

# South Texas ISD Science Academy

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Graduation Ceremony | Walk of Honor



2022-2023





### Board Officers

Henry LeVrier, President – Brownsville  
Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D., Vice President – Edinburg  
Israel G. Quintanilla, Secretary - Raymondville

David Briones- La Feria  
Doug Buchanan – Raymondville  
Abiel J. Cantú – Raymondville  
E. Larry Cantu – Los Fresnos  
Sasha Crane – McAllen  
Javier Farias - McAllen  
Adrian Garcia – Brownsville

Margarita Garcia – San Juan  
Hector Gonzales – Lyford  
Yolanda Kamel – McAllen  
Robert J. Lerma – Brownsville  
Sylvia S. Lopez – Brownsville  
Rodolfo "Rudy" Ramirez – Edinburg  
Eduardo R. Rodriguez – Brownsville

Norberto "Beto" Salinas- Mission  
Jaime R. Solis – Edinburg  
Natividad "Nati" Sosa – Mission  
David Torres – Edinburg  
Rick Villarreal, D.D.S. –Brownsville  
Ruth Villarreal – Mission

### Central Office Administration:

Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D. – Superintendent  
Efrain Garza – Deputy Superintendent  
Marla R. Knaub – Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations  
Lissa Frausto, MBA, SPHR – Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Nereyda Treviño – Chief Academic Officer  
Amanda Odom – Administrator for Public Relations & Marketing

### Campus Administration:

Eric Gutierrez - Principal  
Rigo Olivarez - Assistant Principal  
Anerey Yerena - Assistant Principal

### Counseling Department:

Laura Villarreal  
Beatriz Salinas

### Senior Class Sponsors:

Mark Orta  
San Juanita Sanchez

**Class Color:** Maroon

**Class Song:** Don't You Forget About Me

**Class Motto:** "I had the time of my life fighting dragons with you."

∑ . Valedictorian

∑ . Salutatorian

∑ . Summa Cum Laude

∑ . Magna Cum Laude

∑ . Cum Laude

α . Associates Degree

\* . Distinguished

⌚ . Volunteer Hours



## Graduation Ceremony | May 21, 2023

- I. Processional..... Pomp & Circumstance
- II. Pledge of Allegiance..... Darius A. Haft
- III. Pledge to Texas Flag.....Sergio D. Velazquez
- IV. National Anthem..... Ariel De Leon
- V. Invocation ..... Evan Y. Tomai
- VI. Welcome from Superintendent ..... Marco Antonio Lara, Jr., Ed.D.
- VII. Welcome from the STISD Board of Directors ..... Sylvia Sánchez Garza, Ph.D., Vice President
- VIII. Welcome from the Principal & Introduction of Salutatorian ..... Eric Gutierrez
- IX. Salutatorian Address.....Nikhil S. Veeramachaneni
- X. Introduction of Valedictorian ..... Eric Gutierrez
- XI. Valedictorian Address ..... Daniel Z Chen
- XII. Certification of Graduates .....Superintendent and Principal
- XIII. Presentation of Diplomas ..... The STISD Board of Directors
- XIV. Closing Remarks by the Principal ..... Eric Gutierrez
- XV. Recessional

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## Science Academy Class of 2023

### Valedictorian

Daniel Z Chen (Mission).....Texas A&M University at College Station    α S\* ⌚

### Salutatorian

Nikhil Sai Veeramachaneni (Edinburg).....Texas A&M University at College Station    β S\* ⌚

Deon Christian Portigo Abastillas (McAllen).....University of Washington    S\* ⌚

Maya Nicole Abu Saleh (Donna).....University of Texas Rio Grande Valley    \*

Kristina Danielle Aceves (Mission).....Texas A&M University at College Station    S\* ⌚

Laura Yisel Alanis (Edinburg).....University of Texas Rio Grande Valley    S\* ⌚

Damian Odin Amezcua Solis (Progreso Lakes).....University of Texas Rio Grande Valley    III\*

