East Texas Communities Foundation

2019 Scholarship Reception
May 20, 2019
at Tyler Civic Theatre

Rolling Out the Red Carpet
Welcome!

East Texas Communities Foundation is pleased to honor the 106 new recipients of scholarships awarded for the 2019-20 academic year. These students were selected from over 2,350 applicants for 68 different scholarships. Their awards total $164,800. In addition to this evening’s honorees, 36 renewing scholarship recipients will be awarded $76,250 to continue their education. The total amount of scholarship money East Texas Communities Foundation will distribute for the coming school year is $241,050.

Our Purpose

ETCF works with individuals, families, businesses, financial advisors and nonprofit organizations to create charitable funds which support a wide variety of community causes and individual philanthropic interests.

To create your legacy contact ETCF at 903-533-0208 or email etcf@etcf.org

Our Mission

Philanthropy builds community and changes lives. East Texas Communities Foundation supports philanthropy by offering simple ways for donors to achieve their charitable goals.
PROGRAM

5:30 - 6:00  Reception

6:00  Welcome
Kyle Penney, President, ETCF

6:10  Congratulations!
Tony Morgan, Board Chair at ETCF
Founding Partner at Gollob Morgan Peddy & Co. P.C.

6:15 - 7:00  And the award goes to...
scholarships announced by Mary Lynn Smith
Program Officer, ETCF

East Texas Communities Foundation would like to thank everyone that had a hand in today’s celebration. That includes the generosity of our donors, the volunteers that donate hours of service to select the recipients and our board for supporting our work. We would also like to thank the students who prove to us our future is in good hands.

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/SimplifiedGiving
Established in 2002 with gifts from the family and friends of Adam Carroll, this scholarship honors the memory of a young man known for his love of people, his zest for life, and his love of sports. An honor graduate of Grand Saline High School, Adam was a gifted baseball player, a handsome guy with an infectious smile, and a young man who had big dreams for his life.

One of Adam’s favorite sayings was “Always remember who you are, where you come from, and what you represent.” Adam Carroll knew who he was, he knew where he came from, both geographically and spiritually, and he knew he represented his family, his school, and his Lord.

The Adam Carroll Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior of Grand Saline High School who has participated in high school athletics or cheerleading.

2019 Recipient
Hayden Alcalan ......Grand Saline High School

Mr. and Mrs. Winston were both long-time educators with Tyler ISD who emphasized the importance of higher education.

Established by the Winston children, all graduates of Texas A&M, to honor their parents, the A.D. and Mary Winston Scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior from a Smith County public high school entering Texas A&M University.

2019 Recipient
Ashley Griffin.........................Troup High School
Born December 4, 1989, in Bedford, Texas, Alex Fleming was a junior at Whitehouse High School, where he was respected and admired by students and teachers alike for his numerous achievements.

Alex was a member of the National Honor Society, a varsity football and track lettermen, and played for the junior varsity baseball team. Moreover, he distinguished himself through his involvement in the Whitehouse High School Band and Jazz Band.

The purpose of the Alex Fleming Infinity Scholarship Fund is to provide a scholarship to a graduating senior at Whitehouse High School who has participated in the band program for four years and shows high moral character.

2019 Recipient
Tala Arthur ................. Whitehouse High School

Roy and Betty Erickson Scholarship
Established by Big Sandy residents Betty and Roy Erickson, this scholarship is awarded to graduating high school seniors in East Texas who have achieved a 4.0 GPA and outstanding SAT/ACT scores.

2019 Recipients
Peyton Adams............... Brook Hill School
Jenna Leihgeber ............. Whitehouse H.S.
Sahil Prakash ............... Paris High School
Evan Pan ........... All Saints Episcopal School
Scottie Taylor.............. Sabine High School
River Tomlinson............. Whitehouse H.S.
John Wofford............... Rusk High School

T.J. Ivey Scholarship
The Thomas James Ivey scholarship supports students from Buffalo High School and Leon High School in Jewett as they enter their freshman year of college.

2019 Recipients
Caden Cox..................... Leon High School
JoBeth Eddings.............. Leon High School
Kayleigh Rhodes........ Buffalo High School
Riley Webb............... Buffalo High School
Citizen’s 1st Bank
Perkins Family Foundation
State Employees’ Children’s Scholarship

This scholarship was established through the generosity of Citizens 1st Bank and the Perkins Family Foundation in appreciation of the dedication of State of Texas employees.

