

2019 ARETÈ





A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings alumni and friends of the Honors College,

As we wind down the 2018-2019 academic year and prepare for our study abroad program in Urbino, Italy, I have to say that I'm excited about all of the great things that are happening in the Honors College. We are now in our third year in a wonderful new Honors Hall, which houses around 440 honors students as well as the offices of the Honors College. The hall also has great meeting spaces for classes, meetings, luncheons, and other social events—a meeting room that can be divided into two honors classrooms, a spectacular lobby with floor to ceiling built-in bookcases, and a lovely courtyard.

Fall enrollment in the Honors College reached an all-time high even though we raised our admission standards for the Honors Degree Program, the larger of the two programs under the umbrella of the Honors College. During Honors Week we will hand out honors stoles to the largest number of spring graduates ever.

Although the heart of the Honors College consists of an honors curriculum—special honors sections of core classes and special honors seminars—honors students participated in a number of cultural enrichment events designed to broaden their perspective on the world. The third annual Honors College Alumni Day took place in October. Fifty-three students attended the symphony in October and 48 honors students will leave on June 2 for a month-long study abroad program in Urbino, Italy for the fifth year of this program. Generous contributions by donors have reduced the cost of that program to \$2,000.

Speaking of donors, we had our fourth annual Night in Urbino fundraiser dinner in October, an event that brings together donors and students who have studied in Italy over a multi-course meal typical of the Marche region of Italy.

Thank you for your support of the Honors College, a shining center of academic excellence.

Best regards,

Dr. Craig Clifford

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FRESHMEN BY THE NUMBERS

TOP 5 MAJORS

- 20% PRE-NURSING
- 13% ANIMAL SCIENCE
- 8% BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE
- 5% KINESIOLOGY
- 4% PSYCHOLOGY

To graduate in Honors Core, students must complete 15 hours of Honors, but the average student completes

20 HOURS

BY PROGRAM:

306 HONORS CORE
17 PRESIDENTIAL HONORS
323 TOTAL FRESHMAN

2019 STUDENT STATISTICS

71% FEMALE

29% MALE

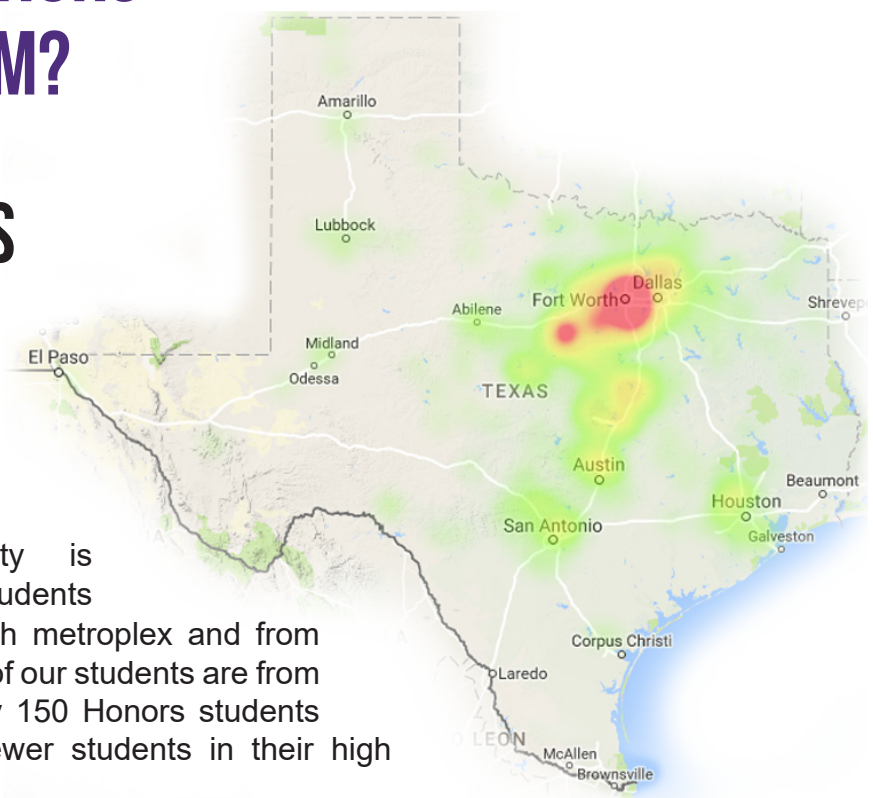
15% FIRST GENERATION

COLLEGE STUDENT

WHERE ARE HONORS STUDENTS FROM?

