



# UPDATE

## *September 2025*



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Sept 5 - SIGN UP for HSA Intramural Volleyball  
Sept 10 - Peer Mentor Mixer  
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# UPDATE

September 2025

## News for Honors Cardinals



### Welcome, Honors Cardinals, to Fall '25!

Welcome to your home away from home, Honors Cardinals. We are proud to be a part of your journey!

We have exciting news this year—you have a new Associate Dean, Dr. Shannon Jordan!!! Many of you know Dr. Jordan as a mentor and professor, and we are thrilled to have her expertise and outstanding leadership on our team.

Our RHC Update newsletter will alert you to the many opportunities, services, and resources provided by the Reauid Honors College, the

Honors Student Association (HSA), and our campus partners. We also celebrate YOU and your accomplishments, so you can inspire each other!

As a student in the Reauid Honors College, you are part of a welcoming and supportive community of students from all academic disciplines at Lamar University's five undergraduate colleges. Your participation in our community brings you the benefit of the Honors Advantage that teaches you to aim higher and find your own greatness.

Our staff is available to offer support to all of you. The Reauid Honors College is housed on the first floor of the Wayne A. Reauid Building at Lamar campus's southeast corner on Jim Gilligan Way and Rolfe Christopher Drive—next to the brand new intramural fields! We know our HSA members and marching band students are excited about this awesome campus community update.

We encourage you to get involved and take advantage of all that college life has to offer you.

Looking forward to making memories with you, Honors Cardinals!



**Dr. Tilisa Thibodeaux**, Dean  
RHC 113A; [tilisa.thibodeaux@lamar.edu](mailto:tilisa.thibodeaux@lamar.edu)



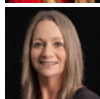
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### Due Sept 5 - Contracts & Petitions

**REMINDER:**  
**Honors Contracts & Petitions**  
**Due: Friday, September 5**

Personalize your Honors Pathway! Earn Honors credits through Honors Contracts / Petitions. Please submit your forms no later than the 12th class day, Friday, September 5. Email your completed forms to **Ms. Kim Vizena**.

Forms and more info:  
**Petition for Honors Credit**  
**Honors Contract**

*Incoming honors students:* You learned more about these options at Honors Orientation on August 28. We loved meeting all of you! For anyone who was unable to attend and/or you have questions, reach out to our team. We are here to help you succeed!!!



**FREE TICKETS**  
**Ugly Lies the Bone - Theatre**

**Ugly Lies the Bone - Theatre**  
**Thurs, Sept 25 - Sat. Sept 26 - 7:30 pm**  
**Sunday, Sept 28 - 2:00 pm**  
**Studio Theatre**  
**Request By: 5:00 pm Wed, Sept 17**  
**Request Tickets Form**

A veteran heals through virtual reality in this powerful drama. Lindsey Ferrentino's powerful and deeply affecting play was inspired by "Snow World," a real virtual reality therapy developed to help burn survivors—particularly veterans—cope with chronic pain and trauma.





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## News for Honors Cardinals

Sign Up NOW - Honors Scholars Day

**Honors Scholars Day**  
**Sign up NOW!**  
**Wednesday October 29**  
**1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**  
**Setzer Ballroom**

Participate in our showcase of everything Honors!

Sign up to present your research or **High Impact Educational Opportunities (HIEP)** you have engaged in, or host a booth for peers to learn about projects you are doing in Honors and Honors in Major.

Examples may include but are not limited to: Partners in the Park, Stepping Up Civic Leadership, Study Abroad, O.U.R., Beck or McNair Undergraduate Research Projects, NCHC, student organization leadership.

The audience will be current Honors students, Honors faculty, LU Administration, and potential transfer students.

**Apply here** (preference will be given to early applicants).

RHC at Innovation CoLLABoration

Honors Cardinals had a BLAST helping high school students explore real-world science and tech during Year 3 of GSMP summer camps at Lamar University! The Texas Workforce Commission Governor's Summer Merit Program is cohosted by Reauid Honors College and Texas Academy.

Our newest Honors Cardinals Kelly Dougharty, Madison McGuire, and Judson Ripper served as amazing camp leads. Current students also joined in the fun as summer interns: Peyton Lee, with Valero, and Will Matlock, with Indorama.

