

University Achievement Award

Meredith Hughes

Anekah Kelley

Rylan Robb

Sophomore:

Jazmin Darjean

Juniors:

Jagger Bay

Matthew Benedict

Miles Chen

Camryn Chung

Kaley Chung

Zander Crowns

Elizabeth Dorin

Gabrielle English

Karim Faraj

Julianne Flynn

Zoey Hess

Walker Homan

Hayden Horn

Anekah Kelley

Anna Leo

Juliana Lu

Zachary Lubar

Zareenah Murad

Kaylie Nguyen

Tyler Olbright

Juniors (cont):

Rylan Robb

Samuel Rodick

Amberly Seaburn

Shriya Siddhartha

Janie Tompkins

Elise Waterson

Holly Xue

Seniors:

Samantha Augustus

Marion Dunlap

Abbie Ellermeier

Andrew Farhat

Meredith Hughes

Jentry Lamirand

Courtney McColley

Kirk Ogunrinde

Tami Olujobi

Rakesh Venkat

Dylan Vincent

Mille Wiita

Dylan Wolchko

Chloe Young

Robert Stewart Hyer Society

27 April 2025

Awardees:

University Achievement Award

Meredith Hughes is a Chemistry major at Southern Methodist University with a focus on nuclear and medicinal chemistry, with minors in Classical Studies and Art History. Passionate about the intersection of science, history, and innovation, they plan to take a gap year to conduct research before attending law school to specialize in chemical patent law. Her work bridges technical expertise with legal advocacy, aiming to protect scientific advancements while ensuring accessibility and ethical development.

Anekah Kelley is a junior majoring in Computer Science, Mathematics, and Business Analytics and Supply Chain Management with minors in History and Data Science. She is the President of the South Asian Student Association, the Advocacy Chair of Asian Council, a Resident Assistant in Kathy Crow Commons, and plays trumpet in the Mustang Band. After graduation, Anekah plans to pursue a PhD in Environmental Engineering.

Ryland Robb is a junior President's Scholar from Maputo, Mozambique, majoring in Finance with a specialization in Alternative Asset Management and minoring in Public Policy and International Affairs as a Tower Scholar. During his time at SMU, he has interned with multiple investment firms and currently leads energy sector research for the Boulevard Investment Group. He has also served in SMU's Student Senate, most recently as Student Body Treasurer, and will serve next year as the Student Representative to the Board of Trustees on the Investment Committee. After graduation, Ryland plans to enter the investment industry, leveraging his background in finance and public policy.

Seniors

Samantha Augustus, a senior from Allen, Texas, is majoring in Finance with a specialization in Alternative Assets, while also pursuing a minor in both Neuroscience and Law & Legal Reasoning. She is a SMU Distinguished Scholar, Cox School of Business BBA Scholar, and a Pre-Law Scholar. Samantha thanks the SMU community, especially the professors, faculty, alumni, and mentors of the Cox School of Business for their ongoing support and invaluable guidance.

Marion Dunlap is a senior from Rogers, Arkansas, double majoring in Business Management and Political Science. She is a Pre-Law Scholar, a Calculus I teaching assistant, student ambassador for the admissions office, and serves on the Vice President of Student Affairs advisory board. One of Marion's favorite roles at SMU has been leading the Mustang Band as Drumline Captain, and her peers honored her with the Ms. Mustang Band award for her outstanding leadership and spirit. After graduation, Marion is heading back to Arkansas to start law school at the University of Arkansas.

Abbie Ellermeier is a senior from Curtis, Nebraska, majoring in Marketing at the Cox School of Business with a minor in Advertising. Before transferring to SMU, she earned a place on the Chancellor's Honor Roll at her community college and was awarded the Transfer Merit Scholarship. At SMU, she was selected for the Honors Marketing Practicum, a course reserved for top-performing marketing students. Outside the classroom, Abbie works as a freelance makeup artist for Estée Lauder, combining her passion for beauty with hands-on industry experience. This summer, she will study abroad through the SMU London Business program, where she will gain hands-on international internship experience. After graduating in December, Abbie plans to combine her creativity with strategic thinking to pursue a marketing career in the beauty industry.

Andrew Farhat is a senior graduating with a BS in Biological Sciences and a BA in Economics, where he won the Wallace F. Lovejoy Economics award. Andrew has led multiple organizations including serving as President and CPR Instructor at Mustang EMS; Vice President, Risk Manager, and Scholarship Chair of Sigma Chi; Executive Leader of Operations at Students Engaged in Rounding and Volunteering at Texas Health Dallas; as well as being a Robert Mayer Research Fellow. Andrew was inducted into Alpha Chi and Omicron Delta Epsilon his junior year, and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa this year. After graduation, Andrew will be attending UT Southwestern Medical School.