2019 Recipients

Madeline Anthony .....................Cumberland Academy High School
Conner Ellis .............................Rusk High School
Callie Ivy ..................................Tarleton State Univ.

Gerald and Charlie Stoker
Memorial Scholarship

Mr. and Mrs. Stoker were long-time residents of Winnsboro. Family and friends honored them with this scholarship fund.

2019 Recipient

Sarah Vanginault........ Winnsboro High School

Dr. Elbert H. Caldwell Scholarship

The E. H. Caldwell Scholarship Fund was established in 2001 by the family of Dr. Elbert H. Caldwell, a beloved and respected surgeon whose name became synonymous with East Texas medicine.

Throughout his 46-year career in East Texas, Dr. Caldwell earned the respect and love of both his patients and medical colleagues. Motivated by principles of fairness and honesty, as well as high ethical standards, Dr. Caldwell helped found and cultivate the sophisticated level of medicine still associated with East Texas.

The E. H. Caldwell Scholarships are awarded to East Texas residents wishing to pursue or advance careers in nursing.

2019 Recipients

Lauren Doyle ......................................................... UT Tyler
Amani Prince ...............................................LeTourneau University
Dr. David Braithwaite was a brilliant research chemist and Chairman and CEO of Nalco Chemical Company. He was widely recognized in his field for his expertise and innovations.

Mrs. Jacqueline Braithwaite’s numerous philanthropic gifts to the Tyler community reflect her life-long interest in the arts as well as her love of her fellow East Texans.

**Braithwaite Scholarship in Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology**

**2019 Recipients**

Peyton Adams.................Brook Hill School    John Wofford....................Rusk High School

**Braithwaite Scholarship in Chemistry**

**2019 Recipients**

Joseph Adams .......... Lindale High School    Tala Arthur ..............Whitehouse High School

**Jacqueline M. Braithwaite Scholarship for Nursing at Tyler Junior College**

**2019 Recipients**

Marian Chance ............ Tyler Junior College    Delaney Lee..........Henderson High School

**Braithwaite Scholarship in Vocational–Technical Study in Medically-Related Fields**

**2019 Recipients**

Kayla Butenschoen .............Elysian Fields H.S.    Laura Coles..............................Kilgore College
Landry Fowler......................Grace Community School
Stephanie Jaros..........................Kilgore College
Jessica King..............................Chapel Hill High School
Shay Massey..............................Kilgore College
Ancelmo Mojarro........................Kilgore College
Kili Neal ..................................Paris High School
Krystalle Sikes ...........................Kilgore College
The East Texas Geological Society is an educational organization working to further knowledge in the field of geology for both its professional members and students. Students who are at least sophomores and have declared a major in geology are eligible for this scholarship.

**2019 Recipients**

Alex Blizzard .......................... Stephen F. Austin State University

The Seeber Tyler ISD Scholarship was established to honor former Tyler Mayor Joey Seeber for his years of service to the City of Tyler. Contributions from hundreds of Tylerites established this fund.

**2019 Recipient**

Josue Gaona ............................. John Tyler High School

Gary Neel was a very proud and passionate 1972 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School and 1976 graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.

At the time of his death, he was a senior district manager at a major pharmaceutical company. His sensitivity, humility, and quiet strength were manifested in his love for his wife, family, co-workers and friends.

Gary’s love, friendship, and wisdom touched many hearts and made a difference in the lives of all who knew him. Gary’s friends and family established this scholarship fund as a legacy to Gary so that deserving Robert E. Lee High School graduates may be able to attend the University of Texas.

**2019 Recipient**

Anne Thompson ........................ Robert E. Lee High School
The Stewarts, life-long residents of Tyler, valued their faith and the role of education in their lives and served as positive role models to young people.

Mrs. Stewart was an educator with Tyler ISD for 40 years. It was the Stewarts’ desire to make a lasting contribution to their community by rewarding students who share their values of faith, education, and high moral character.

### 2019 Recipients

- Nicole Grayson .......................................................... Tyler ISD Early College High School
- Jenna Leihgeber .......................................................... Whitehouse High School
- Ana Zarate ................................................................. Robert E. Lee High School

### Winifred K. George Scholarship

Established by Winifred George, this scholarship is to be awarded to a Smith County graduating senior who plans to attend Abilene Christian University.

#### 2019 Recipient

Regan Zivney ............ Whitehouse High School

### Whitehouse Young Farmers Scholarship

This scholarship fund was established by an ag booster club to help students attend college who have participated in Agricultural Education while attending Whitehouse High School.