- 111 COUNTIES
- 5 STATES
- 4 COUNTRIES

Our Honors community is primarily made up of students from the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex and from major Texas cities. Not all of our students are from large cities; approximately 150 Honors students graduated with 100 or fewer students in their high school graduating class.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

ADAPTED FROM FACEBOOK "MEET YOUR MENTOR" SERIES BY LAURA WALDRON

Brooke Quest

Originally from Oglesby, Texas, Brooke is not only a nursing major with a double minor in psychology and Spanish, but she is also a part of the Honors Mentoring Program.

When asked why she wanted to become a mentor, Brooke responded with, "I want to be the type of person I needed when I was new to college. I want to be able to serve others and help them discover who they are while showing them that they belong!"

With the semester beginning to wind down and the excitement for the new freshman class's arrival

starting to build, we asked Brooke what she is looking forward to next semester.

"I'm looking forward to showing new students the beauty of Tarleton and help them adjust to their new home! I can't wait to kick start their education that will set them on track for their career! Overall, getting to form friendships with the new students!"



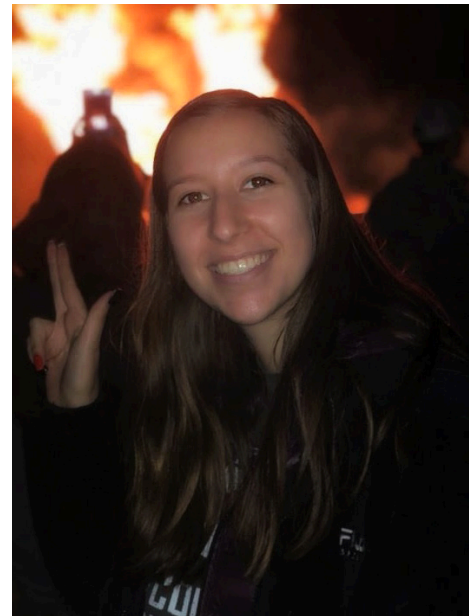
Shelby Smith

As a kinesiology major with a concentration in Exercise Allied Health Professions, Shelby has a lot on her plate but still takes the effort and time to be an amazing mentor. When we asked Shelby what her future mentees should know about her, she responded with, "I think my mentees should know that I like to talk a lot and I want to get to know them! Also, I'm a cat mom and absolutely love cats, so they can't hate on cats."

Shelby makes sure to keep an open and light atmosphere for her mentees and also maintains a humorous attitude which allows for a warm environment. When asked why she wanted to become a mentor Shelby responded with, "I wanted to help the incoming freshmen. I remember being nervous my first year and knowing people in your

classes or having someone to go eat with makes a big difference." Shelby, like all of our mentors, wants the best for their mentees and Shelby accomplishes this by providing a safe and welcoming space for her mentees to thrive and create friendships.

Tradition runs strong here at Tarleton. Shelby said " My favorite tradition at Tarleton is definitely Homecoming! I love going to Purple Pancakes, Yell contest, and the bonfire! Those three are my favorite of the whole week and of my two years here they have gotten better each time. Our bonfire was way bigger than I was expecting my freshman year and I loved it! Purple pancakes is like a party in the dining hall at midnight! Lastly, yell contest showcases super creative yells and a great way to support my friends!"



STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

ADAPTED FROM FACEBOOK "WHO'S WHO" SERIES BY LAURA WALDRON

Nick McLatchy

Nick McLatchy is a sophomore from Stephenville, Texas. Living in Stephenville, he grew up around Tarleton's campus, and he knew Tarleton was where he wanted to be. "I had been on the campus a lot while growing up and really liked the atmosphere," he told me. But he wasn't just familiar with the campus; Tarleton has a special place in his family. "My family also has history at Tarleton, with me being a third generation Tarleton student," Nick said.

Nick is an electrical engineering major and a Presidential Honors Scholar as well! For Nick, the benefits of being an Honors student

have helped him through his college experience so far. He said that the individual help and encouragement he has received from his professors "has helped motivate me to focus on my coursework and keep my grades up." He told me, "I have always been good at math and science, and engineering combines both of those things though calculus and physics. I also enjoy the challenges that engineering has."

