

2023-2024 AFA 416 Essay Contest Scholarship Recipients



Asia Chen: Asia Chen, the daughter of Jennifer Jiang and Su Chen, is a senior at Sulphur Springs High School. She is a member of multiple UIL academics teams (Calculator Applications, Editorial Writing, Science, and Mathematics), band, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Leadership, Student Council, HOSA, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, and Key Club. Asia plans to major in biology or neuro/cognitive science in college.



Aiden Ellis: Aiden Ellis, a senior at Lone Oak High School, is the president of the school's National Honors Society chapter, vice president of the Business Professionals of America chapter, and participates in U.I.L. academic competitions and the National Beta Club. Recipient of the 2023 AFA Outstanding Civil Air Patrol (CAP), Cadet of the Year Award, a Greenville Mayor proclamation, and was 2nd in speech at the Texas State Beta Convention. He is a CAP Master Sergeant and Squadron flight commander. He enjoys flying, running, serving in church's youth group, studying theology, and time with family & friends. He plans to attend Texas A&M-Commerce to study business.



Madeline Green: Madeline Green, the daughter of Drs. Gregory and Amanda Green, is a senior at Paris High School. She is the president of student council, National Honor Society, and Althea Garden Club and is the 2024 Swim Team Captain and former president of Spanish Honor Society. She has had many accomplishments in her extracurriculars such as regional placer and state qualifier in swim, district placer and regional qualifier in golf, state, and international qualifier for Future Problem Solving, and district and regional placer for academic U.I.L. She plans on being a biology major in college, ultimately becoming a psychiatrist to support the mental health of her community.



Ashton Hilliard: Ashton Hilliard is a senior at Paris High School. He participates in tennis, FPS, and robotics. Additionally, he is a member of the PHS chapters of NHS and Key Club. In his free time, Ashton enjoys sports, spending time with friends and family, and playing video games. In the fall, Ashton plans to attend Ole Miss where he will major in Management Information Systems.



Jessie Li: Jessie Li is a student at Sulphur Springs High School. She is a member of the Student Council, Key Club, HOSA, and the National Honor Society. She is involved in Science UIL, Calculator Applications UIL, and Varsity Tennis. After graduating from high school, she is planning on attending the University of Texas at Austin and majoring in Kinesiology.

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Kiera Martin: Kiera Martin is a senior at Paris High School on the volleyball and softball teams and a member of the Althea Garden Club, Key Club, and National Honor Society. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, going on mission trips to Malawi, Africa with her family, and spending time with her friends. In the fall, Kiera plans on attending Texas A&M University in College Station to pursue a degree in Kinesiology, hoping to be a Pediatric Physical Therapist.



Mackenzie Martin: Mackenzie Martin is a senior at Paris High School. She participates in the volleyball, softball, and powerlifting teams and is a member of the Althea Garden Club, Key Club, and National Honor Society. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling, and working out. In the fall, Mackenzie will be attending Texas A&M University in College Station majoring in Biomedical Sciences where she hopes to prepare for dental school and later specialize in orthodontics.



Aiden Riley: Christopher “Aiden” Riley is a senior at Sulphur Springs High School. Throughout high school, he has participated in plenty of organizations including Computer Science UIL, Business Professionals of America, Key Club, Powerlifting, and Hopkins County High School Leadership. Aiden is also working part-time at Hopkins County Abstract to digitize and preserve over 200 years of important documentation for the company. Aiden will be pursuing a Mechanical Engineering degree in College Station this fall.



Alan Tellez: Alan Tellez is a senior at Sulphur Springs Highschool. He is a part of the Color guard team and also participates in UIL academics in Literary Criticism and Ready Writing. He is the president of the National Technical Honors Society and vice-president of Health Occupations Students of America at Sulphur Springs Highschool. He plans to attend Texas A&M-Commerce University for a bachelor’s degree in Biology to later attend medical school.



Kami White: Kami White is a senior at Sulphur Springs High School and is the daughter of Rodney and Wendy White. She participates in band and UIL Academics. She is also involved with many other school activities, but a few major accomplishments have been a UIL Spelling and Vocabulary state qualifier and champion, UIL Literary Criticism state qualifier and champion, NHS Vice President, Flute Section leader, and many other band accomplishments. Kami will be attending The University of Texas at Austin in the fall as a Biochemistry major with hopes of attending optometry school after college. She enjoys reading, being an active member at Grace Methodist Church, and spending time with her friends and family.