

# *2014 Scholarship Recipients*

## **E. JACKSON GILES, III**

Acton School of Business

## **MATT CLARK**

Baylor University

## **NEIL CLEMENTS, JR.**

Dallas Baptist University

*The Mitchell Family Foundation Scholarship*

## **NEIL RAMJI GADHIA**

Houston Baptist University

## **EMERALD STAR LEWIS**

Houston Baptist University

*The Stewart Morris Scholarship*

## **JASON LEE BURKETT**

Lamar University

*The Ben Rogers Scholarship*

## **BLAKE E. PARRISH**

Rice University

## **RACHEL STANBERY**

Rice University

*The Douglas L. Foshee Scholarship*

## **SIOBHAN KILLALEA**

Sam Houston State University

## **JENNIFER ANNE WATKINS**

Sam Houston State University

*The SWBC Foundation Scholarship*

## **WILLIAM LEIGHTON LAFUZE, JR.**

Southern Methodist University

*The Robert H. Dedman Scholarship*

## **KAREN RIBAR**

Southern Methodist University

## **CHRIS COSTLEY**

St. Mary's University

*The Harvey E. Najim Scholarship*

## **BENJAMIN HINOJOSA**

St. Mary's University

*The Carlos and Malu Alvarez Scholarship*

## **KIMBERLY ANN KENNEDY**

St. Mary's University

## **ANGELA RIZZO**

St. Mary's University

*The William E. "Bill" Greehey Scholarship*

# *2014 Scholarship Recipients*

## **ALYSSA R. GUTIERREZ**

St. Philip's College

*The Whataburger Scholarship*

## **LLOYD MCGUIRE**

Texas A&M University

## **GLENN ALLEN DECKER**

Texas Christian University

## **JA'TEZ KELLY GARDNER**

Texas Southern University

## **CRAIG MEURER**

Texas State University

## **JACOB H. FEDOSKY**

Texas Tech University

*The Silver & Black Give Back Scholarship*

## **JOSEPH KMETZ**

Texas Tech University

## **SOPHIE HEALY ROTH**

University of Dallas

## **NOOR DAOUDI**

University of Houston

## **JENESE SHAW**

University of the Incarnate Word

*The H-E-B Scholarship*

## **RUSTY V. KARST**

University of North Texas

## **NICOLE VELASQUEZ**

University of Texas

## **ALEJANDRO JACOBO**

University of Texas - Dallas

## **KENNY OZUNA**

University of Texas - Pan American

## **TONY TAO YUAN**

University of Texas - San Antonio



### E. JACKSON GILES, III

*Acton School of Business*

Jackson Giles, a native Austinite, launched his first nonprofit while attending the University of Colorado. Pursuing a career in nonprofit development, he worked for Teach For America in Houston and later on the national development team. Jackson received his MBA in entrepreneurship from Acton, and won the 2014 Acton Scholar Award. He now aims to drive community impact through business. An avid musician, Jackson continues to live in Austin with his wife and family.



### MATT CLARK

*Baylor University*

Matt Clark is the co-founder and chief technology officer at Validy, a software-as-a-service company focusing on helping hospitals cut costs through automated accounts payable analytics. Clark was previously vice president of software development at CareView Communications. He received his B.A. in business administration from Baylor University, where he majored in management information systems and accounting. Clark enjoys spending time with his wife and three children.



### NEIL CLEMENTS, JR.

*Dallas Baptist University*

Neil Clements is a five-year accelerated BBA/MBA degree candidate at Dallas Baptist University. While working toward his degree he has also worked with Africa Renewal Ministries, a nonprofit Christian ministry, establishing operations in Uganda and the United States. With a combination of DBA training and first-hand experience launching small businesses, Clements' entrepreneurial future looks bright. His interests include music, technology, finance and spending time with family and friends.



