



DISCOVER

SMU



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EMPOWER

TAKE  
ACTION

STRONG

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inspire\*

CURIOUS\*



# SMU HOMECOMING

Come back for an unforgettable time on the Hilltop.  
We can't wait to welcome you home!

## SAVE THE DATE

November 1-4, 2018

**Thursday, NOVEMBER 1**

**Distinguished Alumni Awards**

Recognizing extraordinary achievement,  
outstanding character and good citizenship



**Friday, NOVEMBER 2**

**Pigskin Revue**

**Class Reunions**

Undergraduate classes  
'73, '78, '83, '88, '93,  
'98, '03, '08 and '13

Dedman School  
of Law Reunion

Additional Class Reunions  
and Affinity Gatherings



**Saturday, NOVEMBER 3**

**Homecoming Parade**

**The Boulevard**

**SMU vs. HOUSTON**



For a full schedule of Homecoming and Reunion  
events, please visit [smu.edu/homecoming](http://smu.edu/homecoming).

World Changers  
Shaped Here



SMU



## Features



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## Seedling Farm Sows Hope In South Dallas

Through SMU's Hunt Institute for Humanity and Engineering, faculty and students have developed an urban garden model at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center that aims to help alleviate the "food desert" in South Dallas. Through the Seedling Farm, local residents are learning how to grow their own gardens and about healthy eating behaviors.



## Sea Monsters Unearthed

SMU scientists and students have helped prepare giant mosasaur fossils from Angola for a major exhibition opening November 9 at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

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## Dreaming Big

The Meadows Museum is holding its first-ever gala, "The Color of Dreams," in October to raise funds to endow its director of education, who works with constituents ranging from children to students to scholars.

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## TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

COMBINED GIFTS OF \$4 MILLION WILL CREATE THE ROBERT B. ROWLING CENTER FOR BUSINESS LAW AND LEADERSHIP IN DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW.

## ON THE COVER



Read how Whitney Wolfe Herd '11 (top) places women in the driver's seat when it comes to dating, page 12. Find out how Neha Husein '19 (left) puts the brakes on distracted driving, page 18. Learn how Candice Bledsoe '07 navigates underserved youth toward a college education, page 21. Whitney Herd photo by Kristen Kilpatrick; Neha Husein and Candice Bledsoe photos by Hillsman S. Jackson.



# Continuing SMU's Ascent



President R. Gerald Turner

***We benefit from our community's enterprising spirit, the breadth of our diversity and strong relationships with the vibrant city of Dallas.***

**This issue of *SMU Magazine*** is devoted to the bold, curious and courageous nature of Mustangs. In issues to come, expect to see more about these world changers, who create, innovate and disrupt the status quo to find solutions and serve their communities.

For many of us, these stories will reinforce what we know to be true, while shining a light on unexpected and surprising aspects of our University. These stories also provide a glimpse of where we are headed on the Hilltop.

This spring Provost Steven Currall and I issued a road map for the next decade, called *Continuing the Ascent: Recommendations for Enhancing the Academic Quality and Stature of Southern Methodist University*. It presents a bold vision for advancing SMU's academic profile to the level of a premier research and teaching university with global impact, building upon the significant achievements of our first century.

The recommendations were developed during the past year through campus-wide conversations and deliberations, with four focus areas emerging:

- Enhancing the quality of undergraduates and their experience, including financial aid strategies that make SMU more accessible and enhanced academic success and retention strategies.
- Strengthening faculty, research and SMU's impact, including hiring for

key interdisciplinary themes and providing innovation seed funding for faculty-led bold ideas.

- Enhancing the quality of graduate students and their experience through the formation of a new graduate school and increased financial aid.
- Deepening community partnerships and engagement with civic, corporate and cultural organizations, including an innovation and entrepreneurship district on SMU's East Campus.

Our SMU community will marshal our considerable brainpower to achieve these goals. Although the full implementation could take up to 10 years, we are well on our way. We benefit from our community's enterprising spirit, the breadth of our diversity and strong relationships with the vibrant city of Dallas. We also are inspired by your support and the quality of our incoming students and graduates each year. (Access the report at [smu.edu/mag18ascent](http://smu.edu/mag18ascent).)

Rest assured that the SMU we know and love is not going anywhere; its well-established strengths are our foundation. But there are new horizons on our road ahead. Thank you for being an important part of the journey.

R. GERALD TURNER  
President

## VOL. 69, NO. 1 FALL 2018

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<sup>1</sup> Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688.



# DEDMAN LAW CENTER

EQUIPS LEGAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS  
FOR A CHANGING WORLD

**Combined gifts of \$4 million will create the Robert B. Rowling Center** for Business Law and Leadership in SMU's Dedman School of Law to train the next generation of prominent legal and business leaders and influence national conversations surrounding business and corporate law.

A gift of \$3 million from an anonymous donor, in addition to \$1 million from the Dedman Foundation, will launch the center in fall 2018.

At the request of an anonymous donor who made the lead gift, the center is being named in honor of Dallas businessman Robert B. Rowling '79, owner and chairman of TRT Holdings, Inc., the holding company for the Omni Hotels and Resorts chain as well as Gold's Gym International. He earned a J.D. degree from Dedman School of Law in 1979.

The lead donor asked Rowling the favor of sharing his name with the new center to reflect that Rowling exemplifies the type of business achievement, community engagement and civic contribution that future participants in the center's programs should strive to emulate.

"Bob Rowling is the perfect example of the combined skills that will be the focus of the new center," SMU President R. Gerald Turner said. "Today's law students will be navigating careers that we cannot even imagine at the moment. They need training in ethical leadership, business analytics and entrepreneurship to develop the skills they will need to be successful. The Rowling Center has a role to play in shaping the future of business and corporate law."

The Rowling Center will enrich the School's existing curriculum, and include new leadership training to highlight professionalism and "soft skills," as well as empirical training to teach core business skills. The program will build



**"Bob Rowling is the perfect example of the combined skills that will be the focus of the new center. Today's law students will be navigating careers that we cannot even imagine at the moment."**

**– President R. Gerald Turner**

on the legal and business acumen centered in Dallas, collaborating with SMU's Cox School of Business to provide an interdisciplinary approach. The center also will enhance Dedman Law's mentoring program and provide new opportunities for students to connect with SMU's extensive network of highly successful alumni and supporters.

"The Rowling Center for Business Law and Leadership is an extraordinarily good fit for us, and a natural progression for Dedman Law," said Jennifer Collins, Judge James Noel Dean of Dedman School of Law. "This center will enhance the education we provide to our students by ensuring that graduates have the commitment to ethical leadership,

entrepreneurial spirit and business acumen they need to navigate the rapidly evolving employment landscape. It also will position the law school as a thought leader on questions related to corporate law and leadership and provide us with new opportunities to engage our alumni and the broader legal and business community."

Collins said the search would begin for a center director with the practical experience and professional connections to make the Rowling Center immediately impactful.

*To read more: [smu.edu/mag18rowling](http://smu.edu/mag18rowling).*





# Gift To Support Continued Faculty Excellence

**Andrew H. Chen and Elaine T. Chen have made a \$2 million gift** to the SMU Cox School of Business to establish The Andrew H. Chen Endowed Chair in Financial Investments Fund. Andrew Chen, who retired as professor *emeritus* of finance at SMU in 2012, said he and his wife wanted to ensure that the Cox School will continue to attract outstanding finance faculty.

The gift will include \$1.5 million for the endowment of the faculty chair and \$500,000 for operational support, which will enable immediate use of the position while the endowment vests.

"As a faculty member in the Finance Department, I focused much of my research and teaching in the areas of option pricing and options-related investment strategies," Andrew Chen said. "After retiring from my faculty position, I decided to put into practice what I had taught in the classroom and was fortunate enough to meet with some success. We hope that this new finance chair will further enhance the Cox Finance Department's reputation and enable its holder to enjoy an excellent career at SMU, just as I did when I was a member of the Finance Department."

Elaine Chen added, "It's our hope that the contribution for this new chair will attract a talented finance scholar who will further develop his or her own research career at the Cox School while providing a top-notch learning experience to many students."

A member of the Cox faculty from 1983-2012, Andrew Chen is a renowned researcher, educator, prolific author, business consultant and respected colleague in the field of finance. At Cox, Chen was known for his passion for both research and teaching, frequently working with independent-study students on investment strategies.

Finance is the most popular major for Cox undergraduates, with almost half of the B.B.A. students declared as finance



Andrew H. Chen

Group Alternative Asset Management Center, the Kitt Investing and Trading

majors. More than half of Cox M.B.A. students choose a finance degree program. The Finance Department offers students unique immersive experiences such as the EnCap Investments and LCM

Center, the Don Jackson Center for Financial Studies and the Practicum in Portfolio Management.

"Endowed chairs support SMU's mission to strengthen its academic foundation for the future by recruiting and retaining distinguished faculty," said SMU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Steven C. Currall. "This gift will make a difference for our students for years to come and help to raise SMU's national and international profile as an outstanding university."

To read more: [smu.edu/magt8chen](http://smu.edu/magt8chen).

## Board Elects New Leadership

**Three new officers and three new trustees** were named to SMU's Board of Trustees during the Board's quarterly meeting in May. The Board also passed a resolution to honor two former members as trustees *emeriti*. The new officers began their one-year terms June 1.

Robert H. Dedman, Jr. '80, '84 has been elected chair; David B. Miller '72, '73 was elected vice-chair; and Kelly Hoglund Compton '79 was elected secretary. Officers are elected for one-year terms and are eligible for re-election up to four consecutive terms in any respective office.

New trustee Bradley W. Brookshire '76 will fill the vacancy left by the death of longtime SMU trustee Ruth Collins Sharp Altshuler '48. The Board's new *ex officio* faculty representative is Faculty Senate President Dayna Oscherwitz, French area chair in the Department of World Languages and Literatures in Dedman College. Ben Manthey '09, '19 will serve as *ex officio* student trustee.

Concluding their board service were Paul Krueger, past-president of the SMU Faculty Senate and professor in the Department of Mechanical



Robert H. Dedman, Jr.

Engineering, Lyle School of Engineering; and student trustee Andrew B. Udofa '18.

The Board of Trustees passed a resolution naming Linda Pitts Custard '60, '99 and Alan D. Feld '57, '60 as trustees *emeriti* for extraordinary service and leadership. They are the first former University trustees to receive that designation since Milledge A. Hart, III, became SMU's ninth trustee *emeritus* in 2013.



## Strong Start To Pony Power Giving



**Pony Power: Strengthening the Stampede** raised nearly \$58 million in current-use gifts in its first year, well above the first-year goal of \$45 million. Compared to last fiscal year, this amounts to a 35 percent increase in gifts for current use.

*Pony Power* is a three-year initiative to immediately improve student academic and campus experience. The goal is to raise an average of at least \$50 million each year. By focusing on current-use funds, *Pony Power* seeks to maximize resources available to the provost, deans, and faculty to address the most pressing needs and best ideas on campus. Student financial aid is among the highest priorities, to which more than 28 percent of these gifts went to support.

More than 16,000 alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends have contributed to the early success of *Pony Power*, supporting exciting projects and emerging opportunities that allow SMU to expand its ambitions and impact. Bold goals already are being identified for an even bigger second year.

"I thank our *Pony Power* volunteers and everyone who has given for the impact they are making on our students, faculty, and community," said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. "Their success makes us excited about what the second year of *Pony Power* will mean for the University."

For more information or to make a gift, visit [smu.edu/ponypower](http://smu.edu/ponypower).

## Sewell Challenge Doubles Dedman College Scholarships

**A \$400,000 challenge** from longtime SMU supporters Carl Sewell '66 and Peggy Higgins Sewell '72 has generated more than \$834,000 in gifts and pledges for merit-based scholarships combined with unique programming for academically gifted students in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences.

Dedman College Scholars are chosen to inspire their peers, challenge their professors and contribute to the University's academic reputation. The new funding will enable SMU to offer 20 new four-year scholarships, effectively doubling the number available in past years.

"The Sewells' call to action, and the response of 17 new donors and donor families who met their challenge, is giving us the opportunity to offer admission in fall 2018 to the largest group of Dedman Scholars in SMU history," SMU President R. Gerald Turner said. "These scholarships are a great opportunity for the recipients, but our Dedman Scholars also enrich the University as a whole."

Carl Sewell, an SMU trustee, issued the challenge Nov. 27, 2017, after the summer launch of the *Pony Power* initiative to raise more current-use funds

for scholarships, faculty research and rewarding student experiences. The Sewells vowed to match every dollar in gifts and pledges up to \$400,000 made by new donors to the Dedman College Scholars program by Sept. 1; however, new donors stepped up to meet the challenge and committed \$434,614 before April 1.

"Peggy and I sincerely believe that helping bright students through scholarships is an investment in a shared future – not just the University we love," Sewell said. "Meeting and engaging with SMUs student scholars makes us very optimistic about that future."

Entering students are selected to the Dedman College Scholars Program each year through a competitive process.

In addition to the Dedman College Scholars, the Sewells have provided scholarship support for President's Scholars, B.B.A. Scholars, Meadows Scholars, Lyle Engineering Scholars and Pre-Law Scholars. They also have supported programs and projects in virtually every area of the University.

To read more: [smu.edu/mag18sewell](http://smu.edu/mag18sewell).



Dedman College Scholars are selected yearly through a competitive process.





Michael Bloomberg with  
Jeanne Tower Cox '78.

## Bloomberg Receives Medal Of Freedom

**Businessman, philanthropist, author**  
and former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg received the Tower Center Medal of Freedom on January 29 from SMU's John Goodwin Tower Center for Political Studies. The honor, presented every two years, recognizes "extraordinary contributions for the advancement of democratic ideals and to the security, prosperity and welfare of humanity."

Previous Tower Center Medal of Freedom recipients include former U.S. Secretaries of State James A. Baker III and Colin Powell, former British Prime Ministers Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair, U.S. Senator John McCain, historian David McCullough, former commander-in-chief of U.S. Central Command Gen. Tommy R. Franks (Ret.), former Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, and former First Lady Laura Welch Bush '68.

To read more: [smu.edu/mag18bloomberg](http://smu.edu/mag18bloomberg)

## Literacy App Named Finalist In \$7 Million XPRIZE Competition

**A puzzle-solving smartphone game** designed by SMU and Literacy Instruction for Texas (LIFT) experts to teach struggling adults to read has been named one of five finalists in an international competition. *Codex: The Lost Words of Atlantis* is a finalist for the \$7 million Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy XPRIZE presented by Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

A recent pilot study at SMU found that low-literate, English-language learner adults who played the game for two or more hours a week significantly improved their literacy skills after eight weeks. Anecdotal evidence also shows that their improved reading skills have improved their lives, ranging from a grandmother who finally gained the confidence to speak with her granddaughter in English to co-workers who praised a participant's improved language skills.

More than 36 million adults in the United States are low-literate, reading below the third-grade level, according to

the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. Low literacy skills are linked to inequality, higher unemployment, less earned income and poor health. In Dallas one in five adults is low literate, according to LIFT, a nonprofit adult literacy provider in Dallas.

Becoming an XPRIZE finalist represents the latest success of the three-year collaboration between LIFT, the Simmons School and SMU Guildhall graduate video game development program. The three joined forces in 2015 to become one of 109 teams originally taking on the XPRIZE challenge to develop a mobile literacy learning application for adult learners.

The team spent months creating and testing a literacy game that was entertaining, rewarding, effective and convenient for a time-strapped low-literate adult. In June 2017, the SMU-LIFT team, People ForWords, was named one of eight semifinalists.

Finalists were selected based on field-testing performance. In January 2019, XPRIZE will present \$3 million to the team with the most effective app, plus \$1 million each to the apps with the best performance among native English speakers and non-native speakers.

For more information:  
[smu.edu/mag18xprize](http://smu.edu/mag18xprize).



## Let The Gaming Begin

**SMU Guildhall, the top ranked graduate school** for video game design in the world, is collaborating with eAgency Global, one of North America's most experienced esports production, marketing and talent management firms, to produce OP Live Dallas. The event will feature high-level professional competition, a 16-team collegiate tournament

and a hackathon for high school students. It also will showcase the work of Guildhall Master's degree candidates in interactive technology, such as the image. OP Live Dallas will run September 22-23 at the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas.

For more information: [oplivedallas.com](http://oplivedallas.com).



# Harts Commit Gift To Ford Research Building

**Dallas business leaders Linda Wertheimer Hart '65 and Milledge (Mitch) A. Hart, III** have made a significant gift to the Gerald J. Ford Research and Innovation Building at SMU. The new facility will house the University's Linda and Mitch Hart eCenter, which includes SMU Guildhall, the world's top-ranked graduate game design program. The building will be located on SMU's campus at the corner of McFarlin Boulevard and Airline Road.

In 2000, the Harts made a gift to establish the Hart eCenter, currently located at SMU-in-Plano, as well as to endow the eCenter's directorship. The Hart eCenter focuses on interdisciplinary research, education and innovation; it is the first university-wide initiative focused on interactive network technologies created at a major research university.

The Hart eCenter's most visible manifestation is SMU Guildhall. Since its founding in 2003, the program has graduated more than 700 students, who now work at more than 250 video game studios around the world. SMU Guildhall offers both a Master of Interactive Technology in Digital Game Development degree and



Linda and Mitch Hart

a Professional Certificate of Interactive Technology in Digital Game Development, with specializations in art, design, production and programming.

"SMU understands the value of interdisciplinary research in creating new knowledge and discovering new approaches to solving the world's challenges. With a new facility dedicated to building these

research collaborations, the University is stepping forward as an innovation leader," said Linda Hart. "The growth of SMU Guildhall, both in programming and in stature, has been a source of tremendous pride for Linda and me ever since we made our first gift to establish the Hart eCenter. I look forward to seeing the exciting work this internationally recognized program will produce as it extends and expands its cutting-edge research in interactive technologies," said Mitch Hart.

The Ford Research and Innovation Building was established with a \$15 million lead gift commitment from Gerald J. Ford '66, '69 and Kelli O. Ford to construct a campus research center supporting SMU's goal to expand advanced computing and interdisciplinary research throughout the University.

The availability of the Ford Research and Innovation Building is expected to encourage more faculty to use high-performance computing and attract greater levels of external research funding.

To read more: [smu.edu/mag18harts](http://smu.edu/mag18harts)

# Technology Leader Named SMU Library Dean

**Holly Jeffcoat, a leader in the use of technology** in instruction and library services, joined the University August 1 as dean of SMU Libraries.

She formerly served as University of Connecticut Associate Dean of Libraries, where she led core library operations that ranged from access services to strategic planning. She oversaw a \$22 million budget and led the Library's five-year, \$20 million master plan renovation effort.

Prior to an international search for a new dean, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Steven C. Currall convened a task force to review existing university library organizational structures and processes, and to make

recommendations for a new structure favorable to coordination among the libraries. A new unified organization model took effect August 1.

Jeffcoat will oversee DeGolyer Library, SMU's principal repository for special collections in the humanities, the history of business, science and technology; Fondren Library Center, including the Norwick Center for Digital Services; the Hamon Arts Library; Bridwell Library, which supports theological education and scholarship; the Business Library; and human resources needs for the libraries. She will serve as *ex officio* member of the SMU Libraries Executive Board and the Friends of the SMU Libraries.



