Texas A&M University-Commerce
President Dan R. Jones, Ph.D.

Fall Assembly
August 27, 2015
In Memoriam

- **Margaret “Margo” Harbison**
  - Passed away July 20, 2015
  - Joined A&M-Commerce faculty in 1974
  - Retired as Athletic Director and Head of Health & Physical Education Department in 1999
  - Memorial Service to be held Saturday, September 12 at 2:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center

- **Carol Dickinson**
  - Passed away August 3, 2015
  - Joined A&M-Commerce staff in 1991
  - Promoted to Senior Buyer in 2005

- **Susan Andrews**
  - Passed away June 9, 2015
  - Joined A&M-Commerce in 1981
  - Librarian for more than 30 years at Gee Library
Welcome New Faculty & Staff
Athletic Director

- Joshua Jorgensen named **Interim Director** of Athletics

- Search for Athletic Director under way

- Ryan Ivey named **Athletic Director** at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee
Assistant Dean of Honors College

Dr. Yvonne Villanueva-Russell named new Assistant Dean

Served as Associate Professor and Department Head of Sociology & Criminal Justice

Education

- B.A. in Sociology – Western Illinois University (1990)
- M.A. in Sociology – Western Illinois University (1992)
- Ph.D. in Sociology – University of Missouri-Columbia (2002)
Associate Dean of the College of Education & Human Services

- Dr. Mark Reid named new Associate Dean
- Associate Professor of Curriculum & Instruction
- Education
  - B.S. in Agricultural Sciences – East Texas State University (1986)
  - Ph.D. in Curriculum Studies – The University of Texas at Austin (2001)
Interim Assistant Vice President & Dean of Campus Life & Student Development

- Shawn De Veau named Interim Dean
- Holds Juris Doctor from the Boston University School of Law
- Over ten years of experience as a Dean of Students, as well as other student affairs positions
- National search will be conducted this fall for a permanent replacement
## Fall 2015 Credit Hours by College/School as of August 26 (4:00 p.m.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>College of Business</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Undergraduate</td>
<td>10,669</td>
<td>10,725</td>
<td>-56</td>
<td>-0.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduate</td>
<td>12,435</td>
<td>11,055</td>
<td>1380</td>
<td>12.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23,104</td>
<td>21,780</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>6.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College of Humanities, Social Sciences &amp; Arts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Undergraduate</td>
<td>30,168</td>
<td>28,081</td>
<td>2087</td>
<td>7.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduate</td>
<td>1,776</td>
<td>1,694</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>4.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>31,934</td>
<td>29,775</td>
<td>2,159</td>
<td>7.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College of Sciences &amp; Engineering</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Undergraduate</td>
<td>23,333</td>
<td>20,577</td>
<td>2,756</td>
<td>13.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduate</td>
<td>5,594</td>
<td>2,812</td>
<td>2,782</td>
<td>98.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>28,927</td>
<td>23,389</td>
<td>5,538</td>
<td>23.68%</td>
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## Fall 2015 Credit Hours by College/School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College of Education &amp; Human Services</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Undergraduate</td>
<td>24,354</td>
<td>22,066</td>
<td>2,288</td>
<td>10.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduate</td>
<td>12,705</td>
<td>12,493</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>1.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>37,059</td>
<td>34,559</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>7.23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School of Agriculture</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>Difference</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Undergraduate</td>
<td>2,661</td>
<td>2,094</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>27.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduate</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>48.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,835</td>
<td>2,211</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>28.22%</td>
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## Enrollment as of August 26 (4:00 p.m.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SCH</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undergraduate</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SCH</td>
<td>91,185</td>
<td>9.15%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Graduate</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCH</td>
<td>32,674</td>
<td>15.98%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SCH</td>
<td>123,859</td>
<td>10.87%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headcount</td>
<td>12,612</td>
<td>9.34%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing

- Students in rooms as of August 26th: **1,448**—Thanks to Lion Movers!
- Projected occupancy is 2,390
- Challenge will be any new freshmen who arrive next week
- Thanks to **RLL** staff!
S.E.E.D.S. Office

