



SPRING 2022 | VOL. 2

COLFA QUARTERLY

The official newsletter of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY



8th ANNUAL JURIED
STUDENT EXHIBITION
CLYDE H. WELLS FINE ART CENTER GALLERY

Letter from the Dean

Greetings!

It is amazing to think we are almost through an academic year as we approach May and graduation. As you can see from the pages that follow, the activities, engagement and opportunities never cease in the College of Liberal and Fine Arts at Tarleton State. One of the main reasons for this is the environment at our University. We continue to strengthen an environment that is focused on student opportunities and success, and this edition of our COLFA newsletter highlights so much of this.

Another essential aspect of our Tarleton State environment is community. Together as community we recognize the diversity of our backgrounds, interests, and potential. We create more and more spaces for learning, sharing, and growing. We strive for the highest quality learning and working environment in which we are able to find fulfillment. We offer service to each other and others when and where needed.

Related to service is giving. COLFA continues to offer so much, with visions of doing so much more because of the generosity of our alumni and supporters. From scholarships and endowed professorships, to Dean's Circle and Tarleton Public Radio, we see growing support in areas that have a direct impact on student opportunities and success.

On behalf of COLFA, our students, faculty and staff, I ask you to use this year's Giving Day on April 12 to show this support. The pages that follow will excite you about what we are doing. The news updates regarding Tarleton State's growth and progress are one highlight after another. The new facilities, programs, and collaborations coming to Tarleton will continue the University's rise to be the premier comprehensive regional institution in the country. Help us as we move forward on this path. Help our students succeed, and be the reason on Giving Day that lives continue to be transformed through a college education.

With gratitude,

Eric

Dr. Eric V. Morrow, Dean

College of Liberal and Fine Arts



English Student Wins Speech Competition

Mr. LaMontae Washington spoke in front of Provost Dr. Karen Murray and all Deans at Tarleton State on February 22. His speech was the winning speech for the 2022 Martin Luther King Jr. Speech Competition. Mr. Washington titled his speech "Courageous Spirits." His goal in writing the essay was to, "enlighten people on what it means to have courage and how they can use said courage." He dove deep into his past experiences and the life MLK Jr. lived to create a poetic masterpiece. His words shed light on the courage Dr. King had during the Civil Rights Movement.

In the future, Mr. Washington hopes to educate, inspire, and encourage future generations with his writing. A copy of his speech follows.

Congratulations, LaMontae Washington!

Check out his video recording of "Courageous Spirits!"



Courageous Spirits

Written By : LaMontae Washington

Optimism is the true founder of every great nation. With dreamers as architects, countries are built with opportunity in mind. Opportunity for economies, religion, freedom, the possibilities may vary. These opportunities can either be utilized or squandered, the choice is up to the people.

Those who utilize this opportunity in a way that benefits society, are remembered as great leaders: Rosa Parks, Cesar Chavez, Malcom X, Mahatma Gandhi, Malala Yousafzai, Martin Luther King. They all have something in common, they had the courage to utilize their opportunities, the courage to act. Think. Take a second to think about how many times you chose not to act. Take a second to think about how many decisions could have changed your life. Think. Dr. King once said “The time is always right to do what is right.” We all purport to be ordinary people who lack heroic attributes. We dismiss ourselves as leaders, saying such things like “President of the United States? I could never.” “Future innovator? Who am I kidding?” I’m here to tell you that we couldn’t be more wrong.

Stepping into the future requires one thing, courage. The courage to question the unknown, the courage to defend your beliefs, the courage to fight for what’s right. Malala had the courage to campaign for women’s rights. Cesar Chavez had the courage to work on improving life not only for himself, but his fellow agricultural workers. Martin Luther King had the courage to not only speak out against black hate and injustice, but also advocate for a future in which we live in harmony no matter the color of our skin.

The simple trait of courage played a role in starting every major movement in documented history, however, the courage to act doesn’t have to spark a movement. It can be something simplistic. For example, knowledge is as ever-expanding as the universe, thus knowing everything becomes impossible. However, having the courage to learn and educate yourself is better than allowing ignorance to dictate your level of awareness. Even if you have educated yourself, you can still be incorrect, and you can have the courage to admit when you’re wrong. You can have the courage to act against bullying at your school. You can have the courage to act when in the face of danger.

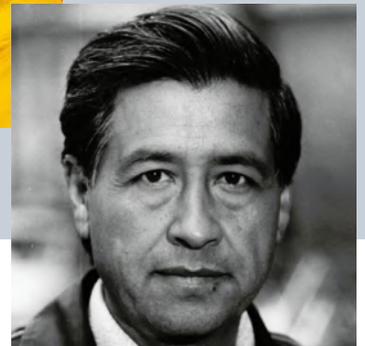
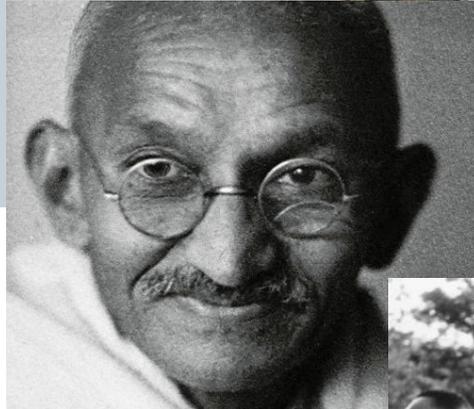
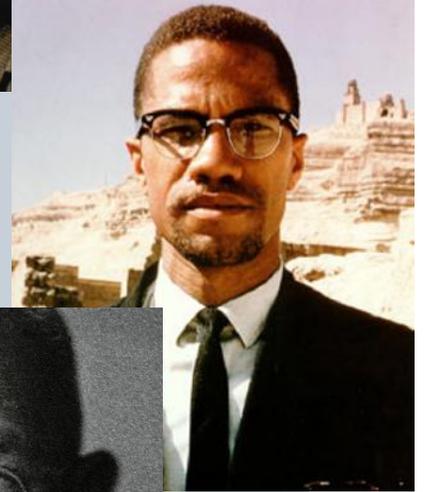
You can have the courage to act for the rights of any given community. Before you say, “Well I can’t rally the masses like Malcolm X did” or “I can’t go on a hunger strike like Gandhi did”, we live in the digital age where the world is literally in your hands. Having the courage to speak on social media will make you into a modern-day activist. Having the courage to create online forums in order to discuss possible solutions for any impending issues will mold you into a leader of tomorrow. Having the courage to act will create the opportunity for others to follow in your footsteps. Consider what has transpired in the past several years. The deaths of George Floyd, Mario Arenales, Breonna Taylor, Christian Hall, and many more have gained attention, but attention is not enough.