Holly Jeffcoat

"This is an exciting time of change and growth in academic research libraries and at SMU," Jeffcoat said. "I am thrilled to have the opportunity to collaborate with world-changing faculty, students,

staff and the broader SMU community to create a shared 21st-century vision for SMU Libraries."

To read more: [smu.edu/mag18libraries](http://smu.edu/mag18libraries).



## SMU Physicists Contribute To Dark Matter Research Project

**SMU physicist Jodi Cooley** has joined an international scientific team that will use a powerful new tool to understand one of the biggest mysteries of modern physics. Cooley is one of 111 scientists from 26 institutions collaborating on the SuperCDMS SNOLAB, a \$34 million experiment designed to detect dark matter. SMU graduate students working on the experiment include Matt Stein (Ph.D. '18) and Dan Jardin, and previously Hang Qiu (Ph.D. '17).

The U.S. Department of Energy has approved funding and start of construction for SuperCDMS SNOLAB, which will begin operation in the early 2020s to hunt for hypothetical dark matter particles called weakly interacting massive particles, or WIMPs.

The experiment will be assembled and operated within the existing Canadian laboratory SNOLAB – 6,800 feet underground inside a nickel mine near the city of Sudbury. That's the deepest underground laboratory in North America.

"Understanding the nature of dark



Jodi Cooley

matter is one of the most important scientific puzzles in particle astrophysics today," said Cooley, associate professor of experimental particle physics in Dedman College. "The experiment will have unprecedented sensitivity to dark matter particles that are hypothesized to have very low mass and interact very rarely. So they are extremely challenging to detect. This challenge has required us to develop cutting-edge detectors."

Cooley and her students have been working with Washington-based Pacific Northwest National Laboratory on the challenge of background control and material selection for the experiment's WIMP detectors.

For more information: [smu.edu/mag18cooley](http://smu.edu/mag18cooley).

## Faculty Receive Recognition For Economics Research

**Several faculty members in Dedman College's Department of Economics** have received national recognition for their research.

Assistant Professor **Danila Serra** was named the inaugural recipient of the \$50,000 Vernon L. Smith Ascending Scholar Prize, described as a "budding genius" award by the International Foundation for Research in Experimental Economics.

As an economist who has studied bribery behavior extensively, Serra has discovered that bribery declines if potentially corrupt agents are made aware of the negative effects of corruption, and when victims can share specific information about bribe demands through online reporting systems. Serra's research methodology is unique – relying on lab experiments in which players gain and lose real money.

Her work is frequently cited by other researchers studying the field of bribery.

The National Bureau of Economic Research, the nation's leading nonprofit economic research organization, has appointed Assistant Professor **Elira Kuka** as a faculty research fellow. Kuka is a fellow in the NBER's research program on children, a key policy area. Kuka conducts research on understanding how government policy affects individual behavior and well-being, the extent to which it provides social insurance during times of need and its effectiveness in alleviating poverty and inequality.



Danila Serra



Elira Kuka

## Sea Monsters Unearthed



**A team of scientists and students** from SMU have helped prepare fossils for a major exhibition – "Sea Monsters Unearthed: Life in Angola's Ancient Seas" – that will open November 9 at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. For the first time, Angolan fossils of colossal Cretaceous marine reptiles will be on public display, including *Angolasaurus bocagei* (shown), at 88 million years old the oldest known mosasaur from the South Atlantic Ocean. Mosasaurs are giant marine lizards that went extinct with the dinosaurs 66 million years ago. Paleontologists excavated and studied these fossils through Projecto PaleoAngola, a collaboration among Angolan, American, Portuguese and Dutch researchers focused on Angola's rich fossil history. "Fossils tell us about the life that once lived on Earth, and how the environments that came before us evolve over time," said Louis Jacobs, SMU professor *emeritus* of paleontology and collaborating curator for the exhibition. "If it weren't for the fossil record, we wouldn't understand what drives the story of life on our planet." For information about the exhibit: [smu.edu/mag18smithsonian](http://smu.edu/mag18smithsonian).



# Construction Begins On Indoor Performance Center

The University community celebrated the construction kickoff of the SMU Indoor Performance Center April 14 at the annual spring football game. The 67,000-square-foot facility with its indoor practice field, training facilities and entertainment areas, slated to open in spring 2019, reflects SMU's commitment to a first-class and competitive athletic program.

Located at Bishop Boulevard and Binkley Avenue, the center is under construction on a site long dedicated to SMU Athletics. A basketball pavilion built in 1926 was replaced by the 1942 construction of the Perkins Gymnasium. The gymnasium was converted in 1957 to the Perkins Natatorium, home of SMU Swimming and Diving, which moved in 2017 to the Robson & Lindley Aquatics Center on SMU's East Campus. The new facility will continue the site's historic legacy.

The center will feature a turf football practice field, with overhead translucent panels and glass roll-up doors, as well as a training room and fitness area.



The second floor will feature a recruiting lobby and lounge adjacent to an outdoor patio. The center also will include multipurpose spaces, such as the 4,000-square-foot Boulevard Club on the first floor, designed to accommodate campus and community events.

"Opening onto Bishop Boulevard in the very heart of our campus, this facility will enhance the student-athlete

experience, elevate our competitiveness and serve as an asset to the entire campus community," SMU President R. Gerald Turner said.

Donors of more than \$1 million to the center include Bill Armstrong '82 and Liz Martin Armstrong '82 and the Armstrong Foundation, Gary T. Crum '69 and Sylvie P. Crum, Paul B. Loyd '68 and Penny R. Loyd, and David B. Miller '72, '73 and Carolyn L. Miller and David B. Miller Family Foundation.

They are joined by \$1 million donors Kathryn H. Arata '87, '91 and Stephen L. Arata '88, Stephanie Chantilis Bray '85 and Bennie M. Bray, Richard H. Collins '69 and the Calvert K. Collins Family Foundation, Jennifer Gelety Flanagan '82 and Martin L. Flanagan '82, G. Stacy and Ashley Smith, Katherine Harris Ware and Richard Ware '68 and William J. Ware '01, and Garry Weber '58. Kyle D. Miller '01 was honored with a \$1 million gift made in recognition of his love of SMU Athletics.

Other major donors include Blake Bozman '93 and Tara Snellbacher Bozman, Cathy Dewitt Dunn and Rogge Dunn '79, Kate Dykes and Sonny Dykes, Irina Huemiller and Thomas L. Huemiller '91, Ashlee Hunt Kleinert '88 and Christopher W. Kleinert '88, and Natalie Greene Stollenwerck '64 and Tom J. Stollenwerck '62, '65.

## Basketball Set For Cancun Challenge

Men's basketball will play in the 2018 Cancun Challenge held at the Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya Nov. 20-21. The Mustangs will face Bradley in the semifinal followed by Penn State or Wright State. The Cancun Challenge marks the fourth straight season the Mustangs have played in a preseason tournament. The Mustangs open the Cancun Challenge with a pair of home games at Moody Coliseum. SMU hosts Southern Miss Nov. 11 and Western Carolina Nov. 14. Senior Jarrey Foster (shown) returns for the 2018-19 season; SMU will play seven American Athletic Conference opponents twice: Cincinnati, Connecticut, Houston, Tulane, UCF, USF and Wichita State. The Mustangs have one matchup with four league foes, hosting East Carolina and Tulsa, while making road trips to Memphis and Temple. The Mustangs are entering their third season under Head Coach Tim Jankovich, who has achieved a 56-21 record with a 38-5 mark at Moody Coliseum. For ticket information, call 214-768-4263 (SMU-GAME).



To read more: [smu.edu/mag18Indoorcenter](http://smu.edu/mag18Indoorcenter).



## Nine Football Players On Preseason List

**Nine SMU football players** were named as 2018 Athlon Sports All-American Athletic Conference preseason selections.

Cornerback Jordan Wyatt led the Mustangs as a first-team defensive selection. The senior started all 11 games played in 2017 and was a member of the Bronko Naguski Watch List as well as an All-AAC honorable mention selection.

Three Mustangs earned second-team honors. Running back Xavier Jones played in all 13 games, leading the team with 1,075 yards on 182 carries and ranked second in rushing touchdowns with nine. In 13 games, wide receiver James Proche registered 40 catches for 816 yards and six touchdowns. He also made the outlet's fourth team as a specialist. On defense, linebacker Kyran Mitchell was third on the team with 73 tackles and had a team-leading 15.5 tackles for loss.

Offensive lineman Chad Pursley was listed as a third-team selection, while Ben Hicks and Braeden West were fourth-team selections on offense and Richard Moore and Mikial Onu were named fourth-team defense.

The Mustangs open the 2018 season Sept. 1 at North Texas before returning to the Hilltop for a Friday night game with Metroplex rival TCU Sept. 7. SMU also travels to Michigan Sept. 15 and hosts Houston Baptist Sept. 29 for its final non-conference game.

American Athletic Conference foes

Navy, Cincinnati, Houston and Memphis visit Ford Stadium, while the Mustangs face UCF, Tulane, Connecticut and Tulsa on the road.

*Call the Athletics Department Ticket Office at 214-768-4263 (SMU-GAME) for ticket information.*



Cornerback Jordan Wyatt (15) returns for his senior season to help lead the Mustangs' defense.

## Chen Takes Over As SMU Men's Tennis Coach

**Grant Chen has been named head men's tennis coach** at SMU. He comes to the Hilltop from UCLA, where he served Bruin Head Coach Billy Martin for over 15 years in a multitude of roles, ranging from team manager to associate head coach.

During Chen's six seasons on Martin's coaching staff, the Bruins registered a 149-28 record (.842) and reached the quarterfinal round of the NCAA Championships five times. The Bruins also collected four Pac-12 regular-season titles and three tournament trophies during Chen's time on staff.

Chen got his start with the Bruins as a student manager in 2001, playing a pivotal role in the organization and



Grant Chen

growth of Martin's annual on-campus summer camp. The Bruins captured the NCAA title in 2005, Chen's penultimate year in the role.

After 25 years at the helm of the SMU men's tennis program and 35 years as a head coach, Carl Neufeld announced that he is stepping away from his role on the Hilltop. Neufeld earned his 600th career win as a head coach on April 8, before notching number 601 in the final match of the regular season. He finishes with 420 of those wins occurring on the Hilltop. In his time at SMU, Neufeld led SMU to 13 NCAA Tournament appearances, one Final Four and three conference championships, coached student-athletes to 12 All-America honors and earned three conference coach of the year awards.





## MUSTANG SPORTS ROUNDUP



### VOLLEYBALL VETERANS RETURN

**Volleyball returns eight letter winners,** including all-conference selections Brittany Adams and Kendall Patterson (shown), for the 2018 season. The Mustangs, coming off a third straight postseason appearance, open the season at Moody Coliseum as host for two tournaments Aug. 31-Sept. 1 and Sept. 14-15, with a tournament at TCU in Fort Worth Sept. 6-8. American Athletic Conference competition starts at home against Connecticut Sept. 21. The Mustangs went 21-11 in 2017, winning 20 matches for the fifth straight season, and earned a bid to the National Invitational Volleyball Championship.

For more information: [smumustangs.com](http://smumustangs.com)



### CHAMPION THROWER

**Senior thrower Tochi Nlemchi** finished 16th in the country in the shot put at the 2018 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships in June. On the final throw, Nlemchi found her winning mark of 16.18m (53-1) to conclude her Hilltop career as a Second Team All-American and the American Athletic Conference outdoor shot put champion. Sprinter Latessa Johnson also made her second appearance in the 200-meter dash at the NCAA Outdoor Championships, reaching the semifinals. She finishes as an All-American Honorable Mention.



### OUTSTANDING YEAR

**Mustang golfer McClure Meissner** was named the American Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year, while senior Gray Townsend joined him on the All-Conference team. Meissner, who tied for 21st in the 2018 NCAA Norman Regional, competed in all 10 tournaments. The freshman logged three top-10 finishes, tying for fifth place at the American Athletic Conference Tournament. Townsend picked up his second consecutive All-Conference accolade after posting a season-best tied for fifth finish at the tournament.



### DIVING INTO HISTORY

**Diver Bryce Klein** earned All-America honors on 3 meter at the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships in March to close out a standout career on the Hilltop. The senior also competed on 1 meter at the Championships. In addition, Klein finishes his career as a two-time NCAA qualifier, four-time NCAA Zones qualifier, six-time American Athletic Conference champion and a 10-time all-conference selection. He holds both the SMU and AAC records on 1 and 3 meter.



### REINING QUEEN

**Equestrian Holly Lansidel** was named the National Collegiate Equestrian Association (NCEA) Reining Rider of the Year. The sophomore, a First-Team All-America honoree, posted a 15-2-1 record during the 2017-18 season. Other NCEA All-America honorees included sophomore Vivian Yowan and junior Nora Gray. Lansidel helped lead the Mustangs to their first conference title at the 2018 United Equestrian Conference Championship. SMU finished the season with a 10-6 record. Head Coach Carol Gwin was named the UEC Coach of the Year.



# BULL MILK



**WITH THE BUMBLE APP,  
SMU ALUMNA WHITNEY  
WOLFE HERD '11 FLIPPED  
A TRADITION AND PUT  
WOMEN IN CONTROL  
OF THE DATING SPACE**

**BY MEREDITH MCBEE '19**

PHOTO BY KRISTEN KILPATRICK







hitney Wolfe Herd '11 is inside her second-floor office at the Bumble headquarters in Austin, Texas, pacing back and forth. One hand clutches her phone, while her free hand slices the air. She buzzes around the room, navigating her way through the plush pink chairs as if she is running an obstacle course.

Herd is the founder and CEO of Bumble, a social connection app that empowers women to make the first move. In just four years, her female-centric business has grown to more than 35 million users in 160 countries.

In tech speak, her company is a unicorn, a startup valued at a billion dollars or more. Wolfe Herd is something of a mythological creature herself as one of the creative disruptors behind the digital romance revolution. She is a co-founder of the Tinder dating app and the visionary force behind Bumble, America's fastest-growing dating app.

Drawing on her own experience as the target of cyberbullying, Wolfe Herd reinvented the dating space with Bumble. She shaped an environment where users

were required to mind their manners and women felt safe, respected and in control. The app's basic interface is familiar. Users swipe right on the profiles of potential dates in whom they are interested, and left on those they're not. Bumble upends the archaic tradition of men making the initial contact; instead, in heterosexual matches, women must start a chat within 24 hours or the match expires.

Two vertical expansions of the original platform connect other aspects of womanhood. There is Bumble BFF for those seeking a friendly connection and Bumble Bizz for those looking for a business connection.

The young entrepreneur's achievements have earned major accolades. In December, she appeared on the cover of *Forbes'* 30 under 30 issue, after making the list for the second consecutive year. She also was named to the TIME 100, *Time* magazine's list of the world's most influential people of 2018. In July, she was tapped for the board of Imagine Entertainment, the film and television production company founded by Brian Grazer and Ron Howard.

Despite her success, Wolfe Herd remains humble.

"It's not that I'm some rare breed of human," she says. "Everybody has the ingredients to achieve what I've achieved."

Her efforts are all linked to her desire to end abusive and misogynistic behavior.

"I get out of bed to reverse engineer that every day," she says.

Wolfe Herd moves fast, both in person and in her work, jumping from one conversation to another, one potential idea to another.

Back in her office, she is still pacing. The nerve center of the Bumble hive overlooks the sunny workspace below, decorated with hexagonal cushions and a fluorescent "Bee Kind" sign. The apiary theme is carried throughout the interior, from the honeycomb motif accents to the bright yellow walls. The warm, fun and feminine vibe may not be the norm for a tech company, but it intentionally reflects Bumble's celebration of female kindness, creativity and collaboration.

Members of her core team, some of whom have been with her from the beginning, are usually nearby. They're accustomed to reacting at lightning speed to keep up with their CEO.





**I THINK SMU HAS THIS REMARKABLE WAY FOR CHARTING STUDENTS ON THE RIGHT COURSE. PEOPLE WILL WORK WITH YOU TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE TAKING THE RIGHT CLASSES TO ACHIEVE YOUR 'BIG PICTURE' DREAMS.**

WHITNEY WOLFE HERD '11

**(TOP LEFT)** The Bumble team includes SMU alumni (from left) Chelsea Cain Maclin '12, Alex Williamson '10, Caroline Ellis Roche '14 and Whitney Wolfe Herd '11.

**(BOTTOM)** Bumble's hive in Austin, Texas, is abuzz as the dating app thrives.

"If an opportunity comes to further our mission, Whitney's going to have it done by the time she's off the phone," says Samantha Fulgham, director of field marketing who has been with Bumble from the beginning.

Wolfe Herd reached back to her SMU roots when creating a team to launch her startup. She recruited Alex Williamson '10, her Kappa Kappa Gamma Big Sister who now serves as Bumble's chief brand officer, and Caroline Ellis Roche '14, Wolfe Herd's chief of staff.

"She was always entrepreneurial," says Williamson. "She could figure out how to make things happen."

As Wolfe Herd has demonstrated throughout her career, life's lemons become a valuable commodity in her hands.

She arrived on the Hilltop in 2007 from Salt Lake City, Utah, intending to major in advertising, but she didn't make the cut for admission to the Temerlin Advertising Institute for Education and Research in Meadows School of the Arts.

"Maybe the reason I failed that test is

because that wasn't the right place for me," Wolfe Herd says.

Instead, she majored in international studies in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, which she says provided a solid marketing foundation that has been pivotal to her career.

"I think SMU has this remarkable way for charting students on the right course," she says. "People will work with you to make sure you're taking the right classes to achieve your 'big picture' dreams."

While at SMU, Wolfe Herd founded two companies, each in response to a problem she saw in the world. Tender Heart was a clothing line that brought a message of fair trade. The Help Us Project was a line of grocery bags that benefited the Oceans Future Project, which was a direct response to the BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

After graduating, she served as a volunteer at orphanages overseas. She returned to the U.S. determined to do something creative and philanthropic, but she wasn't sure what that was.



PHOTOS BY GUY ROGERS, III





PHOTOS BY GUY ROGERS, III

At the time, she had no employment possibilities lined up. She was living at home, an arrangement her parents told her had an expiration date.

So, she found a job at Cardify, a customer rewards app. During her brief tenure, she had no idea that her next career move would turn the dating world upside down and change her life forever.

In 2012, she co-founded the game-changing dating app Tinder. She marketed the platform at SMU and on other college campuses. That early success – with all its thrilling highs – also led to a life and career crisis. She left in 2014 and filed a lawsuit against the company, alleging sexual harassment and wrongful termination.

She was bullied online by complete strangers during this period. While she had once viewed social networking as a conduit for connecting people and building community, she watched as online interactions became weaponized, and she became the target of misogynistic and hate-filled attacks.

“I felt like the entire Internet was

collapsing on me,” she says.

At the time, she thought her career was over.

“It is unbelievable how that negativity can completely control your life,” she says. “There were moments when I let that fear engulf me to the core.”

The experience gave Wolfe Herd a new perspective on social media. She wondered what it looked like for younger people and what it would turn into for future generations. She soon had a new mission: to reinvent the Internet for women.

In her entrepreneurial fashion, she developed the framework for a female-only social network called Merci. On this platform, women could only give each other compliments.

This idea morphed into a dating app after her investor and business partner, Andrey Andrev, encouraged her to transfer her passion for a kind social network into the dating sphere.

“I said no, I’m never going back into the dating world, absolutely not,” Wolfe Herd says. “With a lot of convincing, we agreed to start this company together.”