Jentry Lamirand is a senior from Fort Worth, Texas, majoring in Accounting. She serves as the captain of the nationally ranked SMU Volleyball team and advocates for student-athletes through her roles on both the SMU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Atlantic Coast Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. She is also a member of the Leadership Team for Team IMPACT, where she helps foster inclusive mentorship for children with chronic illnesses. Upon

graduation, she will pursue a Master of Science in Accounting with a concentration in Taxation at SMU. After completing her graduate studies, Jentry plans to attend law school and pursue a career in corporate law.

Courtney McColley is a senior graduating with a BFA in Dance Performance with a double minor in Statistical Science and Applied Physiology Health Management. In addition to the Hyer Society, she has been recognized as a Distinguished Scholar, Artistic Scholar, and has received the Meadows Undergraduate Impact Scholarship. While at SMU, she has served in leadership roles as a member of Delta Gamma, cast in countless dance performances through the Meadows Division of Dance, and was featured in the 2025 Center for Faith and Learning Symposium. Further, she has had the opportunity to study abroad in Tivoli, Italy and through the SMU-in-Oxford program. Following graduation, Courtney plans to pursue a career as a professional dancer, and eventually, attend physical therapy school.

Kirk Ogunrinde is a senior double majoring in Computer Science and Journalism. He has served as the Sports Editor of the SMU Daily Campus, a Connect Mentor advising first-generation students, and a Career Consultant at the Hegi Career Centre advising students in their professional journeys. He was also chosen as one of 12 African American students across the nation for the selective Institute for Responsible Citizenship program in Washington D.C. where he met with public and private sector leaders for two summers. Kirk has been named a George McElroy scholar with the Headliners Foundation recognizing young student journalists. After graduation, he will be joining Bloomberg News in New York for a fellowship.

Rakesh Venkat is a Senior from Plano, Texas. He is a BBA Distinguished Scholar in the University Honors Program. He is double majoring in Finance and Data Science with minors in International Film Studies and Operations Research Engineering Management. On campus, Rakesh is involved in the Alternative Asset Management Program, Collegiate Consulting Academy, studied abroad in Oxford and the Mediterranean, and is a Bridwell Reading Scholar. He is also the President of Consult Your Community, Co-Founder of Scholars of Finance, and served on the leadership team with The Big Event Service Organization. After graduation, he will be joining FTI Consulting as an M&A Analyst here in Dallas.

Dylan Vincent is a senior graduating from the Cox School of Business, majoring in Finance with a specialization in the Encap & LCM Alternative Asset Management Honors Program. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Scholarship as well as the Susie V. and Edgar W. Armentrout Scholarship. On campus, he serves as President of the BBA Finance Club, Chief and Managing Editor of the Mustang Business Journal, Executive Committee Member of the Student Senate Organizations Committee, Junior Executive of the Boulevard Investment Group, and member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. After

graduation, he will join Capital Group as a CAP Associate, beginning a three-year global rotational program in London this September.

Mille Wiita is a junior majoring in Human Rights and Psychology, with a minor in Law & Legal Reasoning. She serves as one of the Strategic Directors for the Human Rights Council, as well as the Chair of the Police Community Advisory Board on campus. Ultimately, she aspires to a career in human rights that is dedicated to helping others and to having a positive impact on the world.

Dylan Wolchko is a senior graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a minor in Art History. He has conducted research at a publicly traded biotech company and in Dr. Wu's lab on campus. He has worked in hospice care and served as a CPR trainee with Mustang EMS. He has received several awards and joined multiple honor societies, including Phi Beta Kappa, the Hyer Society, AED, SMU's General and Organic Chemistry Awards, Honor Roll with Distinction, and Mortar Board's Top 10 Sophomores. He led the Dedman College Scholars as both Vice President and President, and was also a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. Next year, he will be attending medical school.

