

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
**12 UNDER 12**  
*Young Alumni Spotlight*

# STRIVING, SUCCEEDING & SERVING

## MEET 12 YOUNG AGGIES WITH AMBITION AND PROMISE

The 12 Under 12 Young Alumni Spotlight gives The Association of Former Students the opportunity to recognize 12 Aggies who have graduated within the past 12 years for their business accomplishments, civic or military service, philanthropic efforts, and outstanding representation of Texas A&M University's core values of excellence, integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect and selfless service. The 12 Under 12 Young Alumni Spotlight was an idea developed by the Young Alumni Advisory Council, a group of former students selected to advise The Association's staff in their efforts to connect with Aggies in the

younger demographic.

The 2018 honorees featured here are making strides in education, entrepreneurship, government, law, medicine, engineering, business and the military. They are outstanding leaders in their communities who all point to their journeys as students at Texas A&M as key influences in setting the trajectory of their career paths, whether through education opportunities, faith encounters or building values.

We are proud to share the accomplishments of these fine young men and women and congratulate these Aggies for their representation of the Aggie Spirit in their endeavors.

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To read about previously recognized honorees or to submit a nomination on behalf of a deserving Aggie for the 2019 12 Under 12 Young Alumni Spotlight, visit [tx.ag/12u12](http://tx.ag/12u12).



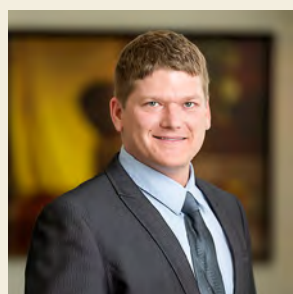
### MARCELLA BURKE '04

Burke has accepted an appointment to work in Washington, D.C., as deputy general counsel at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In her prior role as an attorney at Akin Gump, Burke did pro bono work for the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund with a focus on representing military families in need of health care for children with special needs. Burke was named the 2017 Outstanding Young Lawyer by the Houston Young Lawyers Association. A winner of the Buck Weirus Spirit Award, Burke says she learned at A&M that everything you're given is not just for you to keep but to pass on to others. She now consistently spends time mentoring students in high school, college and law school. She is a Bronze level member of The Association's Century Club.

Burke's nominators say she "is passionate about contributing to her community, and she uses her platform as an attorney to serve the profession and community at large."

### JAMES C. JONES '05

Jones is senior vice president at Jones & Carter, Inc. He was named Young Engineer of the Year in 2016 by the Greater Houston Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. Jones serves on the Zachry Department of Civil Engineering Advisory Council and coordinates events for the department, including summer survey camp, tailgates for both current and former students, and Professional Day, connecting students to industry representatives and potential employers. Shortly after graduating, Jones endowed a scholarship for the civil engineering department, and he returns to campus often as a guest speaker and to mentor his scholarship recipients. He is a Diamond level member of The Association's Century Club, a past president of the Young Professional Association of the Petroleum Club of Houston and a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo volunteer. His recommenders say Jones is a "leader in philanthropy for his generation" and a proven person of integrity.



### KEVIN LANAN '05

The engineer responsible for designing equipment that was used to stop 2010's Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, Lanan is an area manager at BP in Denver, Colo. He received the international Tallow Chandlers award in 2010 for inventing and delivering the system used on the Deepwater Horizon spill. Described by his recommenders as possessing "a rare mix of engineering acumen and emotional intelligence," Lanan has published domestic and international papers on his patented engineering designs. He served as a co-chair on the steering committee in 2017 for the Colorado Oil and Gas Association's Energy Summit and on the professional advisory board for the Fort Lewis College Department of Engineering and Physics. Lanan, a

Bronze level member of The Association's Century Club, says the integrity of the student body drew him to become an Aggie and it was at A&M that he learned to do the right thing, even when it's not the easiest thing.

### LEO LOPEZ III '11

Lopez is a physician, scientist and journalist, specializing in health disparities in vulnerable communities. He was named 2017 National Hispanic Resident Physician of the Year by the National Hispanic Medical Association. As CEO of El Renovatio Films L.L.C., Lopez has produced documentaries on health care policy and human rights in the Middle East, Japan and U.S. Lopez presented his research in global health ethics at the World Congress of Clinical Safety in Rome and has delivered talks at TEDxSan Antonio and TEDxTAMU. Lopez volunteers to provide free health care services for homeless families each Sunday and says it was through the Aggie Spirit he learned to cherish and devote himself to service. As he attempts to equate the word "physician" with the word "service," Lopez says it is a value that he carries with him every day. Lopez's recommender said, "I truly believe that he dedicates himself every day to the service of others."





### **KELLY DAVIS BAYLAN '05, M.D.**

Baylan is president of Baylan Wellness and a psychiatrist at the U.S. Army's Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Hood, specializing in treating and assisting service members who have physical and mental health conditions that have interrupted their military careers. She prides herself on treating the soldiers with the dignity and respect they so richly deserve and not by the ailment or issue on their medical chart. During residency, she was recognized with many teaching and performance awards, including the 2014 Outstanding Psychiatry Resident at the VA Hospital. Baylan's recommenders say, "Her impeccable character, professional excellence and compassion for others in need truly set her apart."

Baylan, a Bronze level member of The Association's Century Club, works with Hope Happens, a suicide prevention organization in Central Texas, and volunteers for many community causes including the Junior League of Bell County, animal rescue and providing meals for youth through her church.

