

2019-2020 Bexar County Master Gardener Scholarship Recipients Named

For over ten years, our Bexar County Master Gardener organization has awarded at least two \$2,000 scholarships annually to horticulture majors attending a Texas college or university. Again this year, on behalf of the Bexar County Master Gardeners, your scholarship committee selected two scholarship recipients for the upcoming academic year. We were delighted to receive applications from eight students at several Texas schools including Texas Tech, Texas A&M, and Sam Houston State. This was a very competitive applicant pool and we considered the merits of all of the students carefully.

An important component of our educational mission, the support and encouragement of worthy students who plan to become a part of the horticulture landscape in Texas, is one our most rewarding projects. This year's recipients have the talent and commitment to become a vital part of Texas horticulture. Congratulations to **Courtney Rosenbalm, a graduate student at Sam Houston State** and **Kassidy McCabe, a junior at Texas A&M.**

Courtney Rosenbalm is a graduate student in Horticulture at Sam Houston State University, where she has a 4.00 GPA. She is an active volunteer at a local elementary school where she teaches students about horticulture and at the local horticulture center where she provides children's activities. She is an the education committee member of the Texas State Floral Association, past president of the Sam Houston Collegiate FFA, and member of the Agriculture Engineering Club. Courtney also serves as a graduate teaching assistant for Horticulture at SHSU.

After working in her high school greenhouse, Courtney went on to earn a Master Floral Certification through the Texas State Floral Association. During her undergraduate time at SHSU, Courtney conducted numerous experiments in the SHSU greenhouses and raised beds, worked for the department as an Agricultural Ambassador, and taught high school students and supervised student laboratory work.

Her future plans include working in a large nursery operation to gain experience with the hopes of someday raising fresh cut flowers for florists and wholesalers. Courtney wants to share the joy she feels plants bring with as many people as she can.



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Kassidy McCabe is a junior Horticulture major at Texas A&M University, where she carries a 4.0 GPA. She has consistently been on the Dean's List and has received numerous scholarships and honors, including several TNLA scholarship awards.

She is a member of the TAMU Horticulture Club, was an active member of the Tarleton State Horticulture Club before her transfer to TAMU, was past Area FFA CDE Plant ID Coordinator and team captain of CDE for two years, and was manager of the College Station Independent School District Floral Shop for two years.

Currently she is also an assistant coach for volleyball and track with CSISD. According to one of her letters of recommendation, Kassidy clearly "has an appreciation of the complex issues facing the horticulture industry and the role they play for those who manage those businesses." Her "insightful class contributions" indicate that she should do well in this profession. Kassidy feels there are many opportunities in the field of agriculture and has a strong desire to reach out to schools in the

area to help the FFA programs have stronger ties to agriculture.

Jan Craven, Class 38, Scholarship Committee Chair

MCMG Scholarship Committee

Jan Craven, chair

Jamie Daily

Brenda Burell

Carolyn Martin