Chloe Young is a senior graduating with a B.F.A. in Dance Performance and a B.A. in Public Relations and Strategic Communication as a Second Century Scholar, Meadows Artistic Scholar, and Douglas Bauer Scholarship recipient. Most recently, she was awarded SMU's Outstanding Senior 2025. She was selected to serve as Commencement Marshal in SMU Meadows School of the Arts graduation ceremony this May. She has served the SMU community as two-term president of the Public Relations Student Society of America, SMU chapter; and she was selected by her peers as Student Representative to the Chair of SMU's Division of Dance, serving as a liaison between students, faculty, and administration. She has performed various featured roles in capstone dance performances of classical and contemporary dance works, and she will conclude her dance degree choreographing her own work for fellow SMU Dance B.F.A. students, premiering May 2025. She is involved in Student Foundation, RUF (Reformed University Fellowship), and as Director of Wellness in her sorority. She has also studied abroad in London and Italy as well as at SMU-In-Taos. Beyond graduation, she plans to blend her passions in her two majors to bring corporate knowledge and media relations to dance and the arts.

Juniors

Jagger Bay is a junior from Kilgore, Texas, pursuing a double major in Management and Political Science. He has contributed to the SMU community through his roles as President and Student Program Coordinator of Loyd Commons. Beyond campus, he remains engaged with the broader Dallas community by volunteering at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum. Following graduation, Jagger intends to spend three years in the field of management consulting before returning to SMU to pursue the joint Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration program.

Matthew Benedict is a junior in the University Honors Program majoring in Computer Science and minoring in Japanese. He earned the Excellent Performance in Chemistry award from the SMU Department of Chemistry. Outside of classwork, he is the lead moderator of a Reddit community of over 50,000 members that focuses on removing software restrictions from older Apple devices, as well as works on projects like CyberKit, which attempts to run newer browsers on those devices despite the technical challenges posed by Apple's restrictions. In the near future, he plans to pursue graduate school and an eventual career in software engineering.

Miles Chen is a junior from Beaverton, Oregon studying Business Analytics and Computer Science with a minor in Music. He is a President's Scholar and has been involved in activities such as Epic Movement campus ministry, Data Analytics Club, and Engage Dallas. He will be interning in Dallas this summer and looks forward to starting his career in consulting.

Camryn Chung is a junior finance major with a real estate specialization in the Cox School of Business. She is a member of Alpha Chi National College Honor Society and Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honor Society. Camryn competes internationally as part of the United States Under 21 Emerging Athlete Program and is a Junior Olympic silver medalist in equestrian sport. She plans to attend law school to pursue a career in sports and corporate law, combining her expertise in business with her passion for advocacy and strategic problem-solving.

Kaley Chung is a Junior majoring in Economics with Finance Applications, where she has developed a strong interest in financial markets and investment strategy. Outside the classroom, Kaley is a competitive equestrian and also enjoys working to improve her photography skills. After college, she hopes to pursue a career or related role in investment and financial analysis, helping clients make strategic financial and economic decisions.

Zander Crowns is a junior pursuing majors in English with a Creative Writing Specialty, and a major in Film and Media Arts. He is a member of the University Honors Program, a Dedman Scholar, recipient of the Marsh Terry Creative Writing Scholarship, and recently became a part of the Kappa Tau Alpha Honor Society. During his final year at SMU, Zander will be pursuing distinction in both of

his majors by developing a short film and a novella. Upon graduation, he will work towards making a career in the film industry as a screenwriter and maybe even a director.

Libby Dorin is a junior majoring in Journalism with a minor in Corporate Communications and Public Affairs, and she is also a Pre-Law Scholar. She previously worked as a Research Assistant at the Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center and was selected for SMU's Office of Engaged Learning Summer Research Intensive. Libby will begin work this summer as a legal intern at the Leinart Bankruptcy Law Firm. In addition, Libby has immersed herself in media and creative production--serving on the SMU Football Creative Media Team and contributing to SMU's Daily Campus. Libby serves as Personnel Chair for Chi Omega Iota Alpha and is a member of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity. Academic memberships include the National Society of Leadership and Success and the Golden Key International Honor Society. After graduation, Libby plans to attend law school and pursue a career as a corporate attorney.

Gabby English is a junior from Naples, Florida, majoring in Dance Performance and Psychology with a minor in History. She is a member of the President's Scholar, University Honors, and Meadows Scholar programs. While at SMU, Gabby has been cast in works by George Balanchine, Paul Taylor, and Silas Farley, among others. She has attended summer intensives with BalletX, Paul Taylor, Sarasota Ballet, and this summer with Boca Ballet Theater. She co-chaired the inaugural Division of Dance Open House. Gabby is a research assistant in the Delta lab under Dr. Nathan Hutson, studying personality psychology, specifically borderline personality disorder. After graduation, Gabby intends to pursue a professional dance career.

