

In Memory of Edward Station

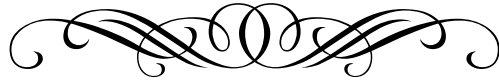


Edward Station joined the Navy in 1964, serving 4 years as a naval photographer. Station's time in the Navy instilled his passion for the military. As a trustee of the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation (CFEF), he was constantly looking for ways to help the Foundation grow. Over the years, Station established several endowments including an endowment In Memory of 1st Lieutenant Jeremy Ray, US Army. In 2009, Station envisioned a gala to recognize and honor our military while raising scholarship funds for the Foundation. This culminated with the establishment of Salute to Our Heroes, one of CFEF's five annual fundraising events. Salute to Our Heroes far exceeded Station's expectations, helping to establish endowments totaling over \$1MM to date.

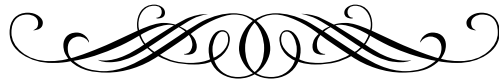


CY-FAIR EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
Today's Students – Tomorrow's Future

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CY-FAIR EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Today's Students – Tomorrow's Future

Celebrating Our Past - Inspiring Our Future

In the late 1960's, Dr. Karl Bleyl, a Cy-Fair educator and science consultant, launched a movement to create a scholarship fund for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD students. Joined by community leaders and educators – Allen Labay, then superintendent of Cypress-Fairbanks ISD (CFISD); Reverend F.J. Aragon, pastor of Christ United Church; Jim Blackman, shipping manager for Foley's and attorney Herman Mead – the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation (CFEF) was established in 1970 to raise money to fund scholarships for graduating seniors from Cypress-Fairbanks ISD. In 1971, the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation awarded its first three scholarships totaling \$2,350 to graduating seniors from the district's only high school, Cy-Fair High School.

Over the past 54 years, the Foundation has kept pace with the growth in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD (CFISD). We could not have done this without the generosity of the Cy-Fair community and the commitment of our board of trustees. CFEF is close to awarding \$1 million annually in scholarships to graduating seniors from CFISD through our over 140 endowed scholarships.

Every April, CFEF trustees form 12 scholarship committees and personally read all essays submitted by the scholarship applicants. They combine each applicant's objective application score with their essay score, creating a list of possible recipients for each campus. The Scholarship Committee chairs then convene and award our scholarships across the 12 CFISD high schools.

The Foundation hosts five fundraising events annually. Salute to Our Heroes has honored military and first responders for 16 years. The Houston Methodist Cy-Hoops Invitational will host its 15th annual tournament on the courts at the Berry Center this December. Salute to the Stars will mark 28 years of celebrating CFISD Teacher of the Year honorees in March 2025. Finally, the B.F. Adam Golf Classic will host its 38th annual tournament in May 2025 followed by our newest event, the Sporting Clay Tournament in August 2025. These events, along with our Donate to Educate program and the Superintendent's Fun Run have provided CFEF with the means to grow our vision of "Empowering Today's Students – Tomorrow's Leaders through Higher Education."

This past June, the Foundation awarded scholarships totaling over \$902,000 to 143 graduating seniors from CFISD. The Cy-Fair Educational Foundation has awarded over \$13.4 million in scholarships and more than \$4.5 million for staff development programs. The Foundation is excited about our ability to continue to play a role in the success of students from CFISD through college and dual credit scholarships and staff development programs. With the steadfast support of the Cy-Fair community and the growth of our scholarship endowment program, CFEF will continue to inspire the futures of Cypress-Fairbanks ISD students.

