

and accepted scholarships

### **Event Program**

**Presentation of the Colors**: Willis High School AFJROTC – Sandy Horton, Kayden Willis, Aubrie Cameron, Khloe Kennedy

National Anthem: Morgan Thomas, Ava Foster, & Kevin Olafson

Opening Remarks: Eric King, Principal

Valedictorian Certification: Eric King, Principal

Presentation of Awards: Katie Kelley, Emcee

#### THANK YOU:

Willis ISD School Board: Kyle Hoegemeyer, Paulett Traylor, Chad Jones, Nikita Lagway, Scott Carson, Charles Perry, Sr., Cliff Williams

Willis ISD Central Office Administration: Dr. Kimberley James, John Vaglienty, Dr. Ivan Velasco, Robert Whitman, Garrett Matej, Noah Hollander, Dr. Susan Clardy, Paul Dusebout, Stephen Shannon, Travis Utecht, Trent Miller

Willis High School Administrators: Eric King, Cary Schwalbach–Goemans, Jamaal Hunnicutt, Shaquille Breed, Timothy Douglas, Jenny Stone, Kryshelle Ellisor, Katie Kelley, Tanis Price

**Willis High School Counselors:** Aracele Garcia, Michelle Gray, Tricia Neumann,
Tonya Mathews, Karol Smith, and Brittany Wheaton

Special Thanks: Virginia England

Kelly Locke, Col. Jefferson, SMSgt. Bell, and AFJROTC, Mr. Labonski, Ms. Matlock, Ms. Standley, Ms. Meachen, Ms. Green, Ms. Barker, B207 Office Aides, Rylee Neumann, Kara Neumann, The Woodlands First Baptist Church, H–E–B Willis

# Honor Graduates

### Summa Cum Laude

Cesan, Brigham Earl\* Guerrero, Melissa\* Ford, Cade Davis\* Pierce, Cory Ann\* Melin, Isabella Rose\* Johnson, Vanden James\* Nichols, Faith Rebecca\* Sheridan, Ian Michael\* Sundquist, Danica Sage\* Jackson, David William Uhlia, Kaeley Faith\* Foster, Ava Claire Sanders, Caleb James\* Shaw, Devan JaShaun\* Patel, Richa Amit\* Hernandez, Alexander\* Ruiz, Avery Joy Braza, Zisel G Cernosek, Nicholas Ryan\* Bond, Tucker Tayce Prihoda, Sydney Kate\* Barrera, Cesar\* Garay, Odalys Guadalupe\* Westmoreland, Aubrey Grace Horne, Brander Weston\* Lopez, Ethan Patrick\* Wilson, Zachary John\* Ruiz Franco, Fernanda Jocelyn\* Murray, Carli Ellen\* Madrid-Williams, Jared\*

### Magna Cum Laude

Muniz, Maribel\* Diaz, Kelsey Jacqueline\* Wells, Presley Brooke\* Meier, Alyssa Brooke\* Canales Bu, Isis Burns, Kaitlin Ranae\* Owoseni, Aliyyah Oluwafunmilayo\* Fuerte, Brianna Ivette Sanchez, Yasmin Hooper, Brooklyn Nevaeh Maddox, Elijah Lee\* Wyland, Kelsie Lynn\* Rodriguez, Alyssa Madeline\* Garcia, Amy Irvine, Hayden Christopher\* Thomas, Morgan Kayla\* Hunter, Kaden Lee\* Monson, Owen Christopher Ray\* Huerta, Wendy\* Navarro, Eriberto\* Favela, Samuel Alexander Pinard, Kennedy Grace\* Moody, Brent\* Alvarez, Jose Anthony Munos, Gabriel Lee\* Clark, Keyen Anthony\* Hall, Christian Daniel\* Joyner, Jasmyna Tynise\* Palma, Daysi Azucena McDonald, Ella Madison

