

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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"Excellence Every Day...No Alibis, No Excuses"

Thursday, May 23, 2013

The Best Southwest Partnership Announces Its Inaugural City Scholarship Awards Luncheon

*Member Cities Mayors to Award Students, Chancellor Lee F. Jackson of UNT
System to serve as speaker*

Lancaster, TX/Lancaster ISD

The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the City of Lancaster and the Lancaster Independent School District will host the inaugural Best Southwest Scholarship Awards Luncheon on Thursday, May 30 from 11:30 a.m. -1 p.m. at the MCM Grandé Hotel located at 1515 N. I-35E, DeSoto, TX 75115. Chancellor Lee F. Jackson of the University of North Texas System will serve as the guest speaker for the luncheon.

The BSW Scholars Luncheon will honor 11 students with scholarships from 11 BSW Communities. The BSW Partnership Area encompasses 200 miles, with more than 250,000 citizens, and 50,000 students in 7 school districts. There will be 11 Mayors on the dais during the luncheon representing all 11 communities.

For the city of Lancaster, the Honorable Marcus E. Knight will join Superintendent Dr. Michael D. McFarland to celebrate Rashodricke A. Allen of Lancaster High School as the local chamber's scholarship recipient.

Mayors from the cities in the Best Southwest Area will honor a student scholar from their district as the first recipients of the Best Southwest Partnership Academic Scholarship. Prior to this event, each mayor and school district officials selected one 2013 graduating high school senior to receive the scholarship for their city based on their academic transcript and performance, college entrance exam scores, a personal essay and promotional video submission.

A complete list of the 2013 Best Southwest Partnership scholarship recipients is as follows:

Cedar Hill - **Kairon Stewart**, Cedar Hill High School, resides in Cedar Hill, TX
DeSoto – **Cortevios Allen**, DeSoto High School, resides in DeSoto, TX
Duncanville – **Ana Estrada**, Duncanville High School, resides in Duncanville, TX
Lancaster – **Rashodricke A. Allen**, Lancaster High School, resides in Lancaster, TX

Ferris – **Allison Samantha Juarez**, Ferris High School, resides in Ferris, TX
Glenn Heights – **CaVone Moore**, DeSoto High School, resides in Glenn Heights, TX
Hutchins – **Alexis Garcia**, Wilmer-Hutchins High School, resides in Hutchins, TX
Midlothian – **Benjamin Charles Keener**, Midlothian High School, resides in Midlothian, TX
Ovilla – **Whitney Elizabeth Bond**, Ovilla Christian School, resides in Ovilla, TX
Red Oak – **Victoria Streno** - Red Oak High School, resides in Red Oak, TX
Wilmer – **Maria G. Mijares**, Wilmer-Hutchins High School, resides in Wilmer, TX

*For more information contact:
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About the Best Southwest Partnership:

The Best Southwest Partnership is a cooperative effort among the communities of Cedar Hill, De Soto, Duncanville and Lancaster with Associate memberships with Ferris, Glenn Heights, Hutchins, Midlothian, Ovilla, Red Oak and Wilmer, Texas to promote economic, legislative and educational well-being for Southwest Dallas and Northern Ellis Counties.

About the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce:

The Lancaster Chamber is forging ahead in community and business support. Membership luncheons are held each month with informative and educational programs. The chamber hosts NCA5 evening events giving local businesses networking opportunities and also has quarterly meetings of the Manufacturers and Logistics Roundtable, and monthly meetings of the Small Business Council, called Better Business Breakfasts. Each year the Chamber hosts the annual State of the City address by the mayor. The chamber also hosts a candidates' forum for the community and businesses where candidates have an opportunity to meet constituents.

About Lancaster ISD:

The Lancaster Public Schools serve more than 6,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. The mission of the Lancaster Independent School District, a leader in providing innovative, quality programs, is to educate every student with the knowledge; skills; and principles to succeed and contribute in a competitive and technologically advancing world by providing rigorous and engaging learning opportunities that promote diversity; create an environment of integrity and respect; and establish a commitment to continued improvement in partnership with families and community.

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