



CIS ALUMNI SCTX

2021 WINTER NEWSLETTER

2021 • ISSUE 3



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WELCOME BACK

BY JAZMIN NORRIS

Welcome to the 3rd Edition of our Alumni Newsletter! We invite you to see the incredible accomplishments within the Communities In Schools of South Central Texas' Alumni Association. This edition will focus on the work being done by alumni -for alumni. Inside, you will get a glimpse of unique programs, events, and efforts that provide support to equip our alumni for success. Let's reflect on the mountains, both palpable and figurative, that we climbed in 2021.





MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

2021 Winter Graduates



Jalin

High School: Steele Highschool, 2017

College: Texas State

Major: Social Work

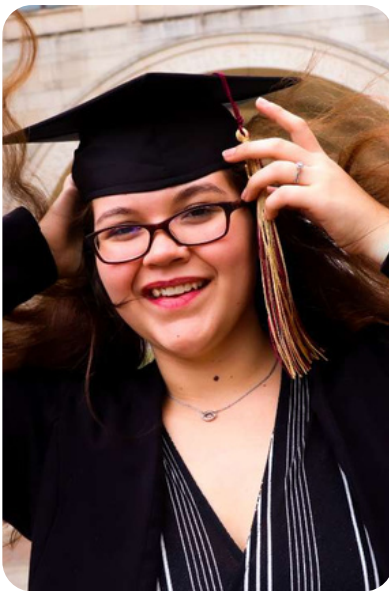


Valeria

High School: Samuel Clemens High School, 2018

College: University of Texas at San Antonio

Major: Double Major in Medical Humanities and Biology and Sociology



Alicia

High School: Marion High School, 2015

College: Texas State

Major: Social Work



Mikayla

High School: Marion High School, 2017

College: Seguin Beauty School

Major: Cosmetology



WINTER OVERVIEW

**MENTOR
MENTAL
HEALTH
FIRST AID
TRAINING**

MAY



**LIFE BOOT
CAMP &
LOCK IN**

JUNE



**EARTH
DAY
CLEAN UP**

AUGUST

**KINDERMASKEN
PARADE**

JULY

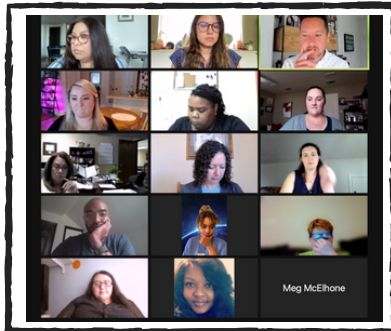


**DINING
WITH THE
STARS**

SEPTEMBER

**CIS
NATIONAL
TOWNHALL**

SEPTEMBER



**FOLKFEST
2021**

OCTOBER



**SAUSAGE
BALL
ROLLING**

NOVEMBER



**FAMILY
REUNION**

NOVEMBER

**MENTOR-
MENTEE
CAMPING
TRIP**

JANUARY



**WINTER GET
TOGETHER**

DECEMBER





BOARD BUSINESS

The Alumni Board began in 2020 with one goal in mind: take action in our community. Considerable achievements would not have been possible without the hard work of our board: the website, our Instagram page, Winter Coat Drive, and even this newsletter stands to show how our board makes an effort to give back to a community that stands with us. On this page, we highlight some members who continue to drive this work forward.



HECTOR RAMIREZ

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSION

Hector has been a member of the Alumni Board for a year and has made exceeding contributions with his human relations expertise. He has completed the Alumni Association Handbook of Board Development and Inclusion to create a clear standard for the board and ensure a positive environment for all alumni. Hector states, "It's been an incredibly humbling experience looking back on my time on the board, as it was the influence, attention, and care given to me by the other members that built within me the confidence to grow as a leader." Hector hopes to be just as encouraging for other alumni that decide to join and have ideas to contribute as we continue to flourish as an association striving to make a difference within ourselves and for those around us.

CLAYTON ALVARADO

FORMER DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

Clayton is one of the founders of the Alumni Board and served on it for 18 months. His influence on the board was unique. He urged against group-think and allowed others to contemplate the purpose behind the ideas introduced. Clayton brought professional contributions from his experience in the corporate world and taught others how to propose an event and have it well planned before bringing it into the discussion. Clayton believes that starting our alumni board has been the most impactful part of the alumni program stating, "The board has given our alumni skills and opportunities that many never get to practice. I believe this has the biggest impact on our community. When our alumni are able to continue teaching others these skills, it becomes a snowball of influence."





