

OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES

Ft. Worth, Texas

**A NIGHT IN
YOUR HONOR**

MAY 13, 2023



**OUR
COMMUNITY
SALUTES®**

FORT WORTH, TX

Ft Worth Stockyard Station – Stampede Room

140 E Exchange Ave • Ft Worth, TX 76164



Our Community Salutes (OCS) is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization. It was created in 2009 in New Jersey to recognize and honor high school seniors (and their parents/guardians) who plan to enlist into the military after high school graduation. OCS also provides future service members and their families with access to educational resources and connects them with military support groups.

What started as one OCS ceremony in southern New Jersey has now spread across the nation. These events are planned and conducted independently in each community by volunteers, including military veterans, high school and college educators, local businesses, community leaders, and active duty military personnel. Our Community Salutes DFW has been honoring future service members in the DFW area since 2021.

www.OCSDFWTX.org

Tag us in social media with [#OCSDFWTX](https://twitter.com/OCSDFWTX).

Twitter Handle: [@OCSDFWTX](https://twitter.com/OCSDFWTX)

To view and download the photos from this event,
please visit OCSDFWTX.org

Program



Welcome

Invocation

National Anthem

2023 Gen. Colin Powell Award Recipient

2023 STEM Award Recipient

U.S. Army Honorees

U.S. Navy Honorees

U.S. Coast Guard Honorees

U.S. Air Force Honorees

U.S. Space Force Honorees

Service Songs

Farewell

2023 General Colin Powell Award Recipient

Charity McConnell



Ms. Charity McConnell graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. With a background of 15 combined years of Fire Services, Criminal Scene Investigations and supervisory experience, she took over the Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice Program at Grapevine-Colleyville ISD in 2020, a program that has since increased enrollment by 12%.

As the Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement teacher located at Grapevine High School, she also serves those at the Colleyville Heritage High School. Ms. McConnell has been instrumental in coordinating all military service branches and all Air Force components to be able to present to her classes of nearly 150 students.

Ms. McConnell encourages her students to learn about all the Military branches, what they have to offer and how time in the military can benefit their future personally and professionally. She has an entire area set up in her classroom for the branches to leave information pamphlets. Her contributions to the Air Force have not gone unnoticed. She has contributed to the recruiting mission of the Air Force by allowing them to speak in front of her 150 students. This effort has led to the generation of at least 15 Air Force leads and potential applicants.

2023 STEM Award Recipient

Michael Long



1SG Michael Long retired from the Army in 2014 after 25 years of service. Since that time, he has been teaching Army JROTC Cadets in their first year of Leadership Education and Training at South Hills High School In Fort Worth, TX.

In 2019 he started the Scorpion Battalion's Robotics Team using the VEX program as his curriculum platform. The next year he was able to open the program school-wide providing even more students the opportunity to explore STEM-related careers.

Under 1SG Long's guidance, the Scorpion Battalion has continued to improve each year culminating in back-to-back invitations to compete in the VEX Robotics World Championships JROTC Division. 1SG Long is fully dedicated to the leadership and character development of his Cadets and to the opportunities a STEM education can provide them.

Honorees

U.S. Army



Cesar Antonio Balderas

Colin Wayne Berry

Diego Isaac Bustos

Dale Wesley Cole

Jesus Raul Garcia

Carl James Hamilton

Isaiah Dale Henry

Rogelio Alias Huerta

Kimberly Lagunes

Zachary Miguel Lara

Nathaniel Bacchus Luedicke

Jaxon Riley Parker

Jose De Jesus Ramirez

Carlos Ruiz

Marc Anthony Salinaz

Cole Theodore Schepers

Wyatt Mason Sherman

Hailey Rey Stephens

Joseph Parker Stephenson

Desmond Roashaun Thomas

Honorees

U.S. Navy



Thomas Braiden

Dalila Gonzalez

James Newkirk

Fabian Perez

Joaquin Shipman

Gavin Wareham

Matthew Webb

Honorees

U.S. Coast Guard



Paul Dennis Calloway III

Nikolai Cox

Ryan Hawthorne

Jonah Heard

Dylan Vander Heiden

Ayden Jeffers

Langston Watson

Honorees

U.S. Air Force



Melvina Alidza	Patience Medina
Cole Anderle	Ashton Moon
Holden Andrews	Ivette Moreira
Takari Baldwin	Hien Ngo
William Uziel Baradi	Ivy Nguyen
Crispin Bilolo Tshimanga	Ja'miah Nicholson
Cameron Bradley	Jaylyn Norton
Jaramie Carpenter	Obed Olivares
Caden Cater	Jenny Perez
Tyler Chambers	Julius Petruso
Jada Crawford	Ethan Phillips
Guilherme Dorneles Goncalves	Bryan Rau
Zander Frees	Edgardo Rivera Torres
Matthew Garcia	Abel Salinas
Mielynn Garcia	Serena Santos
Jaden Garraway	Gideon Secka
Keara Garvey	Tracy Selzer
Kaden Gary	Aditi Shrestha
Jimselle Gonzalez-Orta	Josiah Sleight
Trenton Grace	Ayana Smith
Kelton Henry	Jaquelyn Smith
Jayden Johnson	Jayvon Smith
Diana Le	Trayvon Smith
Jonathan Lopez Nieto	Christopher Spinos
Devon Marceron	Conner Stallcup
Jesus Marquez	Linnea Swanson
Sarah Sadiah Martinez	Robert Wheeler
Angel Mash De Leon	Kartez White
Matthew McCarry	