- Serving Engaged Empowered & Diverse Students
- Develop a spirit of inclusion and appreciation for diversity
- Support and advocate for students from traditionally underrepresented and marginalized groups
- Promote dialogue and social change to engage and educate the campus community
- Grounded in A&M-Commerce’s commitment to fostering a culture of inclusion
- Grand opening September 23rd
- More information available [here](#)
TRiO Program Received Federal Grant

- U.S. Department of Education notified A&M-Commerce of grant funding for the Student Support Services (SSS) Program
- Will provide TRiO with $481,656 in funding each year for 5 years
- TRiO program provides assistance and resources to low-income, first-generation college students, and students with disabilities
New Tenured Faculty

- Dr. Tabetha Adkins, Associate Professor, Literature & Languages
- Dr. Julia Ballenger, Professor, Educational Leadership
- Dr. Arthur Borgemenke, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership
- Dr. Sandra Gates, Associate Professor, Accounting
- Dr. Kishor Guru-Gharana, Professor, Economics & Finance
- Dr. Randall Hooper, Associate Professor, Music
- Dr. Beth Jones, Associate Professor, Psychology, Counseling & Special Education
- Dr. Lacy Krueger, Associate Professor, Psychology, Counseling & Special Education
- Dr. William Kuracina, Associate Professor, History
- Dr. Mutlu Mete, Associate Professor, Computer Science & Information Systems
- Dr. Stephen Reysen, Associate Professor, Psychology, Counseling & Special Education
- Dr. Filip Weicko, Associate Professor, Sociology & Criminal Justice
- Dr. Thomas West, Professor, Chemistry
New Promoted Faculty

- Promoted to Associate Professional Track
  - Dr. Pamela Webster, Mathematics
- Promoted to Associate Professor
  - Mr. Chad Smith, Art
- Promoted to Professor
  - Dr. Julia Ballenger, Educational Leadership
  - Dr. Kishor Guru-Gharana, Economics & Finance
  - Dr. Derald Harp, School of Agriculture
  - Dr. Karen Roggenkamp, Literature & Languages
  - Dr. Nikolay Sirakov, Mathematics/Computer Sciences & Information Systems
  - Dr. Tara Tietjen-Smith, Health & Human Performance
  - Dr. Robert Williams, School of Agriculture
First Global Fellow Recipients

- Tabetha Adkins
- Guclu Atinc
- Megan Beard
- Vipa Bernhardt
- Susan Bishop
- Tina Boitnott
- Arthur Joseph Borgemenke
- Quynh Dao Dang
- Shonda Gibson
- Laura Chris Green
- Raymond Green
- Derald Harp
- Gilberto Hernandez
- Jennifer Hudson
- John H. Humphreys
- Ben Jang
- Lon Johnston
- John Mark Jones
- Fernando Fuentes Jr.
- Jacques L. Fuqua Jr.
- Rebecca G. Judd
- Kriss Kemp-Graham
- Maria Lamarque
- Timothy Letzring
- Shiyou Li
- William G. Masten
- Linda Openshaw
- Ashely Ortiz
- Warren Gordon Ortloff
- Jacqueline Riley
- Robert G. Rodriguez
- Jiaming Sun
- William E. Thompson
- Leslie Toombs
- Rebecca Tuerk
- Yvonne Villanueva-Russell
- Lee A. Whitmarsh
Academic Affairs

- Transfer of the BAAS Competency-Based degree in Organizational Leadership to the College of Education & Human Services
- Dr. Carmen Salazar, Provost Intern – revision and update of the Faculty Handbook
- Council of Department Heads – update on full-time faculty (teaching) workload to incorporate Semester Credit Hours
- Provost and Budget Review & Development Council (BRDC) – development of zero-based budgeting for the allocation of Graduate Assistants and departmental operating budgets
- Measurement of baseline metrics to assess the progress on attaining the new Strategic Plan goals
Academic Affairs

