

Kids Matter

Empowering kids to stay in school and achieve in life. Summer 2013

2013 GRADUATION EDITION



**Vivian L. Smith
Foundation
Tradition of Philanthropy**

Communities In Schools celebrates the Vivian L. Smith Foundation and thanks them for their ongoing commitment to the children of Houston and to our community. Since 1993, the foundation has supported CIS' mission to keep at-risk kids in school, giving over \$2 million in support! This school year, the Smith Foundation gifted \$100,000 to ensure that at-risk students at Kennedy Elementary, Key Middle and Davis High Schools engage in their education and have access to the tools necessary to stay in school.

We honor former CIS Board Member, and daughter of Vivian L. Smith, the late Bobby Sue Smith Cohn for her ardent support through the years. The family's tradition of service to their community continues with her daughter and CIS Board Member, Kirby Cohn McCool.

Thank you Vivian L. Smith Foundation for 20 years of support, encouragement and care!



From a Graduate . . .

Someone who inspired me in a complete different way is my counselor, Ms. Garcia of Communities In Schools. The reason why she inspired me is because she truly made my thoughts turn 360 to not drop out of school. She is the one who convinced me that surely I can be something. Due to her, I'm able to get up every day and work toward my goals in the future.

-Elise, Class of 2013



**CIS of Houston
completes its first year in college**



In today's rapidly advancing world, the necessity for additional education or training after a High School diploma is quickly being realized. In its effort to "...empower students to stay in school and achieve in life", CIS launched two new community college programs this year.

In the summer of 2012, CIS entered its first post-secondary institution, **Lone Star College (LSC)**, the fastest growing community college system in Texas. CIS has become an integral part of their Victory Center campus in the Acres Homes area – a fitting location to begin efforts beyond K-12 since Acres Homes was our first CIS site more than 33 years ago. In addition, CIS welcomed its second college program at the **Houston Community College Northwest (HCC)**, its Spring Branch Campus. CIS' goal at LSC-Victory Center and HCC-Spring Branch is to help at-risk students in their transition to a college setting. Regardless if transitioning from a high school setting or the work force, the students served by CIS have barriers that often hinder success, or even entrance, to their post-secondary endeavors. CIS seeks to continue support services to these students and aid in the navigation of the college process.

In a similar effort, last summer our CIS staff at **Northbrook High School** hosted the **Houston Community College Summer Bridge Program**. Now in its second summer, the program was expanded to include students from **Spring Woods High School**, enrolling a total of fifty-one CIS students. The two month Summer Bridge Program allows new high school graduates to experience college instruction through courses developed to teach them how to be a successful student. This program is the first step towards fostering students' transition from high school to college and improving their chances of success in college.

These partnerships are the first of many, as we strive not only for students to graduate high school, but to continue to thrive in higher education.

