

2020

Bluebonnet Master
Gardener Association
Scholarship Recipients



Zane Wanjura

Animal Science – Science Option, Pre-Med

Tell us about your interests in gardening, horticulture, etc.

Horticulture is a diverse topic that can mean different things to different people. One thing for sure is that we can't live without plants; they are the source of life. When I think about horticulture, gardening is the first thing that comes to mind. I have found that there is no greater joy than seeing the “fruits” of your labor. My sister and I started our garden about five years ago. We have grown banana peppers, bell peppers, jalapenos, squash, eggplant, lettuce, and tomatoes. I have been able to learn how to cook fresh vegetables and have experimented with different recipes to make the best possible salsa from our home grown produce. A garden can teach us about nature and life cycles, it can be a therapeutic hobby, or we can even learn about a sustainable plan to feed our family. The garden has taught me so many things, but most importantly I have learned about responsibility and hard work!

What do you plan to do with your degree after college?

The medical field has held my interest since I was two years old and nothing has changed in almost sixteen years, except maybe narrowing down a specialty! My lifelong dream and ultimate goal is to become a Neurosurgeon. Agriculture will always have a place in my life. I plan to own property where I will raise cattle with my sister. Advocating for agriculture is something that I have been doing since I was 8 years old, and I plan to continue advocating for the agriculture industry. I will use my knowledge learned from getting an Animal Science degree to make sure that the agriculture industry is advocated for in the best way possible. Holding a public office has been something that has triggered my curiosity lately. A position of that nature would really allow me to promote and be loyal to agriculture since it has supported my family for generations. The world's population continues to increase and as a society we must maintain a strong system to support food production. The future of agriculture lies in the hands of those who share our agriculture story with the general public, and remind them of the value of our industry, along with the pride we take in providing food and fiber for the world.



Megan Schulze

Mathematics

Tell us about your interests in gardening, horticulture, etc.

I do not specifically have any career plans in landscaping or gardening; however it is something I would like to have as a hobby when I become older. Growing up, I always spent a lot of my time at my grandma's house in her own garden. I mainly stich to the outskirts messing around in her dill, picking up caterpillars or digging in the dirt, but being in her garden and smelling the fresh dill or feeling the warmth of the sun beating on my back was always calming to me. Nature itself is really nice, but nowadays I have a very specific interest in flowers, or more specifically floriology, or better know as flower language. If I ever take up the hobby of gardening seriously, I want to have a garden of various types of flowers so that I can make bouquets of flowers for my friends and family with specific meanings. I think it is very interesting how people have given different flowers different meanings, and I find flowers in general really beautiful to look at and fascinating by themselves. Therefore, when I am older and have the land, I think a garden of flowers would be really nice to tend to. It is a plus the nice aroma that flowers give off.

What do you plan to do with your degree after college?

After I graduate Texas A&M University, I plan on coming back to Fayette County, specifically La Grange, so that I can teach math at the local High School. I would like to help future kids understand new knowledge so that their futures are brighter.

Fayette County



Braylee Schomburg

Agribusiness

Tell us about your interests in gardening, horticulture, etc.

Living on a small farm in the country, I feel that I almost daily have my hands in something dealing with horticulture. I truly love lawn maintenance. My parents will be the first to tell you that I love to mow the yard, and no one else is allowed to touch the lawnmower. For the past 5 years at least, I have been the primary person responsible for mowing the yard and its because I love doing it. My neighbors will even joke with how nice of a job I do keeping the yard looking good. I also spend time with my mom in our flower beds to help with weeding and general care of the plants. A little over a year ago I helped my parents plant 12 new trees on our property. This has required a lot of time spent in their general care, watering them, through the dry summer months as well as fertilizing them in the fall and spring. They are all thriving and doing well, putting on new growth this spring. As a family, we also plant a vegetable garden each year. We currently have various types of tomatoes, squash, bell peppers, green beans, radish, okra, watermelon, and dill growing. It is always rewarding to pick the first crop of fresh vegetables from the garden, which of course is more fun than the weeding!

What do you plan to do with your degree after college?

I plan to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Agribusiness. This degree best combines my passion for agriculture and helping others while pursuing my entrepreneurial ambitions.

Washington County