Snippets of Merci remain in the Bumble DNA.

“When you think about it, women are making the first move, which is empowering,” Wolfe Herd says. “We tolerate zero abusive behavior, so that kindness piece is there, too.”

Wolfe Herd returned to her alma mater with her new idea. She bought dozens of cookies at JD’s Chippery in Snider Plaza, plastered each box with Bumble stickers and passed out the sweet rewards to students who downloaded the app.

To help spread the word, she created a network of Bumble Ambassadors, college women who live the brand’s core message of being kind and embody its stylish coolness and cheeky attitude.

A week before the woman-first app launched, Wolfe Herd called her team and told them to book a flight to Austin the next day. When they arrived, she announced they would be filming a promotional video of them skydiving. None of her colleagues questioned the idea.

“The whole point of it was that if we can jump out of an airplane, we can

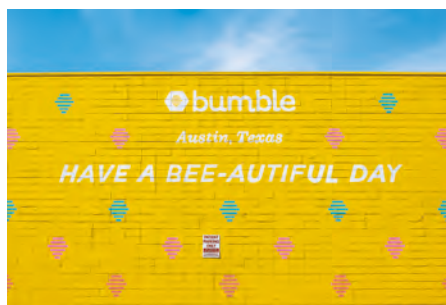


**I THINK THAT'S PART OF HER GENIUS, NOT ONLY COMING UP WITH IDEAS THAT RESONATE ON A PERSONAL LEVEL AND HAVE EMPATHY AND KINDNESS AT THEIR CORE, BUT ALSO THE ABILITY TO GET EVERYBODY IN THE ROOM EXCITED AND PASSIONATE ABOUT THE SAME PROJECT.**

CHELSEA CAIN MACLIN '12



**(LEFT)** Bumble's Austin, Texas, headquarters – affectionately known as “the hive” – exudes a warm, fun and feminine vibe. **(ABOVE)** SMU student Meredith McBee '19 **(LEFT)** interviews Wolfe Herd at Bumble headquarters in Austin. **(BELOW)** Honorary Mustang Samantha Fulgham, director of field marketing.



message a guy first,” Fulgham says.

Nearly four years and 500 million first moves later, Wolfe Herd is never short of new ideas.

“I think that’s part of her genius, not only coming up with ideas that resonate on a personal level and have empathy and kindness at their core, but also the ability to get everybody in the room excited and passionate about the same project” says SMU alumna Cain Maclin '12, Bumble’s vice president of marketing.

Her genuine commitment to female empowerment has made her a role model for young women, as illustrated during a recent encounter on the streets of Austin during a company field day.

Dressed in Bumble gear, the team chalked sidewalks with “Download Bumble” and posted yellow fliers advertising the app around the downtown area. They happened upon a bachelorette party, and the honoree told Wolfe Herd that one of her dreams was to meet the Bumble founder. She had no idea that the woman standing next to her was, indeed, the “queen bee.”

When she found out, she burst into tears. “I don’t think Whitney had ever seen a fan like that,” Fulgham says. “She has no idea how many women look up to her across the world.”

Last fall, her admirers everywhere swooned over photos of her storybook

wedding in Positano, Italy, to businessman Michael Herd. They met through friends several years ago. Although she didn’t know it when they met, he is the son of one of her favorite SMU professors, Kelly Herd, a filmmaker and former lecturer in the Meadows School.

“That just goes to show the serendipitous nature of an SMU education,” Wolfe Herd says. “I looked up to her for her caring, articulate and creative abilities as a professor. She’s proof that you meet professors who will have a lifelong impact on you and stay with you long after your graduation date.

“I always say I would trade almost anything to just go back to SMU for a day,” she adds.

Wolfe Herd believes that her SMU experience helped her become strong and confident enough to change the dating world.

“SMU gave me the foundation to become an adult and evolve into the woman I am today,” she says.

Today, Wolfe Herd is a very busy executive. She finally puts down her phone and collapses on a plush chair for a few seconds. Then, she gets up, arms moving as she talks to a colleague. Back to work she goes.

*Writer Meredith McBee '19 of Atlanta, Georgia, is an SMU senior majoring in fashion media, journalism and marketing.*

# DRIVE

## SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR NAVIGATES THE

**N**eha Husein '19 gripped the steering wheel as her car jolted forward, hit from behind on one of Dallas' busiest and most dangerous freeways.

Shaken, but not injured, the high school senior surveyed the significant damage to her car. The cause of the crash? The driver behind her was texting while driving.

The SMU senior admits to being "a little paranoid" on the road since that 2014 collision. That unease eventually inspired her to develop Just Drive, a mobile app that awards points to drivers who lock their phones while driving. Users redeem points for free food, drinks and merchandise.

In less than a year, Husein piloted Just Drive from a class assignment into a viable startup. Along the way, SMU's innovation ecosystem put her on track for success. Her startup won seed funding from SMU, and faculty mentors helped steer her in the right direction. She even tapped into the Mustang alumni network to bring her idea to life.

Her enterprising spirit also shines through in her academic passions. She's a double major in marketing in the Cox

School of Business and human rights in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences. "People sometimes question my combination of majors," Husein says. "When they do, I point out that so much of my campus involvement – everything from planning and organizing cultural awareness events to serving as the social media and marketing coordinator for the Embrey Human Rights Program – demonstrates how beautifully they mesh together."

In fact, her mobile app started out as a paper for her "Ethics and Human Rights" class, taught by Brad Klein, associate director of SMU's Embrey Human Rights program. A requirement for human rights majors, the course examines ethics as part of everyday life, work and relationships. The final project challenges students to develop something that will benefit society and create a proposal for implementation.

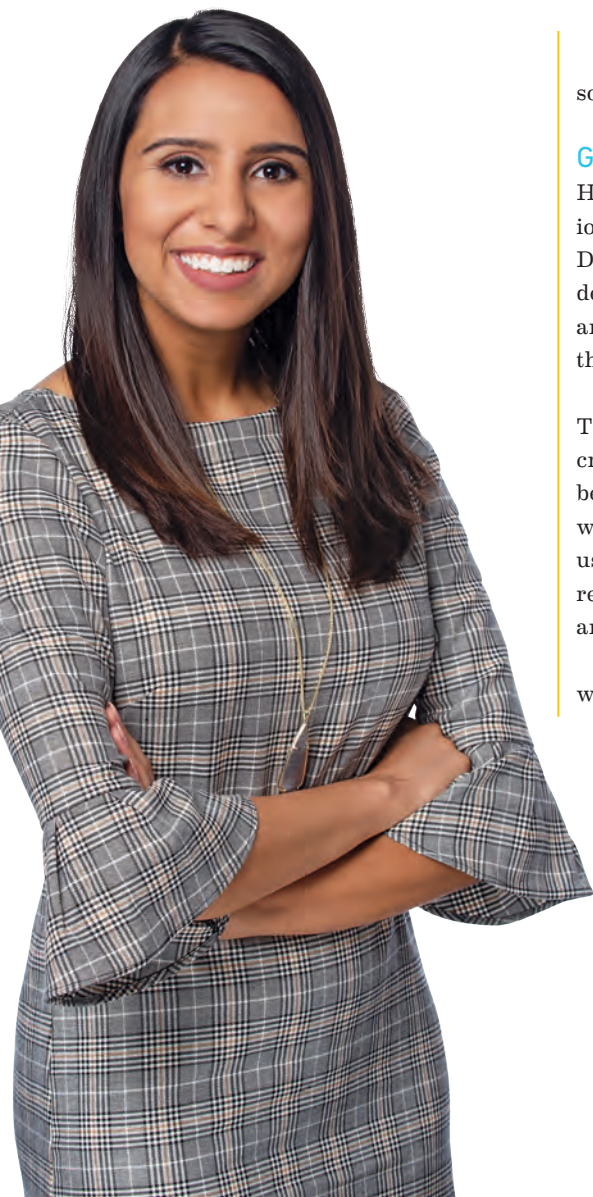
"Neha came to class with an embryo of an idea based on an experience that touched her deeply," Klein says. "I encourage students to develop projects that match their skills. As a marketing major, she brought the skills to develop and market an app. By the end of the class she had everything in place – goals, timeline, funding, partnerships."



# VIEW

## INTERSECTION OF COMMERCE AND COMPASSION

BY NANCY LOWELL GEORGE '79



She also had a new identity as a social entrepreneur.

### GAINING TRACTION

Husein aims to change drivers' behaviors through positive reinforcement. Just Drive users collect points that can be redeemed for products and services, so they are rewarding themselves for resisting the temptation to use their phones.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDoT), one in five car crashes in 2017 was attributable to people behind the wheel not paying attention while they were driving, and cellphone use was a top reason. Distracted driving resulted in 100,687 accidents, 444 deaths and 2,889 serious injuries.

It is now illegal for drivers to read, write or send a text and drive in Texas,

but many can't seem to break their bad habits. The state has issued hundreds of citations and thousands of warnings since the law went into effect last fall.

TXDoT statistics show that drivers ages 16 to 34 are most likely to text while driving, but Husein is betting the app will appeal to all ages. "Expecting incentives is a generational thing, but it's a human thing too," she says. "People enjoy rewards."

Her incentive-based approach struck a chord with judges at SMU's Big Ideas pitch contest, where she won \$1,000 for her 90-second elevator speech about her app. The multistage competition is part of SMU's Engaged Learning program, a campus-wide experiential learning initiative that encourages students to turn their passions into signature projects.

Her project mentor, SMU law professor



EXPECTING INCENTIVES IS A GENERATIONAL  
THING, BUT IT'S A HUMAN THING TOO...  
PEOPLE ENJOY REWARDS.

— NEHA HUSEIN



Keith Robinson, a specialist in patent, intellectual property (IP) and technology law, co-directs the Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation in SMU's Dedman School of Law. He also teaches a class for law students on designing legal apps.

"I like people who show initiative and are willing to bet on themselves," says Robinson, who met weekly with Husein to discuss IP issues and trademark application. "Neha has developed an app for a relatable problem, one that can save lives."

Husein grew up with an entrepreneurial mindset. As a child, the Carrollton, Texas, native manned a toy cash register alongside her father at his convenience store. He was on hand to see his daughter present her business plan during the

She served as president of Circle K International service organization and has performed community service as a Caswell Leadership Fellow and Human Rights Community Outreach Fellow. She is also a Hilltop Scholar, which recognizes academic achievement and commitment to service, and a McNair Scholar, a University undergraduate research program.

## GEARED FOR SUCCESS

In March, Husein was invited to share Just Drive on one of the world's biggest stages for entrepreneurs, South by Southwest (SXSW) in Austin. Red Bull selected Husein and five other Texas college students to participate in its



### LOCK YOUR PHONE.

Users who lock their phones with the Just Drive app before driving...

### DRIVE.

### EARN REWARDS.

...will receive incentive points they can redeem for free food, drinks and merchandise.



second stage of the Big Ideas competition – and win \$5,000.

"I had the biggest smile in the room," says her father, Malik Husein. "I am so proud of her."

Memories of her father pulling over to help whenever he saw someone on the roadside with car trouble influenced her desire to help others, she says. Husein counts herself fortunate to have grown up in a multigenerational household, with the support and guidance of her parents and two sets of grandparents.

Her SMU activities reflect her caring spirit and the examples of community engagement she grew up with. Husein begins her third year as a resident adviser at Kathy Crow Commons this fall.

SXSW Launch Institute, a three-day workshop filled with one-on-one mentoring, idea pitching and media training.

"I was able to refine my pitch and iron out some of the details about Just Drive that I hadn't even thought about," she says.

She also experienced a game-changing transformation.

"My mindset shifted from student to entrepreneur," she says. "Instead of introducing myself as a college student and handing out my résumé, I began handing out my business card."

In the spring, she focused on moving her concept into development. A mutual friend introduced her to Jayce Miller '16, '18, a software engineer at Toyota Connected by day and an app wizard by night.



**NEHA HUSEIN** introduced her app, Just Drive, at South by Southwest in March.

Miller, who earned undergraduate degrees in accounting and math as well as a master's degree in computer science from SMU, has enjoyed the creative challenge.

"We've had to find the right balance between ease of use and control," he explains. "Some similar apps go to the extreme, making it almost impossible to use your phone at all. Others basically give you points regardless, so that defeats the purpose. Our goal is to make something that people will use again and again, which also encourages the safe driving goal."

He applauds Husein for laying the groundwork for a strong launch. "It could be the best piece of technology in the world, but it only matters if people know about it, and Neha has done a fine job of getting people interested."

She credits her Cox affiliation with helping her stand out at networking events. "It's so easy to connect with someone who has taken the same managerial accounting course, from the same professor, as you," she says.

Over the summer, she pitched prospective restaurant and retail partners when she wasn't working as a business systems analyst intern for global marketing giant Epsilon in Irving, Texas.

Her goal is to have a consumer-ready app before the end of the year and expand it beyond the Dallas area.

"After graduation, I hope to create an ambassadorship program at local high schools, colleges and driving schools to emphasize the importance of undistracted driving," she says. "I also hope to continue to upgrade and promote Just Drive until distracted driving becomes a thing of the past."





# ALL IN

**HOW AN SMU ALUMNA  
SHOWS STUDENTS THAT  
A FUTURE POWERED  
BY HIGHER EDUCATION  
MEANS NO DREAM IS  
OUT OF REACH**

**BY PATRICIA WARD**

**A** year ago, Brenda Carmona escaped an attempted assault. The experience left the Dallas high school junior determined to pursue a future in criminology or law “to fight for justice for all the people who aren’t as lucky as I was.” The teen admits she wasn’t sure about the steps she needed to take to realize her ambitions until she spent the day at the Cutting Edge Youth Summit at SMU.

“It gave me so much to think about, as far as considering which are the best colleges and programs to help me achieve my goals,” she says. “And it also made me think about the possibility of getting scholarships and what I need to do to qualify.”

Now in its seventh year, the summit brought nearly 300 students, parents and community leaders from historically underrepresented communities to campus on April 21 during SMU’s Founders’ Day Weekend.



Candice Bledsoe '07 (in pink blouse) founded the Cutting Edge Youth Summit to show students from all walks of life that a college education is attainable.

Conference sessions provided insights about college admission, scholarships, science and technology-focused careers, social entrepreneurship and more.

Candice Bledsoe '07, founder and executive director of the Action Research Center, which conducts research in schools, communities and nonprofits to advance student and community leadership development, created the one-day event. The program is designed to help middle and high school students with big dreams visualize a future powered by higher education. Community college transfer students planning to continue their education at a four-year institution are also welcome.

During discussions and interactive programs, SMU professors, staff and alumni joined a host of community experts contributing their insights about exploring career paths, developing leadership skills and making the most of a university experience.

Students also learn about the avenues open to them for affording college. At SMU, for example, three out of four students receive scholarships and/or financial aid.

"Our message to students is that no dream is out of reach," says Bledsoe, who teaches in SMU's Master of Liberal Arts program in the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development. "We give them advice on the college application process as well as tips for seeking out scholarships. We also talk to them about channeling their passions as social innovators and leaders in their schools and the community. Perhaps equally important, students are able to 'see' themselves on a college campus and realize they have a rightful place here."

The information shared at the summit "fills in the gaps," says Saella Ware, who graduated from Mansfield High School in May. "I wasn't sure about all the steps before I came, but the speakers provided a sort of layout of when to take the SAT and ACT, finish your application, apply for scholarships and submit financial aid information. That helps for getting things done in a timely manner and establishing helpful habits prior to attending college."

**99%  
OF SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS  
HAVE EARNED A HIGH  
SCHOOL DIPLOMA**

**90%  
HAVE GONE  
ON TO COLLEGE**

It's a learning opportunity for parents, too, Bledsoe says. "Parents are often overwhelmed because their children are preparing for such a different experience than they've had. Those parents aren't always sure how to navigate the complexities of the system, so they're grateful to get information and connect with people who can help them."

James Muhammad found the grant and scholarship information particularly useful as his son, Jamaal, begins his junior year at the Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy in Dallas. Muhammad has always been actively involved in his son's education, and when a teacher sent an email about the summit, he jumped at the chance to attend.

"The sessions helped clarify the steps he needs to take this year to prepare for the future," he says.

According to the Action Research Center, the research arm of Bledsoe's program, the Cutting Edge Youth Summit has helped 1,903 middle, high school and community college students since it was launched in 2011. Ninety-nine percent of student participants have earned a high school diploma, and 90 percent have gone on to college.

### **BIG DREAMS. BIGGER FUTURE.**

The University offers a portfolio of opportunities like the summit that show ambitious younger students from all walks of life that a college education is attainable.

Perhaps the best-known college access program is Upward Bound. This year, SMU celebrates 50 years of graduates of the program geared for high school students from low-income families or from families in which neither parent holds a

bachelor's degree. As students build the academic credentials they'll need to succeed in a college classroom, they also develop the confidence and resilience they'll rely on to attain goals throughout their lives.

The proof of success: 90 percent of Upward Bound participants attend college after high school graduation.

Even a campus visit can have a huge impact on young minds. "Just being on the SMU campus is exciting to so many students attending the summit," Bledsoe says. "It can jumpstart the process of thinking about the future and saying, 'Yes, I can see myself here.'"

SMU welcomes hundreds of youngsters from Dallas-area schools to campus each year so they can become acquainted with college life. One recent example is a special experience created by the University for about 200 eighth-graders and their teachers from Dallas' Rusk Middle School. When the students dramatically improved their test scores, their teachers wanted to build on that academic momentum and reward their hard work with a trip to a college campus. But school district budget challenges stalled the plan.

That's when SMU came to the rescue by arranging a campus visit like no other. The Rusk students participated in science and engineering demonstrations, visited with Head Football Coach Sonny Dykes and tossed some footballs in Ford Stadium, explored the campus during a scavenger hunt and learned about the importance of a college education from SMU President R. Gerald Turner.

At the end of the day, many of the youngsters vowed to return – as SMU students.

### **'GET OUT THERE AND TRY'**

As the daughter of parents serving in the military, Bledsoe grew up primarily in Germany. She learned the language and took advantage of the European location to travel extensively on the continent. That early exposure to different cultures shaped her global perspective and belief that travel is an invaluable teaching tool. Today, family vacations with husband Horace and their children Jeremiah, 14, and Jasmine, 8, often include tours of historical sites. They've recently traveled the





path of the civil rights movement and visited the Lincoln Home historic district in Springfield, Illinois.

Her worldview also informs an international component of each youth summit. This year the focus was on opportunities across the globe in engineering and technology fields.

Bledsoe's aim with the summit is to get kids excited about college the way that passion was ignited in her as a youngster.

In a thought-provoking presentation at TEDxSMUWomen in 2016, Bledsoe said, "To know who I am, you must know my grandmother." Women's issues were the focus of the event. Bledsoe, founder of the Black Women's Collective, a creative arts group devoted to sharing the stories of women of color, discussed the power of narrative to bring the experiences of the underrepresented to light, an academic passion inspired by the matriarch.

She describes her grandmother, Johnnie Mae "M'dear" Lucas, as "her first teacher." Lucas grew up during segregation, with few higher education options open to her, but she never gave up on her dream of becoming a teacher. When she decided to pursue a master's degree, her entire family relocated to Houston so that she could attend Texas Southern University, a historically black public university. The trailblazer who prized her degrees made

sure her granddaughter always understood the value of an education.

