

ALACRITY

Alacrity (ah LACK rah tee) Cheerful willingness to overcome obstacles



Twenty National Awards Since 2010



New Honors Image: Kelli Knepp, William Villalobos, Cassia Rose, Isaac Burris, Miranda Mendoza, and Morgan Capps at Corpus Christi.

Kayleah Cumpian's Jack Kent Cooke and Guistwhite, added to Tyler Reynolds' Coca Cola Bronze this spring have given Honors Northeast Scholars a total of 20 national awards since 2010! This includes 5 exclusive Jack Kent Cookes, 4 Guistwhites, 1 Hites, 3 Leaders of Promise, and 7 Coca-Colas. For a surmise at how this is happening, read the Director's column on p. 4. We are thankful for a harmony of remarkable support systems.

June 2015

Volume 8 Issue 1

Honors Highlights

- ❖ A Benefactor-Driven Success Story
- ❖ An Unforgettable Banquet
- ❖ Jack Kent Cooke, Coca Cola, and ...
- ❖ Kayleah wins again, and again.
- ❖ Remarkable truths about Honors Northeast.

Our Generous Friends of Honors Northeast



A truly munificent benefactor absorbed the costs of Eva Greer's exquisite 2015 Thank You Dinner in Daingerfield. It was a beautiful extravaganza under a lighted tent, with entertainment courtesy of Cassia Rose, Miranda Mendoza, and Kelli Knepp. Did every one see Sid Greer's door from Zanzibar and other African-styled décor? It was an enchanted evening.

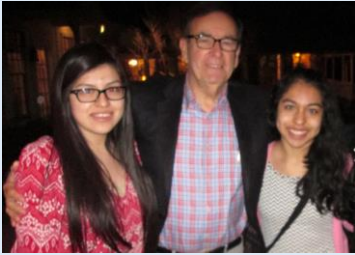


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Friends of Honors



Dr. Charles and Sue Lynn Florio have been remarkable benefactors since 2007, and again we have been favored by their financial help.



Karen Harmon attended C. Mendez' UTSA graduation, this past spring and continues to help us from afar.



We have greatly benefitted this spring from generous gifts from Glenda Brogoitti, Brad/Vicki Johnson, Beverly/Gene Hinson, Lynda Watson, the 20th Century Club, Jeanni Pruitt & anonymous presents.



Texas: An Important Benefactor



We have been thankful for the ways we have been able to leverage Texas awards. Again this year, we were a recipient of two Caldwell Awards for two of the four best essays produced by first and second year students in Texas History.

Winning this year, were **Isaac Burris**, 4th (\$75), and **Morgan Capps**, 2nd (\$300). Both received their awards at the Texas State Historical Association meeting at Corpus Christi in March (left).

Capps wrote a beautifully conceptualized story about the relationship of Texas governors James and Miriam Ferguson. Her paper will form the basis of the 2015 honors film. Using crossovers from biology she described "Ma and Pa" as a "symbiotic super couple." Burris described the relation between Sam Houston, and slave, Jeff Hamilton. Burris showed how intra-white conflict could allay white tyranny.

Kayleah Cumpian's Legacy



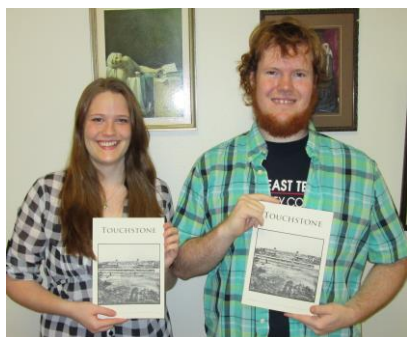
Kayleah Cumpian, our top Presidential Scholar of 2015 set a record at NTCC for the number of cash awards won by a student. Her most notable award came in the form of a three-year \$120,000 scholarship—the Jack Kent Cooke. Kayleah was one of 90 nationally to win the award. She was also a winner of the 2015 Guistwhite, reserved for the top 15 in the nation for community college academics! In her two years with us, she won the Coca Cola Gold, a Boe, a Caldwell, a Texas Star, a First in the McGraw-Hill Contest, and she was our 1st to win a Walter Cooper. Beside her above: President B. Johnson, Drs. Mary Hearn and A. Yox.

WANT TO HELP?

Contact: Dr. Jonathan McCullough at 903-434-8115 or

Dr. Andrew Yox at 903-434-8229 or ayox@ntcc.edu

Spring Happenings



Elyse Coleman and **Zachary Davis**, above, became our 4th and 5th scholars in our history to publish scholarly articles while still members of Honors Northeast. *Touchstone* is published by the Texas State Historical Association. Below: Drs. Hearron and Yox took 11 student presenters to South Padre Island for the meeting of the Great Plains Honors Council (GPHC). We linked up with three of our NTCC honors alumni.