Throughout his time at Tarleton, he has enjoyed getting to know all of his professors and going to band performances to support his friends. He is also involved at the Baptist Student Ministry on campus. He



is currently applying for different internships in the engineering field that will help give him more experience and insight into future career possibilities.

Tiffany Lee

Tiffany came to Tarleton from her hometown of Plano, Texas. While she was originally thinking about attending other bigger schools, she said that when she toured Tarleton she "felt like [she] wasn't just another student or just another number," and knew she had found a new home.

Tiffany is a junior biomedical science major with a concentration in pre-med. Throughout her time at Tarleton she has kept busy! She is a Presidential Honors Scholar, an Honors Ambassador, an Honors Mentor, and AED Secretary (Tarleton's Pre-Health Honors Society). She also works as a newborn hearing screener at the Texas Health Hospital in Granbury.

"I love it because I get to start my mornings with the cutest babies," she said.

However, Tiffany wasn't always a bio-med major. When she first came to Tarleton, she was a nursing major. Through the Honors College, she for

was able to shadow different Honors alumni in the medical field. Through lots of talks and research, she finally decided to change her major.

"It was amazing just how many Tarleton professors, staff, and friends gave me the support and resources I needed to make that switch," she says. "Those same professors reach out to me still when they meet a student in a similar situation because they want to help and I want to help and it's just such a great caring community."

But one of her most memorable Tarleton experiences took place abroad. In the summer of 2017, Tiffany studied abroad in Urbino, Italy with the Honors College.

"Thinking back, it still feels unreal that I went there, and I feel like it developed me into a whole other person," Tiffany said. "I made great friendships and connections with the locals in Urbino and found a love philosophy, art, and literature."



After graduation, Tiffany plans to take a gap year to volunteer and travel.

"After that, I plan to attend medical school," Tiffany said. "As for what kind of doctor I would want to be, I have always really loved the idea of becoming an OB and delivering babies. But after shadowing other specialties, emergency medicine and surgery also appeal to me. I hope that shadowing more specialties and going to med school will better clarify the right path for me."

Honors Mentoring Program

BY ALEESHA BARRETT

The Honors Mentoring Program is quickly approaching its first birthday! Within this past year we have learned and accomplished so much.

The Honors Mentoring Program was created by the brilliant Honors staff to increase retention rates of honors students. A freshman's first semester is certainly the hardest; freshmen struggle with homesickness, learning how to be an "adult," and adjusting to the work load that college requires. Freshman year is undoubtedly a rough transition but a beneficial one.

The Honors Mentoring Program was designed to provide mentors for freshmen during this difficult time in their lives. Mentors are required to attend a series of classes during the spring semester that teaches them how to help and be there for their future mentees. Some of the classes include lessons on the dimensions of diversity, communication, and conflict management

Mentors are also required to attend additional trainings of their choice. They can attend Ally trainings that teach them how to be an ally to the LGBTQ+ community, Full Mental Health First Aid training, Green Dot training that teaches about sexual assault, as well as many other commendable training programs.

Mentors are taught to implement the ABC's of the Honors Mentoring Program into all their meetings with their mentees. The ABC's of mentoring are Academically Focused, Building Relationships, and Career Oriented. Our goals are to keep them in the Honors Program and to make sure that they are on the path they need to be on in order to get the degree they desire. This requires that we be there for our mentees mentally, emotionally, and academically. We have had to make adjustments along the way, but everything that we have accomplished has truly made an impact on the freshmen. There was an increase in freshmen retention for the spring semester, so the Honors Mentoring Program is most definitely making a difference!

As a first-year mentor, this experience has certainly been one of growth. I applied to be a mentor so that I could provide freshmen with the



mentor I needed when I was a freshman, but I received so much more out of this experience. I have learned about interacting with others and about who I am as a person. I found the trainings to be truly enlightening and applicable to all aspects of my life. The support of the Honors College staff has been invaluable in this process. Anytime I, or any other mentor, had a question or concern, they were always enthusiastic and quick to assist us.

The relationships that I have made throughout this process bring me so much joy. I have relationships with the Honors staff, with my fellow mentors, and with my mentees; I see friendly faces all over campus and it always brightens my day! I am so very grateful that the Honors Mentoring Program has granted me with this experience to help freshmen succeed!