When Bledsoe was living abroad, summer vacations were reserved for spending time with Lucas in Texas.

Thanks to her grandmother, she was steeped in great literature from an early age, especially the poetry of Langston Hughes. Bledsoe remembers hearing her friends playing outside while she was inside, following her grandmother's "summer school" curriculum, which included a robust reading list and book reports. One of the books she was assigned to read was a biography of Mary McCloud Bethune.

Bethune was "one of the most important black educators, civil and women's rights leaders and government officials of the 20th century," according to the National Women's Museum. "The college she founded [which became Bethune-Cookman College] set educational standards for today's black colleges, and her role as an advisor to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt gave African Americans an advocate in government."

"I was blown away when I first read about her and how she used education to open doors of opportunity for others," Bledsoe says. "Her commitment to education, access and the community has inspired my work to this day."

Bledsoe's grandmother died at 97, but she lived long enough to see her favorite pupil earn three degrees: Bledsoe received a bachelor's degree from Baylor University, her MLS from SMU and a Ph.D. in education from the University of Southern California.

Her academic research explores the impact of race, gender and class in higher education contexts. She has received fellowships from the National Endowment of the Humanities, New Leadership Academy, National Center for Institutional Diversity, University of Michigan and Boone Texas Project for Human Rights Education.

In 2013, she was honored with a Profiles of Community Leadership Award, presented by the SMU Women's Symposium. The award celebrates the accomplishments of women who have made a significant impact on the city of Dallas and on the quality of life for women overall.

So much of what drives Bledsoe circles back to the example set by her grandmother and the wisdom she shared.

"She taught me that without a college education, my options would be limited, and that stuck with me," she says.

It's a message she stresses today when guiding aspiring college students.

The right mentor can make all the difference, says James Samuel '19, a double major in political science and advertising at SMU. He's in his thirties and met Bledsoe through her husband. Samuel had attended a Texas community college and was on the fence about pursuing a bachelor's degree.

"I kept second-guessing myself and making excuses, like 'I'm not ready' or 'I can't afford it.' Candice talked me through that. She told me I had to get out there and try."

He did, and SMU has been a great fit.

"It's like you become a member of the family at SMU. Everyone is so willing to help you succeed," Samuel says. "When you show a passion for a subject, there is an army of people ready to help you pursue your goals. I never thought I'd have the opportunities I've had at SMU, and I'll be forever grateful to Candice for her confidence in me."

During the interactive Cutting Edge Youth Summit, students learn about college admission, scholarship, careers, social entrepreneurship and more.





# Game day Countdown





**M**

ustangs far and wide will converge on the Hilltop Sept. 7 for the first home football game of the 2018 season against rival TCU in Gerald J. Ford Stadium. Other home games to note: Salute to Our Heroes game against Navy Sept. 22; Family Weekend/First Responder Appreciation Game against Houston Baptist Sept. 29; and Homecoming against University of Houston Nov. 3 (see page 10 for ticket information). And home games also mean Boulevarding time – one large tailgate of food, friends and fun through the middle of campus. For more information: [blog.smu.edu/gameday/#home](http://blog.smu.edu/gameday/#home).





# GROWING GREEN *Sowing* HOPE

SMU PROVIDES RESOURCES TO SPROUT  
SEEDLING FARM AMID DALLAS' FOOD DESERT

BY SUSAN WHITE '05



**“GOING FROM A SEED TO A SEEDLING IS THE MOST VULNERABLE STAGE IN A PLANT’S LIFE.”**

– TYRONE DAY



**(ABOVE)** Seedling Farm manager Tyrone Day prepares newly sprouted seedlings for transfer to larger pots. **(RIGHT)** SMU professor Owen Lynch helped jump-start the Seedling Farm to alleviate food deserts in South Dallas.



**Owen Lynch harbors a “crazy” idea – one that just might help eliminate the food deserts scattered throughout South Dallas.**

Driving through the impoverished area surrounding the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, Lynch points out abandoned lots and vacant dirt areas under nearby freeways that hold possibilities as future community gardens.

“One of the unexpected assets of a food desert is the large availability of property or lots for farming and food system development,” Lynch says. “These properties are at best eyesores detracting from their neighborhood’s home values, but at worst they are a breeding ground for vermin, wild dogs and other negative neighborhood effects.”

Lynch is associate professor of corporate communication and public affairs in Meadows School of the Arts and a senior research fellow in SMU’s Hunt Institute for Humanity and Engineering. But he and his Hunt Institute colleagues are looking at a bigger picture for South Dallas, advocating for something more sustainable than community gardens through an extensive food production system.

“Each lot could become part of a functioning food system by providing the city with a local, sustainable food source and creating jobs for the immediate community,” he says. “There is a large amount of unemployed or underemployed people and youth in these local communities who could gain employment and training within these urban farms.”

South Dallas is one of the largest food deserts in the country, Lynch says. Urban food deserts are short on fresh food providers, especially fruits and vegetables; instead they are rife with quick marts selling processed foods heavy in sugar and filled with fats. In South Dallas, many residents live at least a mile from a grocery store and don’t always have access to ready transportation to drive farther.

## SUSTAINING COMMUNITY GARDENS

Lynch, who also serves as president of the nonprofit, urban farm consulting agency Get Healthy Dallas, and the Hunt Institute took the first step toward reducing the gap in available healthy food sources by establishing the

Seedling Farm, dedicated at the MLK Freedom Garden last November, in collaboration with numerous local urban farm organizations. The Seedling Farm aims to overcome some of the barriers to successful local agricultural production and help improve the health of South Dallas residents.

During a visit to the Seedling Farm on a cool but sunny April morning, manager and horticulturist Tyrone Day shows off the seedlings that have sprouted in the recently built greenhouse and soon will be transferred to local private and community gardens and farmers markets. The greenhouse packs in up to 4,000 4-inch plants started from seedlings that will grow into a variety of vegetables ranging from asparagus to zucchini, as well as herbs such as cilantro, basil and thyme.

Plans are to produce 20,000 seedlings each year through all four seasons to sell at a discount to area residents who grow their own produce. Providing seedlings is an important factor. “The process of going from a seed to a seedling is the most vulnerable stage in a plant’s life,” Day says. “At the farm, we raise them in controlled conditions with constant





**(ABOVE AND FAR RIGHT, OPPOSITE PAGE)** Hundreds of school children visit the Seedling Farm to learn gardening skills, as well as how fresh produce leads to healthy eating habits. **(RIGHT)** A sign at New Hope Garden.

**“IN SOUTH DALLAS, GARDENS ARE AN ASSET, NOT A HOBBY.”**

**– DEVINCENT MARTIN '18**



monitoring, and also prepare them for transportation to community and home gardens.” Jump-starting gardens by planting viable young seedlings means the plants are more likely to survive, mature faster and produce fruits or vegetables more quickly, he adds.

## LOCAL RESOURCE FOR URBAN GARDENERS

Numerous small community gardens exist throughout South Dallas. The challenge is to ensure that such gardens are sustainable and that growers are connected to resources that will help them be successful. “Research shows that community gardens can achieve bigger gains if the gardeners have access to local experts and seedlings to better manage their gardens,” Lynch says. “That is a big part of what the Seedling Farm is about: to encourage, support and – if needed – teach local residents how to get the most from their urban gardens.”

Tyrone Day and the Seedling Farm serve as a resource for urban farmers by offering information on the best type of plants for their

gardens and growing the seeds that they choose until the seedlings are ready for planting. Gardeners then pick up the young plants and transfer them to their own gardens, using the resulting crops for themselves or sharing with the community.

SMU alumnus DeVincent Martin '18 set out to connect local gardeners to such resources. Martin, who earned a master's degree in sustainability and development from SMU's Lyle School of Engineering in May, conducted research for a capstone project to map the location of these community gardens. But Martin, who has family roots in South Dallas, learned that gathering data by knocking on doors and asking questions was difficult in an area where local residents are wary of outsiders.

Martin saw firsthand the benefits of the South Dallas gardens as he conducted his research. “There, the gardens are

an asset, not a hobby,” he says.

“They are helping people live. I watched kids get off the school bus and stop by the garden for produce to bring home for dinner.”

## GROWING JOBS AS WELL

Part of the Seedling Farm initiative also is to provide jobs for underemployed individuals. Day earned his horticultural degree from Trinity Valley Community College while incarcerated in prison. In 1989, he was wrongfully convicted of a crime he didn't commit and spent the next 26 years as an inmate of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. While there, he oversaw five large greenhouses that supplied hundreds of thousands of vegetables to the TDCJ.

After he was released in 2016 under the Innocence Project, he began to work with Miles of Freedom, a nonprofit that helps ex-offenders transition from prison to the community and the workforce. Day met Lynch at the MLK Freedom Garden and began building the Seedling Farm greenhouse in June 2017. Lynch saw that Day, with his horticultural skills, was a natural fit as the manager.

Day also manages the New Hope Garden at the Austin Street Center (ASC), an emergency shelter for the homeless in Dallas. Karen Milam, office manager and grant writer for ASC, says







**(LEFT)** SMU alumnus DeVincent Martin mapped the locations of community gardens in South Dallas for his master's degree from Lyle School of Engineering. **(RIGHT)** Tyrone Day pulls leaves from a newly picked head of cabbage to share with Owen Lynch.



for her lunch hour she enjoys sitting in the garden, which was built by Leadership Dallas. The vegetables are harvested by volunteers and supplement the meals provided by various churches to the ASC. While at the garden, Day plucked a large, ripe head of cabbage and pulled off the leaves to share with visitors, who ate them on the spot. Lynch delivered the cabbage to the center's cook, who planned to use it in coleslaw for lunch that day.

## A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Lynch involved several of his corporate communication students in the development of the Seedling Farm. Caroline Davis, a senior majoring in corporate communication and public affairs and public relations and strategic communication, knew little about food deserts until taking several courses from Lynch. She helped plan and coordinate the launch of the Seedling Farm, and asked area residents about their food knowledge and access to various foods, particularly vegetables. "The Seedling Farm is about much more than food for these communities and farmers," Davis says. "Community members have the chance to receive

the necessary education and training to co-develop a self-sustaining resource."

Sara Langone '17, who received degrees in political science and corporate communication and public affairs from SMU, and DeAngelo Garner '18, who graduated in May with degrees in organizational communications and public relations with a minor in Spanish, conducted a survey with the area residents on the need for the Seedling Farm. Garner, who will begin a master's degree in business analytics in fall 2018 at Cox School of Business, says the experience helped drive him toward his interest in data analytics.

"It was eye-opening seeing the human aspect of statistical information that I had previously studied," he says. "Having the hands-on experience humanized the very real problems that residents of South and West Dallas experience."

Lynch, who was designated a 2018 Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Fellow, is moving to Rhode Island where his wife has a job, but will return weekly to Dallas to teach at SMU and continue to build on the Seedling Farm initiative. He emphasizes that a local food production system requires well-organized

distribution systems, which includes support from community foundations, nonprofits and experts. And investment in local micro-urban farms requires upfront capital and experience to design, build and maintain, but the payoff is huge. Micro-food systems have the potential to provide innovative and economical solutions to reducing food poverty and unemployment, Lynch adds.

"Hundreds of micro-farms, community gardens, personal gardens, greenhouses or even small raised beds can be linked into a vibrant food chain providing sustainable fresh local produce to the DFW market."

A "crazy" idea that is blooming where it's planted.



# MPower

## CHARGING UP FOR A GREAT NEW YEAR!

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# 2018 Distinguished Alumni And Emerging Leader



Pierce M. Allman '54

Tucker S. Bridwell '73, '74

Jane Chu '81

Kelvin Beachum '10, '12

SMU Homecoming Weekend will start with the celebration of four outstanding Mustangs at the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony and dinner on Thursday, November 1.

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

**Pierce M. Allman '54**, co-owner of Dallas real estate firm Allie Beth Allman and Associates, displayed leadership and self-starter sensibilities as a student at SMU, where he was head cheerleader, *Rotunda* favorite, class treasurer and an "M" Award recipient. He served in the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command after graduating with a B.A. degree in radio and TV. In 1963, Allman became the first reporter to broadcast an on-scene report after witnessing the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. In 1965, SMU recruited Allman to head the alumni affairs office. Allman later launched a public relations division at TracyLocke before founding his own marketing firm, Allman & Co. He co-founded the S.M. Wright Foundation and serves on its board. A member of the Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences Executive Board since 1994, Allman provided a lead gift in 2010 to launch the Dean's Research Council. During SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign, he served on the Dedman College Campaign Steering Committee.

**Tucker S. Bridwell '73, '74**, an esteemed energy industry executive, is the president of the Mansefeldt Investment Corporation and the Dian Graves Owen Foundation. Additionally, he manages MDJ Minerals and serves on the boards of Concho

Resources, Inc., in Midland, Texas, as well as First Financial Bankshares, where he serves as lead director. Bridwell received B.B.A. and M.B.A. degrees from SMU's Cox School of Business and continues to provide visionary leadership to his alma mater. He is a member of the SMU Board of Trustees and vice chairman of the Cox School Executive Board. He recently led a \$5 million tribute gift effort establishing a management program and endowed scholarship in Cox to honor fellow SMU alumnus and professional colleague Kyle D. Miller '01. Bridwell and his wife, Gina, have generously supported student scholarships, as well as the Moody Coliseum renovation and the Indoor Performance Center. He served on the Cox School Campaign Steering Committee during SMU Unbridled: The Second Century Campaign, and was named a Cox School Distinguished Alumnus in 2006.

**Jane Chu '81** earned a Master of Music degree from SMU and has spent her career in arts administration and philanthropy. During her four-year term (2014-18) as chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, Chu traveled to all 50 states, visiting more than 400 arts organizations in 200 communities. The NEA thrived under Chu's leadership, awarding \$430 million in arts support to 16,000 communities. Among the highlights of her tenure: the NEA's Creative Forces military healing arts initiative expanded from two U.S. sites to 12; its Creativity Connects was launched, giving \$2 million in grants that support partnerships between arts organizations and the non-arts sectors;

and the NEA won a 2016 Special Tony Award, a 2018 Drama League Award and two Emmy nominations. Prior to the NEA, Chu was president and CEO of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, in Kansas City, Missouri. She holds two bachelor's degrees from Ouachita Baptist University, an M.B.A. from Rockhurst University, a Ph.D. from Indiana University and four honorary doctorate degrees.

## EMERGING LEADER

**Kelvin Beachum '10, '12** was drafted into the NFL in 2012 by the Pittsburgh Steelers. He currently starts as left tackle for the New York Jets. In 2016, Beachum launched the Kelvin Konnects STEAM skills initiative, which includes an annual, three-day STEM program in his hometown of Mexia, Texas. He partners with Bread for the World and World Vision and supports community food banks across America. Beachum earned two degrees from SMU – a Bachelor of Arts in economics and a Master of Liberal Studies. This past spring, Beachum made a \$100,000 gift to SMU's Civil Rights Pilgrimage to rename the trip the Dennis Simon Endowed Civil Rights Pilgrimage, after the political science professor who led it from 2008-15. He serves on the executive boards of the Annette

Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development and the Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering.

Purchase tickets for SMU's Distinguished Alumni Awards celebration at [smu.edu/daa](http://smu.edu/daa).



## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

New job? New baby? Share news about your career, family and adventures with the SMU community in the Alumni section of *SMU Magazine*. Submit your news online at [smu.edu/submitanote](http://smu.edu/submitanote) or email [smumag@smu.edu](mailto:smumag@smu.edu).

Deadline for the spring 2019 issue is  
**October 25, 2018.**




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**Hal Gibson** has been honored by the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia, with the creation of the Hal J. Gibson Chair of Distinguished Conducting. He served as director of bands and professor of music there after retiring from the Army as a colonel.

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**55**


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**William J. O'Neil** has been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Chartered Marketing Technician Association, a credentialing body for financial investment professionals. *Investor's Business Daily*, the national business newspaper he founded in 1984, recently republished a lengthy profile of the venerable stock trader and entrepreneur that highlights the foundation of his success. He has been a longtime supporter of his alma mater. The O'Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom in SMU's Cox School of Business, was made possible through the generosity of O'Neil and his wife, Fay C. O'Neil. The focus of the O'Neil Center is the study of the impact of competitive market forces on freedom and prosperity in the global economy. He also provides funding for the William J. O'Neil Program in Business Journalism and Lecture Series in Business Journalism in the Meadows School of the Arts.

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**Tom Luce** received the Linz Award from the Junior League of Dallas in recognition of his civic and humanitarian work. Luce, who received his bachelor's degree in accounting as well as a law degree ('66) from SMU, has been engaged in public service for more than 30 years. In 2004, he received the J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award from SMU, which recognizes moral leadership and public virtue.

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**66**


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**Larry Faulkner**, former member of the SMU Board of Trustees, has been named interim chancellor of the 14-campus University of Texas system until the Board of Regents fills the position. Previously, he served as the 27th president of The University of Texas at Austin from 1998 to 2006, and was named President *Emeritus* by the regents upon his retirement. **Meredith Petersen Simmons** (M.A. '67), writing as Hannah Meredith, has been named a Finalist in the Romance Writers of America 2018 RITA Awards for her novel *Song of the Nightpiper*. The industry's highest award recognizes excellence in published romance novels and novellas.

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**Bobby B. Lyle** was recognized for his work as an engineer, educator, business executive, philanthropist, community

leader and mentor with the 2018 J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award at a luncheon on March 29 at SMU. The annual award honors a community leader who personifies moral leadership and public virtue. Lyle has served as an SMU trustee for more than 30 years and has endowed four academic chairs at SMU, supporting outstanding faculty in cyber security, engineering innovation, engineering entrepreneurship and leadership and global enterprise.

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**Richard Franks** recalls his Vietnam experience as a U.S. Marine attorney in a new book, *FLC Legal: The War in Vietnam That Was Never Reported* (Austin Macauley Publishing). *FLC Legal*, which refers to the Marine Corps Force Logistics Command – how Marine lawyers are deployed – is a reminiscence of young trial lawyers who were stationed in Da Nang, Vietnam. For one year, beginning in 1969, the young prosecutors and defenders tried court martial cases ranging from sleeping on post to murder. Learn more at [austinmacauley.com](http://austinmacauley.com).

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**Anga L. Sanders** (M.L.A. '77), CEO of Global HR Solutions LLC and executive director of FEED Oak Cliff, has been named a Public Voices Fellow by The OpEd



Project, a national initiative to increase the number of underrepresented experts, especially women, taking thought-leadership positions in their fields.

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**William D. Daniels** received the 24th Distinguished Citizen Award from the Mississippi Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America, for modeling the values of scouting. He serves as vice president of finance of the BSA Central Region, and has served on the board of the Mississippi Valley Council. He is a member of the Harborstone Group, LLC, a privately held capital investment company. **Travis Dowell** (M.B.A. '80) completed the New York City Marathon and the Hamptons Marathon in South Hampton, New York – his first two marathons – as well as two half-marathons in 2017. **Steve Waters** was honored with the 2017 Lee Cusenbary Ethical Life Award by the Corporate Counsel for South/Central Texas at its 20th annual Ethics & Compliance Conference. The award recognizes Waters' established reputation for integrity and ethical behavior. He serves as general counsel at USAA Real Estate Company.