LIFE BOOT CAMP



PHOTOGRAPHY BY VERONICA TIERNO



A GLANCE AT CAMP

The Life Bootcamp program is all about the growth and development of our high school graduates. Bootcampers demonstrate courage and strength in facing their issues to achieve in life after graduation. Through their progress in the program, we see a future filled with opportunities from military to workforce to college, and we build up these leaders to fulfill their dreams. Life Bootcamp is developed by our very own alumni that have gone through the program themselves and know exactly how important it is for our high school graduates to be involved in positive relationships.



EZRA TAYLOR

Ezra participated in the Bootcamp program this past summer and is a graduate of Steele High School in 2021. Ezra is one of the many who embraced growth through fellowship and the safe environment that CIS alumni provide. Ezra found it surprising that they had the summer to devote themselves to self-improvement. When asked to choose one word to describe what summer meant to them, Ezra chose perspective. They said, "There were all these people I never met and got to see how their experiences shaped them. It helped me to develop more empathy for others." Ezra noted that they were able to stop undermining their issues and recognize that just because it isn't the same as someone else's doesn't mean it isn't of value. Ezra found that they can be more accountable for themselves and implement boundaries with people. They found that time spent at camp allowed them to embrace their future.



ISABEL HENANDEZ

Isabel graduated from New Braunfels High School in 2021. In Isabel's case, she found at first that she did not want to go to Bootcamp. After choosing to attend, she discovered she could come out of her shell and see things in a different light. Isabel said that she found Bootcamp helpful because she learned a lot of tools to improve and make the big step to go to college. She grew by becoming more outgoing and less introverted and sees her life improving as she attends college and goes to therapy regularly to continue to grow beyond the time she spent during the summer. She believes "I feel like I've improved all-around" and finds herself not afraid to try new things anymore. Her experience shows how Bootcamp is all about opening ourselves up to what we are truly capable of when we release the doubts and fears we hold onto.



LIFE BOOT CAMP



PHOTOGRAPHY BY VERONICA TIERNO



HIGHLIGHTS

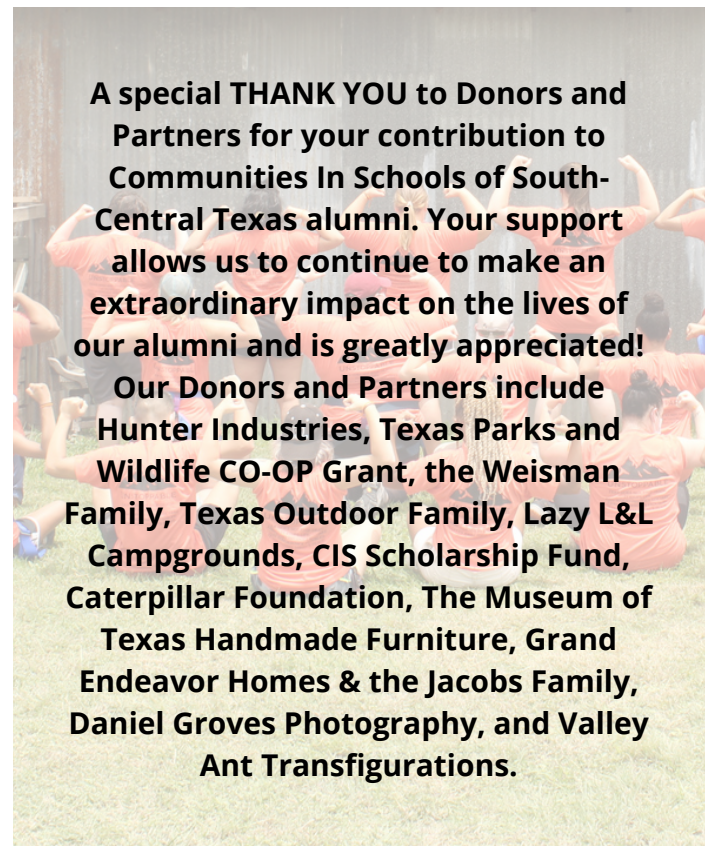
Upcoming Events:

- **March 3rd** Instagram Story Vision Board Virtual Event
- **April 16th** Alumni Art Sale
- **May 2nd** Bootcamp Leaders Selection
- **May 13th-16th** Leadership Camping Trip: Big Bend
- **June 11th-12th** Alumni Mentor Training
- **June 14th-July 19th** Life Bootcamp
- **July 20th-21st** Mentor/Mentee Camping Trip



Give us a follow
@cissctalumni

Volunteer Hours:



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