Campers enjoyed action-packed weeks of hands-on STEM fun, including battling AI robots in epic matches and designing wind-powered cars.

VIEW: **Highlights** of their adventures

Summer Social Fun

Summer Social fun with our newest Honors Cardinals on July 30! Lots of laughs! Watch the highlights from our Deserted Island game with each HSA team sharing how they'd escape with five everyday items. Thank you to our awesome HSA and RLI student leaders for this super fun kickoff to our new year.

**WATCH:** See if you're in our **video and our pics!**



**INNOVATION COLLABORATION**  
**EXPLORE • BUILD • PLAY • LEARN**  
**Governor's Summer Merit Program**







# UPDATE

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## Student Recognition

### Leaders

#### Honors Leaders Provide Medical Care at Mobile Clinics in Peru

Continuing a service learning trip first ventured by Honors Cardinals, MedLife President **Natalie Dickens** and Secretary **Brianna Brottem** (also HSA SGA Rep!) spent nine days in Lima, Peru, assisting with medical care at mobile clinics.

As a Pre-Dental student, Natalie particularly enjoyed her time helping dentists with extractions and fillings.

Pre-Med student Brianna says she learned so much from the doctors, for example, "how to use a stethoscope to listen to lung sounds and heart rate, watching Pap smears, and assisting with cavity fillings. I received such great advice for my healthcare journey."



#### Welcome, Newest Presidential Scholars

Proud to welcome our newest Presidential Scholars! These distinguished students were awarded for their outstanding academic achievements, leadership skills, and dedication to future pursuits.

[MEET Newest Presidential Scholars](#)



#### 2025-26 Reaud Honors LU Ambassadors

Congratulations to our Honors Cardinals who joined the LU Ambassador family! Our newest ambassadors are:

**Brianna Brottem**, **Taylor Bui**, **Faith Cheng**, **Elizabeth Diaz Arreola**, **Jasmine Guillory**, **Mohamed Irhabi**, **Madison McGuire**, **Alyvia Ott**, and **Maddy Wernig**.

They will serve LU alongside ongoing ambassadors in honors:

**Bilal Alani**, **Cristian Arevalo**, **Estrella Balderas**, **Carsen Barrett**, **Ashton Burch**, **Daisy Calero Estrella**, **Lizzie Drago**, **Kadence Garlington**, **Alyssa Harper**, **Peyton Jones**, **Sergio Mendez**, **Saad Mohammed**, **Logan Morris**, **Jordan Nelson**, **Kathy Nguyen**, **Ashton Rainey**, **Drake Rothenberger**, **Grace Roy**, **Clara Schreck**, **Ryan Servantes**, **Dennis Tran**, **Riley Trent**, **Alyson Vu**, **Mary Wernig**, and **Blake Wilson**.

#### 2024-25 Moot Court Team

Competing on the Moot Court team this year are: **Dax Henley** (Political Science sophomore), **Madison McGuire** (Early Childhood to 6 Education junior), **Bianka Paciorek** (Psychology junior), and **Steven Sedtal** (Political Science senior).





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## Student Recognition

### DC Adventure for SGA VP

This summer, SGA Vice President **Campbell Fuller** joined President Ethan Ellis on a leadership conference in our nation's capital. He got to chat with student government executives from all over the United States. Through workshops and discussions with them, he says he learned how he can better lead with purpose, confidence, and clarity.

"This experience deepened my passion for servant leadership," he says, "and strengthened my commitment to using my platform in student government to advocate for meaningful improvements at Lamar University that all students want to see."



### NSO Leaders Help Peers Find their Flock

During Welcome Week and New Student Orientations this summer, five Honors Cardinals helped students find their flock! Shout-out to New

Student Orientation Leaders **Rayna Christy, Elizabeth Diaz Arreola, Lizzie Drago, Michael Vu, and Kailyn Young.**

Plus, three—Rayna, Elizabeth, and Mike—made the cover of *UP's* WOW special issue!



ADVICE: Tips to Find Your Flock  
[Insta / FB](#)



## Research

Research, Networking, and Fun in Waco for McNair Scholars

Biology Pre-Med senior Sergio Mendez and Exercise Science senior Jenny Tu were among the McNair cohort networking with student researchers from across the USA at the Baylor McNair Conference in Waco.