### **MIKE PARROTT '07**

Parrott is a company commander in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, an associate director of investment banking at Chicago-based Livingstone Partners and an emerging media executive. He has served with active and reserve mounted and ground reconnaissance, infantry and aviation units, completing combat tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Parrott has advised business owners on nearly \$3 billion in mergers and acquisitions and capital markets transactions, and is chief financial officer of Novo Media Group. Parrott also led the financing of education and outreach programs for young mothers at a crisis pregnancy center. Parrott says he became an Aggie after participating in the Spend the Night with the Corps program, and he remains an active ambassador and avid recruiter for the Corps of Cadets. Parrott's recommenders said they were "impressed by his honesty, work ethic and unvarnished candor" and recognized his "enthusiasm, energy and raw leadership."



### **MARCOS ROSALES '05**



Rosales is senior vice president and general counsel for The Adam Corporation/Group and American Momentum Bank. He serves on the board of directors of the Houston Urban Debate League and is a fellow with the Texas Bar Foundation. Rosales completed a master's degree in public administration at Harvard University in 2010 and earned his juris doctor degree from Stanford Law School, where he received the Gerald Gunther Prize for Outstanding Performance in Constitutional Litigation and Corporations. His recommenders say, "He is a leader, a selfless servant above all," with a strong desire and willingness to serve and to give back. Rosales has served as a guest speaker for Subiendo: The Academy for Rising Leaders, has provided pro bono services for Veterans Legal Initiative through Houston Volunteer Lawyers and has mentored pre-law students on campus. Rosales is a representative at large on The Association's Leadership Council, a Diamond level member of The Association's Century Club and an active member of the Brazos County A&M Club.

### **NATE SNOW '07**

Snow is the executive director of Teach for America in Connecticut and serves on Teach For America's national executive leadership team, impacting over 10,000 students in high-need classrooms across the state. He was appointed by Connecticut's governor to serve on both the Connecticut Commission for Community Service and the Connecticut Educator Preparation Advisory Council. Snow founded Excel Bridgeport and spent five years leading change for public education by expanding educational opportunities in low-income communities through increasing family involvement. Snow received the Diversity Leadership Award from the Urban League of Southern Connecticut in 2016 and the Kennedy Legacy Award for Young Professional in Public Service in 2011. Snow is a Bronze level member of The Association's Century Club and his recommenders say he has proved himself as "an inspiring leader, true collaborative problem-solver and fearless champion of educational equity."





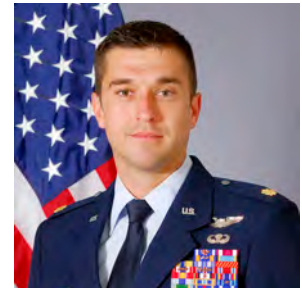
### **BRANDON COLEMAN '05**

Coleman is president of Del Frisco's Grille brand at Del Frisco's Restaurant Group. He was named one of the Top 14 Marketers in Dallas by Agencyspotter.com and recognized in Advertising Age's "Top 40 Under 40." Coleman has provided counsel on more than 50 brands over seven industries and has led scores of marketing teams throughout the hospitality industry. He has been involved in philanthropic partnerships benefiting causes including No Kid Hungry, Camp Twin Lakes and breast cancer awareness, and most recently campaigned to raise more than \$800,000 for Houston-area food banks after Hurricane Harvey. Coleman says the core values of Texas A&M are an integral part of his character that have influenced his professional, personal and philanthropic endeavors.

He is a Bronze level member of The Association's Century Club. Coleman was commended by his nominators for his approachable demeanor as a mentor, unwavering core values, and genuine desire to better the world around him.

### **AARON CAVAZOS '05**

Cavazos is a lieutenant colonel (select) in the United States Air Force and served as one of the chief F-35 instructor pilots at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. He also served as a chief instructor pilot in the A-10, flying two tours in Operation Enduring Freedom, where he was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, including one with valor for his role during an air-to-ground support in October 2008 that resulted in saving the lives of six Marines. Cavazos has been an air advisor for Colombia and Canada's defense departments and was a pilot for the Kyle Field flyover at the A&M vs. Florida game in 2012. Cavazos, a Bronze level member of The Association's Century Club, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural development and holds a graduate certificate in advanced international affairs from the Bush School of Government and Public Service. He is now pursuing a master's degree in international public policy as an Air Force Chief of Staff Scholars Fellow at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C.



### **SAMANTHA LISCHKA '12**

Lischka is founder of Modern Burlap, a successful children's lifestyle brand that is represented at more than 900 retailers around the world, including major national retailers such as Nordstrom and Magnolia Market. Lischka's products have been featured in Pregnancy & Newborn magazine, People magazine and InTouch magazine. Her faith-based business regularly donates a portion of its proceeds to charitable causes including St. Jude's, Morning Star Project, CHD awareness, and others. In September, she designed a special "Swaddle For A Cause," raising \$2,000 for Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. Lischka's recommenders say she is "honest, dependable and incredibly hard-working," and leads by example in her home, community and business. Lischka, a Silver level member of

The Association's Century Club, says the listening, communication and leadership skills she developed as a Fish Camp counselor at Texas A&M have carried over into every aspect of her life.

### **JORDY MOORMAN '06**

Moorman is president of TimeClock Plus, a leader in cloud-based workforce management solutions and recently named by Fortune magazine as a Top 100 Best Place to Work among medium-size U.S. businesses. Under his leadership, the company has grown to include more than 300 employees and has been recognized with the City of San Angelo Economic Development Award, was named by CIO Review as one of the 50 Most Promising Education Solution Providers, and was voted San Angelo's Best Place to Work in 2016. Moorman is described by his recommenders as "fearless in his leadership," acting with "the perfect mix of confidence and humility." Moorman serves on the leadership council for the National Association of Small Business in Washington, D.C., is an advisory board member for the Laura Bush Institute for Women's Health, and coaches local youth sports. Moorman is a Double Diamond level member of The Association's Century Club and earned his MBA at Angelo State University.