### Cum Laude

Perdomo Villalobos, Victoria Isabel\* Hernandez, Alexa Lizeth Roberts, Victoria Le'Andrea\* Arroyo, Karla Ivon\* Medina Goodwin, Milena Ivette Carney, Skylar Anne Marie\* Rodriguez, Levi\* Henager, Tripp Parker\* Egbert, Paris Brooke\* Van Straten, Audrey Ann\* Vallejo, Emma Elaine McCollum, Molly Clayton\* Hayter, Cash Presley Allan Clark, Summer Brooke\* Holly, Amani Micole Shanice Lira, Joselyn\* Hernandez, Amber Van Wyk, Dylan Riley Dabi, Prema Crabdree, Nathaniel Abel Perez-Lopez, Cristal Gonzalez, Sol Reynolds, Luke Olen\* Shaw, Lillian Ryan Paris, Sarah Irene Miller, Joseph Xavier\* Paugh, Carly Emerson Rico, Cassidy Nicole\* Wood, Saydigrace Ann Emerson, Jack Robert\*

\* Accepted Scholarships

## Senior Recognitions

### Military Enlistments

Cortez, Amber Lizett United States Army

Ham, Matthew Travis United States Marine Corps

Johnson, Nathan United States Navy

Kroon, Darrel Robert United States Army

Romero Sanchez, Cristian Alexis United States Marine Corps

Saldana, Adela Mayte United States Marine Corps

### Accepted Scholarships

Abke, Kelley Jaceallen
Aleman, Christopher Matthew
Ash, Garrett Kenneth
Beltran Serrano, Ashley Elizabeth
Brown, Jaiden Danae
Buell, Harley Lynn
Call, Audrie Jane
Cannon, Zadin
Carr, Brooke Elaine
Casso, Giavanna Grace
Corley, Kaylee Nicole
Cox, Londyn Nicole
Cross, Lily Grace
Cuevas, Isabella Lynne

### Accepted Scholarships

Davis, Trinity Amme

Denson, Dazia Milan Dick, Brayden Lee Embry, Carson Cade Evans, Kendrick Ernest Feller, Alyssa Joann Feller, Jalynn Patricia Fleeks, Jaybrenn Kevon Gaines, Owen Cole Garner, Jocelyn Paige Grant, Heath Tristan Gwatiringa, Divine Nokutenda Hall, Laurel Ann Henager, Logan Boone Hendrickson, Brianna Ashley Hickman, Leela Joy Jaramillo Madrid, Valerie Astrid Jenkins, Nadia M Laurence, Malachi Aiden Lawrence III, Terri Joe Manning, Jayden William Martinez, Fatima McPheron, Triniti Michelle Mentado-Perez, Chelsea Mickens, Jalen Deion Mixa, Katherin Amelia

### **Accepted Scholarships**

Moore, McKenzie Rain Morales Romero, Carlos Mount, Tyler Michael Nolen, Warren Anthony Quarles, Michael Jason Ramirez Jr, Joseph Elijah Reed, Kimmora Brinea Roberts, Belinda Aquayo Robinson, Daylion Davon Robles Flores, Claudia Damaris Samples, Brooke Elaine Sims, Heaven Speck, Skyler Alyssa Jordan Sprayberry, Kaitlyn Marie Steggall, BreAnn Rene Stevens, Romel Tafara Brynen Tate, Paris De'Asia Taylor, Jorden Joseph Tecuanhuey, Andrea Theilen, Harrison Bernard Torres, Demari Angelo Trahan, Kaylee Marie Troncoso, Taina Jolie Tucker, Kadence Jade Vanschuyver, Tori Rachelle Vega, Nicholas Villalva, Carlos Emmanuel Williams, Mylee Jaye

Current Class of 2025 Totals:
Offered Scholarships: \$6,958,389
...and still counting



Assistance League of Montgomery County Daughters of the American Revolution -Coushatti Trace Dr. Timothy Gardner, DDS Eddie Ruth Lagway Memorial Scholarship/DJ Lagway Foundation Gullo Dealership Howard Hughes Corporation Montgomery County Aggie Club Montgomery County Association of **Business Women** Montgomery County Fair Association Next Generation Leadership Scholarship North Montgomery County Retired School Personnel Panorama Lions Club Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins and Mott Point Aquarius Women's Club

