

Program
Scholarship Award
Reception & Dance

- 7:00-7:30 Arrival
- 7:00-9:00 Hors d'oeuvres and cake available
- 7:00-8:15 DJ Music / Dance
- 8:15-8:30 Introduction of NITCS Executive Board
- Message from previous winner
- Introduction of 2013 Scholarship Winners
- Messages from Recipients
- Membership Message
- 8:30-1:00 DJ Music / Dance

Special points of interest:

- Thanks to DJ Deluxe for providing the music tonight.
- Cash Bar available throughout the event.
- 50/50 and prize raffle tickets will be available for purchase from 7:00pm-10:00pm.

Thank You

Thanks to ALL the volunteers who helped make the 10th Annual Tejanofest a success!

Extra special thanks to Janie Escamilla & Cathy Garcia who co-chaired the Event, Leticia Zuniga for her help with the Raffles, and DJ's Tejano Dawg, G-Man, & Deluxe Entertainment.

Special Thanks to our Sponsors:

Aurora Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
BMO Harris Bank
Juany Garza, Ward 2 Alderman
Bill Catching, Aurora Township
John Shoemaker, Aurora Township Highway Commissioner
La Quinta de los Reyes
LULAC
Century 21 Pro-Team
Arco Iris Translations, Inc.
Pancho's Restaurant
Al Hintt & Sons Trucking
RMR Trucking
Jewel-Osco
Office Depot
Pepsi
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TejanosBest.com
The Show Scene Magazine
Las Nuevas Morning Show
Quality Inn

Northern Illinois Tejano
Cultural Society



Scholarship
Award
Reception
&
Dance

Saturday, August 3, 2013

7:00pm—1:00am

Royal Banquets

802 East Lake Street

Aurora, Illinois 60506

The winners are...

The Northern Illinois Tejano Cultural Society was formed to promote and preserve the language, culture, traditions and family values of the Tejano people. We consider it our duty to help our youth stay motivated and continue their education by helping them with scholarships and other monetary contributions. Helping our young scholars is an obligation we proudly accept.

Throughout the year NITCS volunteers work tirelessly to plan and fundraise. The goal is simple: raise as much money as we can for scholarship awards. Some years are more lucrative than others. Some events are more successful than others. The NITCS volunteers put their whole heart into every single project.

The Executive Board would like to thank everyone this evening. The Board fully recognizes that those here tonight and those who regularly support the NITCS events are the true core of the organization.

Thank You

Upcoming Events:

- General Club meetings are the first Saturday of each month. Please check our website for location.
- NITCS Toy Drive — Saturday, December 7, 2013. Location to be determined. Please check our website for updates.

P.O Box 5824 ■ Aurora, IL 60507
PH: 630-677-0651 FAX: 630.897.5851



Laritza Gizelle Aleman

Laritza graduated from Rosary High School, where she was involved in Cheerleading, Spanish Club, Student Ambassador, Equestrian Club and served as a member and president of the Human Rights Club. She has volunteered at the local Puerto Rican Fest, the Marmion/Rosary Summer Camp for Cheerleading, and the NITCS Festival. In addition, Laritza participates in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. She will be attending Illinois State University and her intended major is Elementary Education-Bilingual/Bicultural Education. Laritza plans to “specifically give back to the community through teaching. My hope is to empower the next generations of Hispanics. I want them not to lose their culture and to maintain their Spanish language”.



Raffe P. Benavides

Raffe is currently enrolled at Grand Canyon University and is majoring in Sociology. He has a completion date scheduled for October 2013. Upon graduation, Raffe plans to do graduate work in Sociology and take Spanish classes. He is married with two daughters, and is currently employed by Aurora East School District 131 as a Dean's Assistant at KD Waldo Middle School. He is actively involved and keeps in touch with the community by coaching soccer and basketball for two schools, working at summer camps and open gyms, and serves as a student mentor. The soccer teams which Raffe has coached have won various first place awards. Raffe feels that “the many years of working with Aurora's Hispanic youth and their parents have given me an excellent perspective of our community's social needs. I also plan to continue coaching girls and boys soccer as I have found soccer to be a great vehicle to improve our youths' self esteem.”



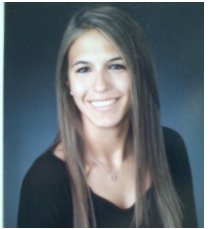
Karina Diaz

Karina graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana as a Psychology Major. She plans to pursue a Specialist Degree at Illinois State University. Karina's community service includes: Psychological Services Center, SOAR (after school program for Hispanic children), Social Chair for Latinos in Pre Health, Prairie Woods Nursing, NITCS, Aurora Historic Society, Girls Advocacy Program, Community Crisis Hot Line and hospital volunteer hours. Her extracurricular activities include: Ambassador Tour Guide for the Newman Hall, Broomball Club, Family Culture & Mental Health. She has a passion for serving others, and is enthusiastic about obtaining a solid education and a grounded sense of community. She states “the career path of a school psychologist seems like the perfect one in that it is an eclectic collection of the many traits I would want my future career to have.”



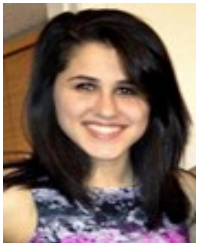
Gabriella Hoffman Menchaca

Gabby graduated from Deerfield High School and was honored as a Scholar. She was part of the Spanish Honor Society, Peer Tutoring Program, Junior Varsity Lacrosse, Reach Club (recognizing each other's abilities to choose healthy lifestyles) and served on the Executive Board. Her community and volunteer service includes assisting many families with childcare and serving as a Camp Counselor for the Deerfield Park District. Gabby will be attending the University of Illinois. She recalls “growing up, college was never an option for me, but rather a necessity. Pursuing a higher education will not only help me deepen my knowledge, but will help me be a top-notch competitor in the highly competitive job market in the real world”.



Brenda Rocha

Brenda is attending the University of Iowa and has halfway completed her undergraduate work as a Nursing major/Spanish minor. She is a member of UI S.T.A.T Ambassador, Order of Omega, UI Student Government, and President of Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority. She has volunteered at the UI Clinic & Hospitals. Brenda welcomes first year and transfer students to the University and provides extra academic support to students in Science and Spanish courses. She hopes that her goals will provide a foundation to become a nurse practitioner in the Chicagoland area; the community that made her the woman she is today. Brenda observes “even though they were never exposed to the educational opportunities that I have today, my mother and father have supported my decisions and encouraged me to push myself further than even I thought I was capable of.”



Angelica Catherine Villafuerte

Angelica is currently a full-time student at Rasmussen College. She will receive her Associates degree in Early Childhood Education in December 2013. She also works full time as a co-teacher at KinderCare Learning Center. She has plans to continue her education and pursue her Bachelor's degree. Her goal is to work with special needs children. Angelica believes that “going to work every day and making a difference in all those children's lives, gives me the strength to do anything and everything I can to make sure I can do this for the rest of my life.” Angelica reaches out to the community by volunteering her free time at the church food pantry and assisting with daycare.

