

2020 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Watch a short video as each awardee introduces themselves to the TBHF community

DANIEL GAMBOA

Acton School of Business

CESAR ORTIZ, II

Baylor University

MITCHELL CANTWELL

Dallas Baptist University
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

MATTHEW DUCE

Dallas Baptist University
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

MITCHELL GUTHRIE

Dallas Baptist University
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

NICHOLAS BELBAS

Houston Baptist University
The Stewart Morris Award

YESENIA LOERA ROMO

Lamar University
The Ben J. Rogers Award

ALEXA STACHOWIAK

Rice University
T.T. & W.F. Chao Award

KYLE ROCKIN McLAUGHLIN

Rice University
AT&T Future Legend First in Family
Award

CLAYTON COTTLE

Sam Houston State University
The SWBC Foundation Award

JENKINS BENDER

Southern Methodist University
The Robert H. Dedman Award

STACY CARESSE TUBONEMI

Southern Methodist University

BRIANNA SERROS

St. Mary's University
The Carlos & Malu Alvarez Award

BRISSA J. YTUARTE

St. Mary's University
The William E. "Bill" Greehey Award

STEVEN NASH PORTER, JR.

Texas A&M University

JENNIFER ANTONINI WHEELAN

Texas Christian University

QWINTIRA TALLAMON

Texas Southern University

GREGORY TOBIAS

Texas State University

CalLEN STEWART

Texas Tech University
The Pefanis Family Award

HENRY BOLIVAR DORIS, V

Texas Tech University-FMI
The McLane Company Reading
Program Award

GARRETT DEWBRE

Trinity University
The Doug & Martha Hawthorne
Family Fund Award

CHRISTIANA FOTE

University of Dallas
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

ISAIAH HAYES

University of Dallas
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

EDISSON RAMOS

University of Dallas
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

VERONICA HERRERA

University of Houston
T.T. & W.F. Chao Award

JAIRO EMMANUEL CRUCES

University of the Incarnate Word
The H-E-B Award

JUSTIN R. WOOD

University of North Texas

ANDREW BOURDILLON

University of Texas
The Mike A. Myers Award

BRANDON KARAM

University of Texas
T.T. & W.F. Chao "Chairman's" Award

VICTORIA LEIGH MESSERSCHMIDT

University of Texas at Arlington
The Kelcy Warren Graduate
Fellowship for Engineering

BRITTANY BRUNSON

University of Texas at Dallas
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

PHILIP SCOTT MILLER, III

University of Texas at Dallas
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

GAURAV SETHI

University of Texas at Dallas
The Mitchell Family Foundation
Award

YAW SAM

University of Texas at Rio Grande
Valley
James and Kathleen Collins &
Vantage Bank Texas Future Texas
Business Legend Award

ANTHONY GANTT

Marine Corps
Nau Future Texas Legend Marine
Corps Veteran Award

DYAN GIBBENS

Air Force
The Douglas L. Foshee Future Texas
Legend Veteran Award

JUDSON KAUFFMAN

Navy

SAMANTHA SNABES

Air National Guard



DANIEL GAMBOA
ACTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

A naturalized US citizen originally from Latin America, Daniel Gamboa is grateful to have kicked off his American experience from Texas in 2000. After graduating from Texas A&M as a mechanical engineer, his adventures have spanned energy, finance and tech. A focus on fulfillment, family, endurance and learning serves as his guide with achievement as an emergent byproduct. Daniel is currently in the exploration phase of developing technology to augment existing learning systems. He writes about this project at rocketree.com and hopes to leverage this research into a platform designed for life-long learners. Daniel's life journey includes his wife Emily and three sons, Thatcher, Taggart and Tatum.



CESAR ORTIZ, II
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

A proud Texas native, Cesar Ortiz II, is also a first generation American on his father's side. After serving in the United States Army, Cesar began a career in construction. After two years of learning and working in the industry, Cesar set out to open a construction services company with his best friend. What started out as a five man operation has grown into a 55 person construction firm specializing in concrete demolition, and excavation. After 10 years into the venture, Cesar has his sights set on growing H3 Construction into a multi-faceted construction and development company in the North Texas region. Receiving an MBA from Baylor University is not only the completion of a lifelong goal, but the beginning of a new chapter in the pursuit of knowledge.