Rave Financial Royal Texan Homes Mentor Scholarship Sam Houston State University Admissions San Jacinto Masonic Lodge The Carolyn Williams Memorial Scholarship The Geo Group The Hivnor Family The Jessie Hollins Memorial Scholarship The North Shore Republican Women's Club Vera Bank Whitestone Foundation Willis Ag Booster Willis Band Booster Willis Cheer Booster Willis Football Booster Willis Sweethearts Booster Willis ISD Education Foundation Willis Lions Club



Assistance League of Montgomery County: Assistance League of Montgomery County is pleased to award scholarships to be used during the first year of college and will continue on through senior year if a 2.5 grade point average is maintained. Assistance League is a non-profit organization of over 200 volunteers dedicated to improving lives in Montgomery county. The revenue generated at our Thrift Shop in Conroe is dispersed to nine philanthropic programs such as Scholarship.

Daughters of the American Revolution - Coushatti Trace: The Coushatti Trace Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution are honored to present our scholarship to the outstanding and deserving Willis High School Senior, Kloe Whiteley. They are also honored to present our Good Citizen Award to Jace Yarborough who has demonstrated the qualities of Dependability, Service, Leadership, and Patriotism.

Dr. Timothy Gardner, DDS: Congratulations on your graduation seniors. You are about to start to understand the true meaning of Self-Reliance! Dr. Gardner and his employees would also like to Thank the Teachers and school administrators for their uncommon dedication to the youth and now young adults of our community. Dr. Gardner owns and operates two dental practices, Conroe and Montgomery Comprehensive Dental Center. This is his 17th Annual \$1,000 Scholarship for all of the surrounding local High Schools. Not only were they looking for a student with Academic Excellence, but also a person who at a young age has learned to pay it forward. The student who we felt was most worthy of this award is: Taina Troncoso.

Eddie Ruth Lagway Memorial/DJ Lagway Foundation Scholarship: ER Legacy Foundation, also known as the Lagway Memorial Scholarship, stands as a tribute to the remarkable legacy of Eddie Ruth Lagway, a cherished community leader, dedicated school board member, and a beacon of family values. Established to honor Ms. Lagway's unwavering commitment to education and community service, the foundation seeks to empower future leaders who embody Eddie's spirit of compassion, resilience, and devotion to both family and community. Through scholarships and mentorship programs, the foundation aims to cultivate a generation of changemakers who will carry forward Ms. Lagway's vision of a more just, equitable, and inclusive society. The DJ Lagway Foundation was formed in 2025 in partnership with University of Florida Health by our own Willis 2024 Alum, DJ Lagway. The purpose of the foundation is to help those in need.

**Gullo Dealership:** This is the 22nd year for the Gullo Dealerships Scholarships. We have been able to give out scholarships to each of the public high schools in Montgomery County each year in the amount of \$2000 for each student. This year we were able to give out 40 scholarships. We wish all the Seniors of Willis High all the best. Gullo Toyota, Mazda and Ford.

**Howard Hughes Corporation:** The Howard Hughes Corporation is a real estate development and management company based in The Woodlands, Texas.



Montgomery County Aggie Club: The Montgomery County A&M Club & Scholarship Foundation is awarding twenty-three \$3500 scholarships to deserving Montgomery County students entering Texas A&M for the 2025-2026 school year. These students were selected from a pool of 101 worthy applicants and endured a rigorous application and interview process. Of special note, 6 of the 23 recipients this year are from Willis High School – more than any other Montgomery County school. Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients!

Montgomery County Association of Business Women: Montgomery County Association of Business Women provides a local forum for business women to develop and enhance professional and personal relationships with their peers. The mission does not reflect individual effort; it promotes effort within us and others to assist in personal and professional growth through our mentoring program and events. The ladies in MCABW are professionals, community volunteers and business leaders who leverage their time, skills, relationships and resources to improve the quality of life in Montgomery County. The MCABW Foundation awards 12 scholarships every year to girls graduating from Montgomery County High Schools.

