LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

The Nancy Ann and Ray L. Hunt Leadership Scholars Program draws outstanding students who have an impressive mix of high academic achievement and proven leadership capabilities. The program combines intellectual rigor and unique opportunities to nurture leadership and learning. Selected students immediately become part of a close-knit community of peers and faculty committed to excellence, leadership and academic development. These exceptional student leaders from all walks of life apply their leadership skills to enrich the SMU campus and beyond, becoming tomorrow’s visionaries with a global perspective.

THE AWARD

Students selected as Hunt Leadership Scholars for the Class of 2023 will receive an annual Hunt Scholarship of $42,000, or a total of $168,000 over four years.

- Hunt Scholars may also be eligible for additional departmental scholarships or need-based aid for a total scholarship package valued up to the cost of tuition and fees.
- The award also covers the airfare and tuition costs for a cohort-based study abroad program during May term following each scholar’s sophomore year.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

The SMU community is large and diverse enough to offer hundreds of organizations with different missions and small enough to permit students to assume meaningful leadership roles from the start. During each year of their SMU education, Hunt Leadership Scholars engage actively in the SMU community, honing their leadership skills and assuming leadership positions with increasing responsibility.
HOW TO APPLY
• In addition to submitting an application for admission to SMU, submit an online Hunt Leadership Scholarship application, including an essay and a YouTube statement, by January 15 of your senior year. Visit smu.edu/huntapply to submit the online application and supporting materials.
• Submitting a YouTube statement enables the selection committee to gain a deeper understanding of your personality and the qualities that make you an effective leader. Focus on the content of your response, not on the quality of the video. We care about what you say – not the appearance of the video!
• The selection committee will have access to your full application for admission, including letters of recommendation. If you believe that your existing letters of recommendation do not address your leadership skills and abilities, you may submit an additional letter from an individual with whom you have worked directly while serving in a leadership capacity.

TIMELINE AND SELECTION PROCESS
• The program attracts hundreds of applicants.
• Approximately 60 finalists are invited to interview at SMU in March.
• Each year about 20-25 first-year students are selected as Hunt Leadership Scholars.
• Scholarship recipients are notified by the first week of April.

READY TO APPLY?
APPLY NOW to SMU and submit the Hunt Leadership Scholars application. Apply online at smu.edu/apply and complete the additional items at smu.edu/huntapply.

HUNT SCHOLARS
The 2018–19 Hunt Leadership Scholars, first year through senior, cut a wide swath through the country, with 95 students coming from more than 80 high schools nationwide. They:
• are strong and effective leaders in SMU campus governing bodies and student organizations
• engage actively in the SMU and Dallas community
• learn from some of the best professors in the nation
• meet and interact with national and international leaders
• refine skills that allow them to compete successfully in a rapidly changing world
• apply their intellectual abilities to leadership and community participation
• cross the globe through SMU’s study abroad programs and SMU’s affiliation with the George W. Bush Presidential Center

BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS AND LEADERS
Hunt Leadership Scholars have access to a variety of opportunities that help build connections across campus.
• annual retreat at SMU-in-Taos, SMU’s 423-acre campus in Taos, New Mexico
• first-year leadership seminar to develop leadership skills and personal growth
• sophomore study abroad program
• annual dinner and Tate lecture with Mr. and Mrs. Hunt
• dinners and other social gatherings with program mentors
• leadership lectures and service projects to nurture personal development and skill-building

The Hunt Scholars network extends well beyond students’ four years on campus. A vibrant alumni community helps to facilitate networking opportunities for the scholars, including company visits like this one to Southwest Airlines headquarters, organized by two Hunt Scholars alumni.

Hunt Scholars enjoy unique access to the Tate Lecture series on campus. Here, the students speak with General David Petraeus before his Tate Lecture, where General Petraeus offered the students advice on leadership and success.