PROGRAM

WELCOME BEVIN GORDON & BILL BROWN
CO-EMCEES

PRESENTATION OF COLORS RICE UNIVERSITY, NAVAL ROTC

NATIONAL ANTHEM TINA CLINKENBEARD
CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS ISD

INVOCATION GREYSON LANDRUM
CITY RISE

MISSING MAN TABLE & HONORS CEREMONY RICE UNIVERSITY, NAVAL ROTC

TAPS JOEL CATALAN
JERSEY VILLAGE HIGH SCHOOL

1ST LIEUTENANT JEREMY RAY
COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PEACE AWARD PRESENTATION JUSTIN RAY
THE RAY FAMILY

CY-FAIR EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
LEGACY AWARD PRESENTATION BRYAN GINSBURG
CFEF CHAIRMAN

ENTERTAINMENT TINA CLINKENBEARD
CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS ISD

FEATURED SPEAKER CHAD ROBICHAUX
INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER & BOOK AUTHOR

LIVE AUCTION & BID BOARD RONNIE NESPECA

Co-Emcee:

BEVIN GORDON



Bevin Gordon has had an impressive career serving her country and community. She is the Director of Communications for the Region 4 Education Service Center and is entering her 17th year supporting public education. Bevin has been an ESD 9 Commissioner since 2020, a Trustee for the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation since 2019, and a Trustee on the HCA Houston Healthcare Kingwood/North Cypress Board since 2023.

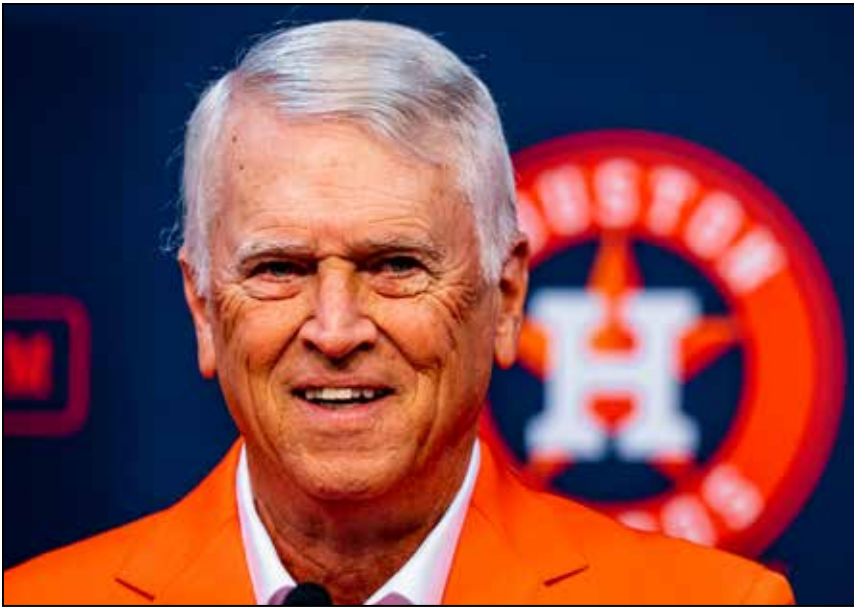
Bevin proudly served eight years in the United States Navy as an electronics technician. She was stationed in Great Lakes, Illinois; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; and Larissa, Greece, providing secure communications for the U.S. military. Bevin received an honorable discharge as a Petty Officer Second Class.

After her military service, Bevin used the Montgomery GI Bill to further her education. She graduated from the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2007 and from Prairie View A&M College of Nursing with a Master of Science in Nursing Administration in 2012.

Bevin's nursing career included working in the labor and delivery department of St. Luke's Baptist Hospital in San Antonio. She then spent four years as a registered nurse for Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, before serving eight years as the District's Director of Health Services. In this role, she coordinated the delivery of safe and compassionate nursing care in school clinics, the District's American Heart Association CPR Training Center, CFISD's "See to Succeed" partnership with the Houston Health Department, and district-wide "Stop the Bleed" education.

Bevin's passion for public education continued as the Director of Marketing and Business Relations at Cypress-Fairbanks ISD. As an advocate for the district, she organized the CFISD Back to School Expo, Superintendent's Fun Run, and Volunteers in Public Schools Appreciation Events.

