

## **Austin Bank Awards \$12,500 in Commitment-to-Community Scholarships**

May 17th, 2006

Austin Bank is proud to announce the recipients of the 2006 Commitment-to-Community Scholarship program. In the spirit of dedication to the East Texas communities they serve and to their employees, Austin Bank awarded scholarships totaling \$12,500 to five high school seniors.

Austin Bank Vice Chairman of the Board Jeff Austin, III congratulated the winners. "All of these fine students are to be commended for their efforts and their educational plans. After reviewing all the scholarship applications, we are proud to recognize how committed these young people are to their education and their community," Austin stated.

"We are honored to assist these five students, their families and the East Texas community by providing funds for education, Austin said. We are also happy to provide financial assistance to an Austin Bank employee and her daughter. Here at Austin Bank, we strive to serve our customers and these five scholarships are one way we are proud to support our community and our employees."

Scholarships were awarded to four East Texas high school seniors in communities served by Austin Bank and to one Austin Bank employee child. Scholarship recipients were selected based on scholastic achievement, extracurricular activity involvement, leadership qualities and essay content. Award recipients are:

### **Austin Bank Commitment-to-Community Scholarships**

- Lana E. Davidson, Gilmer High School
- Kadeja Derrick, John Tyler High School in Tyler
- Alexandra Morris, Harmony High School in Big Sandy
- Jordan Kade Williamson, Garrison High School

### **Austin Bank Employee Scholarship**

- Jill Hudnall, Rusk High School

Lana Davidson, a senior at Gilmer High School, is the daughter of Greg and Lisa Davidson of Gilmer. Lana is an active member of the school's varsity softball team, Gilmer FFA, Upshur County 4H and the American Simbrah Association. She was part of the UIL Current Events Team that placed first in this year's district competition. Lana will be attending Northeast Texas Community College pursuing a degree in nursing.

Kadeja Derrick attends John Tyler High School and is the daughter of Sylvian Martin. Kadeja plans a career in nursing by studying at Tyler Junior College and Texas Christian University. Kadeja is a member of the Science Club, Future Business Leaders of America the Upward Bound Program, and Basketball Manager.

Alexandra Morris will be attending Tyler Junior College to study Diagnostic Medical Sonography. Alexandra, the daughter of Linda McCoy, attends Harmony High School in Big Sandy. She has maintained an A average and been an active member of the school's FFA Chapter, the varsity volleyball team, varsity softball team and Fellowship of Christian Athletics.

Jordan Kade Williamson, son of Jeri Lynn and Jon Williamson, is the Salutatorian of his class at Garrison High School. Jordan will attend Stephen F. Austin State University to study Computer Science and Software Engineering with a desire to design agricultural related software. Jordan is a member of FFA, the Beta Club, and the varsity baseball and football teams. He was named the 1<sup>st</sup> Team All State Academic Punter and the State Dairy Entrepreneur Award winner. He has participated in UIL competitions in math and accounting.

Jill Hudnall is an honor student at Rusk High School who is graduating fourth in her class. In addition, Jill has earned 22 college credits while completing her high school curriculum. Jill is the recipient of the Austin Bank Employee Child Scholarship. This scholarship is given annually to child of an Austin Bank employee. Jill is the daughter of Mark and Nancy Hudnall of Rusk. Nancy, a banking officer in the Rusk location, has been employed at Austin Bank for over 21 years.

Jill is the Head Varsity Cheerleader and a member of the District Educational Improvement Committee and Student Council. Jill plans to continue her classes at Tyler Junior College studying Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Austin Bank, a 100 year-old community bank with headquarters in Jacksonville, Texas, has in excess of \$744 million in assets with twenty-one offices in nine counties throughout East Texas.