Courageous Spirits

Continued

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere,” said Dr. King. Until true justice is served, use your courage to act. Spark even more waves in the growing movements. From supporting the BLM Movement to supporting the LGBTQIA+, your courage matters. “We must build dikes of courage to hold back the flood of fear.” Another quote from Dr. King. Martin Luther King is often seen as a model when it comes to activism, but have you considered the fear he most likely felt? The fear of being arrested, the fear of being assaulted, the fear of losing his life. And yet he stood. He stood up for what he believed in. He stood up for what is right. He stood up with the courage to act. No matter how small the ripples or how mighty the waves, he stood. “If you can’t fly, then run. If you can’t run, then walk. If you can’t walk, then crawl; but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.” He stood so others could stand, so others could walk, so others could run towards a future in which the courage to act means more than just standing. It means changing.

“Courage is an inner resolution to go forward despite obstacles.” “Courage breeds creativity.” “Courage is the first step to growth.” There is no quantity nor quality measurement to courage, every bit of bravery and self-sacrifice is a story yet to be told. And one day I hope that the youth of tomorrow can read about how you had the courage to act.



Celebrating Black History Month

In Honor of Black History Month, the College of Liberal and Fine Arts shed light on faculty, staff, and students who are guiding conversations of unity and leading the next generation to new heights.

Reflections

Written by Dr. Paul C. Banda, Assistant Professor of History



Dr. Paul C. Banda
Assistant Professor of History

The commemoration of “Black History Month” (or “African American History Month”) in the US, since the late 20th century, is very significant toward the recognition of the lives, experiences, and contributions of peoples of African origin to humanity. It gives them a recognition of their place in a globalized world where they co-exist with other human races. At the same time, we learn more about their histories, current experiences, and future aspirations.

As a professor of African origin, and whose research mainly focuses on Modern Africa and its relations with the international community, this month provides me with an opportunity to reflect on areas that need further research, on Black peoples, both in Africa and the diaspora.

The history courses I teach at Tarleton, which include the following: World Civilizations I and II; The British Empire; Modern Africa; Decolonization, Development, and the Cold War; among others, all reflect and include elements of peoples of African origin, as they have interacted with other human races, both during times of conflict and cooperation, and times of war and peace. The aim is to produce university graduates who understand the world in which they live and the histories of all the peoples they interact with.

One of my favorite quotes is by Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968), who once said: “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

I believe we can all use this quote, beyond the designated month of February, as an inspiration to do good things to others, irrespective of their race, gender, nationality, political values, and religion, among other identities.

“

*Darkness cannot
drive out darkness;
only love can do
that.*

”

Martin Luther King, Jr.
(1929-1968)

Black History Month

"May the Work I've Done Speak For Me"



Daisha Sipho,
Doctoral Student -
Criminal Justice

My name is Daisha Sipho, and I am currently a first-year doctoral student, as well as an instructor in the criminal justice department. I am a Fort Worth native graduating high school from Southwest High School in Fort Worth ISD. As a first-generation student, I received my bachelor's and master's degree from Texas Christian University. I have always known furthering my education was a goal of mine.

I have a strong passion for criminal justice, specifically juvenile justice and wrongful convictions. I have observed the many roles and opportunities this career field offers from police work to academia. Being an instructor, to me, means paying it forward and providing students the same academia and support I received, both in undergraduate and graduate school.

With the support of my family and friends, I have been able to make it thus far. My great grandfather lived by a quote that I adopted, "May the work I've done speak for me." I hope to leave a great lasting impression here at Tarleton State University.

Move Beyond Tolerance



Dr. Therese Pennell,
Assistant Professor -
English, Technical Writing

I am Therese Pennell, a Black-Belizean-American. I am an immigrant, a woman, and Black. I am an assistant professor of English teaching technical writing and am surrounded by great colleagues within and outside my department. I am learning quite a bit from both my students and colleagues.

Similarly, to my students and colleagues, I aim to teach, to help them see subjects from different perspectives, and about new subject matters altogether. In a political environment that sometimes feels intolerant, I hope we all learn to move beyond tolerance and to love and accept, it is much easier on the giver, than it is to hate and reject.

COLFA Annual Service Project Supports Longstanding Tarleton Scouting Event

On the weekend of February 11, Tarleton State hosted over 500 Scouts, leaders and instructors for the 2022 Tarleton State Merit Badge Seminar. The university hosted this event for more than 35 years; and after a hiatus due to the pandemic in 2020, this year's event renewed this tradition. Over the past decade, the event has been an annual service project of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts.



The event included over 40 blended boys and girls troops from throughout north, central, and west Texas. In addition to camping out on the intramural fields and attending an evening basketball game between Tarleton and Abilene Christian University, Scouts participated in 80 merit badge classes offered by Tarleton faculty, staff, and instructors from throughout the region. The classes included everything from Art and Animal Science, to Public Health, Robotics, and Space Exploration.

Dr. Eric Morrow, event coordinator and Dean of COLFA, stated, "We were so glad to be able to have our TSU Merit Badge event this year! Our event has become a signature merit badge seminar in the state, and for the university it is a great opportunity to host youth on our campus. Many come back to Tarleton for college."

"One of the major reasons for the success of this event is the support of so many areas of our university, from Athletics to Event Management, from Food Services to our College staff. In addition, we have amazing faculty who offer quality instruction and experiences so that Scouts make significant progress and earn merit badges. We are looking forward to a great 2023 event!"



COLFA well-represented at TWHE

A handful of Tarleton COLFA women represented the university at the annual Texas Women in Higher Education (TWHE) Conference March 28-29 in Austin.

“A record number of Tarleton women will be at TWHE this year learning and networking from women in all types of higher ed positions across the state,” said Dr. Lora Helvie-Mason, Tarleton’s TWHE institutional representative, and founder of Tarleton’s Women’s Mentoring Network.

Dr. Therese Pennell, assistant professor of English and Languages, Skyla Claxton (‘18, MA Communication), instructor of speech at Texas Wesleyan, and Dr. Sarah Maben, associate professor of communication studies, joined their colleague from North Central Texas College and Tarleton alumna, Dr. Rochelle Gregory (MA/BA, English), to lead a panel titled Mentoring for Forward Momentum – Tips, Tricks and Takeaways for Mentoring Relationships.