Karim Faraj is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Analytics and Supply Chain Management, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Data Science. He is a proud member of the Hilltop Scholars Program and has received the SMU Distinguished Scholar and Mustang Award scholarships. He has recently completed an impactful internship in supply chain management in Honduras, his home country, generating significant cost savings through data-driven strategies, and looks forward to the possibility of another internship this summer in the United States to continue strengthening his knowledge and experience.

Julianne Flynn is a junior double majoring in Management Science and Business Analytics & Supply Chain Management. She has been inducted into Alpha Chi National College Honor Society, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, Beta Gamma Sigma, Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society, and Omega Rho International Honor Society. Outside of class, she conducts research with the Data Science and Research Hub, tutors at the Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center, and is the president of SMU's Asian Council. This summer, she will intern with AT&T's Supply

Chain Sourcing team and plans to continue working in the Supply Chain industry following her graduation in May 2026.

Zoey Hess is a junior pursuing a double major in Business Management and Psychology. She is a Hunt Leadership Scholar, a member of the University Honors Program, and currently serves as the Scholarship Chair for Student Senate. Outside of class, she leads the marketing team for The Big Event, the largest student-led community service project at SMU, and has interned in consulting and corporate leadership roles. After graduation, Zoey plans to pursue a career in management consulting with a focus on organizational strategy and people-driven transformation.

Walker Homan, a proud Dallas native, is a Junior majoring in Economics with minors in Political Science and Mathematics. On campus, he is a research assistant for Dr. Cloward, a Mustang Mentor, and a member of SMU UKirk. Off campus, he is a tutor at nearby McShan Elementary School, helping students new to the English language hone their reading skills. After graduation, Walker hopes to be a lawyer, though that could change as he continues to explore his variegated academic interests.

Hayden Horn is a junior majoring in Business Management and International Studies, and minoring in Spanish and History. He serves in the Student Senate and as President of Sigma Nu Fraternity. He is also a member of the University Honors Program, Phi Beta Kappa and the Vice President for Student Affairs Student Advisory Board. After college, he plans to attend law school or work in consulting.

Anna Leo is a junior President's Scholar majoring in Operations Research. She serves as the President of Ware Commons, Vice President of Programming for Program Council, and Vice President of Internal Affairs for the Society of Women Engineers. In addition to her leadership roles, she works as a campus tour guide and will be interning at JP Morgan in New York City this summer. After graduating in December, she hopes to pursue a master's degree in Operations Research.

Juliana Lu is a junior from Dallas, Texas and is double majoring in Finance and Psychology with minors in French and Public Policy and International Affairs through the Nexpoint Tower Scholars Program. At SMU, she is a BBA Scholar, a SMU Distinguished Scholar, a member of the University Honors Program, and a member of the Alternative Assets Program. She serves as president of SMU's premier acapella group, the Belle Tones, is an active member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority, and was recently nominated to SMU's Board of Trustees as Student Representative to the Finance & Audit Committees. Last summer, she studied abroad with the SMU-in-France program, and this summer, she will be interning at the JP Morgan Private Bank in Dallas, TX. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a career in private wealth management.

Zack Lubar is a junior finance major in the Alternative Asset Management Program. He is a Founders' Scholar, a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society, and a recipient of the SMU Early Achievement Award. On campus, Zack has served as a Teaching Assistant for Accounting 6201 and as a Research Assistant on a faculty-led paper exploring the role of tax havens as a driver of mergers and acquisitions. He is also passionate about sports and spent two years as a student manager for the SMU Men's Basketball team. This summer, Zack will join Lazard in New York City as an Investment Banking Summer Analyst.

Zareenah Murad is a junior majoring in Computer Science, with a specialization in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, and Data Science, while also pursuing a minor in Religious Studies. She is part of the Lyle Accelerated Pathways program and is working toward a master's in Computer Science. Zareenah serves as the External Vice President of the Muslim Student Association and has worked as a Teaching Assistant in both the Mathematics and Computer Science departments. She also previously served as a Teaching Assistant for Girls Who Code, introducing high school girls to programming and helping spark their interest in tech. Outside of school, she teaches Sunday School at the Islamic Association of Allen and will intern this summer as a Software Developer at Blue Cross Blue Shield. Ultimately, she hopes to pursue a career at the intersection of technology and education.

Tami Olujobi is a junior from Lagos, Nigeria, majoring in Economics with a minor in Graphic Design. She is the PR Chair for the African Students Association, a member of the SMU Look fashion magazine art team, and a CONNECT Mentor. Tami also works at the Deason Innovation Gym and serves as a Student Ambassador for Undergraduate Admissions, and has been inducted into Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international economics honor society. With a passion for creativity and strategy, she hopes to pursue a career in marketing.

