, Angelo State University, Baylor University, Huston-Tillotson University, South Plains College, Southern Methodist University, St. Edward's University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M - San Antonio, Texas Christian University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, University of

Houston, University of North Texas, and the University of Texas at Arlington, Austin, Brownsville, El Paso and San Antonio.

“We are delighted to recognize these outstanding students who have demonstrated excellent reporting and writing skills and a deep commitment to journalism,” said Patti C. Smith, Headliners Foundation Academic Excellence Committee Chair. “Our foundation was created 30 years ago by members of the Headliners Club in Austin to support strong journalism in Texas. Providing these substantial scholarships is one of the important ways we carry out that mission.”

The following scholarships are awarded annually: Headliners Foundation Founders (up to \$6,000 scholarship to each recipient per school year), George Christian (up to \$6,000 scholarship per school year to a University of Texas student), Sam Wood (up to \$3,000 total per school year to a Baylor University student), the Stuart Long Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists (up to \$7,000 scholarship per school year to a central Texas Journalism student, considering financial need) and the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters (up to \$2,000 scholarship per year to a journalism/communications student in the broadcast category).

This is the first year for the Headliners Foundation of Texas to administer the Stuart Long Memorial Scholarships for Aspiring Journalists. The Stuart Long Memorial Scholarships for Aspiring Journalists honor the memory of Stuart Long, who died in 1977 after a journalism career that began during the early 1930s. Long founded the Long News Service, a state capital news agency, in the mid-1940s and operated it until the time of his death. Funds for Stuart Long scholarships were raised from the sale of tickets and program advertisements for Gridiron Shows staged almost every year from 1978 to 2000 by the Austin Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Profits from the shows were invested, with scholarships paid from the earnings. These funds are being matched with Headliners Foundation Founders’ funds each year.

“I feel deeply honored that the distinguished members of the SDX Gridiron board have put their confidence and trust in the Headliners Foundation to continue its exceptional record with journalism scholarships and to make the Long scholarships a prominent and vibrant extension of the Foundation’s scholarship program. We are very grateful for this opportunity, and are going to bring all our energy and skills to leverage the fine tradition of the Long program as part of our ever-growing effort to invest in promising future journalists,” said Mark Morrison, Headliners Foundation Chair.

For more information about the scholarship program and a listing of the this and prior years’ scholarship recipients, please visit www.headlinersfoundation.org. 2015/2016 scholarship recipient profiles will be posted in August.

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About The Headliners Foundation of Texas

Founded in 1983, the Headliners Foundation of Texas is a 501(c)(3) that promotes excellence in journalism by providing scholarships to promising communications students; recognizing outstanding works of journalism and leaders in the industry; and sponsoring special projects that promote journalistic excellence and preserve history.