



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

REL Top Ten 2015

Makenna Leatherwood is the valedictorian of the Robert E. Lee High School Class of 2015, with a grade point average of 5.421. Makenna is FFA president, senior class president, National Honor Society vice president, Mu Alpha Theta president and has been in the Celebrities Drill Team and REL Orchestra. She is a Team CLARITY volunteer at Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital and participates in powerlifting.

On the Distinguished Honor Roll, Makenna won 3rd place with her welding project at the Baytown Youth Fair, 4th place in Job Interview at the FFA Leadership Development Events, 3rd chair viola at All Region, 5th place in Prose Reading at UIL Regional and 7th place in Logs at the National Mu Alpha Theta competition. She received the Texas A & M University Scholarship for the Highest Ranking Senior, the Opportunity Award Scholarship, the Lechner Scholarship and the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship. Makenna also received scholarships from Goose Creek Masonic Lodge #1192, Cedar Bayou Masonic Lodge #321, Cedar Bayou Chapter #11 Order of the Eastern Star as well as being awarded the Robert E. Lee Louis A. Strobel Memorial Scholarship and the REL Coca Cola Scholarship.

In her free time, Makenna enjoys acrobatic gymnastics, coaching gymnastics, welding, playing violin and viola and powerlifting. She plans to attend Texas A & M University to major in biomedical science. Makenna is the daughter of James and Linda Leatherwood.

Salutatorian for the Class of 2015 of Robert E. Lee High School is **Catherine Young**, with a grade point average of 5.283. Catherine serves as Interact Club president, National Honor Society president, Student Council/student body vice president, Mu Alpha Theta vice president and is in the Key Club and Gander Generation. She is the varsity cheerleader captain and is a three-time NCA all American. She is a four-year varsity member of the track and field team. Selected as Student of the Week, Catherine also was Sophomore of the Year in 2013 and CAF GCW Cadet of the Year in 2013.

Catherine received scholarships from Colorado School of the Mines, Bayer "Science for a Better Life," the University of Texas – David A. Conway Memorial and Kiwanis Club of Baytown. She also was awarded the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Metropolitan Scholarship and the David A. Hall, Sr. Memorial Track and Field Scholarship.

In her free time, Catherine enjoys gymnastics, track and field and cheerleading. She will attend the University of Texas at Austin to study chemical engineering. Catherine is the daughter of Tim and Charlotte Young.

David "Brice" Ramirez is **third** in the class rank for the REL Class of 2015, with a grade point average of 4.864. He is an officer in PALs and has been on the varsity baseball team for three years, receiving All District Honorable Mention as a sophomore and junior. He is also a member of the National Honor Society. David received a

Sixth in the Class of 2015 is **Isabel Avalos**, with a grade point average of 4.681. Isabel is active in the REL Band, where she has received All State honors; College Forward and was selected as Student of the Week. She has also participated in Interact Club, UIL, and AVID. Isabel is on the Distinguished Honor Roll and received the Kadye Cooper Memorial Scholarship from Second Baptist Church in Highlands and the Baytown Chamber of Commerce Scholarship.

In her free time, Isabel likes to spend time with friends and family, read, play flute and listen to music. She plans to take her basic classes at Lee College, transferring to UTMB for a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Isabel is the daughter of Magdaleno Avalos and Maria Avalos.

Shivam Patel is **7th** in the Class of 2015, with a grade point average of 4.655. Shivam is senior class vice president, vice president of the National Honor Society and is in Interact, Key Club, baseball, golf, Gander Generation, Mu Alpha Theta, Good Sportsmanship League and AVID. On the Distinguished Honor Roll, Shivam has been Student of the Month and Interact Member of the Month. He won 4th place in UIL News writing and 1st place in Math UIL.

Shivam received the Bayer "Science for a Better Life" Scholarship, the Rotary Club of Baytown Charles White Service Above Self Scholarship and the ExxonMobil AVID Determination Scholarship. He also was awarded scholarships from the Baytown Lions Club and the Kiwanis Club of Baytown.

When he has free time, Shivam enjoys baseball, swimming, traveling, music, volleyball, football and any sport. He plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to study industrial engineering. Shivam is the son of Rashmi Patel and Briti Patel.

