

Malcolm Helm Scholarship Winner

Britni Dunn, 2009 recipient



Being born into a very musical family with many music teachers and performers in her ancestry, it is no surprise, to anyone that knows Britni Dunn that she is in the field of music education. Her great-grandfather majored in music. Her grandfather majored in music, owned a music store, had a professional big band career, and taught music for many years. Her great-grandmother gave her final piano concert when she was 87 years old. Her mother majored in music, plays principle flute with the local symphony and has been teaching piano and flute students for 33 years. Her grandmother has been a piano teacher for 42 years. Two of her uncles majored in music. One of her uncles teaches piano at Berklee College of Music in Boston and is an internationally known jazz pianist. One uncle owns a piano store in Florida. Her sister is a flute performance major at Texas State and her brother is a professional drummer. So you can see, it would be more of a surprise if Britni DIDN'T have the desire to major in music.

Britni Dunn is beginning her senior year as a music education student at Texas State University – San Marcos and will graduate with her degree in May 2010. While there she has been a member of the Wind Ensemble playing clarinet for the past six semesters and was co-principal for the past three under the direction of Dr. Rodney Schueller. She was a member of the Bobcat Marching Band for three years, acting as clarinet section leader in 2007, and she was one of the Texas State Bobcat Marching Band Drum Majors in 2008 under the direction of Dr. Caroline Beatty. Britni has also recently become inducted as a member of Pi Kappa Lambda music honor society and received the Presser Foundation Scholarship for the Texas State School of Music. She also was chosen to represent the Who's Who among Colleges and Universities at Texas State 2009, and this past semester, was nominated for the upper-level Presidential Scholarship. While in college Britni has taught clarinet privately at several surrounding school districts, judged at region competitions, and given several clarinet master classes.

When not teaching clarinet, she has enjoyed teaching swim lessons as a Red Cross water safety instructor, and lifeguarding for the past four summers. She loves to make music with her younger sister Briana and older brother Brian. Also, she would like to thank her family and especially her parents, Barry and Audry Dunn, for everything she has achieved, because without their continual love and support she would not be where she is today.

The Scholarship

To honor the memory of Malcolm Helm in 1993, the Texas Bandmasters Association's Executive Board established the Malcolm Helm Memorial Endowed Scholarship to be supported by an endowment funded by donations from friends and colleagues. The recipients of this scholarship are outstanding undergraduate wind or percussion players who are majoring in music education at a Texas public or private college or university. Tax-deductible donations of any amount to the Malcolm Helm Endowed Scholarship Fund are invited and welcomed. During a time of escalating costs in higher education, TBA has the opportunity as an association to assist talented, promising college students as they prepare for the teaching profession. For those wishing to make a donation, simply send your check or money order to Texas Bandmasters Association, 14501 Blanco Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78216.