### NEIL RAMJI GADHIA

*Houston Baptist University*

Neil Gadhia, a Houston native, is pursuing his MBA with a concentration in finance at Houston Baptist University. He is a franchisee and has been managing his business full-time since 2013. Using hands-on knowledge and experience, Gadhia plans to expand his business portfolio. He enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, and playing competitive sports such as basketball, football, and golf.



### EMERALD STAR LEWIS

*Houston Baptist University*

Emerald Lewis is pursuing her MBA at Houston Baptist University. She earned a B.S. degree in psychology from the University of Houston-Downtown. She is an accountant for Quintana Minerals Corporation and is currently earning her certified public accountant credentials. Recently, Lewis was inducted into the Delta Mu Delta International Business Honor Society. She credits her mom for inspiring her ambition, and her three sons are her constant motivation.



## JASON LEE BURKETT

*Lamar University*

Jason Burkett grew up in Houston and attends Lamar University, where he is earning an accounting degree. He is a five-year BBA/MSA student planning to complete his master's degree in 2015. His ultimate goal is to start an accounting and financial services firm with his younger brother. Burkett has taken internships with UHY and Deloitte and currently tutors for the accounting program at Lamar.



## BLAKE E. PARRISH

*Rice University*

After graduating Magna Cum Laude from Texas A&M University, Blake Parrish traveled through across North America performing NASCAR driver marketing duties. Establishing relationships with media, brands and clients led him to PMG Austin, where he directed the creative process and agency operations. At Rice, he is involved in the Jones Student Association and leads the Marketing Club as president. Parrish also interned at General Mills in Channel Marketing this summer.



## RACHEL STANBERRY

*Rice University*

Rachel Stanberry is a second-year MBA candidate at Rice University, after earning her bachelor's degree in business administration from The University of Texas. After graduation, Stanberry managed fund-raising and operations for Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's campaign. She then worked at JHL Company as a fund-raising and communications consultant for non-profit organizations. Stanberry plans to combine her business skills and her passion for non-profit management to benefit her community.



## SIOBHAN KILLEALEA

*Sam Houston State University*

Siobhan Killalea is currently pursuing her MBA in management and marketing from Sam Houston State University, where she is president of the MBA Student Association and a dedicated student leader. Beyond her academic pursuits, Killalea teaches piano in her own studio and works as a copy editor for the International Association of Drilling Contractors. She plans to start a career in marketing communications after completing her MBA.



## JENNIFER ANNE WATKINS

*Sam Houston State University*

Jennifer Watkins played college volleyball in Kansas, and then returned home to graduate with her BBA from Sam Houston State University in 2013. Watkins is currently the global HR coordinator for a medical device manufacturer in Conroe, Texas. She participates in HR Houston and has been active in the Society for Human Resource Management at SHSU. She recently started pursuing her MBA at SHSU.



## WILLIAM LEIGHTON LAFUZE, JR.

*Southern Methodist University*

William LaFuze, a Houston native, graduated from Texas Christian University with a bachelor's degree in energy finance and later became an Energy Group associate at Wells Fargo Bank in Houston. In 2012, LaFuze started his own commercial real estate company with lease properties in Houston and Dallas. After graduating in 2014 with his MBA, LaFuze plans to work in the oil and gas industry, specializing in mergers and acquisitions.



## KAREN RIBAR

*Southern Methodist University*

Karen Ribar is pursuing an MBA in strategy and finance at Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business. Recently, Ribar worked as director of business development for The Knot.com, the top media and technology firm in the wedding industry. At The Knot, Ribar directed development of a mobile payment platform and investments in complementary businesses. Her previous experience includes senior roles in advisory services at PriceWaterhouseCoopers and audit and assurance with Deloitte.



## CHRIS COSTLEY

*St. Mary's University*

Chris Costley is currently pursuing an MBA at St. Mary's Greehey School of Business. Costley works as a strategy and planning analyst for Kinetic Concepts Inc., a global medical technology company. In 2013, Costley started Siempre Investment Group and serves as managing partner for the real estate investment company. He lives with his wife and two children in San Antonio.



