



CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE COMMUNICATION

MEETING DATE: 05/21/2024

PRESENTER: Council Member Junior Ezeonu and Mayor Ron Jensen

TITLE: Certificate of Recognition - Paula T. Owonikoko of Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy for earning the Bobby Bragan Scholarship

REVIEWING COMMITTEE:

SUMMARY:

The scholarship requires a well written essay that reflects the writer's personality and experiences. Miss Paula T. Owonikoko of Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy was the sole recipient of this scholarship in Grand Prairie ISD. She holds a 98-grade average and volunteers in many community service projects. She is one of twenty-five 2024 Scholarship recipients who earned the \$2500 Bobby Bragan Scholarship. More than 37,000 eighth grade students from 150 public schools representing 22 school districts from across the North Texas area were offered the opportunity to apply.

The mission of the foundation is to support, encourage, and motivate eighth grade students to become outstanding scholars, citizens, and athletes, and to serve as leaders and role models for their peers. Bobby Bragan is a baseball legend. Prior to his passing in 2010, he was the CEO/Chairman of the Bobby Bragan Youth Foundation, which provides college scholarships to students from public schools across the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex. The scholarships are redeemed once the recipient has graduated from high school and enrolled in college. The foundation has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships to over 800 students since 1992.

Bobby Bragan is genius to begin this opportunity for 8th grade students. This gives students seeking post-secondary education an opportunity to financially prepare for college, improve their writing skills, and provides them exposure to seeking for scholarship opportunities prior to their senior year when it is at its peak competition.