Student Research: 504 and IDEA

BY HALEY GLOVER

Haley Glover is a psychology major and also apart of the Presidential Honors Program. As a part of her major, she conducted a research project over 504 and IDEA programs, which are programs implimented in schools to provide assistance for those who struggle with a learning dissability. The abstract of Haley's project is listed below.

When looking at previous literature, we have seen that transition planning in high school with IEPs have not been compliant (Landmark & Zhang, 2013), which indicates concern that if those required are not getting the services needed that those without requirements are not being set up for success. This study will evaluate the current state of transition planning for high school graduates served under both 504 and IDEA by surveying three distinct groups of individuals associated with this process: school counselors, school psychologists and college student disability services

coordinators.

This mixed-methods, survey-based study seeks to understand whether students with invisible disabilities (ADHD, ASD, Mood and Anxiety Disorders) are more likely to be served under 504 plans or IDEA, as well as trends in the past decade. It also seeks out the accommodations, and strategies for individuals with invisible disabilities on college campuses, as they are covered under the ADA, which is very different to what it covers compared to IDEA.

The overarching goal of this study is to identify strategies that promote successful transition from high school to college for students with invisible disabilities.

When asked as to why she wanted to research this topic Haley responded with, "I had the opportunity arise and it seemed like a perfect fit. I want to become a pediatric occupational therapist in the school systems. As the nature of the job, I would be working with kids identified



under 504 or IDEA, so this investigation would only help me become a better advocate and professional for the kids that are under-served."

As shown in the graphs, the vast majority of people surveyed did not possess proficient knowledge of the 504 and IDEA programs. Haley is already acting as an advocate for those who utilize the 504 and IDEA programs to help provide a clear understanding of what the programs are and their importance.

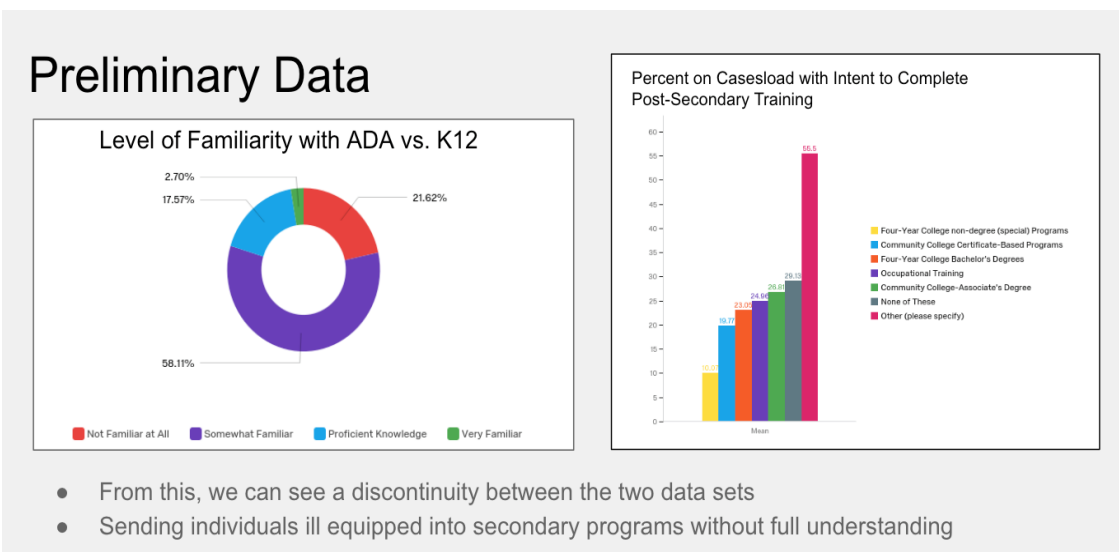


Figure 1. Angiotensinogen Pathway

HONORS COLLEGE EVENTS

Alumni Day

BY JULIA BIBERDORF

Attending both the Alumni Day Luncheon and the Alumni Day Forum was eye-opening. I was able to meet many new honors alumni, many of whom were in the Presidential Honors Program, similar to me. It was interesting to discuss their time in the Honors College and to see how much the Honors Program had changed since they had attended Tarleton. The alumni shared their stories of when they lived in the Honors Residence Halls and how much different they are now. Hearing their stories made me realize how lucky I am to be a member of the Honors College in 2019.