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*Reunion chairs:* **SYD THOMPSON AND SUSIE FREY WOODALL**

*Save the date:* **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Gary T. McDonald** spent decades as a working screenwriter and film director in Los Angeles and has published his first book, *The Gospel of Thomas (the Younger)*. The novel is available at bookstores and from Amazon. Learn more at [garytmcDonald.com](http://garytmcDonald.com).

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**Ralph H. Duggins** has been appointed chair of the nine-member Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission by Gov. Greg Abbott. He has served on the commission since 2008. He also serves as a director of The Peregrine Fund and the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show in Fort

Worth. Duggins is a partner with Cantey Hanger, LLP specializing in commercial litigation.

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**Melissa Reiff**, CEO of The Container Store, is one of only a few women leading the Dallas-Fort Worth region's 150 largest public companies. She was profiled in June by *D Magazine* as a leader whose innovative ideas and employee-first focus have helped propel the company's success.

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*Reunion chairs:* **LISA LOY LAUGHLIN AND PHILIP WISE**

*Save the date:* **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Gary Sloan**, a professor of acting at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., has been researching a new solo performance piece at Queens University Belfast in Northern Ireland while on sabbatical. His creative exploration led him to volunteer with the Prison Arts Foundation, introducing characterization techniques in classes at two Northern Ireland prisons. His previous volunteer work has included teaching theatre classes in prisons in New York state.

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**Joe Fallon** was recently appointed principal at Dallas-based WWA Integrated Wealth Strategy Group. In addition, he has been with Northwestern Mutual since graduating from SMU and holds Certified Financial Planner, Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant professional certifications. He lived in Dallas for 17 years before moving back to his hometown of Sherman, Texas. **Elisa Reiter** (J.D. '83), an attorney who is board certified in family law, has been elected to the Texas Bar Foundation, a rare honor based on professional excellence as reflected by her practice and service to the Texas Bar. **Clyde M. Siebman** of Siebman, Burg, Phillips & Smith was one of only two private practice attorneys in Texas to join an invitation-only group of 100 of the world's leading patent professionals at

The Naples Roundtable's inaugural Leahy Institute of Advanced Patent Studies, which addressed the most important issues currently facing patent law. He also was honored recently by Chief Judge Ron Clark of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas for his years of service benefiting federal courts. Siebman's portrait now hangs in the attorney conference rooms at the Paul Brown Federal Courthouse in Sherman, Texas. **Alan Simmons** retired from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, after 25 years as a professor of anthropology. At UNLV he was named a distinguished professor in 2010 and received numerous other teaching and research awards, including a Barrick Research Award, Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award, Barrick Distinguished Scholar and Black Mountain Fellowship. His national honors include the P.E. MacAllister Field Archaeology Award. He wrote three books, and published more than 200 scholarly writings. **Diane Rome Smith** exhibited her 30-piece "Musings" abstract art collection at Curated by Kristen Bullen, a Dallas interior-décor shop. Her large-scale paintings are held in private collections in Texas, California, Tennessee and Illinois.

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81

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**Jane Chu** addressed graduates at the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music convocation ceremony in June, the same month in which she concluded her term as the 11th chair of the National Endowment of the Arts. At the conclusion of her NEA term, Chu joined the SMU Meadows School of the Arts Executive Board. Prior to the NEA, she was the president and CEO of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, in Kansas City, Missouri.

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**Caralyn Wehlitz Bushey** received an Outstanding Faculty Service Award for excellence in teaching from Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland, where she is an adjunct instructor in the TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other



Languages) certificate program. She is also a full-time ESL (English as a Second Language) instructor at the University of Maryland.

## 83

**Reunion chairs: DEBBY MOORE BAKER AND RICHARD BAKER**

**Save the date: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Hector Reyes** started working for Texas Instruments/Raytheon the summer before his first semester as a co-op student in SMU's School of Engineering and Applied Science. Over the next 37 years, he rose to the top of the technical ladder and was elected principal fellow (vice president level) and served as chief engineer over all of Raytheon's land warfare products. His weapons systems portfolio included the Javelin, TOW and Singer missiles and the targeting system for the Abrams tank and the Bradley fighting vehicle. Now in his first year of retirement, he jokes that he has "gone from missiles to models" in his second career as a fashion photographer. **Leslie Smith**, a nationally known trial lawyer and Chambers USA ranked in franchise law, has been appointed managing director of Foley & Lardner's Miami office.

## 84

**Greg Kraus**, managing director of acquisitions for Invesco Real Estate, has transitioned into the role of past chairman of The Real Estate Council's Board of Directors and member of the 2018 executive committee. He serves on the SMU Athletic Forum Board.

## 86

**Mark Masinter**, retail developer at Open Realty Advisors in Dallas, was profiled recently by *The Dallas Morning News* for plans to develop the city's Henderson Avenue into a premier walkable neighborhood. His portfolio includes successful locations for retailers Apple, Restoration Hardware and Warby Parker. **Michael Santa Maria** (M.B.A. '88) has been named chair of Baker McKenzie's North America international commercial practice. He has served as managing partner of the Dallas office and has more than 25 years of corporate transactions experience, advising companies on complex cross-border business issues, mergers and acquisitions, direct investment, joint ventures, international franchise and distribution matters.

## 87

**Missy Brown Benders** was honored by Leadership Plano, a program of the Plano Chamber of Commerce, as the 2018 recipient of the Distinguished Leadership Award in recognition of her significant contributions to the community.

## 88

**Reunion chairs: MARK AVERITT, CHRIS CROCKER AND DEBORAH CLOSS PRICKETTE**  
**Save the date: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Robert P. Detrick** has joined the Denver office of the Polsinelli law firm. Focusing on master planned communities, resorts and mixed-use projects, he has been involved in dozens of high-profile real estate development projects in Colorado and New Mexico, and also has been involved in the development and leasing of large healthcare facilities. **Blake Walker**, founder and CEO of Arcis Golf, was named the 2018 EY Entrepreneur of the Year/Hospitality and Leisure in the Southwest region. His Dallas-based Arcis Golf operates municipal courses, daily-fee courses and private clubs across the nation. In 2017, the company was ranked No. 171 overall and No. 2 in the hospitality and leisure category on the Inc. 5000 list. Arcis' executive leadership includes fellow alumni **Chris Crocker '88**, chief marketing officer; **Julian Potter '88**, chief financial officer; and **Scott Siddons '88**, general counsel.

## 89

**Doug Renfro**, president of the 78-year-old family business, Renfro Foods, was inducted into the Specialty Food Association's Hall of Fame on July 1 at the Javitz Center in New York City during the association's Summer Fancy Food Show. Over Renfro's 26 years of working with his father, uncle and two cousins, he has overseen product development and managed the company's co-packing business. On a daily basis he handles a wide range of responsibilities, everything from handling legal matters and selecting software to "glamour jobs" like purchasing salt.

## WINTER 2019 Expedition To Antarctica



**January 26 –  
February 8, 2019**

Visit Earth's southernmost continent and learn about the spectacular, unspoiled frontier from a team of expert naturalists. The 14-day journey includes two days in Buenos Aires and nine nights aboard the ice-class ship, *L'Austral*. An Iguazú Falls post-program option is available.

To learn more about this educational opportunity for alumni:

**ONLINE:** [smu.edu/alumnitravel](http://smu.edu/alumnitravel) **EMAIL:** [smualum@smu.edu](mailto:smualum@smu.edu)  
**PHONE:** SMU Office of Alumni Relations and Engagement,  
214-768-2586 or 1-888-327-3755

**Gillian Breidenbach** has joined the Belo Media Group, the marketing division of A.H. Belo Corporation, as executive director of its new cause marketing community impact initiative. A.H. Belo is the parent company of *The Dallas Morning News*. She brings expertise from a 27-year career as a community engagement executive at Bank of America. The Belo Corporation initiative will use its marketing, print and digital platforms to encourage civic engagement by raising awareness of education, health and wellness issues.

**Scot Montague** is celebrating his 25th year as an SMU staff member. He spent his first 20 years with Meadows School of the Arts and currently serves in the dean's office of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences. In May, he and his father, **Monte Montague '94**, served as alumni marshals at the Baccalaureate Service the evening before his daughter, **Katarina Iseult Montague '18**, graduated from SMU with a B.S. in management science from Lyle School of Engineering and a B.S. in mathematics from Dedman College. His younger daughter, **Isabella Montague '21**, has been accepted into the Temerlin Advertising Institute in Meadows and will be a resident assistant in Armstrong Commons in the 2018–19 academic year.

**Laura von Boecklin Mulkey** joined the staff of Idaho's largest community college as the executive director of the College of Western Idaho Foundation. **Stephanie Murdock** has been awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for her work at the Defense Information School, part of the U.S. Department of Defense. She is currently assigned to the office of Chief of Naval Information in Washington, D.C., pending her promotion to commander in the U.S. Navy. **Carlos Munguia** has been appointed by Gov. Greg Abbott to the University of North Texas board of regents for a five-year term. A graduate of the SMU Cox Southwestern Graduate School of Banking, Munguia is the Dallas market

## Discovering the stars, changing her future: Jasmine Liu '18

**Invisible to the naked eye**, the variable star ROTSE1 J000831.43+223154.8 flickers in the northern sky. For Jasmine Liu '18, it represents a crowning achievement in her University career.

Liu came to the Hilltop from Fuzhou, China, to major in accounting and physics. With a degree from Cox School of Business, she planned to return home after graduation and pursue a career in the corporate world, as both her parents had.



Jasmine Liu

But Liu, a math lover, soon discovered that she didn't find the arithmetic of accounting quite challenging enough. By her second summer in Dallas, she encountered the opportunity to work with SMU physicist Robert Kehoe in Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences as a 2016 Hamilton Undergraduate Research Scholar. A discussion with Kehoe about cosmology and astrophysics convinced her to take on work as his undergraduate research assistant.

A variable star is a star that changes its apparent brightness over time. A scientist rarely discovers a new variable star through luck, and Liu's "eureka" moment involved plenty of careful data analysis. SMU astrophysicists search for variable stars by analyzing light-curve shape, a key identifier of star type. Liu's job was to crunch the numbers – reams of archived light-curve data

that the ROTSE-I (Robotic Optical Transient Search Experiment) telescope at McDonald Observatory in West Texas had accrued over multiple nights, many years before.

When Liu's work was accepted by the International Variable Star Index, she earned a listing as the discoverer of ROTSE1 J000831.43+223154.8. She has since discovered two more variable stars and assisted other students in several other discoveries.

By the time her junior year began, she changed her major to mathematics, which helped to enhance and reinforce her physics studies. (The accounting courses still came in handy: Liu had taken enough Cox credits to complete a minor in business administration.)

She capped her first stint as a Hamilton Scholar by winning the department's 2017 Wiley Scholarship Award and the Frank C. McDonald Memorial Award for Excellence in Physics. Her research also shared the Dean's Award during SMU Research Day in 2017.

Even more, she reveled in her experience of life at McDonald Observatory. Liu visited the facility in Fort Davis as an SMU Engaged Learning Fellow in fall 2017. Owned and operated by The University of Texas at Austin, the observatory has a robust visitors' program of educational tours, "star parties" and hands-on activities that belies the constant cycle of vital astronomical work going on behind the scenes.

"It was fascinating to see how research happens at McDonald," Liu said. "That part of the operation is so different from the public face of the facility."

Liu sees graduate school in her future – maybe after a gap year that will allow her to continue her variable-star research. She's still not sure if she'll focus more on astrophysics or astronomy; there are several other fields that interest her, too. "I just hope to go to a school with a really big physics department, so I can see them all."





# Crossing the ocean for an education: Yann Olonade '18

**Born and raised in Ivory Coast** (Cote D'Ivoire), Yann Olonade always knew he wanted an American college education. The only question was where and how. American universities are far more expensive than Ivory Coast colleges, where \$500 a year is often enough to attend a public university.

And there also was the language barrier: The official language of Ivory Coast is French.

But he would not be deterred. "They call it the American dream," said Olonade, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting from Cox School of Business in May 2018.

He started his American odyssey in Washington, D.C., where he attended Kaplan International College for six months to learn English. It was a success, but then he saw the price tag on out-of-state community college tuition in Washington, D.C. – \$6,000 per semester. Then an old high school friend who was studying in Texas told him that out-of-state community college tuition in the Lone Star State could be as low as about \$2,000 per semester.

Olonade moved here with his cousins and sister and enrolled in Brookhaven Community College in Farmers Branch. On his first day of class, he ran into a fellow countryman who had just graduated from



Yann Olonade

Brookhaven and transferred to SMU as a finance major, with a full-tuition North Texas Community College Scholarship. "From day one I had a goal to transfer to SMU," Olonade said.

Earning SMU's North Texas Community College Scholarship was not going to be easy, however. Only 10 are awarded each year to students transferring from Collin, Dallas, Grayson, Kaufman, Navaro

and Tarrant County community college districts. Undeterred, Olonade dove head-first into every activity he could find at Brookhaven, all while maintaining a 3.93 GPA.

Two years later, Olonade had earned the scholarship and entry to SMU. In his two years at SMU, Olonade served as treasurer of Mustang Transfers and president of SMU's National Association of Black Accountants chapter (NABA) and also attended numerous conferences.

Professors like Steven Denson, an adjunct professor of management and director of M.B.A. diversity initiatives in the Cox School, mentored Olonade as he made the most of his SMU experience. "Through my SMU journey, he was very impactful," Olonade said. "He challenged me not only to take on the NABA president role, but to make something out of it."

During his last semester, Olonade took an internship at Deloitte, which offered him a full-time job that he'll step into after earning his master's in accounting from SMU and CPA certification in spring 2019. He's also supporting his younger sister, who followed in her brother's footsteps and graduated from Brookhaven in May 2018.

For more information: [smu.edu/mag18olonade](http://smu.edu/mag18olonade).

president of Amegy Bank. His other board service includes Entrepreneurship Institute, Presbyterian Housing Program, Town North YMCA, Park Cities YMCA and the Fine Arts Chamber Players.

**Sarah Q. Wirskey** (J.D. '98) founded the Wirskey Law Firm after 20 years with her former firm. Wirskey Law Firm defends individuals and businesses in white-collar criminal and civil disputes with the government. She has been recognized multiple times in *Texas Monthly* and *D Magazine* for her white-collar criminal defense practice. She lives in Dallas with her husband and two children.

## 92

**Mike Martinez**, an eighth-generation Texan and native Dallasite, has served as a civic volunteer for more than 30 years and enjoys hosting dinner parties benefiting charitable organizations. He resides in Dallas' Uptown neighborhood. **Matt Zollar Seitz**, a respected and prolific film and TV reviewer, is the editor-in-chief of *Roger Ebert.com* and TV critic for *New York Magazine*. A recent *Dallas Morning News* profile revealed how movies have been his source of solace and success.

## 93

*Reunion chairs:* **CAROLYN KERINS, MARCUS MALONSON AND CRISTI LIMA SLITER**

*Save the date:* **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Richie Butler**, a member of the SMU Board of Trustees, was honored as a 2018 Minority Business Leader by the *Dallas Business Journal*. He is senior pastor at St. Paul United Methodist Church and a senior managing director of the Prescott Group. Butler also serves as a Communities Foundation of Texas trustee and a member of the State Fair of Texas Board of

# PRECIOUS PONIES



**Sarah Lorelai Andreas**, born on March 3, 2018, is the daughter of Natalie Bidnick Andreas '07 and Kyle Andreas.



**Logan Russell Biggers**, born November 21, 2017, is the son of Blake Biggers '03 and Lacy Biggers.



**Carroll Tinsley Carr**, born on January 20, 2018, is the daughter of Lauren Daniel Carr '04 and Oscar Carr '04.



**Amelia Grace Dilley**, born December 1, 2017, is the daughter of Erica Peterson Dilley '05 and Chris Dilley. She was welcomed by big sister Alexandra.



**Hunter William Halladay** (left) and **John "Jack" Henry Halladay**, born on February 12, 2018, are the sons of Christy Halladay '05 and Charles Halladay '05. There were welcomed by big sister Millie.



**Stella Hozhabri**, 4, and **Alyssa Hozhabri**, 6 1/2, are the daughters of Kathy Nik '01 and Siavash Hozhabri.



**Luca von Plonski**, born on February 19, 2017, is the son of Olivia von Plonski '10, '11 and Jacob von Plonski '11.

*Submit your Precious Ponies to [smumag@smu.edu](mailto:smumag@smu.edu). Please send image files at the largest size with the names and class years of parents (and alumni grandparents) and your child's name and birthdate. Photographs will be published as space allows.*



**Aashvi Bhumish Rawal**, born on April 16, 2018, is the daughter of Bhumish Rawal '08 and Heta Rawal.



**Montserrat Moscol Tagle**, born on October 31, 2017, in Houston, is the daughter of Milagros Tagle '16 and Giancarlo Moscol, M.D.



**Wyatt Franklin Vidrik**, born on November 9, 2017, is the son of Jessica Vidrik '08 and Brian Vidrik '06.



**Harrison Day Webb**, born on May 19, 2017, is the son of Daniel Webb '08 and Isabel Webb of Boulder, Colorado.







Directors. In addition to his board service, Butler is actively involved with the Dallas community through the Year of Unity, a nonprofit group he founded to unify the community and improve race relations in hopes of a better future for generations to come. **Carlton E. Green** has been named director of diversity training and education in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Maryland, where he has been a member of the Counseling Center staff. **Robert Hallam, Jr.** (M.B.A. '97) assumes the role of president and chief operating officer of food and beverage distributor Ben E. Keith Company. Hallam has been with the company for 24 years. **David Nelson** has been appointed director of the Texas State Senate Finance Committee. He has worked in the Texas Senate for more than 18 years.

95

**Virginia Prodan** (J.D. '97) has published *Saving My Assassin*, the story of her fight as a young attorney for religious freedom in Romania under the brutal Ceaușescu regime. After proclaiming her Christianity, she was kidnapped, beaten, tortured, placed under house arrest, and came within seconds of being executed. She was exiled from Romania in 1988. She completed her education in U.S. law at SMU and is now a human rights attorney practicing in Dallas. Learn more at [virginiaprodanbooks.com](http://virginiaprodanbooks.com).

96

**Ian Derrer** joined the Dallas Opera as its general director and CEO, after two years as general director of the Kentucky Opera. The new appointment represents a homecoming for Derrer, who previously served as the artistic administrator at the Dallas Opera. His other arts management posts include the Santa Fe Opera, Atlanta Opera, Opera Carolina, Washington National Opera, New York City Opera and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. **Guy Dilger** has been named vice president of marketing at Plain Green, an online resource for short-term financial needs. He has more than 12 years of experience in marketing

for Fortune 500 companies and financial technology brands. **Clint Robertson** is the co-host of the HGTV series *Boise Boys*, in which he and best friend Luke Caldwell “improve Idaho’s capital city with beautiful home transformations.” Robertson grew up in Fort Worth and is a licensed contractor. He earned his Juris Doctor from SMU’s Dedman School of Law. He and wife Miranda live in Boise with their six children.

97

**Jen Koondel Davidson** joined Scalar, a Utah-based independent valuation firm, as principal. She led the opening of the firm’s Los Angeles office and is responsible for overseeing valuation and transaction advisory engagements. **Beth Boettcher Finke** has been named senior vice president of North America Applications Consulting. In her new role, she is applying her experiences as a managing director at Accenture to help transform Oracle’s cloud consulting business. **Michael E. Lovins**, a partner attorney with Lovins Trosclair, PLLC, has been elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows are selected for their outstanding personal achievements and demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the justice system through Texas.