MITCHELL CANTWELL
DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, it only took Mitch Cantwell 18 years to find his way to Texas. He loves people and jumps at any chance to build relationship equity. He is always seeking ways to learn about new things and push his own limits. Mitch is passionate about finance and is in the process of co-founding a financial literacy company. Mitch currently works as Staff Assistant for one of the Vice Presidents at Dallas Baptist University while simultaneously pursuing his MBA. Upon completion of his MBA, he hopes to land a job in finance and is particularly intrigued with the venture capital/private equity field. In his free time, Mitch enjoys reading, cooking, golfing and running.



MATTHEW DUCE
DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Matt Duce moved to Texas from Sierra Vista, Arizona to attend Dallas Baptist University on an athletic scholarship. While at DBU, Matt played baseball for three years and was selected in the 2017 MLB Draft. Eager to return to school for his senior season, Matt chose not to sign. He was then drafted again in 2018 and went on to play two seasons of professional baseball for the St. Louis Cardinals. Matt graduated from DBU in 2018 and currently serves as a Project Manager in the Graduate Affairs Division. Matt and his wife, Jaycee are both MBA students at DBU and were married this October. Matt plans to one day create a staffing agency that is focused on helping employ former collegiate and professional athletes. A major part of Matt's business plan will include coaching, something often missed once out of sport. Matt hopes his company would act as a stepping stone for athletes as they transition into the workforce and make a positive impact on the world around them.



MITCHELL GUTHRIE

DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Originally from Fayetteville, Arkansas, Mitchell Guthrie is currently pursuing his MBA in finance at Dallas Baptist University. He graduated from DBU in 2019 with a BBA in finance and marketing and is employed full-time as an International Recruiter for DBU. Upon completing his MBA, he hopes to continue his education and earn a Ph.D. Long-term, Mitchell plans to partner with local communities through sports to provide safe locations for athletes to train and compete, while also providing jobs and opportunities to individuals within those communities.



NICHOLAS BELBAS

HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

The Stewart Morris Award

Nicholas Belbas is currently a student at Houston Baptist University pursuing a bachelor's degree in cyber engineering. He previously participated in FIRST Robotics for eight years and during his freshman year at HBU, worked with a classmate to develop a new kind of smart door access control. Due to high interest from a panel of judges, Nicholas and his teammate plan to continue the development of their prototype in hopes of creating a marketable product from their project. Nicholas also has a small business digitizing old home videotapes or personal audio cassettes for customers, providing a faster turnaround and offering lower prices as compared to other businesses.



YESENIA LOERA ROMO

LAMAR UNIVERSITY

The Ben J. Rogers Award

Yesenia Loera Romo graduated from Bob Hope High School in 2018 and enrolled at Lamar University as a first generation student. She is currently a senior double majoring in finance and economics. She plans to complete an MBA with a concentration in leadership by May 2022. Yesenia has worked in the restaurant industry for five years performing everything from bartender to manager to ensure that she graduates with no debt of any kind and is able to start her business soon after graduation. Yesenia's innovative mindset has led her to become passionate about the future of housing. Yesenia plans to start a 3D printed house community in the Golden Triangle of Southeast Texas. Her goals are to create jobs that people enjoy, to be a valuable and contributing member of society, and to live a long, happy life with her family.



ALEXA STACHOWIAK

RICE UNIVERSITY

T.T. & W.F. Chao Award

Alexa holds a BS in Pre-Med Health from Texas A&M University. She is currently pursuing an MBA from Rice University with a specialization in corporate investments and entrepreneurship. In addition, she works as a Senior Financial Analyst at United Airlines. In her free time she trades commodities and remains Co-Founder of several startups in different industries. After developing a passion for finding the "holes in healthcare," Alexa has created three healthcare softwares - one that is expected to launch in Urgent Cares across Texas in Summer of 2021. Alexa is the Founder and CEO of Healthgenex and hopes to continue innovating healthcare technology and pharmaceuticals in the near future.



