



UPDATE

April 2026

Uniting Our Honors Cardinal Community





UPDATE

April 2026

News for Honors Cardinals

Dr. Jordan Coaches TACSM Champs to Multiple Wins

Champions of the 2026 TACSM Student Bowl: Exercise Science students **Jenny Tu** and **Kayla McKinley** were among the winning team members who beat out more than 40 teams! Kayla was also honored with the TACSM Undergraduate Scholar Award!

The duo built on the success they had at last year's student bowl competition to come out on top this year. The team will next head to Salt Lake City, Utah, to represent the Texas chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine in a national student bowl competition.

Our Associate Dean **Dr. Shannon Jordan** is the coach who supports and trains LU's teams; she also served as a volunteer referee during the competition in Waco.

"I am so proud of our students who admirably demonstrated their knowledge of Exercise Science in TACSM's Jeopardy-like competition this Spring. They answered questions on anatomy & physiology, exercise physiology, biomechanics, cardiorespiratory physiology, and much more," Dr. Jordan says.

"This is the second time LU has won at the student bowl at the Texas Chapter level, and we look forward to competing nationally in May."



NO CLASSES
GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 3

March 30 - Fall 2026 Registration

**REMINDER: Fall 2026 Registration –
Opens 7:00 am on Monday, March 30**

View LU's [registration details and class schedules](#). Please remember that searching "Honors" in the list of class schedules pulls up only our seminars and topics.

Visit our [Honors Core Curriculum and Petition for Honors Credit](#) pages to view your options for Spring honors courses. You may also initiate an [Honors Contract](#). Honors courses offered only to you: [Fall 2026 Honors Seminar/Topics](#).



FREE TICKETS - Dance Unleashed (Dance)

Dance Unleashed
Fri, April 24: 7:30 pm
Sat, April 25: 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm
University Theatre
Request By: 5:00 pm Wed, April 15
Request Tickets Form (form will open April 2)

Watch LU dance performers push boundaries and bring innovative ideas to genres of dance that include modern, contemporary, tap, and jazz.



SPRING GRADUATES April 12 deadline

This month, our college will celebrate our prestigious Reaud Honors graduates at our Honors Graduate Reception!

Friendly reminder - **Due Sun, April 12** - email your graduation celebration picture to [Meghan Rapp](#).

Our Honors community is looking forward to celebrating you and all of your accomplishments!!!





UPDATE

April 2026

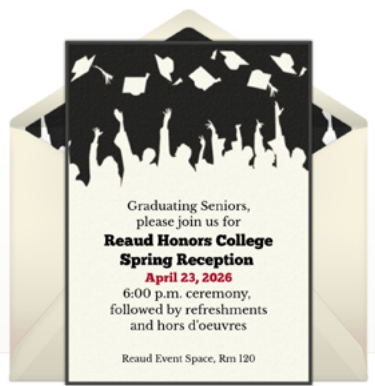
Events for Honors Cardinals

April 23 -
Honors Graduate Reception

Honors Graduate Reception
Thursday, April 23
6:00 pm, with refreshments and hors
d'oeuvres to follow
Reaud Event Space (Rm 120)
By Invitation Only

A grand celebration of our Reaud Honors College graduates where our graduates can share their memories and their future plans, as well as introduce family and loved ones to their friends.

We will also announce the student-elected Honors Professor of 2026, our Honors Students of the Year, and Distinguished Faculty of the Year.

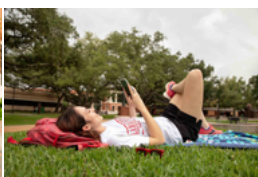


April 29 -
Stepping Up Mixer

Stepping Up Mixer
Wednesday, April 29
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Reaud Event Space
(Rm 120)
By Invitation Only

Reaud Honors students will mingle with nonprofit representatives at this mixer hosted by the Reaud Honors College in partnership with the Southeast Texas Nonprofit Development Center.

These future Reaud Honors civic leaders will contribute to the Southeast Texas community and develop their networking, leadership, and organizational skills by serving as nonvoting board members for local nonprofits.



Student Events

April 7-8
VOTE SGA Officers

Tues, April 7 - Wed, April 8
Vote via Self-Serv Banner

Vote for student leaders who will represent the LU student body in the upcoming academic year. See who will build on the successes of Honors SGA officers Vice President **Campbell Fuller** and Secretary/Treasurer **Kathy Nguyen**.

Once you're logged into SSB, locate the link for the SGA election ballot to submit your vote.

April 9-12
Next Draft (Theatre)

Next Draft: Student Works Series
Thurs-Sat April 9-11: 7:30 pm
Sunday, April 12: 2:00 pm
Studio Theatre

Bold stories on stage! Cheer on LU students as they perform original works written, directed, and performed by them. The series highlights emerging voices and offers audiences a look at new and developing theatrical works.



