HEADLINERS FOUNDATION AWARDS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO 20 TEXAS JOURNALISM STUDENTS

AUSTIN, TX (June 20, 2022) - The Headliners Foundation of Texas is pleased to announce recipients of more than $86,800 in scholarships for the 2022-2023 academic year. The awards go to 19 undergraduate and one graduate student at schools throughout the state showing outstanding potential in journalism. This year, the Foundation introduced two new scholarships: The Ellen and Mark Morrison Scholarship and the George A. McElroy Scholarship.

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 $3,000 to $6,000 each. The recipients are:

**Sarah and Ernest Butler Scholarship**  
Jacqueline Knox, Boerne, TX – The University of Texas at Austin

**George Christian Scholarship**  
Adeline Costello, Austin, TX – The University of Texas at Austin

**Stuart Long Memorial Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists**  
Sarah Hernandez, San Marcos, TX – Texas State University  
Hope Unger, Austin, TX – The University of Texas at Austin

**Verne Lundquist Scholarship**  
Drake Toll, Vilonia, AR – Baylor University

**George A. McElroy Scholarship**  
Aysia Lane, Plano, TX – Southern Methodist University

**Ellen and Mark Morrison Scholarship**  
Megan Tran, Houston, TX – The University of Texas at Austin

**Darrell K. Royal Scholarship**  
Nathaniel Smith, Porter, TX – Baylor University

**Jimmy Banks Scholarship and Jack Keever Scholarship**  
Fiza Kuzhiyil, Austin, TX – The University of Texas at Austin
Barry Bishop Scholarship
Madelyn Weirich, San Marcos, TX – Texas State University

Dolly and Paul Bolton Scholarship
Haeven Gibbons, Georgetown, TX – Texas Christian University

John “Brick” Elliott Scholarship
Brian Yancelson, San Antonio, TX – Trinity University

Sam Wood Scholarship
Matt Kyle, Waco, TX – Baylor University

Wilbur Evans Scholarship
Leila Saidane, Richardson, TX – The University of Texas at Austin

George Moore Scholarship
Peyton Sims, Texarkana, TX – The University of Texas at Austin

Founders Scholarship
George Schroeder, Fort Worth, TX – Baylor University

Founders Scholarship
Soksan Teng, Plano, TX – Southern Methodist University

Bess Whitehead Scott Scribes Scholarship
Jacqueline Kingston, Amarillo, TX – West Texas A&M University

For more information about the scholars, including brief bios and photos, please visit the scholarship winners’ page at https://www.headlinersfoundation.org/20222023-recipients.

Applications were received from students attending Abilene Christian University, Baylor University, Midwestern State University, Southern Methodist University, Stephen F. Austin University, Texas A&M University, Texas Christian University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, Texas Wesleyan University, Trinity University, University of North Texas, The University of Texas at Austin, and West Texas A&M University.

“Our 2022-23 scholarship recipients are clearly committed to producing work that is innovative, thoughtful, and relevant,” said Patti C. Smith, Chair of the Foundation’s Academic Excellence Committee, and International Media Consultant. “The high quality of the applications and work samples we received this year tells a story in itself,” said Smith. “I have great confidence in the future of Texas journalism.”

Patti Ohlendorf, Chair of the Foundation’s Board of Governors, agrees. “We are so proud of this year’s scholarship recipients,” said Ohlendorf. “The growth of our scholarship program over the past few years reflects our commitment to nurturing young journalists,” she said, “and we are delighted to introduce two new scholarships for the 2022-23 school year.”
Ohlendorf refers to the addition of two named scholarships awarded this year for the first time. The fully endowed Ellen and Mark Morrison Scholarship is made possible by a generous grant from longtime Foundation supporters and Headliners Club members Ellen and Mark Morrison. Mr. Morrison served as the Foundation’s Board Chair from 2013-2019. The new George A. McElroy Scholarship is named for an award-winning Texas journalist who broke barriers during his 58-year career as a Black man in a predominantly white industry. Mr. McElroy, whose daughter Kathleen O. McElroy serves on the Foundation Board, would have celebrated his 100th birthday this year. Fundraising to fully endow this scholarship is ongoing.

Many of the Foundation’s scholarships are named in remembrance of the contributions of early benefactors, including a number of its Founders: Jimmy Banks, Barry Bishop, Dolly and Paul Bolton, George Christian, John “Brick” Elliott, Wilbur Evans, Jack E. Keever, George Moore, Joe Roddy, Darrell Royal and Sam Wood.

In 2016, the Headliners Foundation of Texas named the first Butler Scholar, made possible by longtime Headliners Club members and Foundation supporters Sarah and Ernest Butler.

The George Christian Scholarship was created in 2012 to honor the late journalist and former press secretary to President Lyndon B. Johnson.

The Foundation awards the Jack Keever Scholarship to the managing editor of The Daily Texan at UT-Austin each semester. Two additional Keever Scholarships will be awarded later this year.

The Stuart Long Memorial Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists honors the memory of Stuart Long, who died in 1977 after a journalism career that began during the early 1930s.

The Sam Wood Scholarship was created in 1991 to honor the former editor of the Austin American-Statesman, who helped charter the Headliners Club along with several other local members of the press.

In 2019, the Verne Lundquist Scholarship was established to honor the legendary sportscaster as part of the Foundation’s newest initiative, the Verne Lundquist Sports Media Institute. This scholarship is awarded to a student who is focusing on print, broadcast or online sports journalism.

For the past three years, the Foundation also awarded the Bess Whitehead Scott Scribes Scholarship to a non-traditional student who is seeking education in fields related to journalism and writing. This scholarship is named for one of the state’s pioneering women in journalism, Bess Whitehead Scott.

For more information about the scholarship program and a listing of prior years’ scholarship recipients, please visit www.headlinersfoundation.org.

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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.