Co-Emcee:
BILL BROWN



Bill Brown retired after 2020, his 34th year with the Houston Astros organization, and his fourth as a Community Outreach Executive. Brown called his final games as the Astros primary TV play-by-play broadcaster in 2016 after 30 years in the booth. From 1976-1982, he was the TV play-by-play voice for the Cincinnati Reds, giving him 37 years as a baseball broadcaster.

Bill was inducted into the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame in 2004, the Houston Media Wall of Honor in 2011 and the Smith-Cotton High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017 in Sedalia, Missouri. In 2013 he was voted Texas Sportscaster of the Year by his peers in the NSSA. Bill was a recipient of the Fred Hartman Long and Meritorious Service Award in 2012. The Texas Italian American Sports Foundation presented him with a community service award in 2016. In August Bill was inducted into the Astros Hall of Fame Class of 2023.

Bill and his wife Dianne have been members of the Salute to Our Heroes Committee for 15 years. They were married in 1969 after graduating from the University of Missouri. Their daughter Allison graduated from Cy-Fair High School. She lives in Minnesota with her husband and three children. Bill served in the U.S. Army from 1970-1971 and is a Vietnam Veteran.

Bill has co-authored three books, *My Baseball Journey*, *Houston Astros: Deep in the Heart*, and *Houston Astros' Golden Era*. He has also written *Breathing Orange Fire: Jose Altuve, Houston's Team*, *Houston's Title*, *Astros' Golden Era*, *After the Ring*, "60", *Sportscasting 101*, and "Swinging for Glory" (a baseball novel).

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MISSING MAN TABLE & HONORS CEREMONY

As you entered the dining area, you may have noticed a table at the front, raised to call your attention to its purpose—it is reserved to honor our missing loved ones [or missing comrades in arms, for veterans].

Set for six, the empty places represent Americans still missing from each of the five services—Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard—and civilians. This Honors Ceremony symbolizes that they are with us, here in spirit.

Some in this room were very young when they were sent into combat; however, all Americans should never forget the brave men and women who answered our nation's call [to serve] and served the cause of freedom in a special way.

Each item on this special table has a meaning:

The table is round—to show our everlasting concern for our missing men.

The tablecloth is white—symbolizing the purity of their motives when answering the call to duty.

The single red rose reminds us of the life of each of the missing, and the loved ones and friends of these Americans who keep the faith, awaiting answers.

The vase is tied with a red ribbon, symbol of our continued determination to account for our missing.

A slice of lemon on the bread plate is to remind us of the bitter fate of those captured and missing in a foreign land.

A pinch of salt symbolizes the tears endured by those missing and their families who seek answers.

The Bible represents the strength gained through faith to sustain those lost from our country, founded as one nation under God.

The glass is inverted—to symbolize their inability to share this evening's toast.

The chairs are empty—they are missing.

When we raise our water glasses, we will toast to honor America's POW/MIA's and to the success of our efforts to account for them.

IN MEMORIAM



1LT JEREMY EDWARD RAY

26 November 1981 - 20 December 2007

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**From the Family of
United States Army 1st Lieutenant
Jeremy Edward Ray**

**Debbie, Randy, Allison, Justin,
Evan, Lauren, and Ellen**

1st Lieutenant Jeremy Ray

Community Service and Peace Award History

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends”

John 15:13

Jeremy Ray was an officer in the United States Army, 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Hood. On December 20, 2007, Ray was killed in action. He had been in Iraq only 44 days. His unit was providing security at a council meeting in Kanaan where local tribal leaders were working to promote peace in Northeast Iraq. A suicide bomber targeted Ray’s unit, riding up on a bike and detonating a bomb. Ray took the brunt of the explosion. He was the only member of his unit to lose his life.

An Eagle Scout, Ray played football for the Jersey Village Falcons. He was a member of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, Company H-1 and graduated from A&M in 2006. Ray spent his life in service to his community and country.