Congratulations CIS Class of 2013

Karla Aguilar	Milby HS	Nelmer Garcia	Southwest HS	Luis Navarrette	Southwest HS
Katerin Alas	Southwest HS	Richard Garcia	Davis HS	Thu Nguyen	Lamar HS
Sherry Allen	Lamar HS	Spring Garcia	Davis HS	Alberto Nieto	Austin HS
David Alvarado	Southwest HS	Wendy Garcia	Austin HS	Priscilla Nino	Davis HS
Maria Alvarez	Sanchez Charter HS	Darius Gardnar	Madison HS	Joanna Orellana	Madison HS
Erica Amaya	Spring Woods HS	Kelli Garner	Northbrook HS	Julio Ortega	Southwest HS
Sonia Andrade	Milby HS	Maritza Gatica	Spring Woods HS	Lisset Ortega	Madison HS
Daniela Anzures	Southwest HS	Sebastian Gil	Milby HS	Melissa Ortega	Milby HS
Xiouzanne Apolinar	Austin HS	Diana Gomez	Milby HS	Iris Paez	Davis HS
Jesse Araujo	Lamar HS	Erick Gomez	Southwest HS	Jonathan Par	Southwest HS
Estherlee Arevalo	Davis HS	Estefania Gomez	Southwest HS	Sandie Paredes	Northbrook HS
Martha Arguelles	Southwest HS	Vanessa Castaneda Gomez	Lamar HS	Karla Pedroza	Davis HS
Angel Argueta	Southwest HS	Luis Gonzalez	Southwest HS	Francis Pena	Davis HS
Yvette Argueta	Southwest HS	Rolando Gonzalez	Southwest HS	Oscar Peredo	Davis HS
Laura Arias	Madison HS	Zaira Gonzalez	Spring Woods HS	Carlos Perez	Lamar HS
Leya Arias	Madison HS	Sadie Gordon	Lamar HS	Hector Perez	Davis HS
Francisco Avellandeda	Northbrook HS	Amanda Guerra	Milby HS	Mariela Perez	Milby HS
Veronica Balderas	Southwest HS	Christina Guerra	Milby HS	Kristal Perry	Lamar HS
Brockeisha Ballard	Lamar HS	Antonio Guerrero	Madison HS	Leslie Polito	Southwest HS
Gregory Banegas	Madison HS	Poeth Guerrero	Spring Woods HS	Brianna Ponce	Davis HS
Shermecia Barnes	Madison HS	Selena Gutierrez	Milby HS	Lucia Posada	Davis HS
Mariah Bell	Davis HS	Beneica Hampton	Southwest HS	Daneria Pratt	Madison HS
Brigit Benestante	Lamar HS	Adriana Hernandez	Davis HS	Alba Quijada	Southwest HS
Gabriela Bernal	Milby HS	Maria Hernandez	Davis HS	Stefany Quintanilla	Lamar HS
Lluvia Berzoza	Sanchez Charter HS	Roberto Hernandez	Northbrook HS	Alejandra Ramirez	Northbrook HS
Oliver Blanco	Lamar HS	Yahaira Hernandez	Davis HS	Domonique Ramirez	Davis HS
DeRonda Bryant	Madison HS	Lisanne Hoekstra	Lamar HS	Elizabeth Ramirez	Davis HS
Johntivia Burks	Southwest HS	Veronica Hoyos	Southwest HS	Erick Ramirez	Southwest HS
Claudia Caballero Maldonado	Southwest HS	Miranda Hyder	Lamar HS	Evangelina Reyna	Davis HS
Dafne Caballero Maldonado	Southwest HS	Amanda Ibarra	Milby HS	Xiomara Rivera	Southwest HS
Omar Calderon	Sanchez Charter HS	Aymed Ibarra	Austin HS	Shaneequa Rogers	Madison HS
Betsabe Campos	Milby HS	Catherine Jackson	Lamar HS	Leonardo Rojo	Milby HS
Vanessa Cardenas	Southwest HS	Eduardo Jaurez	Milby HS	Diana Roman	Southwest HS
Emonia Carlson	Davis HS	Hydia Johnson	Madison HS	Genecis Romero	Southwest HS
Joseph Carrillo	Sanchez Charter HS	Jela Johnson	Lamar HS	Bryan Salas	Sanchez Charter HS
Stephanie L. Carrillo	Davis HS	Raven Johnson	Southwest HS	Claudia Salazar	Milby HS
Diana Castillo	Davis HS	Kelly Lara	Southwest HS	Carlos Salinas	Milby HS
Yosseline Ceballos	Southwest HS	Crissel Largo	Madison HS	Kassandra Lynn Salinas	Northbrook HS