Ty Lee Anderson (Harlingen).....Texas Tech University at Lubbock    S\* ⌚

Abdulmoid Asif (Mission).....Rice University    S\* ⌚

Abdulmoiz Asif (Mission).....Rice University    S\* ⌚

Anne Patricia Aznar (Pharr).....University of Texas at San Antonio    S\*

Kaylee Marie Barrera (Edinburg).....Texas State University    III\*

Mara Elisa Barrera (La Joya).....Texas A&M University at College Station    S\*

Tyler Jaiden Barrientos (San Benito).....Texas State Technical College    \*

Sarah Madeleine Benavides (Harlingen).....University of Texas at Austin    S\*

Oom K Bhakta (Harlingen).....University of Texas at San Antonio    III\*

Kennedy Yvonne Bollinger (Mission).....South Texas College

Juan Andres Borrego (Brownsville).....Southern Methodist University    S\*

Martin Alejandro F. Caceres (McAllen).....University of Texas Rio Grande Valley    S\*

Jon Ray Travis Cano (Harlingen).....University of Texas at San Antonio    \*

Aarón Alejandro Cantu (McAllen).....John Paul the Great Catholic Universit    S\* ⌚

Emma Alicia Cantu (Palmhurst).....Yale University    S\* ⌚

Severiano Antonio Cantu (Palmhurst).....University of Texas at San Antonio    S\*

Benjamin Castillo (Edinburg).....Texas A&M University at College Station    S\* ⌚

Daniel Chapa (McAllen).....University of Houston    S\* ⌚

Leslie Yelithza Chapa (Pharr).....University of Texas Rio Grande Valley    C\*

α .Valedictorian

Σ .Summa Cum Laude

α . Associates Degree

β . Salutatorian

III . Magna Cum Laude

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C . Cum Laude

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Kelsey Ciara Charles (Harlingen).....	Case Western Reserve University	Σ*⌚
Danbi Choi (Mission).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Enrique Cisneros, Jr. (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℘*
Carlos Enrique Cordova (Santa Monica).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*
Melody Rain Coronado (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Arturo Coronel (Mission).....	Purdue University	℄*
Davina Joy Cortez (Harlingen).....	United States Navy	Σ* α
Kendall Starr Day (Rancho Viejo).....	University of Texas at San Antonio	℘*
Gabriella Carolina De La Garza (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*⌚
Ariel Esperanza De Leon (McAllen).....	University of North Texas at Denton	℄*
Matthew Jayden De Leon (Edinburg).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Σ* α
Sofya Izabelle Cabahug Derequito (McAllen).....	Southern Adventist University	℄*⌚
Eduardo Felipe Díaz-Mayens (Edinburg).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*⌚
Ivan Djordjevic Herrera (Edinburg).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*⌚
Aaryan Aurel Dolezal (Port Isabel).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Alejandro Gael Duran (Mission).....	Trinity University	Σ*
Grace Esther Dy (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℘*
Jorge Antonio Edenwynter (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Omar Adrian Elizondo-Garza (Edinburg).....	Colorado School of Mines	Σ*⌚
Sophie Isabel Enslein (McAllen).....	Vassar College	Σ*⌚
Lucas Diego Espinosa (McAllen).....	Columbia University	Σ*⌚
Rudy Isaiah Thomas Falcon, Jr. (Harlingen).....	Texas State Technical College	*
Richard Anthony Fleming, II (Mission).....	Brown University	Σ*
Johnney James Flores (Los Fresnos).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℘*
Lizzie Summer Flores (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*⌚
Linus Alexander Flores-Araujo (San Juan).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*
Christopher Andrew Funk (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Tyler	℘*⌚
Vince De La Rosa Galapon (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℘*

