

# E-BEYOND

CHANGING EXPECTATIONS WITH HIGHER EDUCATION

**February 2011**

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## Important Dates

*You're invited to join us*

### StarGala 2011

Saturday, April 16, 2011  
Party planning is underway. To join our team contact Judy Lux at [judy.lux@lonestar.edu](mailto:judy.lux@lonestar.edu).

- **Gala Committee Meeting** is Thursday, February 17 at 4:00 p.m. at Mamacitas Mexican Restaurant 15335 North Freeway, Houston, TX 77090. Please be sure to RSVP to [judy.lux@lonestar.edu](mailto:judy.lux@lonestar.edu)

## Mini Grants

**Campus innovation**

The Lone Star College System and the Lone Star College Foundation team up each fall to financially support innovative seed

## Student Highlights

*Messages of gratitude*



### Janie Garcia

As a single teenage mother, graduating high school was a must to me. I wanted to break the barrier of the drop-out rate teen parents. Being involved as much as I was during high school made me determined to graduate high school. It pushed me to strive for a better life for my daughter. [Thank you letter](#)



### Raymond Craft, Jr.

My College and Career advisor led me to attend Lone Star College Kingwood in the fall of 2008. My life experiences with friends and family helped me declare my major of psychology because I would later like to become a licensed professional counselor. [Thank you letter](#)



### Amy D. Martinez

For the majority of my life I have felt called and designed for a career in medicine. Growing up here in Houston as the oldest of four daughters to one of the most-admired EMS Captains in the Houston Fire Dept. I was always fascinated with the experiences he came across. [Thank you letter](#)



grant projects coordinated by faculty and staff.

The goal each year is to fund ideas that support student success and teaching innovation, measure the results of these projects, and then to seek outside funding to scale the projects to additional classrooms, subjects, or campuses.

College teams evaluate the projects and decide on funding levels. This year's teams are led by:

LSC-CyFair  
Georges Detiveaux; contact: Debra Revels  
LSC-Kingwood  
Peggy Whitley; contact: Jennifer Martinez  
LSC-Montgomery  
Becky Gustamente; contact: Tameka Williams-Bruce  
LSC-North Harris  
Katie Hurter; contact: Dulcie Mohammed  
LSC-Tomball  
Victoria Waters; contact: Clay McGovern  
LSC-System Office:  
Darcy Mingoia; contact: Alise Bailey

This year almost \$40,000 was given to 21 projects. Funding for each project ranged from \$500-\$2,500.

Sample projects include:

- A project to develop more placement opportunities for LSCS graduates.
- A project to create additional student support prior to finals week including tutoring, studying activities, and some recreational activities.
- A project to revamp and expand tutorial aids, including 3-dimensional models, for chemistry students.

Final reports for the mini grant projects will be available this summer. If you would like a copy of the results of last year's summary reports, please call our office at 832.813.6637.

LSC-North Harris Mini Grant Selection Committee

**Online Giving**  
*Just a click away*

### **Elizabeth Nguyen**

I'm a second-generation Vietnamese immigrant whose family fled to America after the war. My earliest memories are of my father studying late at night to complete his doctorate, and everyday, I remember him telling me how important it was to complete my education. [Thank you letter](#)



### **Rachel Barefield**

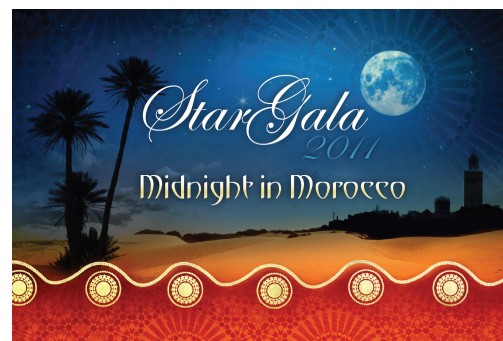
I am a thirty year old, single mom, returning back to school after nearly ten years. I was on a job hunt for a long time and quickly realized that without an education I will not qualify for any of the jobs that I want. [Thank you letter](#)

## **StarGala 2011 Honorees**

### **Recognizing community partners**

Honorees for StarGala 2011 were announced at the Chancellor's Breakfast last week.

Two individuals and one company that have made significant volunteer and financial commitments to the Lone Star College System will be recognized.



Stan St Pierre, long time Foundation board member and officer, is the first honoree. Stan retired from the board in 2009 but continues to volunteer his time and contribute to StarGala and foundation endowments. In addition to his service to the Foundation, Stan has also been an active participant on the board of the Aldine Scholarship Foundation, a partner organization of the Lone Star College Foundation.