KYLE ROCKIN McLAUGHLIN

RICE UNIVERSITY

AT&T Future Legend First in Family Award

Kyle McLaughlin is a graduate from the University of Florida currently pursuing an MBA at Rice University. At the age of 23, not only is Kyle recognized as one of the youngest in the Rice MBA program, but he has also accumulated over six years of full-time professional work experience working for the Houston Astros. Throughout his career, Kyle has demonstrated the tenacity necessary for success as an entrepreneur. His long-term goals include starting a company and contributing to Houston's community. Kyle is highly motivated to one day pay it forward and give back just as others have done the same in supporting him.



CLAYTON COTTLE

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

The SWBC Foundation Award

Clayton is an early-stage, aspiring entrepreneur with one goal: to help change the world. A native of Danville, IL, Clayton first earned his BS and MS in criminal justice sciences at Illinois State University. Now a first year MBA student at Sam Houston State University, where he also works in the Office of Research, he is striving to develop innovative products and solutions, build a consumer brand, and provide strategic support to others whose dreams were doubted. Clayton is the current President of the SHSU MBA Student Association. His brand and company, A STORY OF SELF-BELIEF, launched their first apparel line in October with many other designs in development. Clayton plans to participate in the Future Founders' Startup Bootcamp beginning in early 2021 to acquire the skillset and connections needed to quickly bring other products to market starting with a tool designed to clean and disinfect barbells. He would then like to pursue the development of other, more technological products.



JENKINS BENDER

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

The Robert H. Dedman Award

A native Dallasite, Jenkins Bender is thrilled to be pursuing her MBA at Southern Methodist University with a double concentration in finance and real estate. Previously, she graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with a degree in advertising. Raised by two entrepreneurial parents, Jenkins garnered a healthy respect for and cultivated a desire to work within the entrepreneurial world early on. She's particularly passionate about fostering human connection through hospitality, placemaking, and development, and aspires to harness the power of people and place to create exceptional experiences. To thoroughly understand the industry before she forges her own path, Jenkins plans on pursuing a career in commercial real estate. Alongside her entrepreneurial aspirations, Jenkins derives great joy from working with her community and is especially enthusiastic about childhood healthcare and educational organizations. Jenkins looks forward to deepening her roots in Texas and being a steward of her community.



STACY CARESSE TUBONEMI
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Stacy Tubonemi is a West African American who grew up in the US, Nigeria, and Liberia. She is a second year MBA student concentrating in Finance, Strategy and Entrepreneurship at Southern Methodist University where she also obtained her BBA degree in Finance. She is the President of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) SMU Chapter, and a Cox ambassador. Stacy, along with two classmates came up with the business idea "JewelTech." JewelTech was designed to specialize in the development of wearable tech-jewelry. The jewelry is designed to be offered in various designs and provide a suite of technological functions, all of which would be accessible and configurable via a custom-app on a smart-phone. The plan is to offer various wearable items integrated with a wide variety of technology, including tech specialized in health monitoring/fitness tracking, RFID, GPS, and others. This goal is to provide a low cost product that caters to the people of Texas and nearby states and help the elderly monitor their vital signs and keep track of their health issues. The TBHF award will enable Stacy to actualize her dream of helping disadvantaged kids back in her home country of Liberia.



BRIANNA SERROS
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

The Carlos & Malu Alvarez Award

Brianna Serros received her BA from the University of Texas at Austin in 2019. She is currently pursuing her MBA at St. Mary's University and will graduate with her Masters in December. At present, she works for OfficeSource, Ltd. in San Antonio where she manages their marketing department. Brianna currently owns Shop Cuatro, LLC., an online boutique. Cuatro draws inspiration from local classic designs and adds a sassy twist. It is a brand for the busy student, the chic fashionista, and the everyday minimalist. In the future she hopes to create a strong local presence and collaborate more with local artists. Cuatro offers trendy and affordable fashion to people of all ages by living loudly through minimal designs. Brianna is passionate about empowering women and bridging the gap between business and fashion.