Montgomery County Fair Association: The Montgomery County Fair Association Scholarship program is made up of monies derived from the Scholarship Trail Ride and Scholarship Chili Cook-off events and from a percentage of the totals of the Livestock and Non-Livestock Auctions. Combining our Scholarship program with several other Fair programs, the Fair Association will be giving \$172,000.00 in scholarships this year. Over \$2 million has been given to graduating seniors since the Scholarship program began in 1993. The Fair Association will be giving a \$3,000.00 scholarship to the ranking and qualified applicants from each high school in our county. A total of 50 scholarships will be given.

Panorama Lions Club: The Panorama Lions are men and women who work together to serve the needs of Panorama Village. We have proudly served Panorama Village and surrounding community for 43 years, through acts of local philanthropy and service, including providing scholarships for students.

Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins and Mott: Perdue Brandon is honored to participate in this amazing event. The firm is in constant amazement at the talented individuals coming from Willis ISD. Perdue Brandon wishes to congratulate all of the recipients for their hard work, determination and perseverance and wishes them the best luck in their future endeavors.



Point Aquarius Women's Club: The Point Aquarius Women's Club has been a part of the Willis Point Aquarius community for 29 years. Its mission is to enrich the lives of the residents by promoting the common good and general welfare of the people in the community through social activities and community involvement. One of the club's primary goals is to provide financial support for community projects. To that end, the club has funded almost \$50,000 in scholarships to Point Aquarius students since 2012. The 2025-2026 PAWC scholarship recipients from Willis High School are Isabella Cuevas and Kelley Abke.

Rave Financial: At Rave Financial Credit Union, we are deeply committed to supporting the educational goals and future success of our young members. This year, we proudly awarded ten \$2,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are pursuing higher education. This initiative reflects our ongoing dedication to financial empowerment and community investment. We are thrilled to announce that one of this year's scholarship recipients is Brander Horne, who will be attending the University of Arkansas this fall. Brander's thoughtful insights and commitment to personal and financial growth exemplify the values we strive to promote at Rave Financial. We couldn't be prouder to support Brander and all of our scholarship recipients as they take the next steps in their educational journeys. Congratulations!

Royal Texan Homes Mentor Scholarship: Thank you to Royal Texan Homes for mentoring students and for generously donating scholarships to twelve Willis High School seniors from the RISE Mentor Program. We are so proud of them for modeling great character and perseverance throughout her education at Willis ISD.

Sam Houston State University Admissions: Thank you Sam Houston State University for providing ten of our students with a \$1000 scholarship each. We appreciate our strong partnership with your great university!

San Jacinto Masonic Lodge: The San Jacinto Lodge #106 A.F. & A.M. was chartered in Willis, Texas on January 31, 1853; the organization is a social and philanthropic organization meant to make its members lead more virtuous and socially oriented lives; they actively support Willis athletes with their scholarships.

**The Carolyn Williams Memorial Scholarship:** This is the 22nd year for the Carolyn Williams Memorial Scholarship. Each year there are many qualified applicants that apply for this scholarship. When narrowing down the applicants the committee looks for the following characteristics that were very important to our Mother: determination, integrity, work ethic, selflessness and character.

**The Geo Group:** GEO provides complementary, turnkey solutions for numerous government partners worldwide across a spectrum of diversified correctional and community reentry services. From the development of state-of-the-art facilities and the provision of management services and evidence-based rehabilitation to the post-release reintegration and supervision of individuals in the community, GEO offers fully diversified, cost-effective services that deliver enhanced quality and improved outcomes.



The Hivnor Family: The Hivnor Family's involvement in education and athletics has been a life-long commitment. Mr. Hivnor grew up in Appalachia – his parents only went to the 8 th grade for there was no high school. He knew from an early age that his only way out of his environment was to dream big and achieve in academics and athletics. Harvey represented the American Dream. He started in poverty – no running water – one pair of jeans and one shirt for school – supporting his parents while in high school and college. He asked for nothing – took nothing – stole nothing. By sheer will power and work ethic, as well as his belief in his fellow man, he built a multi-million-dollar business supplying many other families with jobs and opportunities they would never have had. Harvey gave all. He would give those who needed it a second chance on life. Some succeeded – others did not. But he gave them that chance. You never told him that he could not do something. Can't was not a part of his vocabulary. Instead, he said, figure it out – don't give up – don't make excuses – personal responsibility is paramount. The Hivnor Memorial Scholarship was established in his memory and is awarded to a student who we believe possesses Harvey's values and determination.