The second honoree is W. W. Thorne, a former superintendent of Aldine ISD, who was the founder of North Harris College and served as its first President. As you all know, North Harris College was the first of the colleges of the North Harris Montgomery Community College District which later became the Lone Star College System. His vision and hard work was the seed of our organization and now touches more than 80,000 students in northern Harris County and southern Montgomery County.

The final honoree is Cypress Fairbanks Medical Center. The hospital system will be recognized for its commitment to LSC-CyFair where it has long served as a clinical partner and an endowment partner. This past fall, nine nursing students attended the college on endowed scholarships from the hospital. The hospital endowment is increased each year by annual donations and ten students will receive financial support in fall 2011.

Please join us on April 16 to recognize these outstanding honorees. At this time, supporting this year's **StarGala** as Rabat (\$16,000) sponsors are Cypress-Fairbanks Medical Center and David Feldman. Fez (\$10,000) is Houston Northwest Medical Center. Marrakesh sponsors (\$5,000) are Joiner Partnership, Inc., Bob & Darcy Mingoia, Perspectiva, and The Woodlands Development Company. Kasbah (\$3,000) is Jones Lang LaSalle.

Several additional levels of sponsorship are available. Please download our [brochure](#).

To streamline the donation process, LSC Foundation has introduced Online Giving.

Look for the green "Donate Now" button which appears on all of our Web pages. Simply click on the "Donate Now" button to make a donation using your credit card. Donors have the ability to establish a recurring contribution through their credit card.

[Donate Now](#)

If you need additional information or have questions, please contact Maribel Maldonado at [maribel.maldonado@lonestar.edu](mailto:maribel.maldonado@lonestar.edu) or 832.813.6638.



**The Lone Star College Foundation's mission is to change lives through student scholarships and quality educational programs achieved by excellence in relationship building, fundraising, and investment management.**

Please contact Judy Lux by phone at 832.813.6640 or by email at [judy.lux@lonestar.edu](mailto:judy.lux@lonestar.edu) to reserve your spot.

## Chancellor's Breakfast 2011 Student Scholarship Winners

Five Lone Star College System students described "How My Community College Experience Changed My Life" as part of the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Chancellor's Breakfast held Jan. 26.

The students, one from each of the five Lone Star Colleges, were recipients of a \$1,000 scholarship from the LSC Foundation.

Stories of overcoming obstacles in hopes of obtaining an education were the common theme in all of the essays. One student wrote about having to leave his mother and sisters and travel 24 hours on a plane to reach America and enroll in college to fulfill his educational goals. Another student wrote that she wanted to not only obtain the education she needed to ensure the financial stability of her family but she also wanted to become a role model of success for her two young children. One student who endured numerous setbacks said "opportunities that I once firmly believed were available only to the young, the privileged, and the fortunate, were now opened to me." All of the essay stories were heartwarming.

### Excerpts from Essay Winners:

**Dena Horne, LSC-CyFair:** "Through my experience with Lone Star College I have been blessed with an abundant amount of support while on a journey of self discovery. It is my hope that when I reach my ultimate goal of teaching at a community college that I will have the same impact on my students that my teachers at Lone Star College have had on me."

**Jason Clayden, LSC-Kingwood:** "My community college experience has allowed me to be more open and honest with myself and those with whom I interact. Although I do not know when I will be able to see my mother again, I hope that these steps I take in an American college will help me obtain the keys to unlocking the doors of education; doors that will allow my family and I to be closer to one another in a country where one is not fearful for one's life or loved ones, where uniqueness is embraced and where impossible dreams often hit the shelves."

**Angel Guajardo, LSC-Montgomery:** "Hearing about LSC-Montgomery for the first time was just as exciting and thrilling as riding uphill on the world's wildest roller coaster cart. I knew this was the right place for me."

**Willicia Toran, LSC-North Harris:** "Looking back on my experience in life, community college has played a pivotal role in helping me achieve my lifelong dream. I appreciate all that Community College has offered to my life for it has given me a foundation that will always contribute to my growing success."

**Jonas Rodriguez, LSC-Tomball:** "How has my experience at Lone Star influenced my life? It's difficult to convey in words, but I truly feel that my life's path has changed course from a difficult road lined with detours and impassable obstacles to a large and open roadway paved with success and solid bricks of opportunity."

LSCS Chancellor Dr. Richard Carpenter, center, poses with the student essay scholarship winners. From left are: Jason Clayden, LSC-Kingwood; Willicia Toran, LSC-North Harris;

Dr. Carpenter; Dena Horne, LSC-CyFair; Angel Guajardo, LSC-Montgomery; and Jonas Rodriguez, LSC-Tomball.

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