Nyalah Yusuf-Rivera holds the **8th** spot in the 2015 class rank, with a grade point average of 4.610. Nyalah is active in the Interact Club, Gander Generation, Celebrities Drill Team, basketball, volleyball, National Honor Society, College Forward and the National Technical Honor Society. She is on the Distinguished Honor Roll and has been selected for the Citizenship Award and as Student of the Week. She received the Montgomery G.I Bill – Army scholarship.

In her spare time, Nyalah enjoys dancing, swimming, traveling, exercising and playing sports.

She will complete basic training for the Army Reserves and study chemical engineering at a college still to be determined. Nyalah is the daughter of Annette Appleton.

Ranked **ninth** in the Class of 2015 is **Justine Batongmalaki**, with a grade point average of 4.578. Justine is active in Interact, National Honor Society and

scholarship from the College of Engineering at Lamar University, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Houston Endowment.

In his spare time, Brice enjoys bass fishing, baseball and mentoring youth. He will attend Texas A & M University to major in petroleum or mechanical engineering. Brice is the son of Mario Ramirez and Kimberly Winn.

Fourth in the class rank for the REL Class of 2015 is **Maria Ortiz**, with a grade point average of 4.794. She is active in the art program and is a member of Interact Club, National Honor Society, French Club, Gender Generation and College Forward. She was in the REL Choir her freshman and sophomore years and was selected for All Region Choir. Maria is on the Distinguished Honor Roll and has been selected as Student of the Week. She received the Pilot Club of Baytown Scholarship and a scholarship from the Baytown Lions Club.

Maria enjoys spending time with friends and family and singing. She is planning to attend the University of Houston to study chemical engineering. Maria is the daughter of Francisco and Maria Ortiz.

Tara Bevers is ranked **fifth** in the Class of 2015, with a grade point average of 4.783. She is active in the Student Council, Interact Club, Key Club, Spanish Club, REL Band, CSU as president, St. John's Youth Ministry and the National Honor Society as service projects coordinator. Tara is the student body president, head drum major and an Advanced Placement Scholar. She has also participated in cheerleading, track, debate, the Baytown Youth Advisory Commission and was sophomore class vice president. Vice president of the band her junior year, she received honors at Texas State Solo and Ensemble and was a Texas Girls State nominee.

Tara received the Lorenzo De Zavala PTSO Scholarship, the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Metropolitan Scholarship and the Rotary Club of Baytown 1st Generation to Attend College Scholarship.

In her free time, Tara enjoys playing the trumpet and the piano as well as mentoring the youth through St. John's Youth Ministry. She plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to major in biology at the College of Natural Sciences for pre-med. Tara is the daughter of Carol Bevers.

Mu Alpha Theta. She received 1st division ratings at the Orchestra Solo and Ensemble Contest her junior and senior years. Justine was a member of the 2015 award winning First Robotics Competition Team 1255, Blarglefish, that earned the Industrial Safety Award at the Alamo Regional competition and finished the World Championship in St. Louis on the 7th place alliance. She received the Freshman Honors Scholarship to UT Arlington.

In her free time, Justine enjoys reading and playing viola. She plans to attend the University of Texas Arlington to major in software engineering, Justine is the daughter of Titus and Jasmin Batongmalaki.

Janine Batongmalaki is **tenth** in the REL Class of 2015, with a grade point average of 4.576. Janine is active in Interact, National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta. Her junior and senior years, she received received 1st division ratings in Orchestra Solo and Ensemble Contest. Janine was a member of the 2015 award winning First Robotics Competition Team 1255, Blarglefish, that earned the Industrial Safety Award at the Alamo Regional competition and finished the World Championship in St. Louis on the 7th place alliance. Janine received the Outstanding Freshman Scholarship to UT Arlington and the Harlem Elementary PTO Scholarship.

When she has free time, Janine enjoys reading and playing the cello. She plans to attend the University of Texas at Arlington to study aerospace engineering or a related field in engineering. Janine is the daughter of Titus and Jasmin Batongmalaki.

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