

## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager   **DATE:** June 14, 2021  
**SUBJECT:** The Northeast Tarrant Teen Court Board will be presenting the 2021 Teen Court Scholarships  
**PRESENTER:** Karen Russell, Teen Court Board Chair

**SUMMARY:**

The Northeast Tarrant Teen Court Board will be presenting the 2021 Teen Court Scholarship.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

North Richland Hills Teen Court merged with Teen Courts from Watauga, Haltom City and Richland Hills to form our quad-city **Northeast Tarrant Teen Court** or NETTC. The Northeast Tarrant Teen Court Advisory Board, made up of representatives from all four cities, created a scholarship donation program to allow the public, as well as teens, to donate to the scholarship fund to be used to reward and show appreciation to graduating seniors who have been part of the volunteer teen court program. Scholarship applicants must meet strict criteria to be eligible for scholarship consideration, including years of volunteer service, applicant's submitted essay, high school transcripts, biography and a panel interview with the Teen Court Advisory Board. This year the Teen Court Board would like to present two scholarships, totaling \$2,350 to the following participants:

**Lauryn Birkes** – Lauryn graduated from Birdville High School. The board voted to award Lauryn, \$1,350. Lauryn began volunteering in with Teen Court in 2017. She served as a juror twice, then transitioned to Teen Attorney and Lead Attorney where she alternated between Prosecutor and Defense Attorney. She holds the record for attendance at Teen Court, has been a fabulous mentor to other youth and has contributed so much to the program as a whole with fresh ideas, active training and always pushing all of us involved in Teen Court to be better. Lauryn was also appointed and served in the youth position on the Teen Court Advisory Board for the last three years. She has supported our program endlessly, and represented Teen Court with grace, passion, and integrity. She will begin attending Baylor this fall planning to major in Social Work on a pre-law track.

**Aden Medina** – Aden graduated from Keller High School. The board voted to award Aden \$1,000. Aden became a volunteer in 2018 and volunteered as a juror throughout his time in our program. He was always observant, mannerly and considerate in his deliberations and we appreciate his service to our program. Aden will be attending Texas A&M and plans to major in Engineering with a focus on Industrial Distribution.

The Teen Court Advisory Board would like to thank the City Councils from all four cities for their continued support of our program, which allows students to serve their community



while participating and learning more about the judicial system and how it affects each of us in our everyday lives.