They also got Fast & Furious during car racing and other fun arcade games at Main Event. After a game of laser tag, one victor tagged the most opponents—Reauid Honors Associate Dean Shannon Jordan!

"I beat everyone at Laser Tag. Pretty proud of that," Dr. Jordan says.

Looking forward to oral defenses this Fall. Sergio and Jenny will be joined by Biology Pre-Dental junior **Natalie Dickens.**



## Award

2025 Regents' Student Scholar

The Texas State University System has recognized **Mohamed Irhabi**, a Biology Pre-Med junior at Lamar University, as the 2025 Regents' Student Scholar across all seven flagship institutions. He was honored for outstanding academic achievement and scholarship, leadership abilities, and contributions to his institution and community.





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SEPTEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

# Growth Opportunities

*Imagine • Innovate • Impact • Inspire*

Sept 4 – ExxonMobil Career Day

**ExxonMobil Career Day**  
Thursday, September 4  
Noon – 3:00 pm  
Setzer Live Oak Ballroom

ALL majors are invited to explore job and internship opportunities with one of the world's leading energy companies. Discover how you can launch your career while fueling futures together!



Student Success Workshops

**Student Success Workshops**  
Thursday; Various Dates  
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm  
Morris Hall, Media Room (first floor)

STARS Services' workshops offers you tools and strategies to help you succeed at the start of your academic year:

- Sept 4: GRIT
- Sept 11: Attacking the Textbook and Taking Notes
- Sept 18: Pomodoro Power: Boost Your Focus and Productivity in 25-Minute Bursts
- Sept 25: Study Smarter, Not Harder



Sept 5 - HIEP - OUR Kickoff Day

**OUR Kickoff Day**  
Friday, September 5  
OUR Orientation: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm  
SURF Symposium: 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm  
Landes Aud. at Galloway

Interested in conducting research and creative activities? This orientation will provide insider tips as well as teach you how to successfully apply to present at fall and spring conferences hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Research.

Honors students who successfully complete their research projects can earn **HIEP** or, if eligible, **Non-Course Credit**.

Afterwards, stay to hear honors peers Mackenzie Howell, Nirbhik Neupane, Priya Rathore, and Ryan Servantes discuss their summer research projects!

You could be next, Honors Cardinal!



## SURF 2025 Symposium

Friday, Sept. 5

**2:30 pm - 4:00 pm**

Landes 101 in Galloway

*Introducing undergraduate research by Reaugh Honors students:*

**Mackenzie Howell**

**Nirbhik Neupane**

**Priya Rathore**

**Ryan Servantes**



You are cordially invited on September 5, 2025 to

## THE FALL 2025 O.U.R. KICKOFF DAY!

**From 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM**

O.U.R. Orientation: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM  
SURF Symposium: 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Galloway Building, Landes Auditorium 101

**Join us to find out more about O.U.R. events, grant programs, travel support and more!**





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SEPTEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

## Growth Opportunities

*Imagine • Innovate • Impact • Inspire*

Sept 10 or 12 – Web of Science:  
Researcher Profile

*Web of Science: Researcher Profile*  
Wed, Sept. 10, 1 pm – 2 pm,  
SciTech Room 103  
Fri, Sept 12, 1 pm – 2 pm,  
VIRTUAL Teams  
[Register](#)

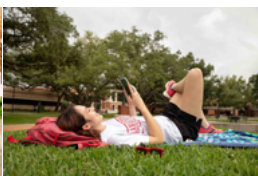
This Cardinal Crash Course gives you an overview of the Web of Science database and its Researcher Profile too, and teaches you how you can use it to visualize the impact of your research through citation reports and a geographic citation map.



Sept 11 – Reading and Republishing  
WPA Slave Narratives

*Reading and Republishing the WPA  
Slave Narratives*  
Thursday, September 11  
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm  
Reaud Event Space (Rm 101)

Dionne Babineaux will discuss her research in recovering the stories of the WPA slave narratives. Ms. Babineaux is a PhD. student at Rice University and the founder and executive director of the Museum of Undertold Texas History. She also created the Agatha Babino exhibit on display at the Beaumont Heritage Society's John J. French Museum. Q & A will follow.