- Revision and update of University Procedure 12.01.00.R1.01 Academic Freedom, Tenure, Promotion, and Post-Tenure Review
- Onboarding course for Department Heads
- Center for Faculty Excellence & Innovation initiatives
  - *Digication* e-portfolio for submission of Promotion & Tenure packets
  - Adoption of *Quality Matters* as a system of quality assurance of online classes
  - *Remote Proctor Now* for monitoring exams in online classes
New Degree Program Development

- Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
- MS in Nursing
- MS in Liberal Studies
- Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Photography
- Competency-Based BA in Criminal Justice
- BA in Latin American and U.S. Latino Studies
- BS in Electrical Engineering
Grand Opening Week

September 21st 2-5pm
• Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
• Wine & Cheese Reception

Grand Prize Drawings
• Apple Watch
• iPad Mini

September 22nd - 25th
• Speed Sessions – 20-minute sessions led by faculty and CFEI staff
• DIY Clinics – Self-Intro Video, Respondus, LMS Gradebook/Rubric, VoiceThread
• Emerging Innovations Tech Café
• Chair Massages
• Refreshments
• Ice Cream Social

See CFEI website for Grand Opening program and grand prize drawing eligibility

Gee Library Suite 173
www.tamuc.edu/cfei
84th Legislative Session

- A good legislative session for higher education
  - Formula funding
  - Tuition revenue bonds (TRBs)
- Not so good for public education and community colleges
- Merit pool possible due to our enrollment growth
- Phase out of the Texas B-On-Time Loan program
- Senate Bill 20 – Procurement
- Senate Bill 11 – Campus Carry
Financial Impact of 84th Legislative Session

- **Capital Funding**
  - Nursing & Health Sciences Building (debt service for $48 million) – begin process this Fall; occupancy May 2019

- **Formula Funding**
  - FY 16: $1,517,178   FY 17: $1,517,178

- **Higher Education Fund**
  - FY 16: $1,997,643   FY 17: $5,593,081
Financial Impact of 84th Legislative Session

- Special Item: Institute for Competency-Based Education
  - FY 16: $743,500  F17: $743,500
  - To provide funding for our institution to scale competency-based education and conduct research and share best practices to assist universities and community colleges in our state with implementation
  - Planning Task Force to be appointed; co-chaired by Vice Presidents Adolfo Benavides and Mary Hendrix
Facilities Updates

- Horse Barn near completion
- New reserved parking signs installed in Ed North parking lot
- College of Humanities, Social Sciences & Arts moved to Ag/IT 222
Facilities – Upcoming Projects

- Nursing & Health Sciences building
- Multi-Activity Court
- Morris Recreation Center addition
- Phase 3 Freshmen Residence Hall
Humfeld House
New Equipment in Whitley Gym
**SB 11** (Campus Carry)

- **Effective August 1, 2016**
- Institutions have latitude to create gun-free zones on their campuses but cannot declare their entire campus gun-free
- **Our plans**
  - Convene a taskforce comprised of faculty, staff, and students to collect data, perspectives, and develop recommendations
  - Create an informational website (in development)
Advancement

• Fundraising goal for FY15 exceeded: $2,036,790.45 raised
• Foundation offered over $1 million in scholarships during AY14/15
• Jerrod Knight elected to non-commercial seat on Board of Directors for Texas Association of Broadcasters
• Mayo Graveside Park renovation
• Brick Garden Project – get your brick before August 31st
• Thank You Celebration on October 23rd
Bridge Builders

- Fall campaign will begin September 1st
- Monthly challenges with prizes for individuals and departments
- 41% of full-time faculty/staff are Bridge Builders
- 12% employee giving increase over FY14
- For more information, contact Stephanie Fiorisi
Lt. Gen. Claire Chennault Celebration

- Born in Commerce, TX in 1893
- Commanded 1st American Volunteer Group (*Flying Tigers*) beginning in early 1941
- Specialized in “pursuit” aviation
- Trained Chinese Air Force
- Chief air adviser to Chiang Kai-shek
- Marker dedication on October 14th
Steel Branding

• Steel Branding selected as Agency of Record

• First project: overhaul of website – expected timeline of 15 months

• Branding and messaging work will begin in September in conjunction with website overhaul
Strategic Plan

