



## HEADLINERS FOUNDATION OF TEXAS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **12 Texas University Students Win Annual Scholarship Competition**

AUSTIN (April 13, 2016)— The Headliners Foundation of Texas today announced winners of \$56,750 in scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year. The awards go to 12 undergraduate students showing outstanding potential in journalism.

An impressive 45 applications were received from students attending 13 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**

Marisa Charpentier, Flower Mound, TX, The University of Texas at Austin  
Nicole Cobler, Victoria, TX, The University of Texas at Austin  
Megan Hix, Longview, TX, The University of Texas at Austin  
Samantha King, Highland Village, TX, Texas A&M University  
Jackie Wang, El Paso, TX, The University of Texas at Austin  
Caleb Wong, McKinney, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

#### **Darrell K. Royal Scholarship**

Amanda González, McAllen, TX, St. Edward's University

#### **George Christian Scholarship**

James Rodriguez, Austin, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

#### **Sam Wood Scholarship**

Destinee "Rae" Jefferson, Houston, TX, Baylor University

#### **Stuart Long Memorial Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists**

Rosemond Crown, Katy, TX, St. Edward's University  
Anna Herod, Burleson, TX, Texas State University

#### **Texas Associated Press Broadcasters Scholarship**

Andrea Czobor, The Woodlands, TX, The University of North Texas

Applications were received from students attending the following 13 universities:

Angelo State University, Baylor University, San Antonio College, Southern Methodist University, St. Edward's University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M

University – San Antonio, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, Texas Wesleyan University, University of North Texas, and the University of Texas at Austin.

“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 and President and General Manager of KVUE-TV in Austin. “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 to each recipient per school year), George Christian (up to \$6,000 per school year to a University of Texas student), Sam Wood (up to \$3,000 per school year to a Baylor University student), the Stuart Long Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists (up to \$9,000 per school year to central Texas Journalism students) and the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters (up to \$2,000 per year to a journalism/communications student in the broadcast category).

This is the second year for the Headliners Foundation of Texas to administer the Stuart Long Memorial Scholarships for Aspiring Journalists. The Long Scholarships 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 – about \$140,000 – are being matched with Headliners Foundation Founders’ funds each year.

For more information about the scholarship program and a listing of this and prior years’ scholarship recipients, please visit [www.headlinersfoundation.org](http://www.headlinersfoundation.org). 2016-2017 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.*