#### 2019 Recipient

Kristin Reaves.......... Whitehouse High School
Lauren Lewis was a 2005 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School and a senior at Texas A&M University in College Station at the time of her death.

Lauren was a devoted Christian who loved Jesus Christ and served her fellow students and community. She was active in the Maggie Women’s Leadership Organization of Texas A&M University and volunteered at a local Boys & Girls Club.

Lauren (La La) lived life with gusto. Scholarship recipients must demonstrate high moral character, leadership and community service.

2019 Recipient
Ana Zarate.................................Robert E. Lee High School

Tyler Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association Scholarship

Citizens who have participated in the Tyler Police Department’s Citizens Police Academy know first hand the caliber of the City of Tyler’s Police Department.

Reflecting their desire to honor and benefit this wonderful group of civil servants, this scholarship is awarded to dependents of Tyler Police Department employees.

2019 Recipients
Hannah Langford.................................Texas A&M Univ.
River Tomlinson..............................Whitehouse High School

Partners in Arts Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to Smith County graduating seniors who have actively participated in one of the performing or visual arts such as band, choir, dance, orchestra, theater arts or visual art and who plan to major in the visual or performing arts in college.

2019 Recipients
Josue Esquivel Mondragon.........................Robert E. Lee High School
John Collin Skelton.................................................Bullard High School
This scholarship was established by Sherilyn’s family to honor her career in medicine. It was created to help support students in medical school who plan to practice medicine in Texas.

2019 Recipient
Brittany Witt
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine

Glenn and Vivian Prater Memorial Scholarship

Although neither of the Praters was able to attend college due to financial reasons, they were firm believers in education.

Mrs. Prater taught kindergarten before it was part of the public school system. She also sold World Book Encyclopedias.

Mr. Prater was valedictorian of his high school class. His passion was working with Boy Scouts; he mentored 12 Eagle Scouts as a Scoutmaster and received the Woodbadge and Silver Beaver Awards.

This scholarship is to be awarded to an Eagle Scout from Liberty County or an ETCF county accepted to or currently attending Texas A&M University.

2019 Recipient
Thomas Brewer .................. Jacksonville High School

Sherilyn A. Willis, M.D. Medical Scholarship

This scholarship honors Doris Riehm for her 65 years of service to Girl Scouts as a troop leader, Chair of the Girl Scouts World Committee and founding member of the International Ulave-Baden Powell Society.

2019 Recipient
Stephanie Tonjes .................. Grace Community School
This scholarship is awarded to graduating seniors from Smith County and selected surrounding school districts who plan to major in business.

2019 Recipients

Madeline Anthony ..................... Cumberland Academy
Natalie Davenport .......... Troup High School
Nicole Grayson Tyler ISD Early College H.S.

Molly Martin ..................... Bullard High School
Emily Moore ..................... Hawkins High School
Claire Mounce ..................... Homeschool
Tiffany Traylor ............... John Tyler High School

Smith County graduating seniors and current college students are eligible for the Texas Rose Festival Scholarship. The recipient is invited to participate in Rose Sunday events.

2019 Recipient

Adal Olivares
Tyler ISD Early College High School

Mr. Hamm was active in the oil and gas business. He and Mrs. Hamm enjoyed retirement in Bullard.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamm chose to give back to that community by funding a scholarship for Bullard High School graduates attending the University of Texas at Tyler.

2019 Recipients

Kayleigh Yates ............... Bullard High School
Michael Crawford .... Bullard High School
Joe & Marguerite Davis Scholarship

The Davis Scholarship supports graduating high school seniors at Palestine and Westwood High Schools.

2019 Recipients
Madeline Colley .......................Westwood High School
Camryn Lupo ..........................Palestine High School

John Harris Scholarship

The John Harris Scholarship is the legacy of a man who was devoted to his community, his church, and education. Mr. Harris earned a degree in business and music at Baylor University, then returned to his hometown of Center, Texas to teach high school students. He was generous, articulate, and attentive to detail. This fund was established upon his death to help students from Center High School attend college.

2019 Recipients
Zoie Eberenz ............................Center High School
Scarlett Shires ............................Center High School

Vision For Your Future Scholarship

Dr. Neisha Rudd established this scholarship in 2016 to encourage and support Smith County students interested in entering the medical profession.

To reflect the donor’s gender and specialty, preference is for female students planning to study optometry, ophthalmology, or other eye-care related specializations.

