

SCHOLARLY TIMES

McNair Scholars Program

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Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.

-Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel

The school year comes to an end and for some, their undergraduate career does, too. Smile for the friends made, knowledge you've gained, and future you've made possible. Smile for yourself.

-Billy Rodriguez

ISSUE ELEVEN SPRING 2018



TO GRADUATE SCHOOL AND BEYOND!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2018 GRADUATING SCHOLARS!



MAGDALENA BANDA

B.A., PSYCHOLOGY



ILIANA DE LA CRUZ

B.S., PHYSICS
B.A., MATHEMATICS



MARICRUZ ESPINOZA

B.S., BIOLOGY



ANTONIO "TREY" GONZALEZ

B.A., PSYCHOLOGY



CHRISTA HERRERA

B.A., PSYCHOLOGY



DAISY JORDAN

B.A., CRIMINAL JUSTICE



BRENDA LOPEZ

B.A., CRIMINOLOGY



RAUL MEJIA

B.A., SOCIOLOGY



TO GRADUATE SCHOOL AND BEYOND!



ANNE OJO
B.S., BIOLOGY



CODY SANDERS
B.A., ENGLISH



PALOMA SILVA
B.A., PSYCHOLOGY



PAULA PEREZ
B.S., BIOLOGY



LAUREN GARCIA
B.A., BIOLOGY



BELOW ARE SOME OF THE SCHOOLS TO WHICH OUR MCNAIR SCHOLAR GRADUATES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED:

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER
TEXAS WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY
POINT PARK UNIVERSITY
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS EL PASO
DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
UT SOUTHWESTERN
TEXAS A&M, COLLEGE STATION
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AUSTIN
BOSTON COLLEGE
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO



Of the 702 fall 2017 and spring 2018 graduates, Iliana De La Cruz was one of only fourteen who received a Presidential Award. Potential award recipients were nominated by faculty & were then selected by a committee of faculty, staff, & administration. Nominees must have earned at least a 3.0 GPA, be involved in student activities, & represent St. Mary's University in the community by promoting the spirit & charisma of the university while embodying the Marianist tradition through servant leadership.

Iliana demonstrated her servant leadership by tutoring and mentoring for St. Mary's Jumpstart program, a program designed to provide first year students with an introduction to higher education mathematics. Iliana provided a warm, productive environment to learn academic skills necessary for success in STEM fields. She also assisted in laying the foundation for these young adults by sharing her experiences in regards to the often-difficult transition many first year students experience.

As a researcher, Iliana flourished; she won several research awards, presented at multiple conferences with varying subject matter, and was accepted to several, diverse graduate programs. Iliana will attend Texas A&M University at College Station starting fall 2018 to pursue her Doctor of Philosophy in Science Education.



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY



**19TH ANNUAL RESEARCH
SYMPOSIUM AND CREATIVE
ACTIVITIES EXHIBITION**

*Before you
can make a
dream come
true, you must
first have one.*

*-Ronald E.
McNair*



**ORAL PRESENTATION AWARD
RECIPIENT**

First place: Rebeca Gurrola,
Magnetotelluric Investigations of the
Yellowstone Caldera: Understanding
the Emplacement of Crustal Magma
Bodies

Third place: Iliana De La Cruz,
The Effects of Summer Camp on
Participants' Affective Views of Science

**SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND
TECHNOLOGY POSTER
PRESENTATION AWARD
RECIPIENT**

First Place: Lauren Garcia, PELP1
as a Novel Therapeutic Target for
Glioblastoma

**SOCIAL SCIENCES POSTER
PRESENTATION AWARD
RECIPIENTS**

**Third Place: Kimberly Salazar and
Kassandra Guillen; Is it Worth it? The
Effects of Public versus Private
Secondary Education on Self-Esteem
and Overall Collegiate Performance**



MENTORS, THANK YOU!

Year round, faculty offer their time to mentor scholars. In addition to their full time positions, many have other institutional obligations such as being department chairs and sitting on committees. Outside of their respective universities, they have families, volunteer commitments, and other demands of daily life. Needless to say, mentors are busy; however, each faculty member understands the effect a lack of diversity in academia has on scholars and recognizes the need for guidance. Therefore, they sacrifice time to assist in many ways, including meeting with students regularly to discuss research, help decide which graduate programs would be best to apply to, and provide critique that fosters professional and personal growth. The mentor-scholar relationship is vital to our program, and the McNair staff understands the impact mentors have on student success and confidence. Having experienced this relationship themselves, the staff is grateful that mentors are willing to not only introduce scholars to research, but to also instill the values needed when doing ethical and robust research. Without mentors, the McNair Scholars program would not exist—so thank you, mentors, for the countless hours you have dedicated to our scholars.





UNTIL NEXT TIME, SCHOLARS!





¡Hasta la vista!