Honorees

U.S. Space Force



David Espy-Jobe

Devin Newton



U.S. ARMY

TEXAS
**ARMY
NATIONAL
GUARD**
★

**CONGRATULATIONS
HONOREES!**



**CONGRATULATIONS
HONOREES!**





CONGRATULATIONS HONOREES!



U.S. AIR FORCE



**CONGRATULATIONS
HONOREES!**





CONGRATULATIONS HONOREES!



THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVED

**VETERANS
PAY
NO MONTHLY
FEE¹**

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Multiple Donors tonight include the Air & Space Forces Association, Dallas
Navy League, RPC, PepsiCo, Frito Lay, Lions Clubs Richardson Host, plus
numerous individuals that we want to thank tonight.

They are listed in our program.



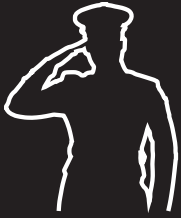
PROUD TO
SUPPORT

OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES

and its mission to recognize, honor and support high school enlistees and their families during their commitment to military service







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WHY MILITARY AND VETERANS CHOOSE PARKER UNIVERSITY

We recognize the unique experiences that come with serving in the armed forces and are grateful for the service and sacrifice provided in the defense of our nation. Parker University is dedicated to supporting our military, veteran students, and family members.

VETERAN DISCOUNTS

- Active military receive a \$250 per credit hour tuition discount for undergraduate, online, and master's programs
- Parker grant and merit scholarships are also available to qualified veterans pursuing undergraduate degrees
- Presidential and merit scholarships are available to DC seeking veterans

TUITION ASSISTANCE

- Tuition deposit and application fees are waived for all veterans
- All veterans, their spouse, and dependent children (*under the age of 26*) are eligible for a 10% tuition discount.*

** This benefit does not apply to active military using the tuition assistance benefits and receiving the discount of \$250 per credit hour, or in combination with any other Parker discount.*

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Hillwood salutes this year's seniors for their enlistment in the U.S. Armed Forces.

It is an honor to support your dedication and commitment to becoming the next generation of U.S. Veterans.

HILLWOOD
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Salutes
This Year's Seniors



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REMEMBER
the Fallen...
HONOR
those who Serve...
TEACH
our children the
value of Freedom.

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TRUIST

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Good fun!

Service Songs

United States Army & Guard

March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free. Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory. We're the Army and proud of our name!

We're the Army and proudly proclaim:
First to fight for the right,

And to build the Nation's might,
And The Army Goes Rolling Along.

Proud of all we have done,
Fighting till the battle's won,

And the Army Goes Rolling Along. Then it's hi!
hi! hey!

The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong; For
where'er we go,
You will always know

That The Army Goes Rolling Along.



United States Navy

Anchors Aweigh, my boys, Anchors Aweigh.
Farewell to foreign shores,
we sail at break of day, of day.
Through our last night ashore, drink to the
foam, Until we meet once more
Here's wishing you a happy voyage home!



United States Marine Corps

From the halls of Montezuma
To the shores of Tripoli
We will fight our country's battles
In the air, on land and sea.
First to fight for right and freedom, And to keep
our honor clean.
We are proud to claim the title of, United States
Marines.



Space Force

We're the mighty watchful eye,
Guardians beyond the blue,
The invisible front line,
Warfighters brave and true.
Boldly reaching into space,
There's no limit to our sky.
Standing guard both night and day,
We're the Space Force from on high.

United States Coast Guard

From Aztec Shore to Arctic Zone,
To Europe and Far East,
The Flag is carried by our ships
In times of war and peace;
And never have we struck it yet
In spite of foemen's might,
Who cheered our crews and cheered again
For showing how to fight.

Chorus:

We're always ready for the call,
We place our trust in Thee,
Through surf and storm and howling gale,
High shall our purpose be.
"Semper Paratus" is our guide,
Our fame, our glory too.
To fight to save or fight and die,
Aye! Coast Guard we are for you!



United States Air Force & Guard

Off we go, into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun.
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,
At 'em boys, give 'er the gun.
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,
Off with one hell-uv-a roar!
We live in fame or go down in flame,
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force.



God Bless America

God bless America,
Land that I love,
Stand beside her and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above;
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans white with foam,
God bless America,
My home, sweet home.
God bless America,
My home, sweet home



OUR
COMMUNITY
SALUTES[®]

DFW, Inc.