2019 Recipient
Hanah McCommas .........................Troup High School
Smith County Baptist Ministers Scholarship

This scholarship was created by a donor who was the son of a Baptist minister. Had it not been for the generosity of lay people in his father’s congregation, the donor would not have been able to attend college.

This scholarship serves as both a tribute to the benefactors who made the donor’s education possible and as a way to make the same kind of investment in promising young people.

It is awarded to dependent children of ordained Baptist ministers serving congregations in Smith County, Texas, that are members of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

2019 Recipients

Greg Sturrock ......................................... University of Texas at Tyler
Rylie Smith ........................................... Whitehouse High School
Tyra Young ................................. Tyler ISD Early College High School

Don Stevenson Memorial Scholarship

Don Stevenson was a scholar athlete and veteran of the Vietnam War, serving in the Air Force. He graduated from Sam Houston State University with a degree in photography then worked as a journalist in radio and in print media as a sports writer and photographer.

He followed with a second career as an educator. Don greeted students and friends with a hug or a fist-bump, making each one feel loved and appreciated. Students from Whitehouse, Colmesneil, or Woodville High Schools who have participated in journalism and athletics are eligible for this scholarship.

2019 Recipient

Tanner Rhodes................................. Colmesneil High School
Ben and Florine Ramsey Scholarship

Mrs. Ramsey established this scholarship in memory of her husband, Ben, who was extremely proud of his hometown of San Augustine, Texas and who believed in the importance of education.

2019 Recipient
Jordan Sterns
San Augustine High School

Christopher Lyon Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 2007 through the generosity of gifts from the family and friends of Christopher Lyon.

It honors the memory of a young man known for his art, delicate soul, and quirky laugh. Born in 1973 in Greenville, S.C., Chris was an artist by profession. He received his BFA in Drawing, Painting, and Photography from Western Carolina University in 1996 and his MFA in Painting from the University of Pennsylvania in 1999 where he met his wife Alexis, now an art professor at the University of Texas at Tyler.

Chris died on January 9th, 2007, as a result of a motor vehicle accident. This scholarship was created to remember Chris, encourage young art students, and reward them for their hard work.

2019 Recipient
Coy Lothrop............. University of Texas at Tyler
Fredrick Michael Nachman Scholarship

Fredrick (Mike) M. Nachman graduated from the University of Texas-Austin with a degree in Business Administration. He served in the Air Force Reserves and he was a University of Texas Exes Life member. He started his career with Leasing Associates, Inc. in 1970 and in 2001 became CEO and sole owner. He was respected for his fair and ethical business practices. Mike loved hunting, fishing, and watching football. He was a loving family man.

Created by the Nachman family in remembrance of their father, this scholarship is awarded to a Smith County or Houston Bellaire High School graduating senior majoring in business at the University of Texas at Austin.

2019 Recipient
Evan Pan ..................All Saints Episcopal School

Art Excellence Scholarship

An anonymous donor established the Art Excellence Scholarship Fund to provide educational scholarships for primarily non-traditional students pursuing Studio Art or Art History at the University of Texas at Tyler.

2019 Recipient
Laminda Miller
University of Texas at Tyler
The Earl Campbell Tyler Rose High School Scholarship was established by SPORTyler, Inc. in 2014. This scholarship is awarded to graduating seniors from Smith County high schools that participated in varsity athletics program. The intent of the Earl Campbell Scholarship is to encourage student athletes to succeed on and off the field. Recipients should exemplify the following characteristics: integrity, teamwork, sportsmanship, persistence and community involvement.

**2019 Recipient**
River Tomlinson........ Whitehouse High School

This scholarship fund is established in honor of Kathy Smith. Born in 1962 with a rare genetic condition known as Seckel Syndrome, Kathy has spent her entire life unable to speak, but communicates very well through body language and audible sounds. She has made a difference in the lives of the residents living at Richmond State School where she has resided since 1974. This scholarship fund honors the life of Kathy Smith by providing educational scholarships to young women in the Longview area who, like Kathy, have faced challenges.

**2019 Recipient**
Crystal Rollins............... Hallsville High School
The Carroll and Casey Gurganus Scholarship was established to benefit outstanding students with financial need at Palestine High School. Recipients should demonstrate leadership ability through participation in extracurricular activities, community service, and/or work experience during high school.