“We shared about personal forward momentum and how mentoring can help navigate the not-so-direct paths taken in our careers in higher education,” said Dr. Pennell, who has published an article titled “Embodied Professionalization” on mentoring of graduate students and early-stage academics.

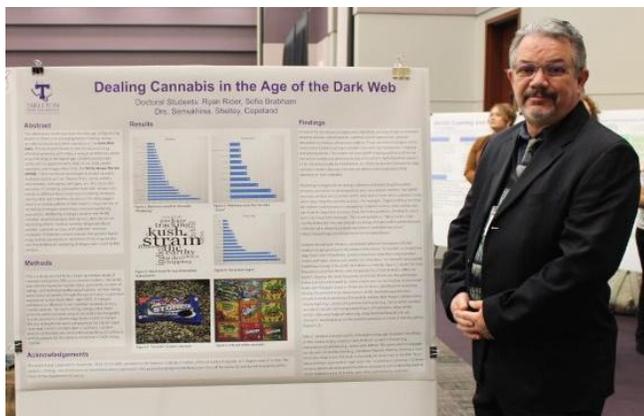
Growth Continues



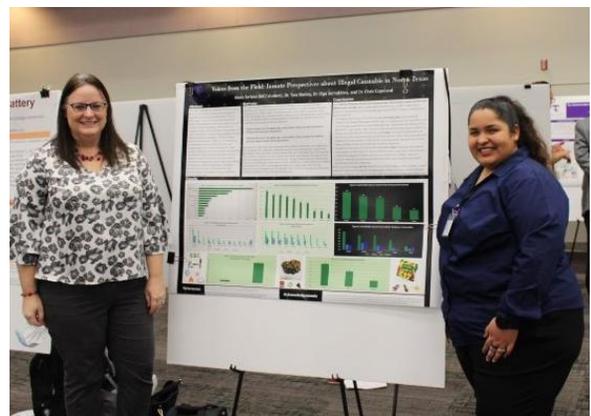
Tarleton broke ground for the second building on our 80-acre campus in southwest Fort Worth along Chisholm Trail Parkway on March 23. At more than 100,000 square feet of classroom and specialized lab space, the \$66 million Interprofessional Education Building will increase access to quality healthcare and education for the region. Move-in is set for 2024.

Faculty, Staff & Students Present Findings at President's Symposium

On February 9, faculty, staff, and students gathered in the Barry B. Thompson Student Center for the inaugural President's Excellence in Research Scholars (PERS) Research Symposium. Topics of research included chemotherapy delivery systems, gender-based violence, dairy cow nutrition, rural communication and healthcare, bioenergy recovery, social media, chronic stress in law enforcement, brain cell death after a heart attack, biodiversity, child development, mental health, pollinators and food production, and disaster epidemiology. Projects produced by COLFA faculty, staff, and students are listed below. **Congratulations to those who participated!**



Dealing Cannabis in the Age of the Dark Web - Doctoral students, Ryan Rider and Sofia Brabham; Drs. Olga Semukhina, Chris Copeland, and Tara Shelley.



Voices from the Field: Inmate Perspectives about Illegal Cannabis in North Texas - Alexis Soriano, Master's of Criminal Justice Student; Drs. Tara Shelley, Olga Semukhina, and Chris Copeland.



Marijuana Dispensaries and Juvenile Offending - Juan Salinas, RELLIS Undergrad; Drs. SooHyun O and YongJei Lee



Law Enforcement Evasion & Techniques Learned from Empire - Harpreet Dheer-Dixon, MCJ student; Drs. Chris Copeland, Tara Shelley, and Olga Semukhina.

President's Research Symposium Continued



How the Louisiana Department of Health and the Texas Education Agency are Communicating about Health during COVID-19 - Morgan Maley, Christina Byrd, Jorge Irizarry, Katherine Mitchell, and Audrey Morton. Dr. Jennifer Edwards.

President's Excellence in Research Scholars

DR. JENNIFER EDWARDS AND DR. SUBI GANDHI

COVID-19 VACCINE INITIATIVES IN RURAL EAST TEXAS



Supports for and Barriers to Rural Entrepreneurship as Perceived by 50 Women Entrepreneurs in Texas - Anna Laurent, Lauryn Harris, Magnolia Dunlap, and Sydney Brown. Dr. Jennifer Edwards.



Did the COVID-19 Pandemic Lockdown of 2020 Affect 911 Service Calls to the Police in Dallas? Doctoral student, Steven Romero. Dr. Olga Semukhina.

PERS Research Symposium By the Numbers

- \$817,000** - the largest internal research grant
- 51** - funded faculty-led student research projects
- 92** - poster presentations
- 7** - oral presentations
- 300** - participants
- 26** - departments represented
- 6** - colleges represented



How the Federal Government & State of Texas are Communicating About Health - Jessica Thomas, Kristi Cortez, Julia Nolen, and Kennedy Onuam. Dr. Jennifer Edwards.

Holley Shares Teaching Tips

Written by: Dr. Tracey Holley

There are three pillars for university faculty; service, research, and teaching. My primary focus is teaching - which is why ACUE has had such a powerful impact on my course design. I earned my certification through ACUE as a member of Tarleton's inaugural cohort. ACUE, the Association of College and University Educators, provides training and support for faculty utilizing evidence-based teaching practices to enhance student engagement, student persistence to graduation, and career readiness (I'm paraphrasing the webpage here.)

My ACUE course consisted of knowledge training, self-reflection (on before and after practices), peer feedback, and expert feedback from educators who have received recognition for their teaching practices. Areas ACUE focused on which I have utilized are effective lecture delivery, leading and setting the tone on the first day of class, effective class discussions, engagement of unprepared students, providing useful feedback, promoting civil learning environments, and embracing diversity in the classroom.

While I have participated in many training symposiums and faculty course development programs, ACUE has had the single most positive impact on my teaching strategies. ACUE has given me a new lens through which to look at my teaching techniques, assignment instructions, and delivery methods, as well as my methods of communicating feedback and content with a student-based focus.

As I said in the video, one of my "ah-ha" moments was "it is the little things that count." I began using fishbowl discussions, putting a group of students in a circle in the middle of the room to discuss a topic/solution while the remainder of the class listened in, after a previous training seminar.



Scan the QR code to see the Innovative Educators video.

