

# **Around the State: B.H. Carroll marks 20th anniversary**

April 23, 2024

B.H. Carroll Theological Seminary marked its 20th anniversary at a gala in Frisco April 21, recounting God's promise and provision.

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# **Around the State: Student art exhibit displayed at Wayland**

April 23, 2024

Artwork created by seven Wayland Baptist University seniors will be on display April 19 to May 17 at Abraham Art Gallery.

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# **Around the State: Wayland students 'Serve Plainview'**

April 23, 2024

More than 50 Wayland Baptist University students, faculty and staff, assisted a dozen nonprofit organizations during Serve Plainview.

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## **Around the State: Thousands watch UMHB Easter Pageant**

April 23, 2024

Thousands of people viewed the reenactment of the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ at Mary Hardin-Baylor's 85th Easter Pageant.

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## **Around the State: Health science workshop set at HPU**

April 23, 2024

High school students can apply now for Howard Payne University's second annual Health Science Enrichment Workshop, scheduled June 19-21.

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## **Around the State: Bullock to**

# present lectures at Wayland

April 23, 2024

“This Old House at 415: Letters from the Family” will be the topic April 10 when Wayland Baptist University hosts the 2024 Pinson Lectures, featuring Karen Bullock.

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## Around the State: ETBU annual Women’s Summit

April 23, 2024

Texas Baptist institutions announce events, awards and acquisitions; a pastor retirement and a pastor anniversary.

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## Around the State: Five BGCT executive directors meet

April 23, 2024

Four former Baptist General Convention of Texas executive directors and their spouses—**Bill and Bobbie Pinson** (1983-1999), **Charles and Rosemary Wade** (1999-2008), **Randel and Sheila Everett** (2008-2011), and **David and Kathleen Hardage** (2011-2022)—joined the newest BGCT

executive director and spouse **Julio and Monica Guarneri** at Dallas Baptist University for a dinner hosted by the university. "I invited them to campus to honor their leadership and welcome Dr. Guarneri as the new executive director. I wanted them to be able to learn from one another, and consequently, I wanted to learn from them as well. It was a very special time," DBU President **Adam Wright** said. The dinner in the Hillcrest Great Hall on the DBU campus was to commemorate Guarneri's appointment as the new executive director, while also celebrating the past, present and future of Texas Baptists as the Lord continues to guide the work of the BGCT. The dinner also was hosted to thank Texas Baptists for how much they continue to do for DBU and for God's kingdom partnership between the two organizations.



Marek-Smith Center ribbon cutting March 1  
(UMHB image)

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor celebrated the dedication of the Marek-Smith Center for Teacher Preparation with a special ceremony and ribbon cutting March 1. "This amazing and beautiful building is another game changer for UMHB. It raises the bar for teacher education and reflects our commitment to offer exceptional academic programs," said

UMHB President **Randy O'Rear**. During his remarks, O'Rear explained the facility's name honors the special relationship between [Evan Smith](#) and [Logan Marek](#). "Logan is ... a remarkable young man. He is generous. You will notice his name on the donor wall inside. He used his own hard-earned money to support this project because he wanted to make a gift to honor his friendship with Evan," O'Rear said.

Nine Houston Christian University students in a cross-cultural counseling course are providing counseling to 20 individuals in Nepal and Egypt. Students are working with clients, many of whom are refugees or victims of human trafficking, in one-on-one or group meetings through video calls and instant-messaging apps with the help of a translator. "Students are learning how to work with clients with diverse backgrounds and are researching the countries their clients are from to better understand and help them," said **Andrea Johnson**, assistant professor of counseling at HCU. In this counseling internship, HCU students are gaining diverse experiences in a multicultural setting and witnessing the impact their profession has on the growth and healing of the clients they serve. "This course gives students the opportunity to be living disciples for Christ in their profession, which is their mission work," said Johnson.



Texas Ranger and World Series Champion

Nathaniel Lowe speaks with DBU's Associate Director of Athletics for Media Relations Reagan Ratcliff at the 32nd Annual Patriot Baseball Banquet on February 9. (DBU photo)

Dallas Baptist University hosted the 32nd Annual Patriot Baseball Banquet on February 9. Current Texas Ranger and World Series Champion Nathaniel Lowe headlined the event. He was joined on stage and interviewed by DBU's Associate Director of Athletics for Media Relations **Reagan Ratcliff**. "This is bigger than what you guys do on the mound; it's bigger than what you do in the field or the batter's box. It's about who you are as people. Your identity is not found in what you do, but your identity is in Christ," Lowe said. Ratcliff asked him about how it felt to be a part of the Texas Ranger's incredible 2023 season and their World Series Championship victory. Lowe explained their victory is not an end point, but rather a brief highlight during their careers, and they will continue to work hard. "We are bigger than our jobs. It's cool to win, but there is a whole lot more to life than winning and losing," Lowe said. He closed by imparting some advice to the Patriots, "Make the most of your time here because it doesn't last forever. You are going to be a former player a lot longer than you are a current player. So, go out there and enjoy it, make the most of it, and leave everything on the field."