Salute to Our Heroes honors the brave men and women who have served to protect our freedom and liberty. Ray was first remembered for his role as a soldier and peacekeeper at the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation’s inaugural Salute to Our Heroes in February 2009. *“I want people to see my brother and see somebody who embodies every aspect of patriotism and sacrifice, and I want that lesson to be handed down from generation to generation to generation,”* said Justin Ray, Jeremy’s brother.

Every year since, the Foundation has recognized a community member, organization or company which best personifies community service, service to our armed forces, or promotes peace with the 1st Lieutenant Jeremy Ray Community Service and Peace Award. This year we honor Timothy Stroud for his commitment to helping veterans’ return to civilian life. Stroud is an expert on transitional services for veterans from education and employment to homelessness and support service.

Past Recipients of the 1st Lieutenant Jeremy Ray Community Service and Peace Award:

2010 ♦ Cypress Cares

2012 ♦ Ed Station

2014 ♦ Earl Thompson

2016 ♦ John Fox

2018 ♦ Mac DeLaup

2020 ♦ Ken Pridgeon

2022 ♦ Tim Stroud

2011 ♦ Klein Funeral Homes

2013 ♦ Terry Taylor

2015 ♦ Fred Caldwell

2017 ♦ Robert Adam

2019 ♦ Deena Morgan

2021 ♦ Bridgeland

2023 ♦ Dr. Mark Henry

1st Lieutenant Jeremy Ray

Community Service and Peace Award Recipient



Chief Amy Ramon, a dedicated professional with 33 years of experience in the fire service, has demonstrated her leadership as the Fire Chief for the Cy-Fair Fire Department over the past 9 years. Prior to assuming this role, she dedicated 24 years of service to the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department, progressively advancing to the position of Assistant Chief.

Chief Ramon holds esteemed credentials, including the title of Chief Fire Officer from the Center for Public Safety Excellence and Certified Fire Executive from the Texas Fire Chiefs Association (TFCA). Additionally, she earned a Juris Doctorate degree from South Texas College of Law and was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in January 2011. She also possesses a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management and holds certifications as a Master Firefighter and Head of Department through Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

Chief Ramon actively participates in various committees with Lone Star College, dedicated to advancing the fields of fire science and EMS. Her outstanding contributions were recently recognized with the prestigious honor of being named Fire Chief of the Year by the TFCA. Furthermore, she was newly elected to the 3rd VP position for the Texas Fire Chiefs Association.

She is an instructor for the Texas Fire Chief's Academy and volunteers for the TFCA Legislative Committee. She is also on the Executive Board of the Harris County Fire Chief's Association.



Cy-Fair Educational Foundation

LEGACY AWARD



Jerry Albrecht has been a dedicated leader and active community member throughout his life. He co-founded and served as Executive Vice President of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce and played a key role in establishing the Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce, where he later served as Chairman of the Board. His community leadership extended further as president of both the Cy-Fair Rotary Club and the 1960 Lions Club. Jerry also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Cy-Fair Hospital and was a lifetime member and benefactor of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, as well as the Houston Farm and Ranch.

When asked about his commitment to serving others, Jerry once said, “We pass this way in life one time, and if I can make one positive influence on someone’s life, all my work will have been worthwhile.”

During his 30 years with State Farm, Jerry was recognized as a Crystal of Excellence Agent. Jerry became known for his genuine care and concern for his policyholders. He naturally built rapport, and it was not unusual for him to be recognized by former clients twenty-plus years past his retirement.

Believing in the importance of education, Jerry has been a trustee of the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation since 1997, where he served on several committees. Jerry was also a devoted supporter of Lone Star College. He served on the President’s Advisory Council of Lone Star College-CyFair. Together with his wife Judi, they established two founding endowments at Lone Star College to help deserving students pursue higher education. They met with scholarship recipients over the years to witness the positive impact of their contributions.

Jerry continued his service even in retirement as a resident at the Conservatory at Champions Forest, organizing Christmas toy drives for Northwest Assistance Ministries.

Known for his compassion, wisdom, and tireless dedication, Jerry touched many lives. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, whose legacy of service and generosity will be deeply missed.