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Ariana Hilda Gallardo (Edcouch).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*⌚
Alyssa Maite Galvan (Alton).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*⌚
Sara Jazmín Gamboa (Donna).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Alexander Raul Garcia (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	⌚*
Emma Victoria Garcia (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Jenessa Izora Garcia (Mercedes).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*
Andres Garcia-Salinas (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*⌚
David Ismael Ramzes Garza (Edinburg).....	South Texas College	Σ*
Nicholas Dean Garza (San Benito).....	Full Sail University	*
Paloma Alejandra Garza (Pharr).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Σ*
Mia Alejandra Garza-Peña (McAllen).....	New York University	Σ*⌚
Roy Gilbert Gomez, II (Harlingen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Carlos Javier Gómez Quiroz (McAllen).....	South Texas College	*
Carolina Gonzalez (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*⌚
Jacob Nathaniel Gonzalez (Weslaco).....	Sam Houston State University	Σ*α
Kaitlyn Leilany Gonzalez (Brownsville).....	Texas Southmost College	*⌚
Marina Gonzalez (Harlingen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*
Michael Robert Gonzalez (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Monica Valeria Gutierrez (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*⌚
Darius Alexander Haft (Mission).....	Georgetown University	Σ*⌚
Dylan Eugene Hall (La Feria).....	Texas State University	Σ*
Nikolai Karl Hamoy (Mission).....	University of Houston	Σ*
Fabián Hernandez-Rico (Mission).....	United States Navy	℄*
Karina Araceli Hernandez (San Benito).....	Texas A&M - Corpus Christi	℄*
Ximena Alejandra Hernandez (McAllen).....	St. Edwards University	⌚*
Ryan Alan Higdon (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*⌚
Ethan Russon Holbrook (Palmhurst).....	University of Utah	℄*⌚
Miguel Angel Ibarra (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Jorge Luis Ibarra-Rangel (Donna).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*

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Alejandro Rafael Jaramillo (Weslaco).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓐ*
Hannah Jin (Mission).....	University of Texas at Austin	Ⓔ*⌚
Aanai Krrish Jiwan (Pharr).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*⌚
Mackenzie Caitlyn Kester (McAllen).....	Wentworth Institute of Technology	Ⓔ*
Mikayla Kingston Kester (McAllen).....	University of South Carolina	Ⓔ*⌚
Nayaab Maryam Khan (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Ⓔ*⌚
Angeli Jogesh Khatwani (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Ⓔ*⌚
Jordon Zhenhan Khoo (Harlingen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Ⓔ*⌚
Dahyeon Avalyn Kwak (Mission).....	Baylor University	Ⓔ*⌚
Myranda Monette Leal (McAllen).....	Sam Houston State University	Ⓒ*
Edward June Lee (McAllen).....	Northwestern University	Ⓔ*⌚
Edgar Ivan Limon (Mercedes ).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓒ*
Andrew Christian Linsangan Loja (McAllen).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Ⓔ*⌚
Ricardo Andres Lopez (Mission).....	Texas A&M University McAllen	Ⓐ*⌚
Edison Joshua Madla, Jr. (Harlingen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*
America Itzel Marquez (Pharr).....	Texas State University	Ⓒ*
Raul Marquez, III (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ* α
Andre Martinez (Weslaco).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Ⓔ* α
Mariela Martinez (Weslaco).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Ⓔ* α
Mextli Ocelot Martínez (Weslaco).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*
Aidan Arturo Mata (Mission).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*⌚
Justin Paul Meiners (Weslaco).....	University of Texas at Austin	Ⓔ*
Nicholas Brendon Mendoza (San Juan).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*
John Wellington Mills (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*⌚
Ian Emanuel Montecillo (McAllen).....	University of Houston	Ⓐ*⌚
Gabriel Mora, II (Edinburg).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Ⓔ*
Joshua Morocho (Edinburg).....	University of Rio Grande Valley	Ⓔ*
Hiram Gael Moya (McAllen).....	Texas A&M International University	Ⓐ*

