

# HISD MEDIA ADVISORY

## HISD to award 10 exemplary students with Superintendent Scholars Award

*Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan to surprise seniors with at-home visits*

**WHAT:** Houston Independent School District Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan will surprise 10 high school seniors with 2019-2020 HISD Superintendent Scholars Awards during surprise visits to their homes.

This is the third year the scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors who have exemplified great character and resilience in the face of adversity.

Moved by their tenacity and inspiring journeys, Lathan personally selected the 10 students she will surprise from among 45 HISD seniors who were nominated by their principals or leadership teams.

The scholarship awards benefit students who face hardships and challenges that may make higher education or career/vocational training difficult to attain. Rather than focusing solely on academic records, school administrators selected recipients based primarily on the qualities they have demonstrated and obstacles they have overcome that make them likely to succeed if given a chance.

The scholarships are underwritten by The Coca-Cola Foundation. The 10 seniors selected by Lathan will each receive \$5,000 scholarships. The 35 remaining awardees will each receive \$1,500 scholarships.

**Media wishing to attend any or all of the surprise announcements listed below must RSVP by emailing the Press Office at [pressoffice@houstonisd.org](mailto:pressoffice@houstonisd.org).**

**\*Note to media:** The names of the scholarship recipients are embargoed until after they are notified during the visits. Their addresses are provided solely for planning purposes for those wishing to report in-person on the surprise announcements and should not be published or broadcast.

**WHO:** HISD Interim Superintendent **Grenita Lathan**, district leaders, educators, scholarship recipients and their families

**WHEN AND WHERE: Friday, May 22**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Scotland Carter**, DeBakey High School for Health Professions  
4722 Braesvalley Drive, 77096

**12:20 p.m.**

**América Piedra**, Energized for STEM Academy Central High School  
6650 Dunlap St., 77074

**1:10 p.m.**

**Valeria Arce**, Sharpstown High School  
12427 North Rachlin Circle, 77071

**Wednesday, May 27**

**8 a.m.**

**Juan Gallegos**, Furr High School  
414 Maxey Road, 77013

**8:50 a.m.**

**Tatiana Johnson**, Wheatley High School  
1417 Bayou St., 77020

**9:40 a.m.**

**Mason Doige**, Mickey Leland College Preparatory Academy  
608 Nagle St., 77003

**10:30 a.m.**

**Alexis Villarreal**, Heights High School  
801 Woodcrest Drive, 77018

**Friday, May 29**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Erika Panjoj**, Liberty High School  
6419 Skyline Drive, 77057

**12:35 p.m.**

**Dan'Yale Owens**, Worthing High School  
4123 Fairgreen Lane, 77047

**1:25 p.m.**

**Frida Espinosa**, Chávez High School  
6524 Hogue St., 77087

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The Houston Independent School District is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States, with 280 schools and more than 209,772 students. The 333-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area, with more than 27,000 employees.

**HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT** 4400 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street | Houston, Texas 77092-8501  
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