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FIRE CHIEF AMY RAMON**

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SALUTING OUR HEROES

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AND THEIR EFFORT TO HONOR OUR BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN
OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO SERVE TO PROTECT OUR FREEDOM.**

Featured Speaker:

CHAD ROBICHAUX

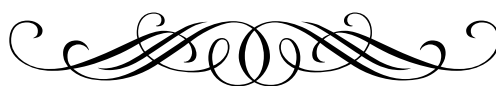
Inspirational Speaker & Book Author



Chad Robichaux has lived an extraordinary life. A former Force Recon Marine, JSOC operator, Federal Agent, and professional MMA champion, Chad has overcome incredible challenges and found success in a wide range of fields, from entrepreneurship to non-profit advocacy. But perhaps most importantly, Chad has dedicated his life to helping others overcome challenges and find a renewed sense of purpose.

With a deep burden to pay it forward, Chad founded the Mighty Oaks Foundation in 2011, which has become a leading non-profit organization dedicated to helping active duty, military veterans, first responders, and their families overcome the difficulties of their service. Mighty Oaks Foundation has served over 500,000 Warriors around the world, helping them to find healing and hope through their highly successful faith-based trauma and resiliency programs.

Chad is the author of multiple books, including “*Saving Aziz*,” which outlines his heroic, life-saving mission to rescue his Afghan interpreter and 17,000 others from Afghanistan in 2021 (which is being made into a major motion picture), and “*An Unfair Advantage*,” which details his personal journey and offers practical advice for veterans and others struggling with PTSD and other forms of trauma. Chad is also featured in documentaries *Never Fight Alone*, *Send Me*, *Escape from Afghanistan*, and a short testimonial film by *I Am Second*.



Art By:

BREE WRISTERS

BREE The Mural Girl

Bree's passion for painting has been a guiding force throughout her life. Her artistic journey began when her parents granted her the creative freedom to transform her room into a canvas, and she chose to paint it with vibrant murals.

Her educational background is diverse, with a Bachelor of Science in Pre-Occupational Therapy from Baylor University and a Master's degree in teaching, earned through her studies at the University of Texas at Arlington and La Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

Throughout her college years, Bree continued to nurture her love for art by showcasing her creations in intimate venues, cafes, and boutiques. After receiving her undergraduate degree, she embarked on a new chapter in Spain, where she not only honed her teaching skills but also delved deeper into the world of language and the arts.

Upon her return to her native Texas, Bree shared her passion for both Spanish and the arts with her students while pursuing her personal painting endeavors. She dedicated her talents to crafting unique works of art that enriched her community and various venues.

In 2008, Bree's dream of turning her passion into a full-time profession became a reality as she established her own company, BREE The Mural Girl LLC. As a full-time muralist, she poured her heart into creating captivating murals that adorned spaces and brought joy to all who encountered her art.

Bree truly likes to keep art alive, ensuring its presence and impact in all our lives!





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Presentation of Colors & Missing Man Ceremony:

RICE UNIVERSITY NAVAL ROTC



The following Midshipmen make up this event's color guard: (L to R)

MIDN 4/C Williams,
MIDN 2/C Gonzales,
MIDN 2/C Hoang,
MIDN 2/C Salinas

Formed in 1944 and 1968 respectively, the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps units of Rice University and Prairie View A&M University have operated under the umbrella of the Houston Consortium NROTC with the mission of developing future naval and Marine Corps officers morally, mentally, and physically so that they may commission with possession of a basic professional background, be motivated towards their careers, and have a potential for future development in mind and character so as to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government.

These units are headed by their commanding officer Captain Jeff Bowman and their executive officer Major Ryan Elzie (EL-ZEE).

Invocation:

GREYSON LANDRUM

Greyson is a Cypress native who has a passion for ministry. He comes from a long line of men and women who are heavily involved in church both professionally and as volunteers.