Iris Cedillos	Lamar HS	Kevin Lemus	Southwest HS	Adilene Sanchez	Southwest HS
Lizbeth Cervantes	Milby HS	Eduardo Leon	Sanchez Charter HS	Zaibeth Sanchez	Milby HS
Pedro Chan	Sanchez Charter HS	Elizabeth Lerma	Southwest HS	Hector Severiano	Southwest HS
Maria Chaverria	Madison HS	Maria Leyva	Milby HS	Maria Sifa	Davis HS
Jacqueline Chavez	Milby HS	Alberto Lopez	Lamar HS	William Signet	Lamar HS
Teresa Chavez	Davis HS	Daisy Lopez	Davis HS	Austin Silva	Lamar HS
Edwin Conde	Spring Woods HS	Ingrid Lopez	Southwest HS	Maria Sixtos	Southwest HS
Tomminique Cook	Madison HS	Melissa Lopez	Davis HS	Maria Solovzano	Northbrook HS
Aleyda Corona	Milby HS	Mirely Lopez	Southwest HS	Danyelle Taylor	Northbrook HS
Jocelyn Coronel	Milby HS	Antionette Lucious	Madison HS	Myeasha Thibodeaux	Madison HS
Marisa Cortes	Milby HS	Paola Luna	Southwest HS	Renzal Thompson	Madison HS
Hernan Cortez	Southwest HS	Eddie Luster	Lamar HS	Carla Torres	Northbrook HS
Kenya Cristales	Sanchez Charter HS	Damien Mares	Southwest HS	Carolina Torres	Madison HS
Pashyieon Crofton	Madison HS	Kyndria Martin	Davis HS	Lesli Torres	Davis HS
Andrea Cruz	Milby HS	Ana Martinez	Spring Woods HS	Lucia Torres	Northbrook HS
Mellie Cruz	N. Houston Early College HS	Gina Martinez	Davis HS	Amber Torrez	Milby HS
Briana Davis	Madison HS	Priscilla Martinez	Davis HS	Kelton Townsend	Davis HS
China Dennis	Madison HS	Rocio Martinez	Southwest HS	Lauren Tyther	Lamar HS
Gregorio Diana	Austin HS	Wilmer Martinez	Southwest HS	Stephanie Valdes	Milby HS
Eluzmarina Diaz	Austin HS	De Aquanise Matthews	Lamar HS	Tony Vega	Northbrook HS
Isaac Diaz	Southwest HS	Rodriguez Maura	Austin HS	Daniella Velasquez	Milby HS
Jessica Diaz	Southwest HS	Megan McClenon	Lamar HS	Darwin Ventura	Southwest HS
Rodrigo Diaz	Sanchez Charter HS	Maleni Medrano	Northbrook HS	Rudy Ventura	Sanchez Charter HS
Evelyn Dominguez	Sanchez Charter HS	Cristian Mejia	Southwest HS	Miguel Vigoa Mora	Southwest HS
Rene Dumit	Spring Woods HS	Ivonee Melton	Southwest HS	Bryce Walker	Madison HS
Astrid Escalante	Southwest HS	Rebeca Mena	Southwest HS	Robin Warner	Lamar HS
Eleazar Espinoza	Sanchez Charter HS	Angela Menchaca	Milby HS	Menaaj Washington	Southwest HS
Gloria Fernandez	Milby HS	Helen Molina	Southwest HS	Valyncia Willrich	Davis HS
Shaun Tia Fisher	Davis HS	Jade Montalbo	Davis HS	Desiree Woolard	N. Houston Early College
Cesar Flores	Southwest HS	Joanna Montiel	Lamar HS	De'Queisha Wooley	Madison HS
Erick Flores	N. Houston Early College HS	Dontresha Moore	Madison HS		
Felix Flores	Lamar HS	Jesse Morales	Lamar HS		
Jamesia Fransaw	N. Houston Early College HS	Joseline Morales	Southwest HS		
Yoselin Fuentes	Madison HS	Valeria Morales	Davis HS		
Kassandra Gaitan	Sanchez Charter HS	Victoria Moreno	Milby HS		
Alicia Garcia	Austin HS	Ellexus Morgan	Southwest HS		
Elias Garcia	Davis HS	Tyresa Morgan	Davis HS		
Gerardo Garcia	Lamar HS	Anna Morris	Lamar HS		
Jonathan Garcia	Austin HS	Miguel Muniz	Madison HS		
Luis Garcia	Southwest HS	Jacqueline Murillo	Davis HS		