FREE TICKETS
for Next Draft

Request By: 5:00 pm Wed, April 1
Request Tickets Form

April 24-26 and May 1 & 3
The Lightning Thief (Theatre)

The Lightning Thief
Fri-Sat April 24 - 25 & Fri, May 1: 7:30 pm
Sun April 26 & May 3 (2:30 pm)
Off-campus: Port Arthur Little Theatre

HSA President **Michael Vu** will star as the satyr Grover in "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical" at Port Arthur Little Theatre. Often providing comic relief in the play, Grover is Percy's best friend and a key member of the quest to find Zeus's lightning bolt.

If you attend, be sure to say hi to Mike after the play!

Note: Performances are held on other days, as well, yet to catch Mike in the show, reserve your ticket for a date listed above.



Student Recognition Leaders

Happy Match Day for Honors JAMP Scholar

Biology Pre-Med senior Sergio Mendez was among 88 JAMP Scholars matched to medical schools—and the only one matched from LU!

Sergio will be a physician-in-training at UTMB-Galveston. He got to explore his future campus while attending the Latino Medical Student Association Conference this Spring.

Sergio's JAMP journey has included medical school internships at UT Health Long School of Medicine in San Antonio and Texas A&M School of Medicine in Bryan-College Station.

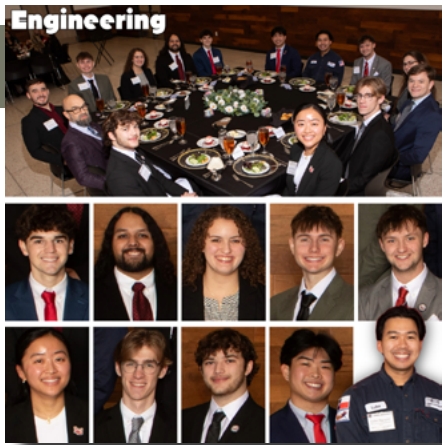
At this time, Sergio plans to focus on Primary Care, but he will keep an open mind to other specialties during his medical school training.



Chatting About Algorithmic Bias to Avoid Drowning in Misinformation

Honors Cardinals discussed real-world cases in medicine, facial recognition, and social media to explore forms of algorithmic bias to decrease the risk of drowning in misinformation.

Ms. Elizabeth Sanders, Director of Learning and Research at the library, led the conversation and was joined by Honors students **Rick Van Iterson, Shamauria Singleton, Rylee Moree, Gabby Sensat**, as well as alumna **Jeri Wolfe (Class of 2023)**.



Engineering Alum and Honors Cardinals Connect at Alumni Dinner

Luke Nguyen (Class of 2022) chatted with Engineering Honors Cardinals at LU's Alumni Dinner and Conversation.

Luke interned at Alumni Affairs while he was an undergraduate, and he always wanted to return to campus to host one of these dinners.

More than 50 Honors Cardinals benefited from career advice while networking with alumni from their college or pre-professional program.

Graduating MISY Senior Inducted into ODK

Graduating Management Info Systems senior **Blake Wilson** was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, the leadership honor society circle, in recognition of his campus community service as LU Ambassador; 2nd Vice President of Collegiate 100; Secretary of Relentless LU Cru; and Orientation Leader for New Student Leadership.

He also grew as a leader while studying abroad in Granada, Spain, with honors peers from across the nation as a McMaster Scholar. "That experience expanded my global perspective and strengthened my passion for business and leadership," he says.





Student Recognition

Reaud Fellows Round Out Leadership Year at RLI Olympics

Who got crowned a legend at the annual RLI Olympics?
3RD PLACE: Natalie Bean, Logan Morris, Matt Ard, and Will Naas.
2ND PLACE: Teague Antley, Ryan Servantes, and Alyvia Ott.
1ST PLACE: Jud Ripper, Blaine Isom, Alleigh Rios, and Spencer Cheng.
 The RLI Olympics is an annual competition for Reaud Fellows to round out the leadership year.
 Stronger together...every day!



Service

RHC Collabs on Brand-New Cardinal Insiders Night

Enjoyed connecting with prospective Honors Cardinals who could become future classmates next year!
 Students from our Reaud Leadership Institute and from College of Engineering led “insider conversations” to help prospective students explore research, leadership, and involvement opportunities available at LU.
 The Reaud Honors College was honored to collaborate with the Dean of Students, College of Engineering, and Pre-Professional Programs on this special dinner and a conversation hosted this Spring at our college.
 This brand-new event was held the evening before Cardinal View.



MAKING UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES
 See if you were spotted at **Cardinal Insiders Night:**
[FB / Insta](#)
 Cardinal View:
[FB / Insta](#)



Student Recognition Awards

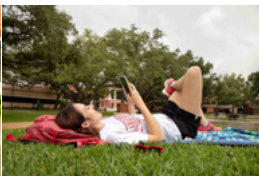
Honors Track Athlete Breaks
LU Record

Ashton Rainey has broken LU's 5000-meter record!