Greyson attended Cypress Christian School from the fourth grade until he graduated in 2017. He then went on to attend and graduate from Baylor University in 2021 with a degree as a Communications Specialist with a focus in Film and Digital Media Productions. He is currently achieving his Master of Divinity from Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary.



Greyson began his vocational ministry work as a resident at Champion Forest Baptist Church in Spring, Texas. He worked with both the Kids Ministry and the Audio/Visual Production Team. Greyson currently works as a Student Ministry Associate at CityRise Church in West University, Houston.

Greyson loves investing into the younger generations that will carry the torch of practicing sound faith and doctrine. He believes that middle and high school students are not the future of the church, but they are the church right now. Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers can and do possess faith that can change the world. He believes that it is his call to be a youth pastor long-term in order to be a consistent light in the ever shifting and changing world.

Entertainment:

TINA CLINKENBEARD



Tina Clinkenbeard serves as the Executive Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent of School Leadership at Cy-Fair ISD, she has been with the district for over 22 years. Tina and her husband Terry raised their family in the Cy-Fair community. Beyond her professional career, Tina is deeply involved in her church as a Worship Leader and Director. She has preformed a vocal soloist with LifeSong Choir, a gospel music choir that has performed in Germany, Denmark, The Czech Republic, Ireland, and South Korea as well as locally in Houston and other parts of the US. Tina is also an ordained minister and is very active in her local church. In her spare time, she is a part-time cookie and cake designer.

Taps:

JOEL CATALAN

Jersey Village High School



Joel Catalan is a senior at Jersey Village High School in Jersey Village, Texas. Joel developed a passion for music at a young age from hearing guitars on radio stations and was interested in joining the orchestra in middle school. When he met the band directors at Dean Middle School, Joel ultimately decided to join the band and learn to play trumpet.

Currently, Joel is a member of the Jersey Village High School Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, and Jazz Band. He serves as a marching band section leader and is dedicated to helping his peers have the best experience possible. Joel hopes to pursue opportunities performing trumpet and guitar after high school.



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Foundation's *Salute to
Our Heroes* event!



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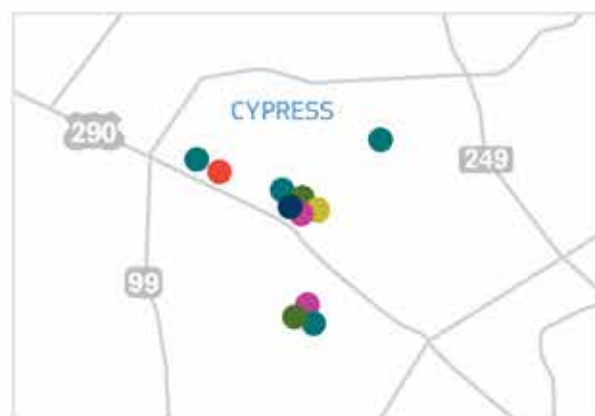
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In Memory of Purple Heart Awardee

***Marine Lance Corporal
Lawrence (Larry) R. Ashmore***

***Killed in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam
on March 6, 1968 at the young age of 19.***



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Hightower Electric is dedicated to giving back to the community and in that spirit, we support many organizations including the ones listed below.

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Congratulations to this year's Honorees!



As the daughter of a veteran and member of the Defense and Veterans Affairs Committee, I want to thank all of our service members and first responders for your their service to our nation and state.

Your and your family's bravery in pursuing the protection of the very liberties of life is not taken for granted.

Thank you to the Cy-Fair Educational Foundation for bringing us together this evening.