However, my course discussions did not take off until I provided students with the "tags" - ways of lining their comments to one another, allowing them to join in the conversation. These simple tags, "So, to build on what you said," or "Let me see if I understand your view here (student then paraphrases previous comments)," gave students a way into the conversation and enhanced discussions.

My newest course development came from ACUE's syllabus training. ACUE focuses on reworking the traditional with the modern student in mind - and that includes the construction of the course syllabus. I am currently working on an infographic syllabus format, which (hopefully) will fit in with my students' focus on media - such as social media- communication: shorter written sections, graphics, etc.

Student Journalists Launch Podcast

Texan News Service journalists recently launched a new podcast! In *Bi-Monthly Disaster*, Nicholas Ratcliff and Ryland Holt dissect the news of the day.

Scan the QR code below to subscribe and never miss an episode.

Texan News Announces New Editors, Re-design

Elizabeth Black is the new editor-in-chief of *Texan News Service* (www.texannews.net). Lizzie is a senior English major from Paradise. She served as the Managing Editor during the fall semester. TNS staff also implemented a complete redesign of the print edition, shown below. *Texan News Service* hits newsstands the fourth Thursday of the month.

NEW RESEARCH

DR. SARAH MABEN AND DR. BECKY WEIDMAN-WINTER

BRB: Five-year-olds teach their #AcaMoms about the potential and necessity of screen time and virtual play in a pandemic world was just published in *Vitae Scholasticae: The Journal of Educational Biography*.



#commrocks

NEW RESEARCH: Inspired by their daughters, Dr. Sarah Maben and Dr. Becky Weidman-Winter wrote about their experiences as academic moms during the early days of the pandemic.

Public Relations Students Attend PRSSA Conferences

Through the Department of Communication Studies, public relations students are virtually traveling to multiple professional conferences this semester. From Boston to Chicago, communication students are taking advantage of the convenience of virtual experiences.

Kiley Kocian, Faith Branch, and Angelique Romike-Duran recently attended DePaul University's PRogress Report, which focused on how major public relations industries pivoted during the pandemic. Professionals from multinational brands like McDonald's, Amazon Web Services, and General Motors, and executives from top public relations agencies in Chicago, such as Weber Shandwick, Golin, Ogilvy, and Walker Sands, were on screen to inspire and inform the next generation of PR professionals. Additionally, Tarleton students were able to network with fellow Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) colleagues from programs across the Midwest.

Angelique Romike-Duran, Tarleton State PRSSA president, said, "Attending these conferences presented me with the opportunity to network with like-minded professionals. The pandemic took a turn on how PR professionals engage with their audience. I learned the importance of building relationships within a company to produce the best work."

In early February, students attended PR Advanced: Navigating An Uncharted Future, a virtual conference hosted by Butler University's PRSSA's chapter. Kiley Kocian, Tarleton State PRSSA PR Director said, "Since joining the PRSSA I've been presented with many fun and interesting opportunities to work on my professionalism. I'm looking forward to the many more opportunities that will happen once we are able to attend conferences and networking events in person."



Pictured (left to right): Kiley Kocian, Faith Branch, and Angelique Romike-Duran

The *Vagina* Monologues by Eve Ensler



Stephenville- TSC Ballrooms
February 25, 26- 6:30 p.m.
Doors @ 6 p.m.

Fort Worth- 121
February 24- 6:30 p.m.
Doors @ 6 p.m.

Silent Auction to benefit
Cross Timbers Family
Services;
Donations accepted
Admission is FREE

Get Your Tickets via Eventbrite QR Code

Fort Worth Stephenville



Instructor Prairie Endres-Parnell and students performed the Vagina Monologues at Stephenville and Fort Worth campuses in late February. Student artist Alex Lopez designed the event flier, pictured above. A silent auction benefitted Cross Timbers Family Services, a victim-service agency in Stephenville.

Helvie-Mason Honored at Basketball Game

Dr. Lora Helvie-Mason was recognized at the women's basketball game during Faculty and Staff Night January 15, at the home game against Grand Canyon University.

She was presented a special coin to celebrate her unwavering commitment to our students and "someone who goes above and beyond." Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Lonn Reisman presented Dr. Helvie-Mason with a Inaugural Year Division 1 NCAA Coin, pictured.



Students Organize Donor Dinner



Applied Public Relations and Event Planning students, above, celebrated the successful planning and execution of the COLFA RELIEF Donor Dinner in mid-March. The RELIEF program helps support students in unpaid internships.

Visit tarleton.edu, search RELIEF for more information.



Holley Participates in Communication Symposium



Dr. Tracey Holley was one of 18 Communication Studies faculty from across the country selected to participate in McGraw-Hill's Basic Course in Communication Symposium. Her goal: help develop learning materials that work for today's students and faculty. **Way to go, Dr. Holley!**

Gearhart Presents at Leadership Meeting

Dr. Chris Gearhart presented at the Texas Academic Leadership Academy (TALA) with Dr. Forrest Lane, chair of the Department of Educational Leadership at Sam Houston State University.

They presented on the Life of a Department Chair. TALA is a leadership program for academics in Texas.



Way to represent, Dr. Gearhart!



Donations can be made online at <https://bit.ly/COLFAGifts>

Honoring Women's History

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion and International Programs hosts monthly "Donuts and Diversity" gatherings. The March Donuts and Diversity presentation focused on women and voting rights.

Dr. Jensen Branscombe, a history professor, provided an overview of the long struggle American women and their allies embarked in to get the right to vote. Even with the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920, many women were left out of the franchise due to discriminatory local policies.

Political Science professor Dr. Marcie Reynolds also talked about current voting laws, many passed since the 2020 election, and how they may have a disproportionately negative effect on certain groups of Americans, including women. It was a great discussion on an important topic.



Sociology Club Participates in Service Day



The Sociology Club got to work on Tarleton Service Learning Day, March 24, by volunteering at the Purple Pantry.

The Tarleton Purple Pantry at Stephenville offers confidential and discreet service to Tarleton's Stephenville campus and is available in the Thompson Student Center. Resources are also available at each of the university's outreach locations.

For more information about supporting the Purple Pantry, visit tarleton.edu/foodpantry/

Students Study Away in D.C.

Tarleton students participated in a study away trip to Washington, DC over spring break. The experience was supported by the Center for Educational Excellence and the College of Liberal and Fine Arts. It was a great trip and our Tarleton Texans represented Tarleton well in our nation's capital.