I was able to meet Ms. Sarah Titus, an elementary teacher. It was interesting to be able to discuss how the Honors College prepared her for her career as a teacher. She discussed with me the benefits

of having the Honors College on a resume and how Tarleton had prepared her well for the job she now has.

We were also able to talk about traveling and the unique opportunities that were available for a teacher to travel abroad. And of course, we discussed the Honor's College Study Abroad to Urbino, Italy (which she had attended 3 times!) Having lived abroad for a year, I was fascinated with all of her stories about going abroad. Being able to hear her many experiences about the travelling she had done, and her most recent trip to South America with a group of students, made me want to be a teacher even more.

Overall, being able to meet many presidential honors alumni as well as honors alumni opened my eyes to all the benefits received by being a member of the program. I hope that one day I'm able to come back and give my thoughts on how the Honors College positively affected me.

La Mer

BY REBECCA TUGGLE



Cheesecake, front row seats, and the best company. These three things embodied my afternoon seeing the La Mer symphony at Bass Hall in October.

Two of my close friends and I made a day of going to the symphony. We left Stephenville early and ate lunch at the Cheesecake Factory that is directly across the street with a beautiful view of Bass Hall. After filling our stomachs full of amazing food and delicious cheesecake, we went into Bass Hall to find our seats. While being seated, we received a nice surprise. Our tickets were upgraded from balcony seating to main level seats, much closer to the front. We were also seated next to many of our other friends from the Honors College.

The show started at 2 pm and was performed by the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. It was a beautiful performance that I thoroughly enjoyed. There were multiple solos and the group played very well as a whole. It was my first experience seeing a live symphony and I hope to see another sometime in my future. The afternoon was a nice respite from the daily stresses of homework and class that come with being an honors student. I am very grateful for the opportunities that the Honors College offers its students for cultural experiences outside of the classroom.

Supreme Court Panel

BY HANNAH WILSON

The Supreme Court Panel was made up of Dr. Clifford, Dr. Cogley, and Dr. Howard. We were able to learn about hermeneutics, party alignment, the process of becoming a justice, and the different types of diversity necessary to be representative.

It was really enlightening to see three academics discuss a topic on which they each had differing and, in some cases, opposing views in a civil manner. At the end, the floor was opened to questions from the students and faculty in attendance. It was really neat to see so many people engaged in learning and trying to understand such a complex process.



DISCOVERING URBINO

A Family Matter



BY HAYLEY DANLEY

This study abroad program was a truly amazing experience. Having traveled to Italy before, I had a preconceived notion of this trip would be like. However sightseeing in Rome didn't compare to the immersive cultural and educational environment of Urbino in the slightest.

My Italian classes made a huge difference in my day-to-day cultural interactions. By the end of the trip, I felt confident that I could communicate well enough to order food, complete purchases, and get my general meaning across.

One of the most special parts about the trip happened in Venice. I was able to take a picture in front of Rialto Bridge in the exact same spot as my sister and mother had taken a picture when they were my age. I felt incredibly connected to my family as I got to experience the same things they did.

I learned a lot on my study abroad trip both in and out of class. I learned a lot about myself and what I am capable of on my own. Traveling without the buffering presence of my family has made me into an even stronger, more adventurous person. My study abroad trip to Urbino left me with a rich experience and an open mind about trying new things.

Why are you excited about going to Italy this summer?

“ I'm excited to go to Italy to broaden my perspective of the world and how I fit in it. I think that breaking out of your comfort zone and challenging yourself will lead you to reflect on who you are as a person and student. As a history major, I'm excited to immerse myself into a new culture.”

-VICTORIA VILLASEÑOR, HISTORY AND SPANISH



“ I can't wait to experience the vivacious culture, as well as, learn about the history that is so deeply engraved in its people, and has had a lasting impact on the world.”

-ALLY JOHNSON, COMMUNICATIONS



“ I'm excited about going to Italy because it has been a dream of mine since I was little. I also want to experience the food, culture, and way of life in a different perspective.”

-MICAH WELLBORN, KINESIOLOGY



STUDENT SUBMISSIONS



Once More

BY CIERA KADE

Once More
Whatever you say
Say it isn't so
Whatever it takes
To make you go

Come away with me
Just one more time

We don't speed up, but we don't
slow down
Cruising around this little ghost town
My hair spun into knots from the
wind
Reaching out the window
Trying to catch the sound of the
moon moving.