Kaylie Nguyen is a junior with double majors in Data Science and Statistical Science, and minors in Computer Science and Business. She is a Dedman College Scholar, a Provost Scholar, a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Mortarboard, and part of the University Honors Program. In addition to serving as an executive board member of Data Analytics Club, Chinese Student Association, and Housing Unification Board, she works as a research assistant in the OREM department and a Peer Advisor with the SMU Abroad office. She enjoys traveling and has studied abroad twice, in Oxford for a summer and Copenhagen for a semester. This summer, she will be interning with Charles Schwab in their Westlake office and plans to pursue a master's degree in Data Science and Applied Statistics after graduation.

Tyler Olbright is a junior triple majoring in Computer Science, Data Science, and Business Analytics & Supply Chain Management. Beyond the classroom, he is Vice President of External Relations for

the Data Analytics Club, a teaching assistant in the Cox School of Business, and has served as Secretary for his fraternity, Beta Upsilon Chi. In his free time, he enjoys attending church with his friends and playing tennis, pickleball, and basketball.

Sam Rodick is a junior from Niskayuna, New York studying History and Political Science, with minors in General Anthropology, Human Rights, Classical Studies, and Public Policy and International Affairs. He is also a Nexpoint Tower Scholar, a Dedman College Scholar, and a member of the University Honors Program. He also works as a resident assistant in Armstrong Commons and as a student worker at the Center for Presidential History. He intends to attend law school after graduating from SMU, with the hope of specializing in voting rights and constitutional law.

Amberly Seaburn is a junior majoring in Dance Performance with a minor in Applied Physiology and Sports Management. She is a dedicated artist and leader, serving as the dance major's student representative for the Dance Class of 2026 and Director of Inclusion for Alpha Delta Pi sorority. The recognitions, however, that mean the most to her include the Emerald Belle Kindness Award (2021), Team MVP Award (2021), and the Leadership Award (2018), which reflect her character, dedication, and commitment to uplifting those around her. She aspires to perform professionally in a contemporary ballet or modern dance company and later pursue a master's degree in Dance to contribute to the field as a choreographer and collegiate professor.

Shriya Siddhartha is a junior Biochemistry major at SMU with minors in Neuroscience, Public Policy and International Affairs and is an aspiring physician-researcher. She is a Dedman College Scholar, a Tower Scholar, a Hamilton and Richter Fellow, a University Honors Program member, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa this year. After graduation, Shriya seeks to conduct research on the pathophysiology of neurodegenerative diseases while exploring the political-economic factors underlying global healthcare disparities.

Janie Tompkins is a junior from Boston, Massachusetts double majoring in French and Finance with an Energy Management specialization. On campus, she is a member of the Spindletop Energy Investment Fund and will serve as Chief Investment Officer for the 2025-2026 school year. She is also a member of the En Cap Investments & LCM Group Alternative Asset Management Program, University Honors Program, and volunteers in Dallas public schools through Reading Partners North Texas. During the school year, she works at Venable Royalty, Ltd. and will be working at Lazard's Houston office as an investment banking summer intern in 2025.

Elise Waterson is a junior from Dallas, Texas, double majoring in Advertising with a specialization in Digital Media Strategy and Public Relations and Strategic Communication with a minor in

Psychology. She competed in the National Student Advertising Competition representing SMU in April 2025, serving as a presenter and member of the media team. Currently, she is Vice President of Programming of Student Foundation where she previously held the position of Campus Events Chair, planning Peruna Palooza and Celebration of Lights. She also serves as a Community Ambassador and House Manager for the Iota Alpha chapter of Chi Omega. This summer, Elise will work as a Media Intern at Arm Candy, an advertising media agency in Dallas.

Holly Xue is a junior from Lucas, Texas, majoring in Finance and minoring in Law and Legal Reasoning. In her time at SMU, she has taken part in the Alternative Assets Program, AKPsi business fraternity, and the SMU-in-Oxford program - as well as serving as Director of Finance for The Big Event, and mentor in the Cox Accelerator Program. She is excited to continue exploring her interest in private equity this summer at Trinity Hunt Partners in Dallas.

Sophomores

Jazmin Darjean is a sophomore President's Scholar from Grand Prairie, TX studying Psychology and Business Management. She serves as the 112th Student Body Vice President and will serve as one of the Student Representatives to the Board of Trustees on the Student Affairs Committee beginning in Fall 2025. Jazmin is also the Chair of the Tate Lecture Series, works as a Student Ambassador, and sits on the Vice President of Student Affairs Student Advisory Board.