2019 Recipient
Camryn Lupo ............... Palestine High School

Henry & Evelyn Jordan Scholarship
Evelyn Davis Jordan graduated from Palestine High School at age 15 and studied music at SMU and Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Native Alabaman Henry Latimer Jordan started his law practice in Houston but came to Palestine as soon as he could, on the train, carrying only a suitcase and typewriter.

The Jordans were married on Christmas Day, 1938. They enjoyed motivating young people to be their best.

2019 Recipients
Camryn Lupo .......... Palestine High School

Helen Elbert Scholarship
Helen Elbert’s musical ability was evident as a child. Beginning at the age of 10, she was the regular pianist for her church. She went on to earn a degree in music with a concentration in piano and had a 52-year career as an outstanding piano teacher, church musician, and chamber music performer. This scholarship was established by the East Texas Music Teachers Association with gifts from Mrs. Elbert’s friends and family. It will be awarded to an East Texas graduating senior who plans to major in music.

2019 Recipient
Hannah Stewart ................... Bullard High School
Jean & Jim Gulley Texas Tech Scholarship

Established by friends and family to honor Mr. & Mrs. Gulley, this scholarship is supported by an annual memorial golf tournament.

Recipients must follow in the footsteps of the Gulley family by attending Texas Tech University.

**2019 Recipient**

Isabella Moore .................. Bullard High School

R. Don Cowan Music and Performing Arts Scholarship

R. Don Cowan was a founder of Tyler-based TCA Cable. He and his wife, Frances, appreciated and enjoyed music.

They were strong supporters of the arts in Tyler. This scholarship is awarded to students pursuing music and performing arts studies.

**2019 Recipient**

Jonathan Luna ............ Texas A&M University Commerce

East Texas Estate Planning Council Scholarship

The core value of the National Association of Estate Planners and Councils is that the team concept of estate planning best serves the client. This scholarship is open to graduating East Texas high school seniors who demonstrate the motivation to pursue a career in one of the primary disciplines engaged on the estate planning team such as accounting, law, finance, insurance, and philanthropic planning.

**2019 Recipient**

Rebecca Mathis .................. Timpson High School
Frances Cowan Gibson, a native of Tyler, was an accomplished artist who enjoyed drawing, painting, and printmaking. This scholarship will be awarded to students in any major who are pursuing fine arts studies.

**2019 Recipient**
Abigail Rogers ............ Robert E. Lee High School

Rhonda Penry was a dedicated teacher at Tarkington Intermediate School in Cleveland, Texas for 15 years. She taught fifth grade and social studies for a career spanning 25 years in total. Her first students, her three sons, established this scholarship to honor their mother upon her retirement.

**2019 Recipient**
Marcy Lang ............... Tarkington High School

This scholarship was established by the Board of Directors of East Texas Communities Foundation to honor the public service of dedicated peace officers and firefighters.

**2019 Recipients**
River Tomlinson ......................... Whitehouse High School
Hannah Langford .............................. Texas A&M University
This scholarship was created in memory of Leslie Reid of Murchison who passed away in 2001 from cancer. It was established by her husband, Ron Reid, as a memorial to Leslie’s determination, courage, zest for life, and love of showing horses.

Recipients must be female students from Henderson, Smith or Van Zandt County who are currently or have been involved in horse show activities.

2019 Recipient
Ashley Griffin .......................... Troup High School
The Hugh P. Brown Memorial Scholarship was established by Mr. Brown’s family to support students studying automotive technology. It also honors a man who was curious about current events, had an easy-going and outgoing nature, gave generously, and loved his family. Born in 1890, Hugh only attended school through 3rd grade because he was needed on the family farm in Tennessee. Perhaps that is how he gained his repair skills. In fact, the lack of an education never stopped Hugh. He was well-read and had a photographic memory. By 1917, he was working as a mechanic in Texas when he ditched a motorcycle in front of a beautiful young lady’s home. That young lady quickly came to his aid and became his wife, Lola!

2019 Recipient
Carlos Tapia..................Mt. Pleasant High School

Jackson Huse Scholarship

Jackson Huse loved everyone and never met a stranger. His gentle smile melted the hearts of those around him. He displayed strength, perseverance, and courage which taught others to look at each day as a blessing. Jackson passed away at age 6 after a brave battle with a brain tumor. He would have graduated from high school in 2019. This scholarship will benefit students like Jackson’s sister, Meredith, who were greatly impacted by their sibling’s death.

2019 Recipient
Kellen Floyd..........................Paris High School
Kenny Ponder Master WoodCraft Scholarship

Master WoodCraft Cabinetry, LLC is committed to excellent craftsmanship to create a workplace environment that truly cares for its employees, customers, and community in Jefferson and Marshall, Texas.