By finishing with a time of 16:17:81, at the David Hemery Valentine Invitational hosted by Boston University, Ashton shattered her personal best by one minute and eclipsed previous record by 10 seconds.

Plus, the Biochemistry and Biology Pre-Med senior found out she was among five LU athletes named All-Southland Conference for Indoor Track & Field. She is the only one to earn multiple awards: second-team honor in 5,000 meters (16:34.69) and third-team honor in 3,000 meters, with a personal best time of 9.44.12.

A strong finish to the indoor track season for Ashton!



Honors President Secures Big Wins for LU's Circle K International

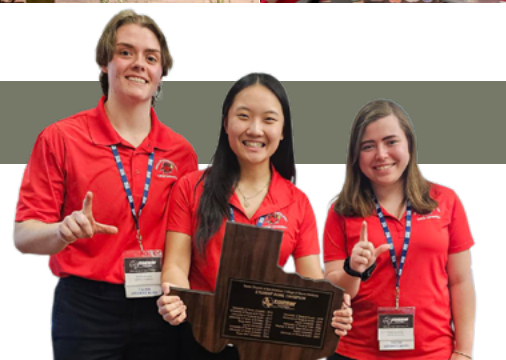
Big wins for LU's Circle K International under CKI President **Isabella Tran**—five Club Awards, five Individual Awards, and six Scholarships.

Among the crowning achievements were the Stan Soderstrom "Outstanding Club Achievement" Award and recognition of Isabella as "Outstanding Club President." LU received the most awards than any other college.

Isabella was also elected the next Gulf Coast Lieutenant Governor for the Texas-Oklahoma District.

Honors peers **Veronika Castanon** and **Karim Shaaban** joined Isabella at the winners' podium.

If you're interested in being part of the world's largest student-led collegiate service organization, reach out to Isabella, Karim, and Veronika.



ON CAMPUS TACSM Champions Share Regional Win

Hear from the champion team that delivered the win to LU at the Student Bowl Texas Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine. Honors Cardinals **Jenny Tu** and **Kayla McKinley** are joined by Exercise Science peer **Ellis Prudhomme**.



[LISTEN HERE: On Campus](#)



Student Recognition

Research

Two Honors Cardinals Earn Beck Research Fellowship

Two Reaud Honors Students have earned the prestigious David J. Beck research fellowship.

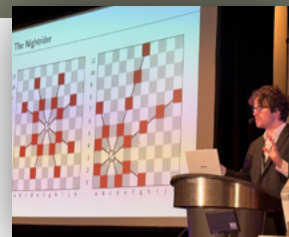
Congratulations to Biology Pre-Optometry sophomore **Sneha Jobby** and Biology Pre-Med junior **Isabella Tran**. Each of them earned up to \$10,000 funding for a summer project and an academic scholarship.

Watch our feed to learn about the research projects they will pursue this Summer.



Nightriders Math Research Presented at San Fran Conference

Electrical Engineering sophomore **Rick Van Iterson** presented his math research, "Fairy Chess and the Problem of Non-Attacking Nightriders," at the Gathering 4 Gardner conference in San Francisco, where he also met some math celebrities.



His research explores: What is the maximum number of Nightriders you can place on the board with none of them being able to capture another?

Under the guidance of his mentor Dr. Robert Vallin, Rick used a computer to find some very interesting patterns, which he shared with the audience.



Scientists Help Biology Senior Refine Research Project

Campbell Fuller is on a research journey to bridge discovery with patient care!

While in San Francisco at the Biophysical Society's annual meeting, the Biology senior shared his in-progress research on developing a carbazole-derived dual-emission fluorescent probe designed to selectively target telomeric G-quadruplex DNA. Campbell is currently conducting this research as an Undergraduate Research Fellow in LU's Synthetic Organic Chemistry Lab.

"It was incredibly valuable to discuss the project with scientists in the field and get feedback as I continue refining it," he says.

He also enjoyed hearing from researchers studying nucleic acid dynamics and cancer-related targets, while he attended sessions on DNA structure, fluorescence imaging, and molecular biophysics.



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



UPDATE

April 2026

Growth Opportunities

Imagine • Innovate • Impact • Inspire

April 1 -
Honors Experience Lecture

Wearables

Wednesday, April 1
11:30 am - 12:30 pm
HHPA 206 (across from REC Center)

Think wearables are telling you everything about your health? Find out what they do—and don't—tell you about health and performance.

Associate Dean Dr. Shannon Jordan helped LU get added as a tour stop for Dr. Jason Carter's lecture from TACSM.