• Final draft submitted to Texas A&M University System earlier this month

• Next steps:
  • Assessment Committee
  • Begin creating the future!
Lion Family Scholarship

- One-year pilot program
- Faculty/staff family members (spouse and children) eligible
- Applies toward undergraduate degree
- Funds up to $500 for fall and spring semesters
- Must be able to provide proof of eligibility if requested
- More information available online
Living, Learning, and Working University Assessment – Project Timeline

- Climate Study Workgroup – Summer/Ongoing 2015
- Populating Focus Groups – Summer 2015
- Marketing/Communication Plan – August 2015
  - Website
  - Campus
- Conduct Focus Groups on Campus – November 2015
- Survey Development – Summer thru Fall 2015
- Survey Dissemination – Early Spring 2016
  - All Faculty, Staff, and Students (population survey)
- Additional information:
  - Dr. Edward W. Romero, Chief Diversity Officer
  - Office of Institutional Diversity & Inclusion
2015-2016 Staff Council Representatives

- Billie Abell
- Janet Anderson
- Molly Baur
- Tina Boitnott
- Veta Dawson
- Jeremy Gamez
- Jodi Oelrich
- Kim Scarcelli
- Christie Spruill
- James Vanbebber
- Bryan Vaughn

- Inaugural Staff Council Kickoff
  - Ice Cream Social
  - September 23rd; 3:00-4:30 p.m.; Alumni Center

L.I.O.N.S. (Listen Interact Outreach & Network with Staff)

Email: staffcouncil@tamuc.edu
President’s Book Club

• “President’s Book Club” will start this semester
• Books selected will focus on leadership and/or professional development
• Convene once or twice a semester
• More details coming soon!
The Classic in Modern Life.

It is with a little trepidation that I venture to discuss this subject. I feel sure that my observations and conclusions concerning the so-called Classical Literature and its value in modern life will not meet the approval of many who are far more competent than I and more worthy to be heard.

What is a classic? It is not easy to define. Speaking from experience, I feel no hesitancy whatever in saying that, although most high school students are studying classical literature, yet most of them would be at a loss to give a good, clear cut, concise, plausible definition of the classic. To the average high school student, the classics have about as little interest and charm as any other tedious and laborious task which they are required to perform; to most students they are dull, dreary, dry, harassing and even repugnant. They have no sooner finished the task of reading them than they place them in the home library where they remain, dusty with neglect and forgotten.

But what is a classic? How are we to discriminate between what is classic and what is not? Sainte-Beuve says: "A classic, according to the usual definition, is an old author canonized by admiration and an authority in his particular style." We are taught that a classic is what a large number of judges agree to be good or beautiful. Doubt that. A large number may have been induced to believe it because the critics have so and because of their natural deference for anything that appears "authoritative." It is said that "distance lends enchantment to the view." This may be correctly applied to our attitude toward old writers. We have a tendency to revere whatever is old, writers not excepted. Until recent times the classical literature of America came from other and more ancient nations but of late years there is a tendency to canonize some of the American writers, especially the more remote ones.

I believe, on the whole, there is too much importance ascribed to the classics and classical writers; that some are too prone to specialize in the top story. Most people live on the ground either from necessity or from choice and for that reason it is impossible to forcibly pound mystified, complicated, lifeless and antiquated bookish culture into people unless they are attracted to it naturally and most of them are not. I believe that modern literature and modern problems find little harmony, interest or compatibility in the classics. I know there are certain elemental influences that are from everlasting to everlasting, but the classicist spoiled much of that by either making it indecent or coaching it in such a language or in such confusing and complex style or obscure and ambiguous thought that it requires an astute scholar with most nimble wit to chuck the bark from much that is classic and expose the un-
100 Seasons of Lion Athletics