### GOT NEWS TO SHARE?

Help us showcase **\*YOU!\***  
If your contributions—academic, leadership, research, publication, service, etc.—have not been featured by us, please let us know!  
Sharing your story inspires others!!!

Email Honors Marketing Coordinator:  
**Meghan Rapp**

## Honors Experience

Sept 20 –Big Red's Roundup

*Big Red's Roundup*  
Saturday, September 20  
Noon – 10:00 pm  
Spindletop Boomtown Museum



NEW THIS FALL - LU has a rodeo team! Watch professional bull riding, mutton bustin', and other rodeo events, along with a car show, community resiliency showcase, and food trucks. Evening ends with live music featuring Running on Credit. FREE admission with your LU student ID!





# UPDATE

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# Honors Student Association

## 2025-2026 HSA EXEC COMMITTEE

**President:** Michael Vu (Finance and Human Resource Mgmt senior)

**Vice President:** Bilal Alani (Chemistry Pre-Med senior)

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Saad Mohammed (Biology Pre-Med senior)

**RHC SGA Senator:** Jenny Tu (Exercise Science senior)

**HSA SGA Rep:** Brianna Brottem (Biology Pre-Med junior)

**Peer Mentor Coaches:**  
Alyvia Ott  
(Early Childhood to 6 Education junior)  
Kinsey Tran  
(Biology Pre-Optometry junior)

**Intramural Sports Officers:**  
Carsen Barrett  
(Phys Ed Teacher Ed senior)  
Blaine Isom  
(Music Education Band junior)



1. Pay Dues



2. Join HSA



## Join HSA



Join HSA!

*New and returning honors students:* HSA is the #1 student organization all Honors Cardinals should join!

We'd love to get to know you better and have fun with you this year. To help support our activities, please pay annual **\$20 dues** for the 2025-26 year [via credit card online](#) or pay cash by visiting Ms. Kim Vizena at RHC Office 113 during office hours, M-F 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. New members also get our HSA t-shirt!

The Reauid Honors College does not charge tuition to students. These \$20 dues are collected by HSA to help us pay for friendship-building gatherings and campus experiences.

Learn more about our student org:  
[HSA website](#)

Get your HSA member t-shirt!



## Event

Sept 3 - HSA's First Meeting of the Year

**HSA's First Meeting of the Year**  
**Tuesday, September 3**  
**12:35 pm lunch;**  
**meeting 12:50 pm – 1:30 pm**  
**Reauid Honors College Lounge**

Can't wait to see everyone! We're excited to meet our newest students and to reconnect with honors peers. We'll introduce ourselves, chat about semester goals, and share upcoming events. Get your semester off to a good start by joining us for lunch and socializing.





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# Honors Student Association Event

Sept 10 - Peer Mentor Mixer

**Peer Mentor Mixer**  
Wednesday, September 10  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Reaud Honors College Lounge

Mic check 1-2... it's time to start this year's Peer Mentor Program right with a night to remember! Don't miss the chance to sing, laugh, enjoy some food, and connect with your Reaud Honors College community. Come hang out with your peer mentors and mentees and make some unforgettable memories. We hope to see you singing your heart out!

MEET this year's peer mentors:  
Scroll through bios on [Insta](#) / [FB](#)



Sept 24 - HSA Yard Games Social

**HSA Yard Games Social**  
Wednesday, September 24  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
RHC Courtyard

Enjoy some mid-week fun by playing yard games with us in the Reaud Honors College Courtyard. This is a chill way to get to know each other while also enjoying some friendly competition. Have no fear about keeping your energy high—food and drinks will be provided.



## Sports

Sept 5 - SIGN UP for  
HSA Intramural Volleyball

**SIGN UP for**  
**HSA Volleyball Team**  
**Sign Up by: Friday, Sept 5**  
**Email: Blaine Isom**

Sign up to be a part of our volleyball team (by Friday, Sept 5). Also let us know if you're interested in playing soccer with us. Chat with us at our general meeting or DM us in GM. Join us in repping HSA on the fields and courts this year!



## Stay Connected to Reaud Honors College