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Aditya Sunil Nair (Edinburg).....	United States Air Force Academy	Σ*🕒
Moisés Israel Nava-López (San Benito).....	Prairie View A&M University	Ⓐ*
Daniela Maria Nuñez (Weslaco).....	Columbia University	Σ*🕒
Melissa Ortega (Port Isabel).....	Texas A&M University - Kingsville	Σ*
Angelina Lin Pajeski (Rancho Viejo).....	Boston University	Σ*🕒
Jenais Kushala Panday (Edinburg).....	Vassar College	Σ*
Shrey Raj Patel (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*🕒
Elias Samuel Pozos (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Ⓐ*
Daniel Alexander Prieto (Mission).....	Texas A&M University San Antonio	Σ* α
America Trisselle Puga (Hidalgo).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Julian David Pulido (San Juan).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*🕒
Mia Julissa Quezada (Harlingen).....	Texas A&M University - Kingsville	Ⓐ*
Michael Austin Ramirez (McAllen).....	New York University	Σ*🕒
Darío Antonio Ramos (Mission).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	Σ*🕒
Emmanuel Antonio Razo (Donna).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Emilio Armando Repetto-Ayala (Mission).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*🕒
Robert Omar Reyna (Weslaco).....	South Texas College	Ⓐ*
Filiberto Gael Rincon, Jr. (Hidalgo).....	Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi	Ⓐ*
Rylei Rae Ripley (McAllen).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*🕒
Ethan Luke Roberts (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Σ*
Joaquin Samuel Rodriguez (Harlingen).....	Kalamazoo College	Ⓐ*
Kenya Aymee Rodriguez (Mission).....	University of Texas at Austin	Σ*🕒
Malorie Alexandra Rodriguez (McAllen).....	University of North Texas	Ⓐ*
Bailey Annalee Rosalez (Pharr).....	South Texas College	℄*
Kenya Rosas (San Benito).....	St. Mary's University	Σ*
Evan Angel Saavedra (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Ezmael Nelson Saenz (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Ricardo André Salazar Balandra (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*

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Alejandro Saldaña (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Estrella Carolina Salinas (McAllen).....	Texas A&M San Antonio	℄*
Roman Alexander Salinas (Mercedes).....	University of Texas at Austin	℄*⌚ α
Miguel Angel Sanchez, Jr. (Edinburg).....	Southern Adventist University	℄*
Zahir Santos (Mission).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Madeline Narae Schneider (Edinburg).....	University of Texas at Austin	℄*⌚
Rida Fatima Shareef (Mission).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*⌚
Sarah Chaiyoon Sihm (McAllen).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*⌚
Isabella Aurora Smith (Alamo).....	University of Texas at Austin	℄*⌚
Jacob Troy Solis (Mercedes).....	Texas A&M Engineering Academy at South Texas College	℄*
Bipul Raj Soti (Edinburg).....	Yale University	℄*⌚
Lindsey Sternberg (Mission).....	Texas State University	℄*
Simon Castillo Sy (Pharr).....	New York University	℄*⌚
Nathaniel Wayne Tamez (Brownsville).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*
Jacob Silvestre Taylor (McAllen).....	Texas State University	℄*
Evan Yukimitsu Tomai (Edinburg).....	University of Texas at Dallas	℄*
Marcus Alexander Torres (Weslaco).....	South Texas College	℄*
Ivan Alejandro Treviño (Mission).....	Texas A&M University at College Station	℄*
Joshua Izaion Valadez (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Sophia Christina Vallejo (San Juan).....	Hawaii Pacific University	℄*
Luis Alberto Vargas (Mission).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Joshua Armando Vasquez (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	*
Sergio Didier Velazquez (Brownsville).....	United States Air Force	℄*
Alexander Roan Vincent (Harlingen).....	University of Texas at Austin	℄*
Madelyn Jane Volpe (McAllen).....	Texas State University	℄*⌚
Elizabeth Diane West (Port Isabel).....	United States Navy	*
Saúl Eduardo Zamora (Edinburg).....	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	℄*

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