Tarleton Performs for Texas Music Educators

The Tarleton Wind Ensemble performed at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention on February 10 in San Antonio. They played on tour for high schools and presented a public preview performance prior to the convention.

Dr. David Robinson, a COLFA faculty award recipient, conducted. Dr. Brian Walker, trumpet, and Dr. Gary Westbrook, served as the guest conductor.

Congratulations to all who participated!



Dr. David Robinson

Tarleton
Wind Ensemble
Dr. David Robinson, conductor

Featuring
Dr. Brian Walker, trumpet
Dr. Gary Westbrook, guest conductor

TMEA Preview Concert
Sunday, February 6th at 3:00 pm
Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Texas Music Educators Association Convention
Thursday, February 10th at 2:30 pm
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Lila Cockrell Theater

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Celebrating Music

Tarleton Creates \$5.4 Million Band Endowment

Dennis G. Hunewell, director of Tarleton State University's esteemed Military Band for more than two decades, left a powerful legacy that is still felt today. The sale of 1,166 acres of his ranch just southwest of Stephenville will fund a \$5.4 million endowment for band scholarships, instruments and uniforms. The sale was approved by The Texas A&M System Board of Regents in November and finalized in January.

"This is a game changer for us," said Dr. David Robinson, Tarleton Director of Bands. "Our vision for our band program is to grow in size and prominence, and we are excited that the university shares this vision. This new funding will allow us to be more competitive in recruiting as we grow our program into the NCAA Division I model."

Following his retirement, Hunewell purchased almost 1,200 acres and lived on it until his death in 1959. He gifted the ranch to the university in his will, stipulating that proceeds from its sale benefit band students.

Hunewell Endowment

\$5.4 million endowment
for band scholarships,
instruments and uniforms.

Over the last decade, yearly revenue from leasing the property dipped below \$25,000. The new endowment will generate about \$250,000 annually.

"We are so appreciative of Hunewell's gift and for the vision of President Hurley, Dr. Eric Morrow (COLFA Dean) and our Department Head, Vicky Johnson," said Dr. Gary Westbrook, Director of Athletic Bands. "This vision provides the support for the band program's current and future growth. We could not be more excited."

Tarleton kept the portion of Hunewell Ranch that is home to its observatory. The third largest in the state, the observatory houses one of the few fully robotic telescopes in the world.

Spotz, guest pianist share talents with Tarleton

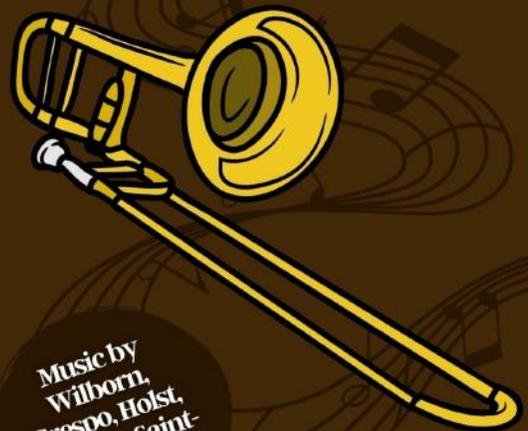
Dr. Leslie Spotz accompanied Dr. Sharon Lavery as she shared her talents through her recital hosted in the Fine Arts Center theatre. Dr. Lavery played Concerto in A minor, Op. 16 of Edvard Grieg. This piece expressed lyrical, reflective, and often times dramatic themes. Dr. Lavery was able to grasp the emotion of each theme while playing through each movement during the concerto. The audience found themselves getting lost and going through a transition of emotions.

Dr. Sharon Lavery, a friend of Dr. Spotz, is a native of Clifton, New Jersey. She has many talents ranging from pianist to singer to conductor to vocal coach. Dr. Lavery began her academic career as a double major in piano and voice performance at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Further on, Dr. Lavery went on to study Collaborative Piano and Chamber Music at the Manhattan School of Music. Lastly, she completed her Doctor of Musical Arts program at Juilliard finishing a dissertation on Norwegian Art Song and the songs of Agathe Backer Grøndahl. Dr. Lavery teaches piano and theory at McLennan Community College while also accompanying/coaching vocal and instrumental students, assisting with the MCC Chorale, and conducting the annual opera production.



Tarleton Low Brass Studio Presents

THE HEAVYWEIGHTS



Music by
Wilborn,
Crespo, Holst,
Verhelst, Saint-
Saëns, Ewazen,
Day

THURSDAY, MARCH 31 - 12:00PM
CLYDE H. WELLS FINE ARTS CENTER WORKSHOP THEATER

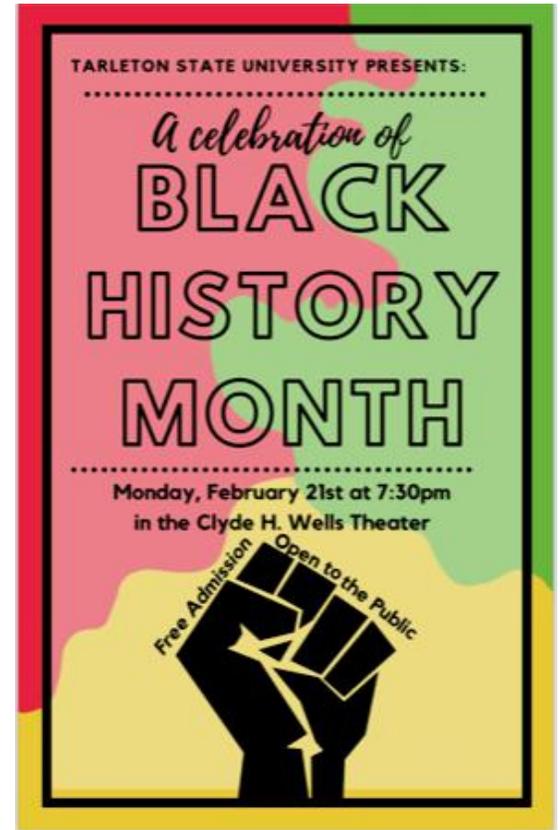
Choral Department Hosts Black History Month Celebration

The Tarleton Choral Department hosted a celebration of Black History Month through gospel. Dr. Troy Robertson conducted the night and Heather Hamilton was on the piano.

"Ride on King Jesus," "Lift Every Voice and Sing," and "I Sing Because I'm Happy," were some of the classic gospel songs that showcased Black stories.