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*Why do I torment soldiers,
Who can't follow some simple orders?
Is it they are young, and I am getting older and older?
Or is it that my cruel heart is getting colder and colder?
Is all that I want, is for all to do right?
Or are my selfish desires to look high and might?
I should be worrying for us all to get home alive;
But what's killing me is my pride on which others'
burden it thrives.*

*I can find insecurities and slash straight to the heart;
Looking at a heathen of this world you can't tell us apart.
I need to look up with a humble heart and mind;
And ask forgiveness from a God who's loving and kind.
I stand here in Iraq a born again Christian;
It's clear to me I have a new mission.
To help direct souls of the hungry and lost;
And to spread the Word no matter the cost.
I hope if I die, they will remember me well;
And not just that jerk, on the day he fell.*

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February 6, 2004*

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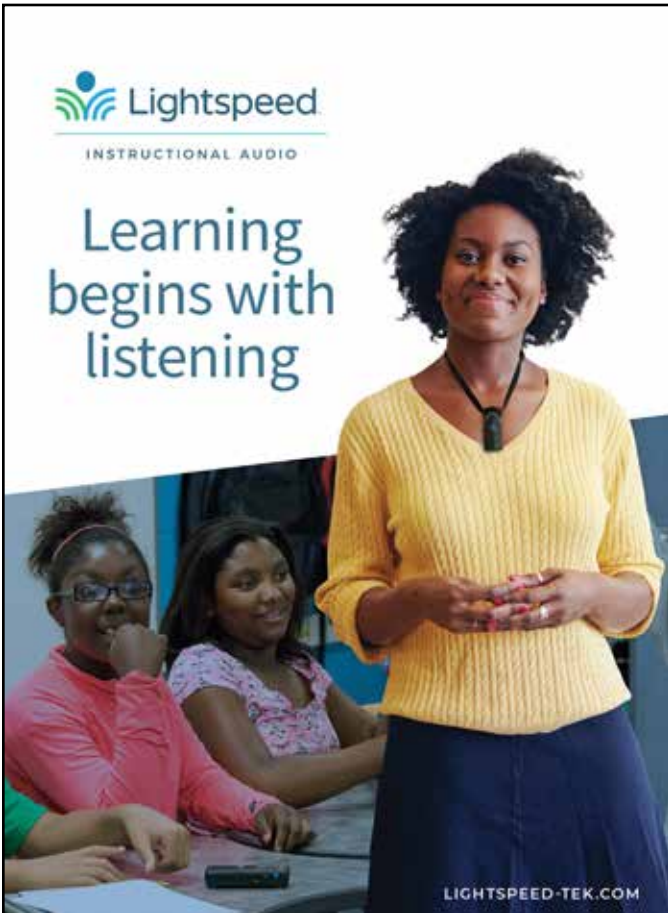
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We want to express our sincere gratitude to our nephew, Marcus Esparza, for his service in the U.S. Air Force. Marcus's dedication, courage, and sacrifice are deeply appreciated and make us incredibly proud. We send our love and support as he serves overseas.

Thank you, Marcus.

Love, Abvin & Jassane Beddingfield

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Jocelyn Reyes
(Cypress Springs - 2020)

CFEF has given me a huge and life-changing gift...a gift to go to college. CFEF award, helped me, coming from a low-income, first-generation student, to attend college. They changed my life, I don't have to worry about expenses and my focus is completely on making the best grades possible. Thank you so much!



Alitzah Escobedo
(Jersey Village - 2018)

Receiving a scholarship from the CFEF has opened many pathways for me and has enabled me to get into college worry free. Working with the CFEF has been very enlightening because the foundation sincerely cares for the students and are truly determined to help students from different backgrounds succeed. The dedication that the members of the foundation put into helping students thrive is outstanding and for that I am sincerely thankful.



Flora Yiakras
(Cypress Falls - 2018)

I am so grateful for the generosity of this organization. By awarding me the CFEF Scholarship In Memory of Rona Martin Abshire, my financial burden was lightened which allowed me to focus more on the most important aspect of school- learning. Their generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as they helped me.



Dylan Kodama
(Cypress Ranch - 2020)

The foundation supported me on my journey to attending college by alleviating some of the financial stress in these difficult times. They allowed me to make my admission decision more on my personal goals and what was right for me, rather than what was easier or less of a risk in an already uncertain future.

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