

# Malcolm Helm Scholarship Winner

The TBA Board of Directors congratulates Christina Oaks as the recipient of the 2013 Malcolm Helm Memorial Endowed Scholarship.

Christina Oaks is a student at Texas Tech University pursuing bachelor's degrees in music. Her primary concentrations are in music education and flute performance. Prior to her studies at Texas Tech, Christina attended Cooper High School in Abilene. During her four years there, Christina was actively involved in a variety of musical activities and achieved a high level of academics. She was a four-year member of the top wind ensemble at Cooper, a four-year member of the All-Region Band, a two-year member of the All-Region Orchestra, and advanced to the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition four years consecutively. Her junior year, she received first place at the Abilene Philharmonic Young Artist Scholarship Competition, a contest involving young musicians throughout the Big Country area. Christina fulfilled various leadership roles for the band such

as flute section leader, drum major, and principal flutist of the wind ensemble. Academically, Christina excelled in various areas. She was one of the top 25 graduates of her



class, a member of the National Honor Society for three years, became a member of the 1800 Club due to her SAT test scores, and was recognized as an AP Scholar.

At Texas Tech, Christina has continued her trend of high academic achievements. She has consistently been listed on either the Dean's List or President's list each semester and was inducted

into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society. Her musical involvement has flourished throughout her collegiate experience as well. Christina has been a member of the Texas Tech flute choir, the Goin' Band from Raiderland, the Symphonic Band, and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. She has had the opportunity to serve in numerous leadership positions for the Goin' Band including visual instructor, piccolo section leader, vice president, assistant drum major, and is currently one of the head drum majors. In addition, she has taken an active educational role by serving as a flute instructor and marching technician in various schools in the Lubbock area.

Christina will graduate in May 2014. Upon graduation, Christina wishes to become a band director at either the middle or high school level as well as maintain an active private flute studio. Her ultimate desire is to reach and teach students in order to allow them to have a deeper love for and better understanding of music.

*Malcolm Helm was a friend and colleague to many band directors and students. Long after becoming ill, he continued to serve his beloved profession tirelessly with the same uncompromising commitment to service and excellence exhibited throughout an illustrious 23-year career. To honor his memory, 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, 1002 Central Parkway South, San Antonio, Texas 78232. There is an acknowledgement form available to honor someone with your donation on a birthday, anniversary, holiday, or just to say a special thank you. For information on how to apply for the Malcolm Helm scholarship, visit the TBA web site [www.texasbandmasters.org](http://www.texasbandmasters.org).*