BRISSA J. YTUARTE
ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

The William E. "Bill" Greehey Award

Brissa Ytuarte is a native Texan who spent her childhood living in Mexico before moving to El Paso. As a US citizen who couldn't afford to live in the states, she commuted to El Paso every morning from Juarez, Mexico for years. She received her Bachelor's degree from St. Mary's University in 2012. After working professionally for six years, she wanted to know how to implement a more diverse selection system in larger corporations while advocating for employee and customer needs. Brissa returned to St. Mary's to fulfill her graduate studies in industrial organizational psychology (earned in May of 2020) and an MBA which she'll be earning this December. She is the Senior Research Moderator in her Customer Insights Team at H-E-B's corporate headquarters, where she moderates focus groups for H-E-B's Own Brand product development teams, as well as conducting internal research and focus groups for employees to check on the health of the organization. Recently, she helped make an impact with her research on advocating for H-E-B Partners to increase their pay during Covid, providing educational resources for children's virtual schooling to help parents, and provide greater flexibility for Partners' schedules during these unprecedented times. Brissa hopes to continue to use her research to help organizations remain competitive in their industry on the product level as well as be rated as a best-in-class employer with data-driven decisions.



STEVEN NASH PORTER, JR.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Nash Porter is currently a graduate student at Texas A&M University pursuing an MBA with a concentration in finance. Growing up a persistent tinkerer, his major rule was "don't burn the house down," ultimately leading to an Electrical Engineering degree from Texas A&M in 2016. He is in the process of combining his two areas of study by developing Kisby- a virtual lifeguard system that detects when people may accidentally fall into a swimming pool. Kisby is currently in a developmental phase with ongoing aid and mentorship provided by MBA faculty, local incubators, and successful Texas A&M entrepreneurs. When not working on Kisby, Nash is kept busy by his MBA program where he is the Vice-President of the Texas A&M MBA Association and the Social and Events Chair for his class.



JENNIFER ANTONINI WHEELAN

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Jenny Wheelan is a passionate business entrepreneur and the founder of Integro Equus Wellness LLC, a team focused on leveraging innovation to aid in the recovery and conditioning of performance sport horses across the Permian Basin. Her passion for horses developed at a young age, through the United States Pony Club Association. Jenny firmly believes that strong horses help build and raise strong women, capable of changing the world. She is pursuing her Energy MBA from Texas Christian University, while simultaneously working as an analyst for Pioneer Natural Resources. Her education background includes a BS from Oklahoma State University in strategic communication, an emphasis in advertising and a minor in psychology. Jennifer plans to blend her love of learning with her passion for creative problem-solving, in hopes to one day become a member of the Texas Business Hall of Fame.



QWINTIRA TALLAMON

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Qwintira Tallamon, presently works for Capital One Bank as a Branch Ambassador and ATM custodian. Much of her entrepreneurial spirit is comprised of self-motivation and inner drive. She is a forward thinker, cultivated with new ideas and inspired by the people around her. She is self-motivated, creative, and a risk-taker who is passionate about the work she does and the people she serves. Qwintira's future entrepreneurial goals are to attain a career where she can use her specialized MBA skills combined with a strong business background to help organizations in accounting and tax preparation. Qwintira is optimistic about developing expertise in these and other related topics such as forensic accounting, where activities such as fraud and laundering money are investigated. She's very passionate about her professional skills and how they can be successfully implemented and managed to help organizations become more efficient and effective. Ultimately, she aspires to take the CPA exams and with her leadership skills and ethical values which will enable her to start a CPA firm in Texas while directly encouraging and mentoring coworkers and aspiring accountants in the community.



GREGORY TOBIAS
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Greg Tobias is the Founder and CEO of Jet Premium Finance, an insurance financing firm based in Austin. Jet Premium Finance utilizes proprietary fintech to serve agents, carriers and policyholders nationwide. In addition to Jet, Greg is involved in several other projects, including a blockchain platform for Lloyds of London insurers. In 2020, Greg launched BuilderCover, a construction industry concierge that matches project owners to service vendors, and Round Robin Email, a specialized email forwarding service. Away from work, Greg enjoys anything outdoors, playing guitar and spending time with his wife, Ashley, and two young sons, Tristan and Owen.



CALLEN STEWART
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The Pefanis Family Award

Callen Stewart grew up in Lubbock, Texas. He loved representing Frenship high school basketball team, reading, trading stocks, and golfing before college. At 16, Callen started his first business, a mobile car wash. The business continued to have success and growth for six years and grew to two vehicles and three trailers with five rotating employees year around. Upon graduation, Callen decided to open another business and is the founder and co-owner of West Texas Capital, a small business start-up focused on different sectors of real estate. He is focused on using AI and VR technology to incorporate new ideas to positively change the real estate landscape. Callen plans to expand throughout Texas as the business grows. He completed his BS in biological sciences in 2019 with focuses on personal finance and chemistry and is currently pursuing his STEM MBA at Texas Tech University, intending to graduate in December 2020.