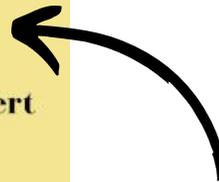
Students Xhia Williams, Barrett Monk, and Myles Taylor were able to express their talents to the audience along with the rest of the Choral Department.

A job well done, Tarleton Choral Department!



Spring Masterworks Concert
Mozart: Requiem
April 2, 2022, 7:30pm
Clyde H. Wells Auditorium

Tarleton Choral Program Spring Concert
April 22, 2022, 7:30pm
Clyde H. Wells Theater



Save the dates!



Annual Juried Student Exhibition Wraps Up

The Annual Juried Student Exhibition opened March 8 at the Clyde H. Wells Fine Art Center Gallery of Art. Now in its eighth year, this annual exhibition features some of the best work of students enrolled in classes in the Art and Digital Media Studies programs - everything from painting to graphic design, photography, animation and more.

Every spring, art faculty select a juror from the local area to juror and curate the show. This year's juror was Iris Bechtol, artist and Cultural Programs Coordinator, at the Oak Cliff Cultural Center Gallery in Dallas, TX.

While offering a statement about jurying the show, Iris stated, "Art should capture and hold the viewer's gaze or at least encourage one to return to look again. In jurying the artworks, I looked for work that held my interest or compelled me to return to it after that initial first look....All the students should be tremendously proud of their accomplishments thus far and continue to push themselves technically and conceptually."

Participating artists in this year's juried exhibition: Cadence Argumaniz, Cassidy Balder, Katie Chambliss, Michelle Foster, Sarah Goolsby, Nicole Hernandez, Xochitl Licea, Alexandria Lopez, Amber Lopez, Leslie Moore, Destiny Robles, Harlan Rowlett, Caleb Spenrath, Linda Waldenmaier, Hudson Woodring, and Samuel Yankie.



Cassidy Balder, Leslie Moore, and Sarah Goolsby won the top prize at the President's Circle Reception during the Annual Juried Student Exhibition. Tarleton President Dr. James Hurley (far right) and the First Lady Kindall Hurley (far left) generously increased the award amount this year.



Senior Art Exhibition Set For April

The Department of Fine Arts at Tarleton State University will showcase the work of 10 graduating seniors during the Spring 2022 Senior Exhibition Series, on display at the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center Gallery from April 5-28.

The group of seniors includes students receiving their Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Studio Art along with graduates of the interdisciplinary Digital Media Studies degree program. There will be a wide variety of work from painting to animation and graphic design.

The exhibitions are designed to give the student-artists an opportunity to mount a professional exhibition of a complete body of work showcasing a cohesive portfolio in the field of study the student intends to focus on upon graduation.

Exhibitions change on a weekly basis with presentations held at noon on designated dates. Each senior is required to participate in an oral defense of the work that is open to the public. These usually take place on selected Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the month of April.

FINE ARTS CENTER GALLERY
TARLETON
senior art exhibition

April 5 - 8
Ray Brown (Wednesday, April 6)
Isabella Immormino (Wednesday, April 6)
Stephanie Burcham (Thursday, April 7)

April 11 - 14
Cristion Sanchez (Tuesday, April 12)
Destiny Robles (Tuesday, April 12)
Abigail Nichols (Thursday, April 14)

April 19 - 22
Xochitl Licea (Thursday, April 21)
Kylie Carroll (Thursday, April 21)

April 25 - 28
Zane Gould (Thursday, April 28)
Cristina Henderson (Thursday, April 28)

Presentations will start at noon on the designated dates

Congratulations to our trumpet ensemble!



National Trumpet Competition
Semi-Finalists

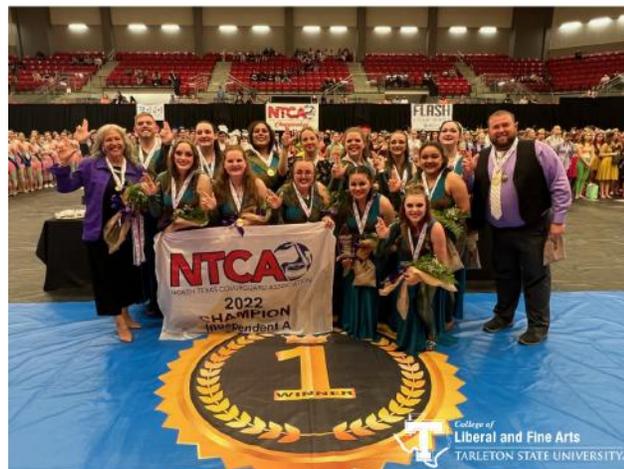
Congrats to the trumpet ensemble and soloists for being semi-finalists in the National Trumpet Competition!

Congratulations to
William Brown and Robby Nedd!



Semi-finalists in solo division
National Trumpet Competition

The Purple Pride Colorguard took home GOLD on April 3, 2022 at the NTCA Independent A Championships! That's how you do it, Folks!



College of Liberal and Fine Arts
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Theatre Students Take on Baltimore



Theatre students traveled to Baltimore for The Association for Performing Arts & Entertainment Professionals 62nd Annual Conference & Stage Expo, where they networked at "the most anticipated gathering of the entertainment design and technology industry each year."

WOLFGANG AMADEUS
**MOZART:
 REQUIEM**

PRESENTED BY THE
 TARLETON CHORAL PROGRAM AND
 CROSS TIMBERS CIVIC CHORALE

APRIL 2 - 7:30PM
 CLYDE H WELLS AUDITORIUM
 \$10 GENERAL ADMISSION

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY
 Member of The Texas A&M University System

Upcoming Fine Arts Events

April 5-9

Theatre at Tarleton presents David Ives comedy, *The Liar*, at 7:30 each evening in the Theater of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$8 for senior citizens, children, and faculty and staff; and \$5 for Tarleton students.

April 12

A Chamber Ensembles concert featuring the Tarleton studio classes will be presented Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Admission is free.

April 19

Dr. Kim Hagelstein, French Horn, will perform a Faculty Recital on Tuesday, April 19 at 12 PM in the Theater of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Admission is free.

April 21

Tarleton Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. David Robinson, will perform in concert on Thursday, April 21 at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Admission is free.

April 25

The Tarleton Latin Band, under the direction of Dr. Carlos Averhoff, will perform on Monday, April 25 at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Admission is free.

April 26

The University and Symphonic bands, under the direction of Dr. Gary Westbrook, will perform in concert on Tuesday, April 26 at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$5 or free with a Tarleton I.D.

