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## **HEART O' TEXAS FAIR & RODEO AWARDS \$143K IN SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Waco, TX (May 18, 2018)** – The Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo awarded \$143,000 in scholarships to 48 Central Texas students for the 2017-18 academic year. This continues the Fair & Rodeo's tradition and mission of giving back through youth scholarships.

Wednesday night, students and their families attended the organization's Scholar Recognition Banquet, underwritten by Bailey Insurance & Risk Management, Inc. Students receiving scholarships represented the following schools: Axtell, Blooming Grove, Bremond, China Spring, C.H. Yoe, Connally, Crawford, Groesbeck, Holland, Lorena, Mart, MCC, McGregor, Midway, Penelope, Robinson, Rogers, Rosebud-Lott, Salado, TSTC, Waco and West.

The Top Scholar of the evening was Phoebe Park from Midway High School who received a scholarship in the amount of \$15,000. The Reserve Top Scholar was Faith Butler from Robinson High School and she received a \$10,000 scholarship.

"This is one of my favorite nights of the year," commented CEO and President Wes Allison. "We are pleased to award these deserving students with scholarships as this is a core part of our mission here at the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo."

Through the TSTC match scholarship program, 42-year-old Maximino Carrillo and military veteran Victor Castana were awarded scholarships in the amount of \$2500 each along with several other TSTC students.

"I will use this scholarship to its fullest," stated Maximino Carrillo. "I want to be an example to my kids and others who think it's too late to follow their dreams."

These scholarships are part of the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo's annual commitment of providing scholarships to Central Texas students which is made possible thanks to our sponsors and volunteers. Each year our volunteer committees spend countless hours raising money through various fundraisers to contribute to this fund. Since its beginning, the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo has committed more than \$3 million to the youth of Central Texas.

The Extraco Events Center, home of the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo, is the center of entertainment in Central Texas. Its mission is to produce events for education, entertainment and agricultural experiences while giving back through youth scholarships. The premier facilities host over 225 events with an attendance of 420,000 and a \$47 million economic impact annually. The 2018 Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo will be held October 4–13. For more information about the Extraco Events Center, visit [ExtracoEventsCenter.com](http://ExtracoEventsCenter.com). For more information about the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo, visit [hotfair.com](http://hotfair.com).

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