## BENJAMIN HINOJOSA

*St. Mary's University*

Benjamin Hinojosa is pursuing an MBA from the Bill Greehey School of business at St. Mary's University. He majored in professional sales and minored in religion at Baylor University. Hinojosa is an owner of JBD Trucking LLC, a small trucking company operating out of Laredo, Texas. His long-term goal is to open a birthing center in the city of Laredo, after his wife, Alison, completes midwifery training.



## KIMBERLY ANN KENNEDY

*St. Mary's University*

Kimberly Kennedy owns a fiber arts business, Kimbertimbers, where she designs and hand-creates custom silks, and produces and markets all her work. She is also a graphic designer for St. Mary's University and designs the university's flagship publication, the Gold & Blue magazine, among other communications. Kennedy also developed and implemented a complete re-brand of the institution's athletics division. She will complete her MBA at St. Mary's University in December 2014.



## ANGELA RIZZO

*St. Mary's University*

Angela Rizzo was born in Germany, grew up in Washington D.C., and attends St. Mary's University as a Bill Greehey Scholar. She majors in corporate finance with a linguistic background (French, German and Japanese). Rizzo has participated in the Entrepreneurship Scholars Program and Harvard Public Policy and Leadership Conference which spurred her interest in international entrepreneurship. Rizzo recently completed a paid internship with Marsh & McLennan Companies in New York City.



## ALYSSA R. GUTIERREZ

*St. Philip's College*

Alyssa R. Gutierrez has attended St. Philip's College since January 2013, working toward an associate's degree of Applied Sciences in Culinary Arts. After graduation, she will transfer to the University of Houston to pursue a bachelor's degree in hotel and restaurant management. She considers it an honor to be named one of the scholarship recipients. Gutierrez was born and raised in San Antonio and is happily married with a beautiful daughter.



## LLOYD MCGUIRE

*Texas A&M University*

Lloyd McGuire will graduate this year with an MBA from Texas A&M University. He interned in private equity with The Blackstone Group LP. McGuire previously served as a U.S. Marine Corps judge advocate for five years, including a tour in Afghanistan, and worked for a law firm in Washington, D.C. He earned a J.D. from the University of South Carolina and a B.A. degree from Southwestern University. McGuire is married and has two sons.



## GLENN ALLEN DECKER

*Texas Christian University*

After graduating from Texas Christian University and working with a private company in Fort Worth, Decker returned to TCU to pursue an MBA. He is currently serving as the president of the MBA Marketing Club, and during this past summer, worked for San Antonio-based USAA. While not a native Texan, Decker quickly developed a love for the state and enjoyed witnessing its growth first-hand during his years in Fort Worth.



## JA'TEZ KELLY GARDNER

*Texas Southern University*

A Detroit native, Ja'Tez Gardner became a music enthusiast at a young age. He learned to play trumpet and French horn, and received multiple scholarship offers from several universities. Gardner attended Southern University in Louisiana, where he earned a bachelor's degree in marketing and sales. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in management information systems at Texas Southern University.



## CRAIG MEURER

*Texas State University*

Craig Meurer is pursuing an MBA at Texas State University's McCoy School of Business. He has been involved in technology management and software design for more than 16 years, working with numerous Fortune 500 companies and entrepreneurs. He is now focused on product management for web, smartphone and tablet applications. Additionally, Meurer has founded multiple successful web startups. After completing an MBA, he plans to teach and inspire entrepreneurs in emerging nations.



## JACOB H. FEDOSKY

*Texas Tech University*

Jacob Fedosky is an undergraduate at Texas Tech University, studying management information systems. His first entrepreneurial venture began at age 15, when he started buying and selling domain names. Fedosky is now an independent domain name broker and president of High End Holdings, a premium domain name investment firm. He has been featured in a variety of domain industry publications, including a cover story in the Domain Name Journal in 2012.