HENRY BOLIVAR DORRIS, V
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY – FREE MARKET INSTITUTE

The McLane Company Reading Program

Henry "Holt" Dorris is currently a supply chain management undergraduate at the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. Holt has always had a knack for selling and worked his way from flipping thrift store goods to creating his own clothing brand. TownNorth Clothing has provided the first real opportunity in Holt's business world, with plans to grow into a well-known entity. His strong work ethic developed over the years stems from a long line of hard-working members of the Dorris family. This trait has helped Holt generate an adaptable TownNorth business plan, along with blueprints to sell home goods and accessories. Additionally, Holt now finds himself at the head of an existing marketing services firm called iCRM. During the 19-20' school year, he served as President of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter at Texas Tech University.



GARRETT DEWBRE
TRINITY UNIVERSITY

The Doug & Martha Hawthorne Family Fund Award

Garrett Dewbre studied accounting and biology at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, and is earning a Master of Science in healthcare administration at Trinity University in San Antonio. In 2016, Garrett co-founded a company that helps auto dealerships merchandise their online inventory with virtual reality and 360 degree media. This company was later acquired by a top-100 auto group. His latest project, HealthBlox, is an electronic health record (EHR) development platform for EHR developers. HealthBlox was recently a finalist in the Trinity University Healthcare PRISM Pitch Competition. In his free time, Garrett enjoys golfing, basketball, and spending time with loved ones.



CHRISTIANA FOTE
UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Christiana Fote is originally from Houston and is currently pursuing an MBA at the University of Dallas. After graduating from The Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, she joined Kimley-Horn where she works in municipal roadway design. She was drawn to this industry because it allows her to be engaged in her community while employing her skills in math and science. Christiana appreciates the opportunity to see her work positively impact transportation systems, parks, and developments in the DFW metroplex. By one day owning her own engineering firm, she hopes to further encourage public and private sector partnerships. In addition to her technical background, she has always had a passion for the arts and music. Christiana attributes her accomplishments to her parents who always encouraged her to think independently and creatively.



ISAIAH HAYES
UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Isaiah Hayes was born and raised in Arlington, Texas. Isaiah, demonstrated his entrepreneurial mentality at an early age, seeing his mother struggle financially. These struggles stimulated Isaiah to not feel as if a "burden" in asking for what other kids were getting and buying. So, he took it upon himself to find a way to make money by painting and customizing sneakers. This was Isaiah's source of income from middle school through high school which he branded ISO Customs. Many thought that "ISO" came from his love for basketball but it was actually an acronym for "I Stand Out." He wanted to encourage and inspire others to get shoes customized rather than wearing the same pair that their friends wore. A student athlete who graduated in the top three percent of his class of nearly a thousand, Isaiah attended the University of Dallas in Irving. He chose to stay close to home, in order to stay involved with his three younger sisters' lives. This past May he graduated as a dual-student athlete and as cum laude from the University of Dallas with a Bachelor of Arts degree in business. At the university, Isaiah shifted from ISO Customs to ISO Supply, as he saw that people were gravitating toward vintage clothing and sneakers. Since then he has broadened his market from strictly customizing sneakers to involving other aspects in fashion. Isaiah hopes that his small start up will become larger and aims to open a physical store within the next year.



EDISSON RAMOS
UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Edison Ramos was born in Tarma, Peru, and moved to Texas at the age of four. He attended the University of Dallas where he became the first person from his family to graduate from college. During his time in college, he created the Groundhog Library. This is an initiative that gives free textbooks to students in need. Edison plans on expanding this project across multiple universities in Texas in the near future. Starting in September, he will be working for AT&T where he will enter their B2B Sales Development Program.



