

HISD PRESS RELEASE

HISD student chosen as Jack Kent Cooke scholarship winner

Apr. 10, 2023 – Houston Independent School District is student Francisco Chavez, who attends Charles H. Milby High School has been selected as a 2023 Cooke College scholar by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. This year's recipients were chosen from a pool of more than 5,600 applicants residing in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands. Chavez will receive up to \$55,000 annually for up to four years to attend the college or university of his choice, in addition to comprehensive advising and other program support.


"I am immensely proud of Francisco for what he has been able to accomplish," said Ruth Pena, Milby High School Principal. "His commitments and accomplishments can be overwhelming to even read, whether he is excelling in his leadership role as National Honor Society Treasurer, completing a research internship at MD Anderson, or being chosen as a winner for the Jack Kent Cooke College Scholarship. Francisco is truly a uniquely driven student. As a Principal and former Milby student, I am so overjoyed to see a student succeed to this capacity."


Chavez was well prepared when submitting his scholarship applications and is one of the many high-achieving students that represents the quality education, support, and motivation that HISD students receive. In addition to substantial financial support, Chavez will also be given ongoing academic coaching and advising, graduate school and career advising, and access to a network of thriving and motivated peers in the Cooke Scholar community. Once Chavez completes his undergraduate studies, he will have access to opportunities for internships, education abroad, and graduate school funding to continue advancing his educational and career journey.


"This year's College Scholarship applicants are full of potential and determination," said Seppy Basili, Executive Director of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. "We congratulate them and look forward to seeing how the next steps in their educational journeys unfold."


Chavez has been accepted into John Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD and will head there to continue his studies once he graduates from Milby High School. HISD provides services through its College and Career Readiness department for all prospective graduates to apply for scholarships and financial aid to help transition easily into a college or degree program upon graduation. [Click here](#) to learn more about the department and their services.

The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the eighth-largest in the United States, with 276 schools and nearly 197,000 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

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