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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

\$153K AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE HEART O' TEXAS FAIR & RODEO

Waco, TX (May 16, 2019) – The Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo awarded \$153,000 in scholarships to 48 Central Texas students for the 2018-19 academic year. This continues the Fair & Rodeo's tradition and mission of giving back through youth scholarships.

Thursday night, students and their families attended the organization's Scholar Recognition Banquet, underwritten by Alliance Bank Central Texas. Students receiving scholarships represented the following schools: Belton, Bosqueville, Bremond, Brenham, Bryan, C.H. Yoe, China Spring, Clifton, Connally, Copperas Cove, Covenant Homeschool Academy, Elgin, Gatesville, Gateway College Preparatory, Groesbeck, Hamilton, Hendrickson, Holland, Hubbard, Lorena, Mart, McGregor, Meridian World School, Reicher Catholic, Riesel, Robinson, St. Dominic Savio Catholic, St. Paul, TSTC, Texas Tech, Waco, West and Whitney.

The Top Scholar of the evening was Laynie Grisham from Connally High School who received the Top Scholar and Board of Directors Scholarship in the amount of \$15,000. The Reserve Top Scholar was Halee Wise from Waco High School and she received the Reserve Top Scholar and Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Scholarship for \$10,000. Both the Top and Reserve Top Scholar were also Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Sweethearts.

"We are honored to announce these scholarships for these very deserving students," commented CEO and President Wes Allison. "Providing scholarships to the youth in this area is a core part of our mission here at the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo. And we wish these students the best of luck in their future education and hope to see some or all of them come back to the Central Texas area to build their careers and futures after they finish their education."

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. For more information about the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo, visit hotfair.com.

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