VERONICA HERRERA

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

T.T. & W.F. Chao Award

Veronica Herrera is a first-generation American and a first-generation college student at the University of Houston's C.T. Bauer College of Business. Her passion for innovation and entrepreneurship led her to the Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship. She is pursuing a degree in business administration with a concentration in entrepreneurship and marketing with a minor in Sales. Veronica has recently founded Verrera Consulting, a marketing and strategy consulting company that helps businesses in Houston reach their goals. Additionally, she has created a division called Uplift Outsourcing, which aims to help uplift those who are homeless or suffer from mental health disorders. Uplift Outsourcing provides them with tailored work opportunities and development in order to help them gain confidence and feel in control of their lives. Veronica would like to thank God, her family, the Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship, and Texas Business Hall of Fame for all of the help and support.



JAIRO EMMANUEL CRUCES

UNIVERSITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD

The H-E-B Award

Jairo Cruces is currently pursuing his MBA in finance at the University of the Incarnate Word, having previously completed his BBA in management. Born and raised in Kerrville, his entrepreneurial journey led him to the University of the Incarnate Word with an athletic scholarship. Jairo competed in NCAA Division 1 athletics as a member of the cross country and track and field team. In the Fall of 2017, he became the CEO/ co-founder (alongside his father) of Cruces Cedar Clearing LLC., a land management company whose primary purpose is to provide land stewardship and provide services that involve the recycling of natural products, water solutions and wildlife conservation. The company has grown as a prominent land management company. Jairo has recently received his Texas Real Estate License and plans to integrate real estate to continue community development and outdoor conservation. He has purchased several acres to expand his business's product line along with developing housing opportunities for his local community. Jairo is a member of the Kerrville Chamber of Commerce, UIW CEO Entrepreneurship Vice President of Communications and a lead advocate for the H-E-B School of Business at UIW. He was invited to exhibit his business at the 2019 Forbes 30 Under 30 event in Detroit, MI. Jairo will complete his MBA in December, 2020 and aspires to continue building his business and real estate.



JUSTIN R. WOOD

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

Justin Wood completed his undergrad studies in 2009 from the University of North Texas with dual BBA Degrees in business economics and marketing. His target MBA graduation is 2021 from UNT. Justin is a mortgage production expert and licensed loan originator in Texas. Justin's future business goals with his company, Wood Principal Finance, is to a stand-alone mortgage company and wealth management firm, built on the foundation of helping the next generation of first-time homebuyers and homeowners in Texas. Justin's company educates and provides complete information to the consumers for free. His customers receive videos, live consultations, and workshops, his customers understand what to do and how to do it by the time they're ready to buy or how to get ready to buy. By educating first time buyers on the purchasing experience, Justin helps Texans make the best decisions for their families in one of the biggest investments of their life. The homebuying experience shouldn't be the headache that many believe it to be and with Wood Principal Finance, it isn't. Justin is a full-time husband, part time golfer, short time wine and cigar aficionado. He currently resides in Prosper, TX.



ANDREW BOURDILLON

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

The Mike A. Myers Award

Originally from a small farming town in South Africa, Andrew Bourdillon studied accounting and finance at the University of Cape Town. He then spent five years with Deloitte, in their London and then Chicago-based audit practices, serving fast-growing, often private equity-backed companies, in a range of industries. Seeking a career change, in 2019, Andrew returned to business school to pursue a pivot into VC/PE or start his own business after graduating from the McCombs School of Business MBA program, at UT Austin. Whilst in school Andrew has been interning at Brand Foundry Ventures, an early-stage, consumer focused VC firm and spent his summer at Amherst Residential - a fast-growing Private Equity firm, focused on the SFR and Real Estate verticals. Andrew has loved and valued both experiences and is optimistic that they will greatly assist him achieve his goals. Andrew is a huge sports, endurance events and outdoor enthusiast, a true dog-lover and considers his leadership potential, interpersonal skills and grounding to be his greatest differentiators.



BRANDON KARAM

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

T.T. & W.F. Chao "Chairman's" Award

Brandon Karam is a native Texan born in San Antonio. He received a mechanical engineering degree from Rice University, a law degree from George Washington University, and is now completing an Executive MBA at the University of Texas McCombs School of Business. While practicing law, Brandon and his first cousin founded Pristine Sprays, to create more natural and eco-friendly cosmetic and personal care products that are better for the skin and more sustainable for the planet. Brandon and his cousin had the opportunity to pitch their flagship "flushable wet wipe alternative" on ABC's "Shark Tank" in 2019. Pristine has since seen significant growth in 2020 with three appearances on Good Morning America and an increased consumer focus on personal care products and ecommerce products.