ETBU 2024 Good Samaritan Award recipient T. Whitfield Davidson Foundation (ETBU photo)

East Texas Baptist University recognized the Thomas Whitfield Davidson Foundation as the 2024 ETBU Good Samaritan Award recipient on Feb. 27. Inspired by the parable in Luke 10:25-37, the Good Samaritan Award and ETBU Scholarship Banquet celebrates individuals and organizations who exemplify the spirit of “loving your neighbor as yourself.” The T. Whitfield Davidson Foundation was established through the legacy of former Chief Judge of the Northern District of Texas Thomas Whitfield Davidson. Hailing from Marshall, Judge Davidson’s foundation consistently demonstrates remarkable generosity, providing vital support to nonprofit organizations in Marshall and Harrison County. The T. Whitfield Davidson Foundation has been instrumental in supporting countless ETBU students through scholarships, ensuring access to transformative educational opportunities.

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# Around the State: Baylor groundbreaking for Memorial to Enslaved Persons

April 23, 2024

News briefs about churches, schools and other organizations affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

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# Around the State: Baylor BSM building campaign progressing

April 23, 2024

The building campaign to raise the initial \$3 million toward a new Baptist Student Ministry center on the Baylor University campus has passed the halfway mark, Texas Baptist Missions Foundation President **Jerry Carlisle** reported to the Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board. So far, more than \$1.7 million has been given or pledged toward the project. Once the foundation has received gifts and pledges totaling \$3 million, Baylor University will legally convey property at the corner of 4th Street and Daughtrey Avenue in Waco to Texas Baptists. After the initial goal is met, the foundation will continue to raise the additional \$4 million needed to complete construction of the facility. For more information, [click here](#).

Dallas Baptist University appointed **Jeremiah J. Johnston** as senior fellow for Christian origins in its Institute for Global Engagement. Johnston is

president of the international Christian Thinkers Society, the author of 15 books and host of a podcast. He completed his doctoral residency in Oxford in collaboration with Oxford Centre for Missions Studies and received his Ph.D. from Middlesex University in the United Kingdom. He also earned advanced degrees in theology from Acadia University and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. His role at DBU will include editing an upcoming academic journal housed within the Institute for Global Engagement, expanding the reach of the university and engaging with students through speaking at chapel, lecturing and teaching courses.

Houston Christian University announced plans to launch a [Master of Science in Leadership](#) program in fall 2024, pending approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Offered through HCU's online division, the new advanced degree is designed to teach leadership skills in alignment with Christian values and prepare individuals for effective leadership in a diverse range of industries and organizations. The 30-credit hour program helps students develop strategic thinking, influential communication, organizational behavior, ethical judgment and a global mindset. "The challenges that the students will face are many, but we hope that by being principled and taught strong Christian leadership values, their leadership will shine in the marketplace," said **Mike Rome**, dean of the Archie W. Dunham College of Business at HCU.



Students pray for the recipients of

hygiene kits they prepared during a Congreso Experience at East Texas Baptist University. (ETBU Photo)

Baptist University of the Américas will host a Congreso Experience on March 2 in partnership with Texas Baptists. Other recent Congreso Experiences at Wayland Baptist University and East Texas Baptist University offered opportunities for local Hispanic youth to meet current university students, tour the campus and engage with each other through discussions, worship and community service. During the event at ETBU, for example, students assembled hygiene kits Texas Baptists' River Ministry will distribute along the Texas-Mexico border.

The Howard Payne University Alumni Association Virtual 5K is scheduled March 23. Individuals can participate by running or walking from anywhere. Last year, more than 100 individuals participated from 25 cities and four states. Brownwood-area residents are invited to the HPU campus to participate in person. Registration for the 5K is \$40 per adult and \$10 per student. A portion of the registration will be used to support HPU student-focused events and scholarships. Registration is open until March 6. Each participant will receive a race packet, which includes a t-shirt and race bib. Participants are encouraged to submit their race times to the alumni relations office March 23, and the top three finishing times will receive prizes. To register for the Virtual 5K or sign up as a sponsor, visit [hputx.edu/alumni/hpu-virtual-5k/](http://hputx.edu/alumni/hpu-virtual-5k/) or contact the HPU alumni relations office at [alumni@hputx.edu](mailto:alumni@hputx.edu) or (325) 649-8007.



(File Photo/Baylor Marketing and Communications)

Baylor University will host the 2024 Collegiate Day of Prayer at 7 p.m. on Feb. 29. The Collegiate Day of Prayer is an evening worship and prayer service focused on college-aged students. The event—promoted internationally—will originate from Waco Hall on the Baylor campus. The livestream will be available on the [Baylor Facebook page](#), its [YouTube channel](#) and the Collegiate Day of Prayer [website](#).

First Baptist Church in China Spring will host a [First Blessing](#) event from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on March 23. [First Blessing](#) is a ministry that enables churches to provide shoes for schoolchildren. Church volunteers interact with families seeking shoes, escorting the parents through the process as their children are properly fitted for shoes and allowed to select a pair of their choosing.

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## **Around the State: Baylor named a Fulbright Top Producing**

# Institution

April 23, 2024

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs recognized Baylor University as one of the colleges and universities with the highest number of students selected for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

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## **Around the State: Buckner secures North Houston property for campus**

April 23, 2024

Buckner Children and Family Services completed the purchase of a \$5.2 million property in North Houston. Relocation of the Buckner Family Hope Center at Aldine to the new campus is planned for late summer or fall of 2024.