

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eddie Lucio Scholarship Fund grants 52 scholarships to college-bound students

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS — Today (Friday), Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. (D-Brownsville) announces 2013 Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund recipients. The Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund (www.eddielucioscholarships.org/) awards \$500 scholarships to students graduating from high schools in counties comprising Senate District 27 (Cameron, Kenedy, Kleberg, Willacy, and Hidalgo Counties). This year's 52 student recipients were presented their awards at a scholarship presentation held Thursday, August 1, 2013 at Gatti's Pizza in Harlingen, Texas.

"I am so proud to support this outstanding group of young men and women as they begin their careers in higher education," Senator Lucio said. "The Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund was created to encourage area students to attend local state-supported institutions of higher education. These bright, talented young people are role models for their families and communities."

Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund recipients are successful students who intend to pursue higher education. Each year, the Fund selects students (typically one male and one female) graduating from each high school in Senate District 27 to receive a scholarship. Candidates were nominated by their high school counselors. Each recipient receives an award of \$500. Recipients have not received any other form of scholarship. All recipients are American citizens who intend to enroll in at least nine credit hours at the University of Texas at Brownsville, Texas Southmost College, The University of Texas Pan American, Texas State Technical College, Texas A&M Kingsville, or South Texas College.

For more than 20 years, the Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, has awarded college scholarships to area students. In addition to private donations, the Fund is supported by the Senator Eddie Lucio Annual Golf Classic. It has become a tradition for Senator Lucio to ask a "Texas Legend" to serve as the guest of honor at each Golf Classic. Past Texas Legends have included former University of Texas football coach Darrell K. Royal, Grammy award-winning Tejano performer Ruben Ramos, former University of Texas System Chancellor William H. Cunningham, Texas A&M Chancellor John Sharp, World Golf Hall of Fame inductee Kathy Whitworth, and Dallas Cowboys Super Bowl Champions Robert Newhouse, Walt Garrison and Tom Rafferty.

The 2013 Golf Classic will be held Friday, October 11, 2013 at The Fort Brown Memorial Golf Course. This year's Texas Legend will be Mr. Ricky Phillips, bass guitar player for American rock band STYX.

This year, the Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund will also host its first "Bikes to the Beach Tour" to benefit the Fund. The Tour, which takes place the day after the Golf Classic, on Saturday, October 12, 2013, invites registrants to bike to South Padre Island from either Harlingen (42 miles) or Los Fresnos (24 miles). For more information about the Bike the Beach Tour and to register, please visit www.eddielucioscholarships.org/.

The 52 recipients of 2013 Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund scholarships, their high schools, and hometowns are as follows:

- Argelia Alanis, H.M. King High School, Kingsville, Texas
- Eduardo Alvear, South Texas ISD High School for Health Professionals, Brownsville, Texas
- Isaac Atkinson, Lyford High School, Lyford, Texas
- Bernard Breidenbach, Pace High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Andres Burbano, Veterans Memorial High School, Brownsville, Texas

- Mariana Aimee Cardenas, South Texas High School for Health Professions, Brownsville, Texas
- Royce Cardoza, La Villa Early College High School, Mercedes, Texas
- Michelle Rae Castillo, Kaufer High School, Riviera, Texas
- Andromeda Chavez, PSJA High School, Pharr, Texas
- Tyisha Nikol Cipriano, Santa Rosa High School, Harlingen, Texas
- Justine Renee Delgado, San Perlita High School, San Perlita, Texas
- Janet Marlene Diaz, Lopez High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Victoria Renee Espinosa, Lasana High School, Raymondville, Texas
- Jorge Armando Esquivel, South Texas ISD Academy for Medical Technology, Mission, Texas
- Isabel Farias, San Benito High School, San Benito, Texas
- Diana Flores, Veterans Memorial High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Eric Anthony Gallegos, Santa Rosa High School, Santa Rosa, Texas
- Brandon Lee Garcia, Progreso High School, Weslaco, Texas
- Carolina Garcia, South Texas ISD Science Academy, Brownsville, Texas
- Sonia Garcia, Port Isabel High School, South Padre Island, Texas
- Gage Garza, Los Fresnos High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Maranda Gonzalez, Santa Gertrudis Academy High School, Bishop, Texas
- George Adrian Guajardo, Weslaco East High School, Weslaco, Texas
- Kenneth Herrera, Port Isabel High School, Port Isabel, Texas
- Guiana Marissa Hinojosa, Hanna High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Niko Alexander Huerta, Kaufer High School, Kingsville, Texas
- Heidi Jasso, PSJA Thomas Jefferson T-STEM Early College High School, Alamo, Texas
- Jacklynn Brandis Martinez, Harlingen High School South, Harlingen, Texas
- Joshua James Mena, La Feria High School, Harlingen, Texas
- Sarah Mendoza, Lyford High School, Lyford, Texas
- Daniel Meza, PSJA North, Pharr, Texas
- Juanita Carolina Najar, La Feria High School, La Feria, Texas
- Erika Pena, South Texas ISD Academy for Medical Technology, Donna, Texas
- Antonio Perez, South Texas ISD Science Academy, Pharr, Texas
- Matthew Perez, San Benito High School, San Benito, Texas
- Josefa Ramirez, La Villa High School, La Villa, Texas
- Rodney Rory Rodriquez, San Perlita High School, Raymondville, Texas
- Braulio Roman Sanchez, Lopez High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Justin Silguero, Kingsville Academy, Kingsville, Texas
- Alexis Silvestre, Pace High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Edgar Sosa, PSJA High School, Pharr, Texas
- Kassandra Suarez, PSJA Thomas Jefferson T-STEM Early College High School, San Juan, Texas
- Victoria Suarez, PSJA North, Pharr, Texas
- Shelby Sophia Szteiter, Kaufer High School, Kingsville, Texas
- Ashley Nadine Taylor, Hanna High School, Brownsville, Texas
- Marco Antonio Valdez, Harlingen High School South, Harlingen, Texas
- Ana Vega, Progreso High School, Progreso, Texas
- Bobby Villarreal, Lasara High School, Lasara, Texas
- Danielle Renee Wright, Los Fresnos High School, Los Fresnos, Texas
- Catherine Wynn, Harlingen High School, Harlingen, Texas
- Iris Zamarripa, Weslaco East High School, Weslaco, Texas
- Homero Miguel Zamora, H.M. King High School, Kingsville, Texas



Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. (D-Brownsville) with 2013 Eddie Lucio, Jr. Scholarship Fund recipients in Harlingen, Texas on August 1, 2013 (*photo credit: Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.*)

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