- 100 Days of Giving Initiative (August 7 – November 14)
- Home Game Honors
  - All former student-athletes
  - 1950’s Tangerine Bowl Teams
  - All teams that won National Championships
  - Military
  - Hall of Fame
<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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<th>FTSE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2005</td>
<td>8,677</td>
<td>6,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2006</td>
<td>8,496</td>
<td>6,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2007</td>
<td>8,879</td>
<td>6,117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2008</td>
<td>8,787</td>
<td>6,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2009</td>
<td>9,075</td>
<td>6,187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
<td>10,280</td>
<td>6,988</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2011</td>
<td>10,726</td>
<td>7,537</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
<td>11,187</td>
<td>7,798</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
<td>11,068</td>
<td>7,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
<td>11,490</td>
<td>8,081</td>
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</table>

*Source: THECB-Accountability Report*
Fall-to-Fall Freshman Retention

*First Time/Full Time Freshman Students
**Source: Institutional Effectiveness
Students in Developmental Courses

*Source: TAMUS Data Warehouse, numbers are derived from CBM001 reports submitted to THECB by institutions*
**Six-Year Graduation Rate**

- **FY 2008**: 36.5%
- **FY 2009**: 41.6%
- **FY 2010**: 44.8%
- **FY 2011**: 42.6%
- **FY 2012**: 44.6%
- **FY 2013**: 45.2%
- **FY 2014**: 46.6%

*Source: THECB-Accountability Report*
Enrollment by Ethnicity

Fall 2000
- White: 5484
- African American: 1140
- Hispanic: 387
- Asian: 301
- International: 87
- Other: 0

Fall 2013
- White: 5948
- African American: 2227
- Hispanic: 1464
- Asian: 300
- International: 689
- Other: 440

Fall 2014
- White: 5896
- African American: 2498
- Hispanic: 1593
- Asian: 317
- International: 659
- Other: 527

*Source: THECB-Accountability Report*
# Fifth & Sixth Year Persistence Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>First Year Persistence for Cohort Entering</th>
<th>Six Year Graduation and Persistence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
<td>State Avg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>87.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>78.1%</td>
<td>80.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>83.6%</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: THECB-Accountability Report*
Top Producers of STEM Teachers in Texas

Texas A&M University  540
University of Texas at El Paso  378
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**  286
Texas State University  279
University of Texas at Austin  264
University of North Texas  230

*Source: TEA Texas Public Information Resource and THECB report*
Dr. Beverlee McClure

- Graduated from ETSU with her BBA in 1986
- Adams State University’s tenth President and first woman to lead the university
- Appointment began July 1, 2015
- Served as New Mexico’s first Cabinet Secretary of Higher Education
Dr. Bob Galvan

- Class of 1956, 1965, and 1967
- Retired from position of Assistant VP for Community & School Relations at UT Austin in 2004
- Currently working with Lions Athletics to launch a capital campaign and develop a booster club
- Created an endowment and donated WWII memorabilia to the Gee Library
Mr. James Thrower

- Class of 1970, three-sport athlete (football, basketball, and track & field)
- Went on to a five-year career in the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles and the Detroit Lions
- Served as a Loan Executive and Executive Assistant to the Board Chair of the NAACP
- Is currently President & CEO of Jamjomar, Inc. and the owner of eight McDonald’s franchises in the Detroit area
Dr. Leonard Merrell

- Graduated from ETSU with his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctorate
- Started his career at Commerce Junior High School in 1968 as a teacher and coach
- Served 22 years as Superintendent for Sulphur Springs ISD, Texas City ISD, and Katy ISD
- Named the AASA Texas State Superintendent of the year in 1998 and cited as an Alumni Ambassador of A&M-Commerce in 2000
Mr. Carl Richie

- Graduated in 1981 with a degree in Sociology & Psychology
- Served as Governor Ann Richards’ Deputy Chief of Staff
- Currently, serves as Chair of the Board of Commissioners for the Housing Authority of the City of Austin
- Positioned to become President of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials in October
SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A LION

WELCOME!
TEXAS AFFORDABLE BACCALAUREATE
CHSSA Season Poster

• Lists the principal concerts, plays, shows, and readings from the Music, Theatre, Art, and Literature & Languages departments in the 2015-2016 season

• It is available on your way out
Please join us outside for the annual Pride Walk