The smell of a storm filled the air
A heavy downpour came
Sky changes into dissolving colors

Night thawing into day
Soften
Dissolve
Vanish

The Tarleton Ice Storm
Feb. 22, 2018

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALLY JOHNSON AND
MADISON BARCZI

Eulogy of Yellow

BY HAILEY GARNER

She wore yellow everywhere she went. She would wear her tattered yellow cloth bracelet tied around her dainty wrist, or a simple yellow lace ribbon wrapped around her mousy brown hair that sat in a bun on top of her head. On the days she felt bold, she would wear her yellow sundress. The one with the little white sparkling daisies sewn into the bottom. On the days she was not so bold, she would wear the gold chained yellow heart locket passed down to her from her mother. She almost always wore yellow shoes, whether they be yellow laced up converse that have definitely seen their day or fancy new lemon yellow heels that gently clasped around her tiny ankles. She always radiated out into the world around her, always the brightest thing in my view.

She wore yellow every time I was in her presence. I would often see her at our town's dingy, rusty bus stop while we waited for our rides. That is actually where we met, sitting on that rickety wooden bench that has one of its legs torn off yet surprisingly still stands steady. This is the bus stop right in the middle of town, a five minute walk from my front door and eight minutes away from hers. I would always say hello and be blinded by her warm yellow glow and dazzling white smile. It was on that old creaky bench that we slowly, intricately fell in love.

She was adorned in yellow when I realized that yellow was the color of my love I felt for her. I wanted to be bathed in her golden, light aura so bad that my soul craved to adopt her ways. I fell in love with her never-ending joy, her smile, and

her bounding, bubbly laughter that always focused my attention wholly on her. She was all encompassing. She was swathed in yellow everyday of her life until I found her encased in a tomb of red. She didn't show up for her bus on Tuesday. I missed my bus waiting for her on Wednesday. On Thursday I made my way to her house, the one on the corner near the family owned grocery store. The house with the yellow shutters on the windows and daisies planted along the window sills, and I opened up her unlocked white front door.

I found her.

On Tuesday, she wrote herself a checklist of things she had to do and left it on her coffee table. On Wednesday, she ate all of her favorite foods. She bought pizza for lunch from the restaurant a few blocks over and had a feast of chocolate for dinner. On Thursday, she wrote all of her loved ones letters that got sealed in pristine white envelopes and dropped her scruffy little dog off at a doggy daycare. Then, she took her beautiful life into her very own hands sitting in an overflowing lavender-scented hot bubble bath, with candles lighting up the otherwise dark room.

She was drowning in a flowing sea of scarlet when I noticed the water leaking from the bathroom door into the hall by her kitchen. The blazing afternoon sun was streaming in through her protective shutters. She no longer breathed as the red continued to stain her lungs as I followed the murky trail of water streaming from under her closed bathroom door.

It was already too late when I opened the bathroom door and saw the blood leaking from her skin. Hours too late, the paramedics told me when they took her from my arms.

Too late when I picked up the white envelope with my name labeled on the front and noticed the drop of blood on its seal. Far too late when that beautiful lace sunshine-yellow ribbon, now stained and streaked with the color of tarnished rust fell from her hair while she was being taken away from me for good.

When she wore her yellow, I believed her to be invincible. She radiated a spark of pure sparkling happiness that seemed to originate from her hidden away innermost soul. Or at least, I believed it so. She had a life of the purest intentions that ended with a bloody result. I wish I could remember her cradled in yellow, the color I believed her essence to be constructed of. I never could see that, through the glaring yellow color of her life, the red was slowly seeping out.

I am terrified that I will only remember her color being of crimson. I do not want to remember her only for the secret red stain on her soul. I will always be haunted by the fear that I will only remember her life as she ended it.

She lived her life bathed in the most beautiful and dazzling of yellows, only to be buried in the most glaring and paralyzing of reds.





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ARETĒ

Aretē is the classical Greek word for “excellence” or “virtue.”

Aretē is published by the
Honors College at
Tarleton State University.

Executive Director of the Honors College: Dr. Craig Clifford
Editing Assistant Intern: Madison Barczi
Staff Advisor: Rachel Snyder

The opinions expressed within are those of the individual
writers, not necessarily those of *Aretē*, the Honors College,
or Tarleton State University.

Aretē is available online at
www.tarleton.edu/honors/Arete.html

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