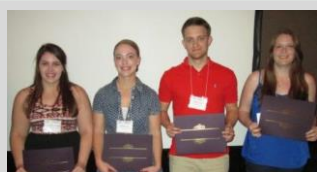


Top: **Miranda Mendoza**, gave a paper relating to our film, and initiated an ovation for a top HS mariachi group at the GPHC. She also won a Monaghan Award at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, and has received a full ride there!

Below that: Will Villalobos, Tyler Reynolds, Cassia, Rose, and Miranda Mendoza premiered our "Harriet" film at the Mount Pleasant Library in February to 70.

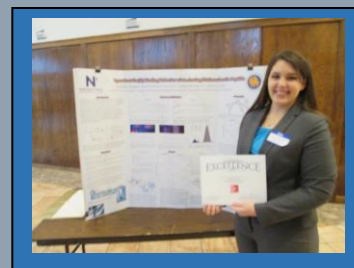


An Amazing Sweep



GPHC Poster Winners
Left to Right: Kayleah Cumpian, a student from Western Missouri State, Tyler Reynolds, and Elyse Coleman.

The Great Plains Honors Council inaugurated a poster contest this year for the first time, and NTCC was quite prepared. After seven years of McGraw Hill poster contests, presentation luncheons in November, and NCHC presentations, NTCC won three of the four prizes! Google the GPHC website, and you will see an amazing NTCC presence thanks to all of our friends who have supported creative research here.



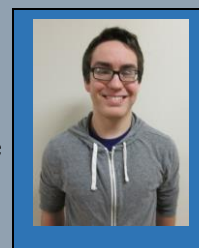
Poster Contest

Kayleah Cumpian (above) won \$400 and a McGraw Hill Gift Certificate for \$175. Our thanks to **Austin Hatzinger**, McGraw Hill rep. for making this possible, along with 13 judges from our Friends' list. Google <NTCC Honors> and click poster page for details.

Steven Vaught

2nd Place

\$300



Isaac Burris

3rd Place

\$200



Cassia Rose

4th Place

\$100

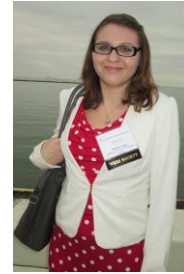


Spring Trip



We discovered that the Perot Museum was “very cool,” twisted root burgers, exceptional, and the Mavs won too! Above in Dallas left to right: Maria Perez, Kelli Knepp, Zachary Davis, Morgan Capps, Manolo Garcia, Ana Martinez, Professor Sarah Rainey, Gabriela Quezada, Elyse Coleman, Dr. Shirley Clay, Hector Zuniga, William Villalobos, Louis Hall, Angelica Fuentes, Tyler Reynolds, Marisol Bautisa, Isaac Burris, Miranda Mendoza, and Chris Hall. Our thanks to **Dr. Jim and Paula Archer** whose knowledge of “chemistry” and support have proved so prescient!

Academic Excellence



The ace performer of our Stat-Psych spring Seminar was **Morgan Capps**, who has wowed us all year with her super-attuned diligence and creativity. Among the sophomores, **Tyler Reynolds**, finished all four honors seminars, with the highest GPA! Morgan also is the 2015 recipient of the **Chitsey Award**, for far exceeding our expectations. Tyler ranked in the upper 150 of the nation, winning a Coca-Cola Bronze!

Support and Success



Andrew Yox
Honors Director

God has blessed our endeavors with amazing results. Our benefactors, outside and inside the college have allowed us to mentor, encourage, and reward student creativity, while maintaining, a team spirit! Our students respond. A spiritual ethic is tapped. Our thanks wears thin, but our people give--unfathomably. True statements:

- *Since 2012, NTCC has received more Guistwhite awards than any of the other 1,600 community colleges in the nation. This is a (the?) top academic award.*
- *NTCC is the all-time Boe Award leader of the Great Plains Honors Council (GPHC) with 7.*
- *The GPHC website shows more recent NTCC prize-winners, and officers, than any other college or university.*
- *Only NTCC has received three invitations in three years to present a group project—in this case, our film, at a national meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council.*

Sources. Google: PTK Guistwhite Awards, Great Plains Honors Council, and NCHC.



Honors Committee:

David Rangel,

Joy Cooper,

Robert Fenton,

Tyler Reynolds



P.O. Box 1307 Mount
Pleasant, TX 75456
903-434-8100
www.ntcc.edu

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