98

*Reunion chairs: HEATHER DEL BOSCO-CENTURIONI and TAYLOR KEPLER CRAIG*  
*Save the date: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2*

**Lauren Ogden** has been appointed by the governor of Kentucky as a circuit judge to serve in the family court for the state’s 30th Judicial Circuit, Division 4, encompassing Jefferson County. Based in Louisville, Kentucky, she is an attorney with Ogden & Ogden and a licensed family mediator. **Sharon Snowton** was presented with an Outstanding Teaching of Humanities Award from Humanities Texas on April 20, 2018, at Highland Elementary School in the Cedar Hill, Texas, school district. She was a bilingual-ESL teacher at the school until her retirement in May after being diagnosed with cancer.

99

**Katie McDonnell** has joined the healthcare division of Burke, Inc., a U.S.-based marketing research firm, as the senior account executive. She has held management positions in client relations, portfolio management, marketing, business development and regulatory affairs at Kaleidoscope and Hill-Rom Holds. **Steven Sanders** (M.S. '05, '09) has been elected an owner of Burgess & Niple, a nationally recognized engineering and architecture firm. He joined the company in 2009 and serves as director of the Dallas District. His career has focused on municipal and environmental engineering, with expertise in wastewater system benchmarking, utility management, infrastructure asset management and environmental studies.

00

**Tisha Remmers Ghormley** has joined Hammerle Finley Law Firm in Lewisville, Texas, where her practice focuses on business law and litigation, estate planning, guardianship, probate and real estate. **Kyle Shepherd** has graduated from the University of Nebraska’s LEAD program, a selective two-year leadership program that focuses on agricultural policy, marketing, economics and technology within a state, national and international context. **Matt Stabile** was named artistic director of Theatre Lab, the professional resident company at Florida Atlantic University. He had served as associate artistic director since the founding of the company in 2015. He has directed multiple readings, two MainStage productions and created and overseen The Future PAGES Project, an educational outreach program that provides free writing workshops and live theatrical experiences to more than 1,400 K-12 students each year.

01

**Allison Jackson Marable** curated *Foundations of Community: Black Churches in Dallas*, a Black History Month exhibit at Dallas Public Library’s J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas History &

Archives Division. The exhibit featured photographs and materials showing the strong influence of local black congregations and their leaders on the history of Dallas. **Kenneth Mosley** starred as Berry Gordy in the Broadway national tour of *Motown the Musical*, which completed its run in July. The LA-based actor/writer/producer has appeared in numerous theater productions as well as in such series as *Black-ish* and *Grace and Frankie*.

## 02

**Jessica Galindo Winters** and family members recently opened Cruzteca Mexican Kitchen, a restaurant featuring the tacos they first made famous at their popular Austin food trailer, Mellizoz Tacos & Catering. Learn more at [moreatcruzteca.com](http://moreatcruzteca.com).

## 03

*Reunion chairs:* **SCOTT BOLAND-KRAUSE AND JOSIE MORGAN**

*Save the date:* **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Josie Morgan** has joined BoyarMiller, a Houston-based business and litigation law firm, as director of marketing and administration. She has more than 10 years of experience in the professional services

## Art in high gear: Julia Jalowiec '18

**Julia Jalowiec** was not your typical undergraduate art student.

An adult in her 40s with four children, she had never even created art before 2013. Her decision to start art classes at Collin College was spurred by a cancer diagnosis in 2012. Reeling from her 16th round of chemo, she made the decision to change the trajectory of her life and went back to school.

Julia Jalowiec first transferred from Collin College to Meadows School of the Arts, then her husband and fellow artist, Josh, followed suit.

"I think the biggest draw for me was, one, the caliber of the professors and their background, not just educationally, but the work that they're producing," Josh said. "And two, the amazing networking opportunities that exist here."

Julia Jalowiec has received extra attention for her art lately. She was invited by the Dallas Farmers Market to exhibit her art on the 15-acre market's South Pearl Street side. She said yes, then realized she might have underestimated the scope of the project – a 150-foot construction fence that needed painting completed in a few weeks.

"This was a great opportunity to bring in fellow artists to assist in such a large and fast project," she said. "We all painted together and something incredible happened there. That mural changed the aesthetic of the entire street."

"Now they've asked me to paint a mural on Cesar Chavez Boulevard, which is huge!" she said. "And I have opportunities to work with the City of Dallas, as well."

Julia said her SMU professors helped



Julia Jalowiec with the mural she helped create at Dallas Farmers Market.

her navigate the business side of art: Lauren Woods advised her on the Farmers Market project, Michael Corris advised her about contracts, "what's expected, what happens to the work after they take it down, and all of these things that I just hadn't even thought about before," she said. "I've also met with Simon Mak from the Cox School of Business to discuss business development."

Julia emphasizes the opportunities available "to do anything that you want," she said. "Like, my mentor for my Engaged Learning Fellowship [SMU's funded research program], Brian Molanphy, encouraged me to submit to publications. There are things that will change your life and put you in places to promote your

art and to do the things that you come here to do."

Josh seconds that thought. "I was impressed that we have some really nice travel opportunities, like SMU-in-Taos and all the study abroad programs. And Meadows has been doing the New York Colloquium for a couple of decades now. It has been sort of unexpected and very enriching."

This May, Julia earned a B.F.A. in art and a minor in art history from SMU and served in a position of honor as Commencement Marshal for Meadows Division of Art during her graduation. Josh Jalowiec will graduate with a B.F.A. in art from Meadows in December 2019.

For more information: [smu.edu/mag18jalowiec](http://smu.edu/mag18jalowiec).





# Changing the world, one well at a time

**Sarah Evans '01 describes herself as “heartbroken”** the first time she visited Daaba, Kenya, and witnessed how the townspeople collected water. It was 2011, yet their only local water source was a primitive open well located next to a small, dilapidated building that served as the village’s only school. Children had to climb down into the hand-dug hole to retrieve the water, which was tainted by runoff contaminated by livestock waste. A little boy had recently died when he slipped while trying to fill his bucket.

Later that year, Well Aware, the Austin-based nonprofit Evans founded in 2008, installed a solar-powered water well next to the school, established pipelines and set up distribution kiosks in the community.

Today, Daaba is transformed. “There are several new classroom blocks filled with children as well as housing for the teachers and a medical clinic,” Evans recounts. “The kids are rarely absent from school due to water-borne illness. Community committees have organized health education initiatives and income through agriculture. The girls are going to the eighth grade for the first time in Daaba’s history, and their overall attendance has increased 900 percent.”

From a reliable source of safe water springs better health, economic opportunity, access to education and even gender equity. “Without clean water, girls don’t go to school because they often have to walk all day to retrieve water from sources that are miles away,” she explains.

In some ways, her journey from attorney to award-winning social innovator started at SMU’s Dedman School of Law. As a student she served as chief editor of the law school newspaper and president of the Environmental Law Society. She considers Jeffrey M. Gaba, senior associate dean for academic affairs and M.D. Anderson Foundation Endowed Professor in Health Law, who specializes in environmental law, an important mentor. “I found his passion for environmental issues, even those outside of legal matters, to be refreshing and inspiring,” she says.

*“Without clean water, girls don’t go to school because they often have to walk all day to retrieve water from sources that are miles away.” – Sarah Evans*



Well Aware founder Sarah Evans '01 (center) is honored by community members in Alama, Kenya, with a thank-you ceremony. Before Well Aware led the rehabilitation of the community’s water system, the town’s only source of clean water was almost nine miles away. Now Evans’ nonprofit is working on a plan to expand the water pipeline to assist in crop irrigation.

While a student she landed a clerkship in the clean water department of the Environmental Protection Agency. During the summers she took advantage of study abroad opportunities, including the law school’s summer program at University College, Oxford, and in Australia, where she was born.

After graduating, she tried a series of corporate jobs before finding her true passion.

Evans didn’t set out to improve struggling villages more than 8,000 miles away from her comfortable life in the Texas capital. In fact, she was not really involved in global issues when she agreed to help a friend raise money to replenish livestock in her family’s drought-stricken Kenyan community. “I became obsessed with this

project and realized that having a clean source of water would help the livestock and the entire community,” she says.

When she decided to make a lasting impact on the village, Well Aware was born. Since implementing its first well in 2010, the nonprofit has provided clean water to more than 220,000 people and has doubled its project capacity each year.

Her life-saving work earned Evans a place among the 2017 Toyota Mothers of Invention. The international program celebrates pioneering women creating positive change through innovation and entrepreneurship.

As the single mother of a 6-year-old daughter, Evans balances a busy schedule filled with phone calls, team meetings and travel for speaking engagements,

networking and the fieldwork she cherishes. Nearly every other month, she travels to Africa, spending time with members of the communities where Well Aware has projects and overseeing the drilling and installation of new wells.

“Every time I’m in the field, I feel whole,” she says. “I realize that all of the extra layers of ‘life’ that we convince ourselves we need, don’t really matter. What matters is health, safety, family and friendship. That regular dose of perspective makes me a truly happier person.”

While Well Aware’s efforts are primarily focused in East Africa, the nimble operation is always ready to go where it’s needed. For example, just days after massive Hurricane Harvey devastated the Houston area in August 2017, Evans helped organize a fundraiser to pay for immediate canned water delivery. The drive eventually supplied more than 10,000 cans of water. Next, she hit the road with her technical team to explain the use of and distribute water filtration bags from DayOne Response, a nonprofit led by another Toyota honoree.

That experience sparked an expansion into crisis response. “We are working now with DayOne to form preparedness training programs,” she explains. “We are also working to build a mobile water quality analysis lab that can be available wherever and whenever our expertise is needed.”

To help fund Well Aware as it continues to grow, Evans recently launched Well Beyond, a for-profit consultancy. The new company advises non-governmental organizations worldwide on cost-effective, sustainable water systems and other technologies that empower communities to become self-sufficient. Well Beyond is also developing software to further enable communities to take ownership and control of their water access and usage.

Although she rarely plies her legal skills these days, she relies daily on the life lessons she learned at SMU.

“What I picked up about the world around me during that time helped shape my ideas and commitment to a better world, leading me to where I am now.”

*Learn more at [wellawareworld.org](http://wellawareworld.org).*

and legal industries and will lead the firm’s strategic marketing, communications and daily administrative operations.

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## 04

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**Austin Curry**, principal with Caldwell Cassady & Curry, a Dallas-based intellectual property and business litigation law firm, has been recognized among the state’s top young lawyers on the 2018 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomson Reuters. This is his fifth appearance on the list. Curry’s practice focuses on patent infringement disputes and complex commercial litigation. **Adam Rabinowitz** has joined Hornberger Fuller & Garza in San Antonio as shareholder in the firm’s real estate practice. For more than 13 years, he has represented clients in connection with the development, leasing, acquisition, financing and disposition of mixed-use, multifamily, industrial, office and retail developments across the nation. **Benson Varghese**, founder and managing partner of the law firm Varghese Summersett PLLC, has been named a 2017 Minority Leader in Business by the Fort Worth Business Press. A former prosecutor, Varghese started his practice three years ago with two attorneys in a small office. Today his firm is the largest criminal defense firm in Tarrant County.

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## 05

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**Alicia Booker** (M.A. ’13) has been appointed associate ombudsperson for the University of Cincinnati, a public research university in Ohio. The office serves the university’s 55,000 students, staff and faculty. She is completing her Ph.D. at Nova Southeastern University, and her research focuses on the study of conflict analysis in corporate and academic settings. She is an active member of the International Ombudsman Association and the American Bar Association Ombuds Committee.

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## 06

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**Alana Ackels**, an attorney with Bell Nunnally, was named to *D Magazine’s*

Best Lawyers Under 40 in Dallas list. She is a member of the firm’s Labor, Employment and Benefits and Litigation practices. Licensed in Texas and California, she has extensive experience litigating disputes in state and federal courts and arbitration. **Shawna Dalrymple**, a senior associate with Chamblee Ryan law firm, has been board certified in Consumer and Commercial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specializations. Her practice focuses on a wide variety of civil litigation, including medical malpractice, personal injury, premises and product liability, and veterinary malpractice. **W. Matthew Heaviside** and **Ross W. Calvin ’05** have launched QOOR, an artificial intelligence and blockchain company that deploys advanced cybersecurity, enterprise-grade hardware and institutional-grade investment technology in the cryptocurrency ecosystem. Learn more at [qoor.io](http://qoor.io).

**Allison Pfingstag Holaday** and Robert “Bobby” Louis Holaday, II were married on November 11, 2017, at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church in Dallas with a reception at The Adolphus Hotel. She is a registered dental hygienist with a Dallas dental practice. The newlyweds honeymooned in Portugal and Spain and currently reside in Dallas’ Lakewood neighborhood. **Katy Nassif** and **Charlie Vannoy** met as first-year students at Mustang Corral and were married on May 25, 2018. **Caitlin Negrón** concluded a 10-season run as a company dancer for Dance Kaleidoscope in Indianapolis. In her final performance last June, Negrón danced the part of the Bride in *Appalachian Spring*. Now retired from dancing, Negrón has joined Indy Convergence as its executive director. The organization connects professional artists with community engagement projects. **Emily Stroope** (J.D. ’09), an attorney with McGlinchey Stafford’s Dallas office, has been recognized among the state’s top young lawyers on the 2018 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomson Reuters. Her practice focuses on mortgage lending litigation and consumer financial services litigation for lenders, mortgage servicers, banks and other financial institutions.





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07

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**Jessica Palomo's** art was recently featured in *Arizona Foothills Magazine*, the *Phoenix New Times* and the *Paradise Valley Independent*. Her drawings and sculptures examine uncomfortable emotional states such as grief and trauma. Her work has been on exhibit at numerous galleries in Dallas and the Phoenix metropolitan area. **Joe Sturdivant** has been named the head coach of the Saarland Hurricanes, a team in the German Football League (GFL), an American-style football league with 31 teams throughout Europe. **Laurie-Leigh White** has been promoted to partner with BVA Group. She has been with the litigation, valuation and financial advisory firm for 10 years.

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08

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*Reunion chairs:* **KEVIN LAVELLE AND KATHERINE TULLOS**  
*Save the date:* **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Hayley B. Collins**, a family law attorney with GoransonBain, is recognized among the state's top young lawyers on the 2018 Texas Rising Stars list published by Thomason Reuters. She was named to the Up-and-Coming 100 list and the Up-and-Coming 50: 2018 Women Texas Rising Stars. She has earned the Rising Star designation for four consecutive years. **Jessica A. Sheridan** has been promoted to partner with Sidley Austin LLP law firm. She is a private equity lawyer in the firm's Dallas office, where she handles complex corporate and transactional matters.

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09

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**Kelly Davis** has joined the Dallas office of Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, the nation's largest healthcare-focused law firm. Her practice focuses on supporting medical malpractice defense and other healthcare-related litigation. **Sarah Nolen** recently became the resident artist at the

Puppet Showplace Theater in Brookline, Mass., and quickly debuted two projects – *Lisa the Wise*, an adaptation of the Baba Yaga story, and *The Fairy Tailor*. She also has performed for the *Pip's Island* show in New York, and as a puppeteer for the Boston Pops Orchestra, EnvisionFEST Hartford and The Out of Bounds Festival in Austin. Learn more at sarahnolen.com.

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10

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**Kelvin Beachum** (M.L.S. '12) was honored in May as an NFL player who represents the league's commitment to community service. Beachum is an offensive tackle for the New York Jets. In March, his \$100,000 gift to SMU's annual Civil Rights Pilgrimage renamed the trip the Dennis Simon Endowed Civil Rights Pilgrimage, in honor of the late political science professor. He serves on the executive boards of the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development and the Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering.

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11

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**Micah Figueroa** performed last summer in *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* at the Lookingglass Theatre Company in Chicago. Prior to this show, Figueroa's recent performances at other Chicago theaters include *Moby Dick*, *Tall Girl*, *Lightning Parade* and *The Winter Pageant*. **Lola Obamehinti** has been signed to the Reinhard Agency as a model and on-air talent.

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12

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**Derek Hubbard** was named one of *PR News'* Rising PR Stars 30 and Under. The award was presented at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. He is a member of the social business team at Southwest Airlines in Dallas. **Austen Swaim** recently began a new post in Ansbach, Germany, as an attorney at the U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach Legal Assistance Office. The U.S. Army veteran assists members of the USAG community with legal services, including military entitlement disputes, family law, estate planning, consumer

A graphic for SMU Young Alumni featuring a red silhouette of a horse in the top left corner. The text "CALLING ALL YOUNG ALUMNI" is in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, "Fry the Frogs is back!" is written in a white script font. At the bottom, "August 24 - September 7" and "SMU.EDU/FRYTHEFROGS" are in white capital letters. The background is dark blue with red flame-like patterns at the bottom.

CALLING ALL  
YOUNG ALUMNI  
*Fry the Frogs is back!*  
August 24 - September 7  
SMU.EDU/FRYTHEFROGS

law issues and tax preparation. **Alia Tavakolian** has transitioned from stage to studio. She is the co-founder and chief content officer of Spoke Media LLC, which produces audio books and podcasts. Tavakolian previously produced and directed independent theater in Dallas, and was among the creators of Dallas' popular Shakespeare in the Bar series. **Elizabeth Zamora** joined Wage-Works as a corporate communications specialist in Irving, Texas. She also served as chair for the Hispanic Alumni of SMU in 2017-18.

## 13

*Reunion chairs:* **WILLIAM BADARAK AND ALLISON BERESWILL**

*Save the date:* **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**Den Cralle** is the third generation of his family to helm Green Front Furniture in Farmville, Virginia, which has been named to *Furniture Today's* Top 100 Stores list. His recent innovations have included rebranding, a refreshed product mix, extensive building renovations and increased emphasis on Green Front as a shopping destination.

## 14

**Paul W. Bishop, III** is an associate attorney with the Sheena Law Firm in Houston, Texas. He practices commercial litigation.

## 15

**Lauren Castle** has joined *The Arizona Republic* as a reporter. Formerly, she was a digital producer at WATE-TV in Knoxville, Tennessee. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism with a minor in art history from SMU.

## 16

**Chandler Holms** launched Buyer's Marquee, a business-to-business app to make wholesale buying easier for retailers during markets. **Karoline Skatteboe** recently set a Guinness World Record

# A green childhood to a sustainable future: Adrienn Sánta '18

**Championship swimming skills** brought Adrienn Sánta from a small town in Hungary to SMU, but it's a little mobile greenhouse called "Evie" that helped her find her passion.

Sánta grew up in the 2,000-year-old town of Pecs in southwest Hungary, near Croatia. She started swimming at 4, and was doing so competitively by the time she was 8, ultimately winning both Hungarian and Croatian national championships.

She reached out to universities with swimming programs in the United States and started receiving offers. SMU Swim Coach Steven Collins offered her a full athletic scholarship, and Sánta swam on the women's teams that won the American Athletic Conference championship each of her first two years on the Hilltop.

While majoring in both mechanical engineering and math, Sánta encountered a the "Evie" project in the Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity in the Lyle School of Engineering. At the Hunt Institute, students and faculty combine research with practical, marketable applications to counter the effects of local and global poverty.