**The North Shore Republican Women's Club:** We are committed to actively supporting Republican candidates, informing our membership of the political process and the issues affecting all of us; to providing strength and unity to the party, and to offering a source of year-round volunteer service of our members.

The North Montgomery County Retired School Personnel: The North Montgomery County Retired School Personnel (NMCRSP) is a Local Chapter of Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA). TRTA was founded in 1953 and is the largest association in the nation for retired educators and has a history of advocating for the benefits of its members. In recent years, TRTA members contributed 5,235,757 volunteer hours of community service valued at \$133,503,791. We welcome ALL retired school personnel to our group which meets at the Methodist Church on the 2nd Monday of each month from September through May. Tonight, we are presenting the North Montgomery County Retired School Personnel memorial Award in Memory of Frances French Neely given by Kaye Stripling (NMCRSP member). Frances was a native Houstonian and a lifelong educator. She attended public schools in Houston and graduated. She then attended the University of Kansas and received her degree in Speech Pathology. She was employed by the Houston Independent School District and served for thirty (30) years. During her tenure, she was a speech therapist and an administrator in the Alternative Certification Program. While in this program, she designed the framework for interns to receive their teaching certification in Special Education. After her work in the Alternative Certification Program, she advanced to serve on the Superintendent's Leadership Team. Her life's dream was that all students who wanted to go to college could do so. This scholarship is the beginning of her dream.

United States Military Recruiters: Willis High School would like to extend the most sincere gratitude to the recruiters from the different branches of the United States Military that work so diligently with our students in making their goals of serving a reality:

SSG Bret Mathews – United States Army
ABH2 Christopher Davis – United States Navy
SSat Nicholas Aldape – United States Marine Corps



Vera Bank: Vera Bank offers 30+\$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors market-wide each year.

Whitestone Foundation: Whitestone began in 2016 as a 501c nonprofit organization. We are local business leaders, clergy, doctors and professionals who have been blessed in many ways, one of which is financially. We feel that God has charged us with the responsibility of among other things, sharing these blessings with Christian-centered, hardworking people. We accomplish this task by providing financial assistance through scholarships. Congratulations and we are praying God's blessings on you!

Willis Ag Booster: The Willis Ag Booster organization awards two scholarships, an Academic Scholarship and an Ag Mechanics Scholarship. Recipients must be active members in good standing in FFA or 4H, participating in Educational Seminars, completing projects, and volunteering at organization events.

Willis Band Booster: The Willis Band Boosters are a 501(c) organization run by parents/guardians of program participants that manages fundraising and other projects to ensure that students are well served to the highest level, including opportunities to support furthering their educational goals. Students must have participated in band all 4 years of high school, and focuses on dedication, leadership, academics, and extracurriculars.

Willis Cheer Booster: The Willis High School Cheer Booster awards scholarships to WHS Varsity Cheerleaders who have cheered all four years of high school. The cheerleaders chosen exhibit good character and are leaders on campus.

Willis Football Booster: The Willis High School Football Booster club seeks to support scholar athletes that are active members in their school and local community, providing service to others, and role models for others.

Willis ISD Education Foundation: The mission of the Willis ISD Education Foundation is to promote educational excellence and opportunity beyond the scope of the Willis school system by generating financial resources from private funds to provide support for educational programs.

Willis Lions Club: Willis Lions Club is a proud organization serving the community of Willis, Texas. We have a nearly 40 year history serving as the city's only civic organization. Founded in 1975, Willis Lions Club has been dedicated to serving our community through educational scholarships, the Lions Club flag program, serving the elderly at local nursing homes and kids with physical disabilities with Texas Lions Camp. As one of 46,000 clubs with a total of 1.35 million members, Willis Lions Club is dedicated to making our community a better place.

Willis Sweethearts: The Sweetheart Dance Scholarships help provide qualified members of the Sweethearts Dance Team an opportunity to continue their education. Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded to Senior members: the Alicia Williams Memorial Scholarship and the Sweethearts Community Service Scholarship.