This topic is "applicable to a wide range of interests from health, medicine, and kinesiology to those envisioning a career in biomedical engineering," Dr. Jordan says.

Honors Peer Kayla McKinley also hopes to see you in the audience. She is currently researching home health devices as part of an Honors Contract this Spring.

Be a part of the broader conversation on wearable technologies!

Unplug and connect

AlumChat
special guest

Topic:
"The Long Game: Stories of Relationships that Built Success"

Honors Conversations
Earn non-course credit*
*Check with Honors Advisor

April 16
12:45 pm
RHC Lounge

April 16 -
Honors Conversation

The Long Game: Stories of Relationships that Built Success
Thursday, April 16
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm
RHC Lounge

An Alum Chat special guest joins us for our final Honors Convo this semester! End the year strong by chatting with Joshua Davis (Class of 2011).

Achievement is rarely accidental; it's relational. Through personal stories and practical insights, this conversation will reveal how playing the long game in networking leads to credibility, opportunity, and lasting impact.

You will walk away from this conversation with a mindset shift: success grows from the relationships you nurture over time!

Earn **HIEP: Honors Experience** or, if eligible, **Non-Course Credit**



Research Opportunities

Apply by April 17 -
HIEP - Teach as Mason STEM Scholar

HIEP - Teach as Mason STEM Scholar
Apply By: Friday, April 17 at 5:00 pm
[Apply here](#)

Calling all future math and science teachers! This summer, you have the opportunity to experience the field of teaching as a Mason STEM Scholar.

Prior teaching experience is not required for this paid internship. Come with a desire to share your passion about your major with K-12 kids in your community.

Expo Research Abstracts & Papers
Due Friday, April 10
[ABSTRACT-submit here](#)
[PAPER-submit here](#)

ABSTRACTS - Present your LU undergrad research and creative activities in a campus-wide showcase celebrating students' hard work and creativity.

PAPERS - All undergraduate students from any academic discipline are invited to prepare and submit a novel research paper to the 2026 Paper Competition. The papers should reflect original ideas. The winners in STEM and HASBSEB will be recognized at EXPO 2026.

HIEP - Research Expo
Thurs, April 30 - Fri, May 1
8:00 am - 7:30 pm
Setzer Student Center

Looking forward to learning from all the STEM and HASBSEB student researchers! If you are interested in participating in research next year or you'd like to cheer on your honors peers, please join us for this campus-wide showcase celebrating students' hard work and creativity.

The exposition is a great platform to present theses, capstones, projects for honors courses, independent studies, or other discipline-specific research.

Earn **HIEP: Honors Experience** or, if eligible, **Non-Course Credit**



UPDATE

April 2026

Honors Student Association

Events

April 7 -
HSA Final Meeting

HSA Final Meeting
Tuesday, April 7
Lunch: 12:30 pm
Meeting: 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm
RHC Lounge

Find out who will be HSA's future leaders at our final meeting of the semester!

We'll wrap up the year, share final updates, and celebrate everything we've accomplished together. Come grab some food, stay for the meeting, and finish the semester strong with HSA!



Join us for our last meeting of the year! Can't wait to see you there!



April 27-
HSA Big Summer Blowout

HSA Big Summer Blowout
Monday, April 27
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
RHC Lounge

Join HSA for our final social of the semester — our Big Summer Blowout inspired by *Frozen's* EoY Party.

Join us in the RHC Courtyard to play a variety of yard games, such as washers, spikeball, and more. Feel free to bring any outdoor games you would like to share.

This will be a great opportunity to relax, connect with other honors students, and enjoy the Spring weather.



Stay Connected to Reauid Honors College



Lamar University 4400 MLK Blvd., PO Box 10009, Beaumont, Texas 77710



UPDATE

April 2026



Want to return to something quickly? Click on link to go directly to that topic.
Happy Reading!

NEWS

Dr. Jordan Coaches TACSM Champs to Multiple Wins
March 30 — REGISTRATION
Free Tickets — Dance Unleashed (Dance)
Due April 12 — Spring Graduates

EVENTS

April 23 - Honors Graduate Reception
April 29 - Stepping Up Mixer

STUDENT EVENTS

April 7-8 - VOTE SGA Officers
April 9-12 - Next Draft (Theatre)
April 24-26 and May 1 & 3 - The Lightning Thief (Theatre)

STUDENT RECOGNITION

LEADERS
SERVICE
AWARDS
RESEARCH

On Campus: TACSM Champions Share Regional Win
Making Unforgettable Memories
Got News to Share?

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

April 1 - Honors Experience Lecture
Due April 10 - Expo Research Abstracts & Papers
April 16 - Honors Conversation
Apply by April 17 - HIEP - Teach as Mason STEM Scholar
April 30-May 1 - HIEP - Research Expo

HONORS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

April 7 - HSA Final Meeting
April 27 - HSA Big Summer Blowout