This scholarship honors Kenneth (Kenny) Ponder who started as a laborer and worked his way up to Executive Vice President of Master WoodCraft, his family’s kitchen cabinet business, where he served until his untimely passing in 2017.

Mr. Ponder earned a degree in Manufacturing Technology from North Carolina State University. This scholarship will support students pursuing a career in wood technology or a related field.

2019 Recipient

Gage Davis .................. Pittsburg State University

Mark W. Allen Memorial Scholarship

Mark Allen was an Emmy-award winning journalist and missionary. A multi-talented man, Mark worked in broadcast news, directed and produced a critically-acclaimed film and reality television series, authored a novel based on the Galveston hurricane of 1900, and traveled the world teaching people how to use technology to spread the gospel.

Family and friends have established this scholarship fund in honor of Mark to encourage and support creative students attending a school in the University of Texas System.

2019 Recipient

Madelynn Bragg ................. Eustace High School
Randy Willmon was a brave firefighter who led by example and was the model of what a man should be. He held the rank of Captain for the City of Dallas Fire Department, where he served for 28 years and also served on the Lindale Fire Department for 9 years.

Randy set an example of how to live life. He was devoted to loving God, his family, and his many friends. Steve and Lynn Winston established this scholarship for a deserving Lindale High School graduate to earn certification in Firefighting at Tyler Junior College in honor of their special friend.

2019 Recipient
Jonah Flores .................... Lindale High School

Sidney Moughon lived his entire life in Gilmer except the time he spent in college at SMU which he attended on a football scholarship. He was a Christian man who loved the Lord and lived his faith every day as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Sidney worked at Gilmer National Bank, Lone Star Steel, and T&N Railroad. He spent the final 30 years of his life doing what he really loved - raising cattle on his acreage east of town.

The Sidney Rex Moughon Scholarship is open to non-traditional students and graduating seniors at high schools in Upshur and surrounding counties.

2019 Recipients
Edgar Magdaleno ..... Waskom High School  Sebastian Sanchez .................. Tyler ISD Early College High School

The Sidney Moughon Texas A&M Scholarship supports students attending Texas A&M University

2019 Recipients
Josey Darby ............... Harmony High School  Jenna Leihgeber .................. Whitehouse H.S.
East Texas Communities Foundation is extremely grateful to the following community members who served on our Scholarship Selection Committees this year. They donate hours of time reading applications, impart valuable insights, and help keep the selection process impartial and objective.

Denise Acosta  Henry Bell  Jeff Brewer  
Craig Adams  Kenneth Bitz  Brad Brookshire  
Denice Allen  Laura Blair  Mike Buenaventura  
Lorri Allen  Carl Bochow  Christian Campbell  
John Anderson  Elizabeth Boone  Robbie Campbell  
Liz Ballard  Wayne Boshears  Melanie Canant  
Jennifer Bansal  Jeff Brady  Hunter Carr  
Janet Batchelor  Gillian Brasfield  Laura Cauthen  
Caleb Bell  Caron Breckel  Luke Chachere  

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Tadge & Bill O’Donnell Scholarship

Madge Lucille “Tadge” and W.C. “Bill” O’Donnell were high school sweethearts. Together they worked and raised a family in Beaumont and Tulsa. Some take from life and some give. Tadge O’Donnell was a giver – to her family, friends, and community through PTA, several hospitals, and her church. This scholarship reflects her legacy by supporting students from high schools in Anderson County who demonstrate a history of volunteerism.

2019 Recipient
Tori Stephens ...............Westwood High School

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Bill & Betty Bitz Scholarship

Ben and Bettye Bitz enjoyed their retirement years in Berryville, Texas where they were actively involved in their church and community. They generously supported youth education.

Ben was a WWII veteran who proudly served his country during the Normandy invasion, earning a Purple Heart. Betty was a member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxillary. This scholarship supports students from Frankston and LaPoyner High Schools.

2019 Recipient
Alyssa Elton..................Frankston High School
Ginny Harleston and Roger Smith represent the 192 volunteers who served on an ETCF scholarship committee in 2019. Thank you all! They are pictured with Mary Lynn Smith, ETCF Program Officer.
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Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations
Our MISSION

Philanthropy builds community and changes lives.

East Texas Communities Foundation supports philanthropy by offering simple ways for donors to achieve their charitable goals.