VICTORIA LEIGH MESSERSCHMIDT

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

The Kelcy Warren Graduate Fellowship for Engineering

Victoria Messerschmidt grew up outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and graduated with her BS in Biomedical Engineering from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Victoria then moved to Arlington, Texas to pursue her PhD in Biomedical Engineering. Having been born with a cardiac defect, she was determined to prove that her heart was not defective, only different. In the Fall of 2019, she started her business, Cordis Health, then entered and won the Maverick Entrepreneurship Program and Award. Her determination, biomedical knowledge, and ability to connect with patients will allow her to connect rural cardiac patients and their cardiologists.



BRITTANY BRUNSON

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Brittany Brunson is originally from Richardson, TX and is pursuing an MBA at the University of Texas at Dallas. In her undergraduate studies at the University of Arkansas, Brittany co-founded Brunson Bump System in 2015, a company that developed a software program to eliminate the manual tasks involved in sorority recruitment. The company has since transformed into BBMC Solutions after selling the software to several universities. Most recently, BBMC Solutions brought on a sorority at the University of Alabama as a customer and optimized the program to work in a virtual recruitment environment. Brittany also currently works for Southwest Airlines on the Customer Experience (CX) Team, where she collaborates on developing the strategy behind all aspects of the customer journey. Prior to the CX team, she led the delivery of initiatives on the WiFi/Inflight Entertainment team including Apple Pay Inflight, Captive Portal (WISPr), and a complete Portal redesign.



PHILIP SCOTT MILLER, III

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Philip Miller, also known as "Red", is a native of Dallas and has managed and operated Crull Fitness, a sports performance training center, since graduating from The University of Texas at Austin in 2011. Crull Fitness has become a staple in Richardson for aspiring athletes along with individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities across the region for the past 13 years. Through Philip's extensive network of collegiate and professional players and coaches who he has met through Crull Fitness, Philip launched his 2nd company, PM3 Sports, a full service sports agency, in February 2019 and founded it on the basis of leveraging current connections and capitalizing on future potential growth in the sports industry. A sports agency's biggest expenses and most common failure is the acquisition cost of players and training costs. Philip discovered a potential competitive advantage by leveraging his existing relationships and his ownership of a sports performance training center. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, PM3 Sports plans to sign 10 players on NFL rosters by Fall 2022. The ultimate goal is to invest into both companies developing an all under one roof performance center for both athletes and those with special needs.



GAURAV SETHI

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS

The Mitchell Family Foundation Award

Gaurav Sethi is an Honors graduate of the University of Texas at Dallas with a bachelor's degree in finance and actuarial science. He will join J.P. Morgan as an investment banking risk analyst this fall. Gaurav is also Co-Founder and CFO of CampusOven, an affordable and convenient meal delivery startup that connects students and work-from-home employees to local caterers. CampusOven has been his first step in creating change in the food industry, and with the help of the Texas Business Hall of Fame award, Gaurav strives to make a positive impact in people's lives through affordable and accessible healthy food. To date, CampusOven has proudly served over 1000 meals and done \$10K in revenue. The company continues to improve its technological foundation and hopes to expand to major college campuses across the state of Texas by the end of 2021. Since piloting at UTD this February, CampusOven has already started delivery on SMU's campus and is continuing to hire more talent to scale its logistics and marketing operations.



YAW SAM

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT RIO GRANDE VALLEY

James and Kathleen Collins & Vantage Bank Texas Future Texas Business Legend Award

Yaw Sam is a young entrepreneur, born in Accra, Ghana, where he attended high school. He now attends the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. As a Marketing student at UTRGV, Yaw was very involved in student leadership and served as a Senator for the UTRGV Robert C. Vackar College of Business & Entrepreneurship as well as several other business organizations. He graduated in May 2020 and is currently working on his MBA. Yaw is very passionate about entrepreneurship and aspires to be CEO of a Fortune 500 company. He currently works as a Social Media Influencer at the largest Auto Group in South Texas, Bert Ogden Rio Grande Valley. Yaw is also working on a mobile application that helps young people find mentors and book sessions to help them through their personal journeys. The mobile application is set to officially launch in the Spring of 2021 and looks to help several young people find people who can help them in both their academic life and professional life as well. His favorite quote is "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams" by Eleanor Roosevelt.