April 27

Jazz Ensembles 2 and 3 on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:30 in the Theater of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$5 or free with a Tarleton I.D.

Scan the QR code for more information!



Copeland Named Fulbright Specialist

Dr. Christopher Copeland was chosen by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and World Learning for a five-year appointment as a Fulbright Specialist. Dr. Copeland is the director of Tarleton State University's Institute of Homeland Security and Cybercrime in the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Public Administration. His projects as a Fulbright Specialist will be related to cybersecurity and cybercrimes, critical infrastructure and its security, and the dark web.

Congratulations, Dr. Copeland!



Brown Awarded



Dr. Katherine Brown received the Paul W. Kehres Meritorious Service Award from The Academy of Forensic Sciences. Dr. Brown is a Professional Associate Professor of Criminal Justice on the RELLIS Campus.

Awesome Honor, Dr. Brown!

Morrow Shares Research Findings



Dr. Rebecca Morrow, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, joined other faculty members 2021-2022 Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL) and Engaged Scholars Academy (ESA) to present their projects and findings! Dr. Morrow presented research on "Using Films for Teaching and Learning Theory in a Criminology Classroom." **Great Work, Dr. Morrow!**

The Criminal Justice Brown Bag series, presented on Zoom and planned monthly through April, will welcome faculty members as they share research findings and teaching methods relating to the field of Criminal Justice. Find dates and more information online at <https://bit.ly/CJBrownBag> by scanning the QR code.



Quazi Earns Distinguished Achievement Award

Tarleton State University English Professor Dr. Moumin Quazi was presented the 2022 Distinguished Achievement Award for Service to the Field of South Asian Studies at the March 12 annual meeting of the South Asian Literary Association (SALA).

In a presentation by SALA President Dr. Cynthia Leenerts, Dr. Quazi was recognized for his service to the organization and to South Asian studies. In almost two decades, he has served two terms as SALA president and terms as web manager, councilor, secretary, vice president, newsletter editor and treasurer.

He has published articles on Salman Rushdie, two forthcoming book chapters on Sri Lankan literature and a book, *Migratory Words*; encyclopedia entries on Latino, Greek and transcendentalist writers, as well as on South Asian texts; and many poems and creative nonfiction pieces.

Since 2010, he has been the series editor of *South Asian Literature, Arts, and Culture Studies*, published by Peter Lang, editing three titles – *Manufacturing Indianness: Nation Branding and Postcolonial Identity*; *Sanskrit Debate*; and *A Passage to Globalism*. He has worked to broaden inclusion of the *Langdon Review of the Arts* in Texas, a journal he has co-edited since 2008.



**Congratulations,
Dr. Quazi!**

Dodson's Work Featured in Poetry Series

English Professor Dr. Sam Dodson's poem "After Her Mother Passed" has been chosen for inclusion in The Poetry Foundation's *American Life in Poetry* series, published in newspapers and venues across the country. *The poem is featured to the right.*

"Here is an elegant flower of a poem – small, delicate in sentiment and yet so resonant in meaning," wrote Kwame Dawes, a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets. "Sam Dodson, in a few short lines, observes the stoic strength of faith, the sadness of loss, and the rituals we perform to help us cope with the helplessness that comes with grief."



**Congratulations,
Dr. Dodson!**

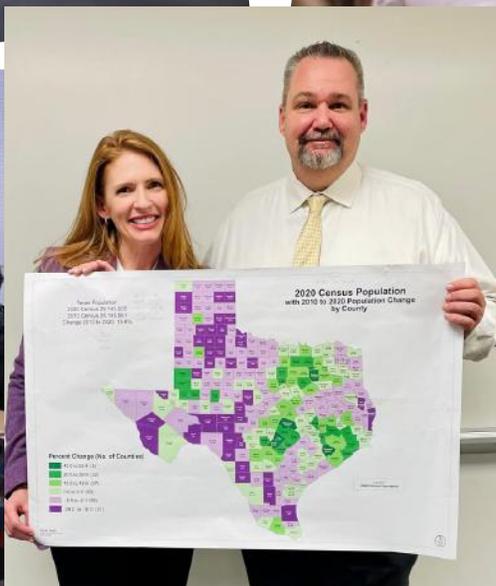
After Her Mother Passed

Lutheran beautiful Eva
broke down for a
dear, dear moment
before she picked
that rake back up
and moved maple
leaves over grass



Tarleton Town Hall Event A Success

The Department of Government, Legal Studies, and Philosophy held the semesterly Tarleton Town Hall for Texas Government event on March 14. Students discussed topics of state relevance with community members, local officials and State Representative Shelby Slawson (center), as well as Tarleton State faculty and staff. The students were engaged and had a great time connecting with local and state leaders.



Students Present Federal Government Research

The Tarleton Town Hall poster presentations for Federal Government was held March 29 in the Barry B. Thompson Student Center Ballroom. Approximately 300 students and 88 teams presented their policy research from their GOVT 2305 Federal Government course. Research was presented on environment, media privacy, drug policy, free speech, and more!



Welch Receives Top Student Worker Award

Taylor Welch, a senior music business major preparing to graduate in May, was awarded Tarleton's inaugural university-wide Student Employee of the Year Award. Welch is the lead student worker for Tarleton Radio, serving as production director. She has worked with the department since 2019.

In presenting the honor, Dr. James Hurley, Tarleton president, said the nomination process was highly competitive, but Welch was named the lone finalist due to numerous comments from supervisors and colleagues. Hurley said Welch was referred to as the "epitome of excellence as a Tarleton student."

In addition to heading up production at KTRL 90.5 FM and KXTR 100.7, Welch is also the head disc jockey (DJ) and trains incoming student DJs. She is also an honor student, head drum major with The Sound & The Fury Marching Band, podcast creator and co-host, and an artist – music and painting.

Welch is a fourth-generation Tarleton Texan who bleeds purple, and Hurley said Tarleton State will be proud to have Welch claim the university as her alma mater.

Dr. Karen Murray, provost, said in addition to being the first-ever student employee of the year, Welch will be among honored guests at an upcoming recognition event and receive a monetary award for her hard work and dedication.

CONGRATULATIONS, TAYLOR!

Save The Date!

College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Commencement Ceremony
9 AM - Friday, May 13



**TARLETON
RADIO**
tarleton.edu/ktrl

ABOUT US

Tarleton Radio has a two-fold mission of providing unique listening formats and cultural experiences through KTRL 90.5 FM and KXTR 100.7 LPFM while offering hands-on, paid work experiences and volunteer opportunities to Tarleton State University students interested in business management, broadcasting, music, and communications.