A special thank you to our Donors (3/1/13 – 6/22/13)

CIS is proud to send its 2013 graduates to the following Universities, Trade Schools, and Armed Forces:

Abilene Cristian University
 The Art Institute of Houston
 Blinn College
 College of Health Care Professions
 Forest College
 Houston Baptist Univeristy
 Houston Community College
 Lone Star College
 Prairie View A&M University
 Remington College
 Sam Houston State University
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 Texas Southern University
 U.S. Army
 U.S. Marine Corps
 U.S. Navy
 University of Houston
 University of Houston - Downtown
 University of Houston - Victoria
 University of North Texas
 University of Texas



INDIVIDUALS

Angelica F. Adams	Iris G. Galvan	Meghan Y. Loera	Raul Reyes
Flora Mae Adams	Adriana C. Garcia	Klinka and John Lollar	Jerome Robinson
Michelle Alexander	Mable S. Gibbs	Gabriela R. Lopez	Marissa Rodriguez
Dora Irene Alfaro	Elizabeth and Joel Gooch	Nilda S. Lopez	Eric Rodriguez
Karen A. Amaya	Whitney Gowan	Kelly and Steven Madden	Veronica Rodriguez
Harriet Arvey	Rachel Gower and Brian Williard	Eunice and Kirk Mahoney	Holly Rubbo
James P. Bailey	Anne and Donald Graubart	Nirsi M. Maravilla	Concepcion Ruiz
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Sheligh K. Beggs	Sarah Hamilton	Jenny L. Martinez	Lisa and David Sambrooks
Cynthia T. Bell	Nakia P. Hanson	Michele and Michael Marvins	Cecelia A. Samish
Marva Blackwell	Ellen and George Havlik	Gayle G. McCloud	Armando Sanchez
Astley L. Blair, Jr.	Jacque Hawkins	Kristen and Steve McDaniel	Laura Sanchez
Geraldine Bliss	Kay and David Hedges	Teresa A. McLeod	Zugey D. Santacruz
Sandra C. Bolden	Lindsey Hicks	Karen McWhorter	Kimberly Satterwhite
Alicia R. Booth	Joanna Hinojosa	Danielle Angel Medrano	Deidre Scinta
Cynthia Clay Briggs	Barbara and Joe Hudson	Emma Meneses	Susan Sclafani
Derrick DeAnda Bryant	Kelly Jacobs	Pravda G. Miltchev	Mallory and James Shaddix
Leasa and Kurt Butler	Julie T. Johnson	Ann and William Moss, Jr.	Donna Smedick
Lisa and Bryan Carey	Sean W. Jones	Amy and Hardy Murchison	Clara C. Sosa
Brenda Cook Cialone	Chantee H. Kazeem	Aline Nahhas	June and Robert Stobaugh
Trevia A. Clark	Susan and Thomas Keefe	Monique A. Ned	Sylvia Teague
Meryl Cohen	Judith and James Keil	Syble A. Ned	Natasha E. Thomas
Beth Ann Corley	Julie C. Kemper	Jessica and Ken Neikirk	Todd Torczon and Maureen Johnson
Candice and Fabian Corzo	David Key	Lindsay A. O'Brien	Kelley and Harper Trammell
Christina Crane	D. Lynn Kirkpatrick, Ph.D.	Chanelle Eastman Omiwade	Tobey and Todd Unrath
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Lisa I. Descant	Sally Kolenda	Roxanna P. Perez	Arcelia Valdez
Francis and Doug Descant	Janet and Gary Kolstad	John Perry, Jr.	John Vargas
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Shveta Endley	Amy Larsen	Maria Luz Rainey	Sue and Joe Warren
Jennifer M. Espey	Cecilia Garcia Lee	Mayra Ramirez	Karen E. Whipple
Dana Esposito	Lorene Jones Lewis	Angela Randolph	Linda Gale and Mark White
Natalie E. Flores	Valencia Y. Lewis	Yezenia Y. Rangel	Donna W. Wotkyns
Cassandra B. Freaney	Carolyn and David Light III	Jeanine E. Ratcliff	Elaine Wynn
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Texas Dental Association Awards CIS' Project MOVE Efforts

The Texas Dental Association, 143rd session of the House of Delegates, awarded a Certificate of Merit to Communities In Schools of Houston, **Project MOVE Dental** on Saturday May 4th, 2013. The award was presented to **Tony Martinez**, Program Director, at a ceremony held in San Antonio. The award cited CIS' Project MOVE Dental in recognition of its **“continued efforts to serve the dental health and welfare of the disadvantaged and underserved children in the Houston area”**.

CIS' Project MOVE Dental, along with its partner University of Texas School of Dentistry (UTSD), coordinates free dental care to CIS elementary campuses. Uninsured students who lack access to quality dental care are served on the dental van where they receive free preventative services. Once the initial exam is completed, each child receives a dental cleaning and fluoride treatment administered by UTSD hygiene students.



Tony Martinez, Program Director, accepting award from Dr. Yvonne Maldonado (rt), TDA Awards Committee member.

In addition, CIS navigates the students who need major restorative care to the pediatric clinic, where they continue their care, free of charge, thanks to Project MOVE Dental major funders John S. Dunn Foundation, William E. & Natoma Pyle Harvey Charitable Trust, Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, John P. McGovern Foundation and St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities. This recognition by the TDA is a milestone in the 15 year history of the valuable collaboration CIS has with UTSD.

Thank you Project MOVE Dental and Tony for your service to Houston's kids!