## JOSEPH KMETZ

*Texas Tech University*

Joseph Kmetz is a college senior pursuing a BBA in energy commerce from Texas Tech University's Rawls College of Business. His passion for business began when he launched a successful eBay venture in high school. Kmetz has completed energy-based internships with Phillips 66, the United States Congress and Anadarko Petroleum, and has studied in Spain, Brazil and Argentina. He plans to attend law school and pursue a career in energy law.



## SOPHIE HEALY ROTH

*University of Dallas*

Sophie Healy Roth is pursuing her MBA from the University of Dallas. She earned her bachelor's degree from Tulane University. Roth began her career working with at-risk children for Communities in Schools. She transitioned to higher education, and now works with international graduate students at UD. Roth participates annually in the BvB Dallas football fund-raiser benefiting Alzheimer's research, and is currently involved in the Business and Society Network at UD.



## NOOR DAOUDI

*University of Houston*

Noor Daoudi is a native Houstonian, with Syrian roots, and a lifelong interest in health and beauty. She has been one of the founders and directors of Xtreme Lashes since 2005, where she co-developed the eyelash extension procedure. Noor is currently studying entrepreneurship at the University of Houston. She plans to develop products and wellness solutions that illuminate natural beauty from the inside out.



## JENESE SHAW

*The University of the Incarnate Word*

Jenese Shaw serves as a board member for United Christian Ministers Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving communities through education, service and mentorship. A San Antonio native, Shaw earned her BBA in marketing from Texas State University and is currently pursuing her MBA at The University of the Incarnate Word. After earning her MBA, Shaw plans to develop her own marketing and consulting firm.



## RUSTY V. KARST

*University of North Texas*

Rusty V. Karst is completing his Ph.D. in strategic management at The University of North Texas. As a professor, entrepreneur and consultant, Karst is dedicated to bolstering the Texas economy, as well as the education and general progress of its residents. He teaches the critical success skills necessary in entrepreneurship and business management — in the classroom as a professor, and in the business community as a consultant.



## NICOLE VELASQUEZ

*University of Texas*

Nicole Velasquez is a student at The University of Texas, McCombs School of Business. She is the co-president of the school's Graduate Women in Business organization and serves as a board fellow to the Girl Scouts of Central Texas. This summer, Velasquez worked with the global category marketing team at Starbucks Coffee. Previously, she worked at DonorsChoose.org, a national education nonprofit; Common Sense Media; and as an ESL teacher in South Korea.



## ALEJANDRO JACOBO

*University of Texas - Dallas*

Alejandro Jacobo received his bachelor's degree in business at Texas A&M University. A Division I athlete, Jacobo was swim team captain and became an All-American in 2008. He has a master's degree in innovation and entrepreneurship from the University of Texas at Dallas, and is an MBA candidate. Jacobo won the UT-Dallas Business Idea Competition in 2012 and 2013, and co-founded Rollout, Inc., which provides innovative solutions for the architecture, engineering and construction industries.



## KENNY OZUNA

*University of Texas - Pan American*

Kenny Ozuna owns an economic and finance consulting firm, Ozuna Analytics, L.L.C., and is a Ph.D. candidate in finance at The University of Texas-Pan American. He received his B.A. degree in economics from the University of North Texas and his MBA from UT-Pan American. After receiving his Ph.D. in finance, he intends to grow his firm by serving foreign investors seeking to enter the U.S. market.



## TONY TAO YUAN

*University of Texas - San Antonio*

Tony Yuan is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the joint biomedical engineering program between The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas Health Sciences Center. In addition to developing his dissertation, he recently cofounded Mobile Stem Care, LLC, a mobile service that works with local veterinarian clinics to help treat degenerative conditions in animals. His motivation is to build a platform to bring advanced innovations to the public market.