ANTHONY GANTT

MARINE CORPS

Nau Future Texas Legend Marine Corps Veteran Award
At Ease Rentals

Anthony Gantt is a Major in the U.S. Marine Corps with over 21 years of honorable service and currently serves as the Marine Officer Instructor for the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Texas at Austin. He holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Anthony's personal achievements include the Bronze Star Medal with device "V", Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, two Good Conduct Medals, Selective Marine Corps Reserve Medal, and six Sea Service Deployment Ribbons. Anthony founded At Ease Rentals Corporation "At Ease" to assist federal employees and active-duty military to find affordable short-term rentals for relocation of assignment moves and temporary duty travel. Since going live in January 2020, At Ease has been able to increase its listings to over 600 properties in eight states. Over the last six months, Anthony has completed DIVINC pre-accelerator, completed the Mass Challenge accelerator, won the \$12,000 3rd Place during the Hofstra University Veteran Venture Challenge, \$5,000 1st Place Black Men Talk Tech Veteran Pitch Competition, and won the Mass Challenge 2020 Pitch Competition in Austin.



DYAN GIBBENS

AIR FORCE

The Douglas L. Foshee Future Texas Legend Veteran Award
Trumbull Unmanned

Dyan Gibbens leads Trumbull, a drone enabled ESG data provider serving energy and government to enhance environmental sustainability. Dyan studied engineering, instructed skydiving, and learned to fly at the US Air Force Academy. While an acquisitions officer, she earned her MBA. Dyan supported Air Force One and Global Hawk engineering and logistics. Her PhD research in RF/wireless systems, computer vision/machine learning, and UAV based hydrocarbon sequestration led to Dyan becoming an SPE Distinguished Lecturer. Dyan supported White House drone initiatives during Obama and Trump administrations, gaining Fortune and Forbes recognition, and supported G7 I7 in Italy. In 2019, Google selected Dyan as one of eight globally for an Advanced Technology External Advisory Council and serves on AI, drone/robotics, and space centric boards. In 2020, the White House nominated Dyan to serve on the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI) as one of nine U.S. delegates where she is on the Responsible AI steering group.



JUDSON KAUFFMAN

NAVY

Terradepth

Jud Kauffman, a native Texan, dropped out of college early and became a Navy SEAL, deploying three times to Iraq and earning multiple combat distinguishments. After his military career, Jud returned to school to earn a degree from Belmont University before becoming a serial entrepreneur. Jud is a co-inventor on three US patents and has co-founded five companies, including a distillery, a consulting firm, a security company, a construction company, and an ocean robotics company. He enjoys volunteering his time supporting teenagers' personal development, transitioning military personnel, and aspiring entrepreneurs. Jud is a devoted father with a deep passion for nature and the outdoors.



SAMANTHA SNABES

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Re:3D

Samantha Snabes is an Officer in the Air National Guard and the CEO for re:3D where she facilitates connections between others printing at the human-scale and/or using recycled materials to access locally driven manufacturing. A serial entrepreneur, she volunteers as the Global Chair of the IEEE Entrepreneurship Steering Committee. This year Samantha was honored to accept the Austin Women's Way Technology Innovation Award as well as the Consumer Technology Associations Company of the Year Award on behalf of re:3D. In addition to profitably selling affordable, large-scale 3D printers to 50+ countries since 2013, re:3D has invented a novel way to 3D print directly from trash. As a social enterprise, re:3D donates one printer to someone committed to making a difference for every 100 sales, and has partnered with Impact Hub during COVID to donate PPE to marginalized small businesses seeking to re-open safely. Previously, Samantha served as the Social Entrepreneur in Residence for the NASA HQ and Deputy Strategist supporting the NASA Johnson Space Center's Space Life Sciences Directorate after selling a start-up for a DARPA-funded, co-patented tissue culture device. Samantha holds a BS in Biology, BA degrees in International Relations and Hispanic Studies, a MBA with concentrations in Supply Chain Management and International Relations, and certifications as a firefighter & EMT-B.