WAYS TO SUPPORT

Broadcasting at KTRL 90.5 and KXTR 100.7 - non-profit public radio stations - is made possible by the support of listeners, members, and underwriters. For more information about membership, underwriting packages, or volunteer opportunities, please call 254-968-1941 or email radio@tarleton.edu.

Tarleton Well Represented at Granbury Jazz Fest



Taylor Welch and Torri Shrull, Tarleton Radio interns and Music Business majors, broadcast live from the Granbury Jazz Fest on March 5.



KTR 90.5 FM, Tarleton Radio, sponsored the Granbury Square Plaza Stage, which featured six jazz combos throughout the day, including a Tarleton Faculty Combo, not pictured. A combo featuring Jonathan Fisher, Dallas area bassist and cellist, is pictured above. The Tarleton Jazz Ensemble also performed at the inaugural event.

Radio Welcomes Interns



Tyler Beeson (above) a general studies major from Granbury, and Carson Grubbs, a digital media studies major from Cleburne, recently committed to internships with Tarleton Radio, where they are a part of the digital media team. Their jobs include content creation and video production for the social media channels for KTR 90.5 and KXTR 100.7.

KTR 90.5 FM

-  tarletonradio.com
-  [@KTRradio](https://www.facebook.com/KTRradio)
-  [@KTRradio](https://twitter.com/KTRradio)
-  KTR.org
-  bit.ly/SupportKTR
-  radio@tarleton.edu

KXTR 100.7 LPFM

-  tarletonradio.com
-  [@ThePlanet100.7](https://www.facebook.com/ThePlanet100.7)
-  [@ThePlanet1007](https://twitter.com/ThePlanet1007)
-  [@ThePlanet100.7](https://www.instagram.com/ThePlanet100.7)
-  [Tarleton Radio](https://www.youtube.com/TarletonRadio)
-  [ThePlanet100.7](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/ThePlanet100.7)



COLFA Applauds Achievements

The College of Liberal and Fine Arts is celebrating the successes of students and alumni. Whether they are current students, recent graduates just beginning their careers, or advanced degree earners who are moving up the career ladder, we could not be more proud of their individual accomplishments, drive, and dedication!

Congratulations on your growth and advancement!



Amme O'Grady, MA
Communication &
Digital Media
Class of 2021
Ethics Analyst Senior
Lockheed Martin



Nadeya Patel
Successful Defense of
Master's Thesis
"Preserving and
Presenting Cemeteries
Digitally: Retelling the
History of Arlington,
Texas, Through its
Deceased, 1870-1970."



Skyla Claxton, MA
Communication
Studies
Class of 2017
Speech Instructor
Texas Wesleyan
University



Christian Rocha
PREM
Class of 2017
Membership Coordinator
Pasadena Chamber of
Commerce



James Bessler
Graduate Student
Communication Studies
Outdoor Pursuits Coordinator
Tarleton State, Stephenville



Sarah Nolting
Communication Studies
Class of 2021
Marketing &
Communication Specialist
Cooper Aerobics, Dallas

Congratulations 2020-21 COLFA Faculty Award Winners!

Dr. Eric Morrow, Dean, and Dr. Ben Sword, Associate Dean, recently presented COLFA Faculty Awards. Surprised recipients and were recognized for their hard work and dedication and presented their awards during class time, in front of their students.

Congratulations to all recipients!



Dr. Atsuko Kawakami

COLFA Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award



Dr. Brittany Rodriguez

COLFA O.A. Grant Excellence in Teaching Award



Dr. David Robinson

COLFA Barry B. Thompson Service Award



Dr. J. Bradley Baker

COLFA Outstanding Junior Faculty Award

COLFA Faculty Award Recipients Continued



Mr. Tim Harding

COLFA Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award



Ms. Prairie Parnell

COLFA Engaged Faculty Award

COLFA Welcomes New Faculty & Staff

Communication Studies



Tonya Jurado

Administrative Associate



Dr. Cherise Johnson

Instructor



Jackie Melvin

Instructor

Fine Arts



Shayna Malsam

Administrative Associate

Staff Transfers



Ms. Julie Simpson
Administrative Associate
History, Sociology,
Geography & GIS



Ms. Amanda Jenkins
Communication
Specialist
Texas Folklore Society

Congratulations!!!

Krystal Henderson



Human Resources Specialist I
Data Management

Participate in Giving Day Challenge on April 12

The Tarleton State University Foundation, Inc. will donate \$5,000 to the academic college or division with the most donors during the Tarleton's Giving Day 2022, a one-day campaign set for Tuesday, April 12.

The foundation will also donate \$3,000 to the second place winner of the most donors and \$2,000 to the third place.

COLFA leaders are calling on faculty, staff, and alumni and making an appeal for donations during the designated Giving Day 2022 timeframe, between 12 AM and 11:59 PM on Tuesday, April 12.

More than 14,000 students. That's more than 14,000 reasons to give. Be the reason students discover, learn, achieve, succeed.

Donations can be made online at
<https://bit.ly/COLFAGifts>



**Be the
Reason.**



#TarletonGives



College of
Liberal and Fine Arts
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Mobile Phone _____ Email _____

Spouse/Partner's Name _____ Employer's Name: _____

I am an alumnus/alumna:

Degree _____ Major _____ Graduation Year _____

LEVELS OF SUPPORT: *Please note that employer matching gifts can count toward this amount.*

\$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 \$ _____

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

One-Time Payment Monthly Payments (12 months) Please continue my gift payment indefinitely

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Please make your check payable to Tarleton State University, or complete the information below for a credit card payment:

Visa MasterCard Discover

My Gift Amount \$ _____

Card Holder's Name _____

Card # _____

Expiration _____ CVV Code _____ Billing Zip _____

Please charge the credit card above for all payments toward this pledge.

Signature _____

I have enclosed a check

MATCHING GIFT:

My employer/spouse's employer will match this gift. I will contact my employer to initiate the match.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- I am interested in joining the Alumni Association
- I am interested in how I can be more involved with Tarleton

- I have included Tarleton in my will
- I am interested in leaving a gift to Tarleton in my will

Please mail to: Tarleton State University, Institutional Advancement, Box T0415, Stephenville, TX 76402
www.tarleton.edu/giving ◆ giving@tarleton.edu ◆ phone 254.968.9769