Evie is a mobile greenhouse built into the shell of an old Shasta camping trailer that serves as a laboratory for researching healthy food production for people living in food deserts – places that lack access to fresh fruits and vegetables. After Evie's exterior facelift in 2017, Hunt Institute planners knew that it would take design work to create reliable climate control for Evie and to maintain soil conditions for growing plants – particularly in the Texas heat. Sánta worked as a research assistant and an Engaged Learning fellow to collect data on heating and cooling systems in greenhouses.

Then, Sánta and a team of students analyzed the impact of heat absorption on the small, metal trailer, the potential for using solar power and the refrigeration cycle for this "greenhouse for good." The goal has been to find a sustainable (and that means affordable) solution for cooling small greenhouses, retrofitting tiny Evie for current use, and providing a climate control template for other small, mobile greenhouse solutions in communities looking to grow their own healthy foods.

Sánta knows exactly why Evie has given her so much joy: "This goes back to my childhood in Hungary – I grew up in a very sustainable environment. My Dad was all about sustainability, getting better insulation, making the house shadier. We didn't have an air conditioner at home, so making the house cooler in the summer is hard – but not impossible. We also have solar panels on our house, so we have a zero electricity bill. And my Mom – we produce our own vegetables and fruits in my grandma's garden and my great grandparents' garden.

Sánta, who earned bachelor's degrees in mechanical engineering from the Lyle School of Engineering and in math from Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, has landed a job she is excited about with Brandt, an engineering company that spells out its mission as "building a sustainable future for the communities we serve."



Adrienn Sánta works in "Evie," SMU's mobile greenhouse.

For more information: [smu.edu/mag18santa](http://smu.edu/mag18santa).





# Degrees fulfill lifelong dream

**Karly Zrake came to SMU** from her home in San Diego four years ago for one reason: SMU is one of only a handful of universities that offer an undergraduate degree in human rights.

She was discovering her life's passion at age 7, when the second-grader and her mother developed an educationally enriching program for students with special needs. By eighth grade, Zrake was raising money that would allow students with special needs to attend therapeutic music camps. And by high school, she was campaigning against bullying.

When Zrake collected B.A. degrees in human rights and anthropology from SMU in May 2018, it was obvious that following her dream delivered more than a diploma:

Her time at SMU earned her membership in six honor societies, four major scholarships and fellowships and leadership roles in a diverse mix of student groups.

She also was elected 2017 Homecoming Queen, and received the highest honor the University can bestow upon a student, the "M" Award. But according to Zrake, her crowning achievement was engaging in the empowering experiences offered by SMU's Embrey Human Rights Program.

She first visited SMU as a high school student to learn more about the Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences program's curricula and transformative study trips. "I was hooked from Day One," she says.

"I couldn't believe how friendly everyone was, and how the professors seemed genuinely interested in my future. I knew I wanted to be here."

SMU offered her a partial scholarship for academic excellence. While earning superior grades in her human rights and anthropology studies (focused primarily on gender and race), Zrake joined and networked within key student organizations and applied for every possible scholarship and job that would help her succeed.

She became the Embrey Human Rights Program's first student worker. About that time, the program was planning its first "America West" trip, a 10-day multi-state exploration of Native Americans' past and present human rights struggles. Zrake coordinated the entire trip.

Zrake's takeaway from the experience? "That the victor writes history, making it our duty as human rights advocates to share the other side," she said.

In 2015, Zrake earned another "first" when she was named the inaugural recipient of the Santos Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship, funded with support from Dallas' Latino Center for Leadership Development. The endowed scholarship pays tribute to 12-year-old Santos Rodriguez, who in 1973 was killed, Russian roulette-style, by a Dallas policeman hoping to coerce a confession from the boy for a petty crime a later investigation found he didn't commit.

Zrake also received other accolades, including a travel grant to go on the human rights program's cornerstone "Holocaust Poland" trip, and a visit to South Africa to undertake a gender-focused Engaged Learning research project.

In the meantime, "having a human rights degree is incredibly marketable," Zrake said. "Organizations are looking for people with high levels of cultural intelligence and community-work experience to help them excel in a more globally connected, socially conscious world."



Karly Zrake

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**Andy Embody** serves as account coordinator at Genesco Sports Enterprises, where he focuses on partnering clients with sports teams and leagues with an emphasis on event marketing and strategic sponsorships.

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**Ana Hagedorn** joins the Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company at the Dallas Theater Center. She will be a Linda and Bill Custard SMU Meadows Actor beginning with the 2018–19 season. Before receiving her M.F.A. degree, Hagedorn was an arts educator, teaching theater to young adults throughout the Midwest. She also taught undergraduates during her graduate studies at SMU. Among her most recent projects is the play *Let Me Talk My Dreams*, about theater legend Margo Jones, which Hagedorn wrote and performed in May at the Margo Jones Theatre at Fair Park. **Nathan De'Shon Myers** joined the School of Music at Arizona State University's Herberger Institute for Design and Arts as assistant professor of voice. Myers' 20-year career has included professional performances in opera, jazz and gospel, private voice instruction, classroom teaching, as well as leading teachers. He was the director of the music conservatory and head of opera studies at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, in Dallas. He has worked with more than a dozen opera companies and orchestras, including the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Dallas Opera, Tulsa Philharmonic, St. Louis Bach Society and Denver Symphony.

# In Memoriam

The following deaths were reported to SMU  
between 12/5/17 and 6/1/18:

'00 (Kidd-Key College)

**Thelma C. Jones** 10/28/84

'28 **Thomas W. Bray** 6/8/98

'29 **Mary Slaughter Johnson** 11/16/00

'30 **Virginia Bruce Elliston** '61 5/25/01

'36 **Sylvia Bachrach Lester** 3/21/18

Dr. **Ewart G. Watts** '80 11/3/17

'38 **Ardys Holdridge Burns** 12/6/16

'39 **Lionel E. Gilly** '49, '53 2/20/18

**Carl C. Gregory, Jr.** 1/29/18

'41 Dr. **Benjamin C. Bates** 1/6/18

**Dorothy Harris Carter** 2/14/18

**Nancy Fewell Merkle** 12/7/17

**George N. Zarafonitis** 2/18/18

'42 **Keith F. Walker** 2/16/18

**James M. Wooten** 12/29/17

'43 **Ruth Wilson Keeton** 12/13/17

Rev. **Thomas A. Webster** 12/23/05

'44 **Priscilla Matthews Gougler** 2/25/18

**Mary Jean Johnson Manning** 12/23/17

**William H. McAlpin** 1/17/18

'45 **Marian Nicoud Lohr** 3/12/18 **Joy Day**

**Russell** 7/26/14 **Catherine Burge**

**Wilson** 4/1/18

'46 **Doris Allen Dowell** 5/2/18 **Ivey Parker**

**Geiser** 1/29/18 **George J. Olewnick**

3/30/18 **Joe Ann Monzingo Schultz**

12/1/17 Dr. **Betty McKnight Speairs** '47

2/11/18 **Alice Webb Spradley** 1/9/18

**Elizabeth Oram Thorne** 4/25/18

'47 **James E. Coleman** 1/27/13 Dr. **Gustave**

**L. Hoehn, Jr.** 11/7/17 **Mary James**

**McKellar** 4/27/18 Dr. **Charles W.**

**Simpson, II** 4/23/18 Col. **John M.**

**Terry, Jr.** 3/5/18 **Charles E. Watts**

1/12/18

'48 **Charles S. Atkinson** 8/21/16 **John W.**

**Benbow** 12/6/17 **Mary Kindley Cobb**

11/2/16 **Mary Porter Cofer** 5/6/18

**Andrew L. Dickerson, Jr.** 9/18/10

Rev. **Edwin B. Dodson** 5/18/18 **Mary**

**Bybee Henderson** 1/27/18 **Albert**

**E. Key** 1/5/18 **Walter J. Long** 1/3/18

**Dorothy Watkins Martyn** 1/22/18

**Georgia Schenewerk Pitts** 1/27/18

**Mary Gibbons Short** 2/4/18 Rev. **Clare**

**G. Weakley, Jr.** '67 4/7/18 **Eugenia**

**Millikan Winget** 2/25/17

'49 **Arthur J. Cofer** '60 10/23/13 **Glynn C.**

**Collins, Sr.** 2/3/18 **Edgar R. Crissey**

12/4/17 **James V. DeFord, Jr.** 12/5/17

**Henry F. Dial, Jr.** 5/11/18 **John G.**

**Farmer** '66 4/14/18 Rev. Dr. **James T.**

**Garrett** '52 3/11/18 **John E. Hamberger**

12/12/17 **Dulcie Waskom Helm** 12/20/17

**Oras N. Jackson** 4/2/18 **Helen Brown**

**Jenkins** 4/28/18 **Thurman L. Loveless**

1/11/18 **Calvin A. Loving** 9/6/17 **Charles**

**V. Mercer** 1/29/18 **David E. Moon** 1/12/18

**Warren P. New** 3/6/18 **Robert I. Prewitt**

'51 5/3/18 **John F. Rasco** 3/25/18

**Kathryn Coke Rienhoff** 3/23/16 **Taylor**

**B. Scalf, Jr.** 4/16/18 **Kathryn Hedge**

**Sneed** 7/19/13 Rev. **Robert C. Sneed**

8/15/07 **O'Banion Williams, Jr.** 1/28/18

'50 Rev. **Robert E. Breihan** 11/4/17 **Patricia**

**Powell Fleming** 3/25/18 **James G.**

**Hailey, Jr.** 12/11/17 **Paul L. Hathaway, Jr.**

1/6/18 **Jay G. Hauteman, Sr.** 11/27/17

Rev. **William J. Hodge** 2/25/18 **Richard**

**H. Jordan** 12/22/17 **Earl E. Murphy, Sr.**

1/14/18 Dr. **Charles W. Nichol** 2/23/18

Dr. **John W. O'Banion, Jr.** 4/13/18

**Walter L. Robertson** 2/27/18 **William**

**G. Stevenson** 4/18/18 **Charles E. Terry**

12/16/17

'51 **Barbara Payne Dixon** 5/7/18 **Elmira**

**Phillips Finken** 4/20/18 Dr. **Raymond**

**R. Gibbons** 12/11/17 **Barbara Henderson**

**Green** 12/18/17 **Loren N. Hesla** 9/20/17

**Celwyn E. Hopkins** 2/5/09 **Jasper F.**

**McCoy** 5/10/18 **Melba Roddy McKnight**

2/28/18 **Elizabeth Setzer Morrow**

4/22/18 Dr. **John M. Newell** 6/11/17

**William V. Phillips** 2/1/18 **Richard E.**

**Ray** 4/12/18 **Walter F. Raymond** 5/4/18

**Harold C. Rector** 3/26/18 Dr. **James E.**

**Redfield, Sr.** 12/27/17 Rev. **Charles H.**

**Richardson** 12/7/11 Dr. **Dwane Russell**

'52 1/15/18 **Sammie Williams Russell**

8/31/13 **Hughston Thomas** '53 3/7/18

**Edward W. Wallof** 2/17/18 **Charles S.**

**Wilhite** 2/2/18

'52 **Leldon R. Blackmon** 12/18/17

Rev. **Edward C. Coley** 6/27/17 **Willa**

**Stone Darr** 2/11/18 Rev. **Hobart R.**

**Hildyard** 9/28/17 **Ruth White Howe**

11/18/17 **Martha Tannery Jones** 12/31/17

**JoAnna Roan Kaspar** 11/10/17 **Claire E.**

**O'Brien** 11/19/17 **Julia Dixon Ramseur**

5/8/18 Rev. **Charles E. Runk** 7/11/17

**Hannah Daniel Scanlon** 1/13/18 **Bill**

**D. St. John** 3/16/18 **James H. Walker**

9/20/17 Rev. Dr. **Bob E. Waters** 3/17/18

'53 **Peter Evans, Jr.** 11/29/17 **Clarence T.**

**Goolsby** 2/12/18 **Mildred Ellis Hester**

1/3/18 Dr. **Donald S. Hoge** 1/12/18

**J.C. Ledbetter** 4/10/18 **Ocelia Perkins**

**McLean** 9/26/17 **Elizabeth Jernigan**

**Sensabaugh** 5/7/18 **Robert D. Shoulders**

12/24/17 **Carolyn Briggs Yancy** 12/7/17

'54 **Charles A. Barns** 12/15/17 **Richard C.**

**Bernet** 2/4/18 **John I. Blue, Sr.** 2/26/18

**Daniel M. Davis** 1/21/18 Dr. **William**

**R. Fisher, Sr.** 11/6/17 **Tom F. Hughston**

2/24/18 **Patsy Pinson Hutchison**

5/15/18 **Elizabeth Pittman Lyons** 3/8/18

**William A. Martin** 2/27/18 **Walton**

**S. Miller, Sr.** 1/22/18 Rev. **Charles H.**

**Smith** 3/4/18 Rev. **Jack L. Woodward**

2/23/18

'55 Judge **Maurice E. Amidei** '66 11/3/17

**Willis F. Brown** 5/12/18 **Charles A.**

**Crow, Jr.** 2/25/18 **Alice Hughes Elshy**

10/4/17 **John K. England** '59 5/11/18

**David L. Florence** 2/18/18 **John**

**T. Gordon** 1/29/18 **Dorothy Bayer**

**Kennington** 5/29/18 **Mary Ann Kendall**

**King** 12/25/14 Rev. Dr. **Guy R. Payne**

9/12/16 **Fletcher M. Pool** 11/10/17 **Jerry**

**N. Rumley, Sr.** 1/19/18 Dr. **Jesse San**

**Miguel** 2/10/18 **Carlene Newland Wiese**

1/9/18 **Richard E. Wrangle** 4/7/14

'56 **Martin Beckerman** 12/17/17 **Arthur J.**

**Ewers** 9/22/17 **Joseph W. Gordon** 3/2/18

**Orrin H. Hamblin** 3/17/18 Rev. **Carlos**

**E. Martin** 1/28/18 **John H. McElhaney**

'58 1/27/18 **Millard D. Noell** 3/4/18 **Pete**

**A. Peabody, Sr.** 5/6/18 Rev. Dr. **Robert**

**L. Potter** 9/4/17 **Kay Sherwood** 9/4/17

**Serita Hamilton Yeager** 5/8/18

'57 Dr. **Bertie Naylor Acker** 3/19/10

**Carole Banks Boss** 5/2/18 **Walter A.**

**Drexel** 3/21/18 **Alvin C. Fox** 2/11/15

**Paul A. Hope** 5/28/18 **Patricia B. Kyle**







# In Memoriam

- 9/28/17 **Julia Anne Carstarphen Mighell** 2/19/18 Rev. **Russell E. Owen** 11/20/17 **Aubrey L. Reese, Jr.** 5/10/18 **Jere D. Turner** 3/7/18 Dr. **Robert D. Vandermeer** 3/27/18 **Homer W. Wile** 3/15/12
- '58 **Charles E. Ames** 2/3/18 **William F. Bowles** 3/28/18 **Don W. Bumgarner** 5/9/18 Judge **Don M. Dean** 12/11/15 Rev. **William D. Elliott** 5/6/18 Dr. **Jo L. Fleming** 3/19/18 **Howell N. Forman, Jr.** 3/3/18 **Raleigh L. Harvey** 4/8/18 Rev. **Robert W. Noever** 1/23/18 **Elvia Murphy Tipple** '60 1/15/17 **Henry A. Turner** 3/15/18 Dr. **Robert D. Youmans** 2/17/18
- '59 Rev. **James D. Bales** 2/10/18 Rev. Dr. **Robert D. Barrett, Sr.** '60, '75 3/28/18 Rev. Dr. **Jack C. Bush, Sr.** 12/26/17 **Gail Smith Denman** 2/21/18 Rev. **Adrian G. Edgar** 1/27/18 Rev. **Burton L. Hoag** 3/10/18 Rev. **James Y. Horton** 12/13/17 **Jerrold D. Kelly** 5/4/18 **David A. Ladymon** 2/19/18 **Laura P. Lodewick** 5/25/18 **Linda Severin McCreary** 11/11/17 **William C. Milam** 1/10/18 **Jack W. Morris** 12/26/17 **Donald R. Porth** '65 3/24/18 Dr. **George A. Richards** 4/11/18 Rev. Dr. **Royce P. Robb** 2/8/18 **Mark A. Troy, Jr.** '62 12/7/17 **Sally Marshall Weems** 1/31/18 **Sicily Sterling Williams** 3/5/18
- '60 **Thomas E. Armstrong** 1/16/18 **Robert R. Bradshaw** 1/14/18 **William L. Broliar** 3/5/18 **Stuart A. Capers** 4/27/18 **George T. Conner** 1/20/18 **John D. Crawford** 2/19/18 **Kenneth W. Dusek** 3/6/18 **Robert L. Furr** 5/7/18 **Wendel C. Harrison** '65 2/12/18 **James T. Hill** 11/15/17 **Caryl Ennis MacLeod** 4/8/18 **Carolyn R. Parker** 1/21/18 **Joe O. Shirley** 12/17/12 **Lee M. Yokum** 3/15/18
- '61 **Lucy Bryan Barlow** 12/31/17 **Sandra Laputz Benski** 11/25/17 **Weldon D. Burson** 4/3/18 **William W. Coyle** 2/2/18 Rev. **Robert E. Eades** 12/4/17 Hon. **Betty S. Goolsby** 3/21/17 **John D. Hodge** 12/15/17 **Jimmie W. Huffhines** 12/30/17
- Edwin R. Jones** 12/20/17 **James B. McGuffin** 2/25/18 **Lora Garretson Trimble** 12/22/17 **Michael K. Tubbs** 9/26/17 **Jerry B. Williamson, III** '65 12/16/17 **Maxie H. Wilson** 6/10/10
- '62 **Hubert J. Brasseaux, Sr.** 12/6/17 **Thomas H. Brookman, Jr.** 11/25/17 **John S. Crockett** 12/14/16 **John M. Fisher** 4/23/18 **Billy G. Hays** 12/23/16 **Donald J. Malouf** 12/12/17 **Aaron W. Mertz** 1/29/18 **Don H. Nix** 7/14/17 **Jim K. Parr** 12/22/17 **Robert L. Spencer** 12/11/17 **Margaret A. Taylor** 11/11/16
- '63 Rev. **Thomas A. Abney** 4/22/18 **Joseph R. Binford** 7/12/06 Dr. **David A. Burba** 11/25/17 Hon. **Burnett M. Frazer, Jr.** 8/3/14 **Catherine Farleigh Haley** 9/13/17 **Paul Hashfield** 2/17/18 **Fernando Labastida** 1/11/18 **Mary Myers Palmer** 12/19/17 **Mark R. Pharr, Jr.** 2/6/18 Dr. **Roy E. Robbins** 4/7/18 **Edward V. Smith, III** 3/16/18 Dr. **Glenn D. Weimer** 1/11/18
- '64 **William F. Baker** 12/20/17 **Harless R. Benthul** 1/24/18 **Curtis E. Burson** 11/26/17 Rev. **Rex M. Carleton** '72 11/25/15 **Ruth Ann Elmer Dusek** 10/1/17 **Searcy M. Ferguson, Jr.** 3/8/18 Rev. **Clarence G. Fuller, Jr.** 4/8/18 **Peter H. Lengemann** 6/25/17 **Douglas D. Mulder** 1/14/18 **Ruth DeBord Rayner** '67 2/25/18 **Otis W. Templer, Jr.** 5/8/18
- '65 **Malcolm Anderson, Sr.** 11/20/17 **William D. Clark, Sr.** 9/15/17 **Donna Zern Foster** 2/15/18 **Carol Graham Hairston** 1/27/18 **William H. Hites** 3/4/18 **Lawrence J. Ikels** 2/28/18 **Darrell V. Smith** 5/6/18 Rev. **James M. Speights, Jr.** 2/10/18 **Marion J. Watts** 1/3/18
- '66 **James W. Campbell** 5/11/18 **Toni Pearce Cline** 11/17/17 Dr. **Nancy Seale Coll** 4/14/18 **Rosemary Bobo Curtis** 1/19/18 Col. **Howard L. Farmer, Jr.** 3/1/16 **Herbert C. Friess, Jr.** 1/17/18 **Lawrence J. Harrington** 3/19/18 **Kenneth S. Hartman** 3/3/18 **Roger J. Reith** 2/10/18 **John R. Tarrillion** 9/3/17 **Jeffrey P. Thomas** 2/28/18
- '67 **George L. Cryer** 4/20/18 **William C. Fowler** 12/28/17 **Aubra Jackson Frauman** '71 4/4/08 **Josephine Schramm Gribble** 11/30/17 **Frederick H. Marshall, Jr.** 3/13/18 **Allen R. Morris** 5/20/18 Dr. **Peter W. Odgers** 1/20/18
- '68 Dr. **Cliff W. Hemming, Jr.** '71 2/17/16 **Susan E. Lloyd** 1/3/18 **Jeane Olson Robbeloth** 3/2/17 Dr. **Dan H. Robertson** 9/24/17 **Susan Mary Wisenbaker Spies** '70 11/25/17
- '69 Dr. **Harry R. Barnard** 2/25/18 **Donald R. Beckmann** 3/23/16 Hon. **Charles F. Campbell, Jr.** 2/7/18 **Albert L. Jeffreys** 1/1/18 **Marilyn S. Lawrence** 1/12/18 **Benjamin R. McMullin** 12/14/17 **Charles E. Moore** 12/2/17 **Judith Smith Pannier** 2/28/18 Dr. **Theodore C. Robbins** '71 1/9/18 **Letitia A. Simmons** 3/27/18 **Marion F. Thomas** 4/9/18 Rev. **Jack Worsham** 11/18/17
- '70 **Donald E. Carter** 3/9/18 **Robert W. Clay** 11/24/17 **Candis Zee Erskine** 4/19/18 **Susan A. Lewis** 3/23/18 **Marie Chambers Lodowski** 12/24/17 **Linda Parsley McVean** 4/28/18 **David D. Salmon, Jr.** 1/15/18
- '71 **Stavros Cademenos** 4/29/18 **Hugh Corrigan, IV** '75 5/7/18 **Elizabeth Smith Darnall** '84 12/21/17 **Linda Bellamy Marquis** 5/5/18 Dr. **Michael C. McClintock** '75 12/19/17 **Nonette E. O'Donnell** 4/4/18 **Muriel C. Swann-Smith** 5/15/18
- '72 **Theodore L. Bayless** 11/25/16 Rev. **Peter R. Bird** 12/24/17 **Constance L. Davis** 4/8/10 **Richard L. Hegna** 5/13/18 **Consuelo Urquiza Iriondo** 11/25/06 **David B. James** 1/17/18 **Stevan H. Ward** 12/24/17 **Joe B. Whisler** 12/27/17
- '73 **Louis H. Best, III** 3/24/18 **Frank L. Breedlove** 1/25/18 **James E. Byrne, Jr.** 1/25/17 **Robert J. Henry, Jr.** 8/11/16 **David L. Johnston** 1/25/18 **Dana Hawkins Masinton** 2/18/18 **John M. Reed, Jr.** '77 4/16/18 **Robert W. Rozeboom** 5/28/18 **Robert L. Seay** 3/9/18



