



HEADLINERS FOUNDATION OF TEXAS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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16 Students at Texas Universities Win Annual Scholarship Competition

AUSTIN (April 24, 2017)— The Headliners Foundation of Texas today announced winners of \$66,750 in scholarships for the 2017-2018 school year. The awards go to 16 undergraduate students at schools throughout the state showing outstanding potential in journalism.

In addition to strong academic records and writing ability, the 32 applicants from 12 Texas universities 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 \$750 to \$6,000.

The winners are:

Founders' Scholarships

Jacquelyn Elias, Garland, TX, Southern Methodist University
Ala'a Ibrahim, Katy, TX, The University of Texas at Austin
Sunny Kim, Albany, NY, The University of Texas at Austin
Parastoo Nikraves, Jacksonville, TX, Stephen F. Austin State University
Hannah Onder, Fort Worth, TX, Texas Wesleyan University
Erin Ratigan, Keller, TX, Texas Christian University
Brianna Stone, Arlington, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

Sarah and Ernest Butler Scholarship

Catherine Cardenas, Boerne, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

George Christian Scholarship

Marisa Charpentier, Flower Mound, TX, The University of Texas at Austin

Stuart Long Memorial Scholarship for Aspiring Journalists

Victoria Cavazos, Olmito, TX, St. Edward's University
Darcy Sprague, Elgin, TX, Texas State University

Texas Associated Press Broadcasters Scholarship

Hannah Ellisen, Dallas, TX, Southern Methodist University

Sam Wood Scholarship

Corrie Coleman, Dallas, TX, Baylor University

Jack Keever Scholarship

Awarded each semester to the managing editor of *The Daily Texan* at The University of Texas

Applications were received from students attending the following 12 universities:

Baylor University, Southern Methodist University, St. Edward's University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M University, Texas Christian University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, Texas Wesleyan University, University of North Texas, The University of Texas at Arlington, and The University of Texas at Austin.

“It is with great pride that we recognize these students with scholarships designed to assist them in reaching their journalistic goals. Their commitment to journalistic excellence across all disciplines is exemplary and worthy of this recognition,” said Patti C. Smith, Headliners Foundation Academic Excellence Chair and International Media Consultant. “Over 30 years ago, the Headliners Foundation was established by members of the Headliners Club in Austin to recognize this commitment to journalism. Providing these substantial scholarships to students across the state 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); Sarah and Ernest Butler (up to \$6,000 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); the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters (up to \$2,000 per year to a journalism/communications student in the broadcast category); and Jack Keever (awarded each semester to the managing editor of *The Daily Texan* at The University of Texas at Austin).

The Founders Scholarships are named in remembrance of the contributions of early benefactors to the Headliners Foundation, whose gifts provided the funding vehicle for Foundation scholarships and to provide matching grants for substantial future gifts in support of journalism education: Jimmy Banks, Barry Bishop, Paul Bolton, George Christian, John “Brick” Elliott, Wilbur Evans, Jack E. Keever, George Moore, Joe Roddy, Darrell Royal, and Sam S. Wood.

This is the second year for the Headliners Foundation of Texas to name a Butler Scholar, the Foundation’s newest endowed scholarship made possible by longtime Headliners Club members and Foundation supporters Sarah and Ernest Butler.

This is the third 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.

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

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

For more information about the scholarship program and a listing of this and prior years’ scholarship recipients, please visit www.headlinersfoundation.org. Profiles of the 2017-2018 scholarship recipient profiles will be posted this summer.

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.