'74 **Ronnie R. Bates** 3/26/18 **James O. Cary** 1/11/18 **Burton I. Cohen** 9/17/17 **Richard E. Crowley, Sr.** 5/24/18 **Helene Cohen Greenwald** 4/28/18 **Carey Blackwell Wallace** 12/22/17 **Jeffrey A. Wise** 1/13/18

'75 **Robert C. Bradford** '76, '77 12/17/17 **Patricia W. Davidson** 4/5/18 **Louis J. Gaker** 1/27/18 **Michael B. Herrington** 11/23/17 Judge **Donald Higginbotham** '78 2/27/18 **Ray J. Matthews** 1/18/18 **Robert N. Ross** 2/14/18 Rev. **Pamela Hillis Theodore** '96 5/2/18 **Stephen M. Wiener** 12/6/17 **Ronald F. Yates** 3/3/18

'76 Rev. **Robert E. Cavanaugh** 2/9/18 **Harold R. Inman** 1/2/18 **Randolph G. Petch** 3/28/18 Rev. **Elvin B. Read** 4/19/18 **Glenn T. Shelby** 12/8/17

'77 Dr. **Edward Atkinson, III** 2/22/18 **Betty Grimes Davis** 9/27/17 **Jackie Nichols Deaton** 11/22/17 **Elizabeth M. Hunt** 4/8/09 **Stephen W. Kerr** 2/7/18 **Phyllis Weaver Kuster** 11/27/17 **Wayne O. Simpson** 9/14/17 **Dewey E. Tullis** 9/15/95

'78 **Lawanda Carter Branum** 2/10/15 **George L. Cottingham, III** 11/21/17 **David A. DuPriest** 1/9/18 **Debra Brizzolara Ghitini** 4/19/18 **Frank C. Hider, Jr.** 1/30/18 **William R. Saucedo, Jr.** 2/23/18 **Warren C. Smith** 3/14/18 **Helen R. Wyatt** 1/26/18

'79 **Mary Gautier Dyson** '80 11/9/17 **Phyllis Bywaters Singer** 1/17/18 **Ann Barnes Wilkinson** 4/24/18

'80 **William H. Cantrell, Jr.** 4/12/18 **Russell L. Farabee** 12/30/17 **Talford W. Graham** 4/29/18 **William D. Hardin** 12/18/17 **Paul R. Hudek** 4/30/18 **Lief K. Rasmussen** 12/11/17 **Kenneth A. Thomas** 1/30/18 **Scott T. Welch** 1/21/18 Dr. **Stephen J. Zimmerman** 12/29/17

'81 **Marita Dolezal Sanderson** 2/10/18

'82 Rev. **Timothy C. O'Connor-Slater** 10/23/05 Dr. **Joe W. Saunders** '86 9/4/17

'83 **William C. Barlow** 3/30/18 **Jennifer K. Cameron** 12/6/17 **Leslie Watson Fluegel** 2/13/18 **Andrew J. Hinsdale** 9/24/17

**Ann Veninga Kramer** 1/19/15 Dr. **Bobby G. McPeak** 2/23/18 Dr. **Craig M. Nosal** 5/4/18 **Marshall J. Wurts** 1/8/16

'85 **Charles K. Ingalls** 9/6/13 **Robert C. Kohler, III** 11/28/17 **Laurie J. Sandefer** 1/23/18 **Stephen A. Youngman** 5/14/18

'86 **Sheila G. Combs-Francis** 1/6/18 Rev. **Susan K. Daniel-Brey** 4/23/18 **Edward C. Gilliam** 3/9/18 **Victor J. Medina, II** 2/1/18

'87 **Andrea Papas Cutting** 3/26/18 Rev. **Kaye H. Evans** 3/19/18 **Randi Stenn Levin** 5/15/10 **Kirsten Otto Sheets** 2/5/18 **Sally Imel Story** 9/29/17

'88 **Ellen Goyne Bradley** 12/9/17 Col. **Lewis C. Burwell, III** 2/24/18 **Michael J. Luther** 4/8/18 **Wesley J. Mikel** 4/27/18 **Anthony A. Thompson** 1/27/18

'89 Dr. **Shannon Holmgren Rivenes** 4/24/17

'90 **Marshal C. Peterson** 8/13/17

'91 Rev. **Scott A. Dornbush** 2/13/18

'93 **Paul C. Webb** 4/24/18

'94 **Joseph B. Horwitz** 11/3/17

'95 **Maurice P. Collins, Jr.** '98 4/29/18 Rev. **Julia A. Halstead** 4/8/18 **Richard F. Leggio** 12/29/17

'96 **Victor M. Gonzalez** 4/7/18 **Michael G. Mahan** 12/9/17 Rev. **Linda G. McCormick** 1/26/18 **Frida Elufa Williams** 9/23/17

'98 **Kara L. Kunkel** 1/1/17 **Robert M. McDonald** 12/26/17

'99 **Mark A. Krieger** 5/4/18 **Cheryl Grandt Luerssen** 11/22/17 **Michael J. Williams** 8/9/15

'03 **William B. Doppelt** 10/27/13 **Stewart T. Lang** 4/5/18

'05 **Kirby H. Jackson, III** 12/19/17 **Sean M. Kelley** 1/31/18

'06 **Christian R. Koshinski** 1/2/18 **Daniel L. Rucker** 2/3/17 **Elie A. Ghannoum** 1/6/18

'11 **Yasser Ghanbari** 2/22/18

'13 Rev. **Allen T. Zugelter** 1/3/18

'15 **Matthew D. Harbin** 4/2/18

'16 **Trevor N. Cadigan** 3/11/18

## SMU Community

**William Beauchamp**, professor *emeritus* of world languages and literatures, 2/08/18

**Nora Katherine Bilton** '44, retired staff member, Cox School of Business, 7/09/18

**Richard A. Briesch**, professor of marketing, Cox School of Business, 4/08/18

**Rebecca Buchanan Brimmage**, first-year student, 12/27/17

**Matthew "Matt" Burroughs**, Master's of Divinity student, Perkins School of Theology, 3/08/18

**Dan W. Cook**, former SMU Trustee (1992-2004), 1/25/18

**Kent Hornbostel**, associate professor of theoretical physics, 2/09/18

**Patsy Pinson Hutchison** '54, SMU-in-Taos benefactor, 5/15/18

**William B. Jordan**, founding director of Meadows Museum and former chair of fine art, Meadows School of the Arts, 1/22/18

**John W. Nieto** '59, former SMU Trustee (1992-96), 7/11/18

**Robert I. "Bob" Prewitt**, former SMU basketball player and coach, 5/03/18

**Campbell Brittan Read**, professor *emeritus* of statistical science, 4/25/18

**Gary Shultz**, director of online media relations and communications, SMU Public Affairs, 4/05/18

**Mandyam Srinath**, professor *emeritus* of electrical engineering, 1/10/18

**Vigdor "Vic" Teplitz**, professor *emeritus* of physics, 12/14/17



# Meadows Museum Dreaming Big With Gala

**SMU's Meadows Museum is holding "The Color of Dreams" gala** October 13 to raise funds to endow a director of education position. Mark Roglán, the Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum, spoke to *SMU Magazine* about the museum's educational mission and about what makes this gala special.

## **Q. What role does a director of education play in the life of Meadows Museum?**

Education directors know how to interpret the art and make it resonate with so many different audiences – from scholars to children to adults to people with disabilities. They generate all the tours, programming, lectures and educational infrastructure, and are knowledgeable about the permanent collections as well as visiting exhibitions. They work with departments throughout the University and collaborate with institutions throughout the world.

## **Q. How will Meadows Museum use this new endowment?**

This endowment will ensure strong leadership of the Museum's education and outreach efforts in perpetuity, establishing a healthy financial base from which to recruit and retain the highest-quality staff and allowing the Museum to direct more resources toward its exceptional programming endeavors. Endowment of the director of education position, currently held by Scott Winterrowd, will liberate funds used now to cover his salary to enable us to expand and better focus our offerings for our SMU audiences. With the allocation of resources toward campus partnerships, we can ensure that large portions of SMU students are engaging in learning at the Museum and can create new initiatives that forward the mission of the Museum and University.

## **Q. What educational outreach does the Museum do?**

It annually hosts thousands of visitors, teachers, K-12 and SMU students through symposia, lectures, workshops, gallery talks and guided tours.



Mark Roglán, the Linda P. and William A. Custard Director of the Meadows Museum.

Additionally, it has received recognition for its accessible programming and resources that welcome audiences of all abilities, with a particular focus on adults with early stage dementia and their care partners, and visitors who are blind or have low vision. For many school students who come through the Museum, it's the first time they've stepped on a campus or visited a fine arts museum.

One of our most recent outreach projects held in June was "A Day at the Beach," inspired by the late 19th-century seascapes of Mariano Fortuny y Marsal and William Merritt Chase that are now on display. The free day open to the community included a watercolor lab, gallery talks, storytellers, sand dough station and more. More than 450 people came to the event.

## **Q. What is the connection between the upcoming Dalí exhibit and the gala?**

The gala's theme, "The Color of Dreams," is inspired by the art of Salvador Dalí, whose Surrealist paintings will be on view during this time in the exhibition *Dalí: Poetics of the Small, 1929-1936* (September 9-December 9). The Surrealist movement sought to allow a person's unconscious to express itself, and was strongly influenced by the work of Sigmund Freud and his technique of dream analysis. On a side note: Dalí



Pilar Henry (left) and Peggy Sewell, chair and honorary chair, respectively, for the Meadows Museum's inaugural gala this fall.

came to campus in 1952, invited by SMU and Temple Emanu-El, and gave a lecture on mysticism at McFarlin Auditorium. This will be one of the largest exhibitions ever done on Dalí in Dallas. Meadows is the only museum in Texas that owns a Dalí painting.

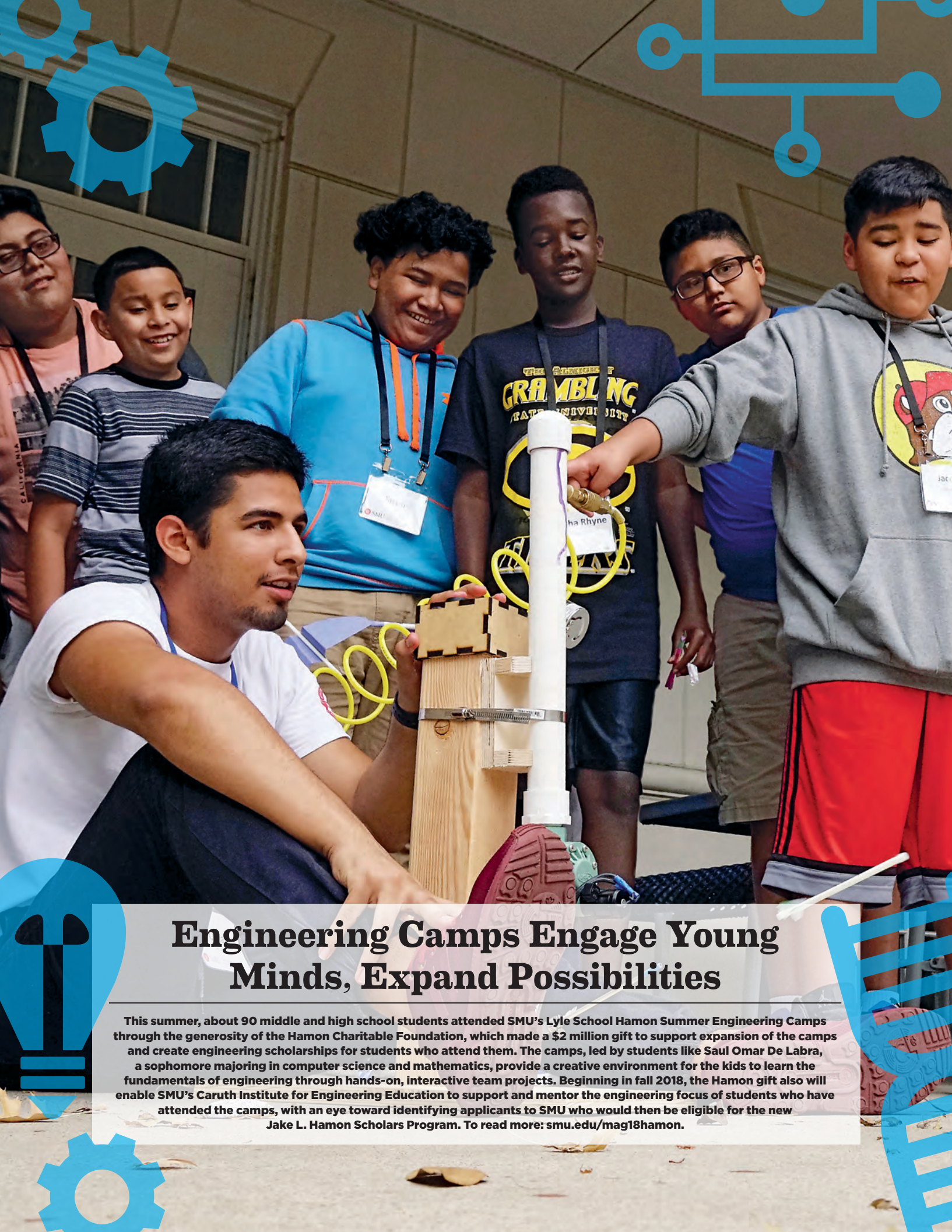
## **Q. What will be special about this gala?**

It's our first! After more than 50 years of growth, during which we've expanded our collection, our building's footprint, staff and influence within the art world, we are ready to take the next step and begin fundraising for an even greater future.

The gala will be chaired by Pilar Henry, with Peggy '72 and Carl Sewell '66 serving as honorary chairs. With decor by Fleurt by Margaret Ryder, the black-tie event will kick off with a cocktail reception on the plaza featuring dance performances by SMU students and an exclusive musical performance, followed by a seated dinner in the Museum's galleries catered by Cassandra Fine Catering. After dinner, the evening will continue with live music by Cuvee and dancing. It will be very special to dine with Velázquez, Goya, Picasso, Miró and Dalí.

*To buy tickets to the gala, or to support this endowment through a donation, visit [meadowsmuseumdallas.org/gala](http://meadowsmuseumdallas.org/gala).*





## Engineering Camps Engage Young Minds, Expand Possibilities

This summer, about 90 middle and high school students attended SMU's Lyle School Hamon Summer Engineering Camps through the generosity of the Hamon Charitable Foundation, which made a \$2 million gift to support expansion of the camps and create engineering scholarships for students who attend them. The camps, led by students like Saul Omar De Labra, a sophomore majoring in computer science and mathematics, provide a creative environment for the kids to learn the fundamentals of engineering through hands-on, interactive team projects. Beginning in fall 2018, the Hamon gift also will enable SMU's Caruth Institute for Engineering Education to support and mentor the engineering focus of students who have attended the camps, with an eye toward identifying applicants to SMU who would then be eligible for the new Jake L. Hamon Scholars Program. To read more: [smu.edu/mag18hamon](http://smu.edu/mag18hamon).



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### Connecting To Their World

Randall L. Stephenson, chairman and CEO of AT&T, spoke at SMU's 103rd Commencement ceremony May 19 in Moody Coliseum, when SMU awarded more than 2,500 degrees. Stephenson told graduates to use technology mindfully: "Today's technology is amazing. It can be a tool for discovery, critical thinking and knowledge. But it can also create well-marked trails to narrow-mindedness and even extremism. Don't allow these tools to become your surrogate for discovery, but use them to open your mind to new ideas." To view the Commencement address: [smu.edu/mag18stephenson](http://smu.edu/mag18stephenson).

