

**DIOCESE OF DALLAS**

## Scholarship applications open to students

**SUBMITTED STORY**

In 2004, an automobile accident took the life of 21-year-old Rebekah Leah Rivera, whose strong civic awareness and deep spiritual beliefs contributed to her life of loving aid to church and community.



Rebekah Rivera

Rebekah, a 1997 graduate of Mary Immaculate Catholic School in Farmers Branch, believed in serving others — and a foundation established in her name continues to assist students from Rebekah's faith communities who best demonstrate that they use their God-given gifts and talents to serve others.

Eighth-grade Catholic students whose families are parishioners at any of the 75 plus Catholic churches within the Diocese of Dallas can apply for a \$500 High School Spirit of Love Scholarship.

High school seniors whose families are parishioners within the Diocese of Dallas can apply for a \$2,500 College Spirit of Love Scholarship. To be eligible for the scholarship, the student must offer proof of community service, provide a written essay and present at least one recommendation letter before the Feb. 25 deadline. Students are not required to attend a Catholic high school to be eligible.

More than \$40,000 has been awarded through scholarships since 2005.

Rebekah's mother, Rina Rivera, said the foundation supports the development of young Catholic leaders who are working to make the world a better place to live.

"Our scholarship recipients have the kind of spirit and fire that makes a difference in many people's lives," she said. "We are just acknowledging them and affirming them on their journey. We are helping them monetarily to continue doing what they are doing now, and investing in their future."

For full details and the application form, [rebekahleahrivera.org](http://rebekahleahrivera.org).

*Rosemary Martinez submitted information for this story and contributes to neighborsgo on behalf of Mary Immaculate Catholic School.*



**MARCY APPLEBAUM, NORTH DALLAS**

**School and grade:** Parish Episcopal School, senior. Plan to attend Tulane University and major in business

**Community and school activities:** co-president of Community Service Leadership Board, active member in B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, student ambassador, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, volunteer with DKMS, part-time employee at Swoozie's, cross country

**My hobbies are:** hanging with friends, trying new restaurants and exploring Dallas

**The three words people use to describe me are:** reliable, thoughtful and diligent

**I'm most proud of:** my family

**My favorite school subject is:** math

**If I could change one thing about my school, it would be:** to have a shorter school email address

**The two people I'd most like to meet are:** Maya Angelou and Blake Lively

**The best book I ever read was:** *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

**I get inspiration from:** Pinterest

**My favorite musical artist is:** Jason Mraz

**I wish I knew how to:** blow a bubble out of bubble gum

**The best advice I ever received was:** everything happens for a reason

**If I could travel anywhere, I would go:** San Sebastian, Spain

**Nobody knows I:** want to visit all 50 states before I die

*Know outstanding high school students? Email their names and contact information to [goodkid@neighborsgo.com](mailto:goodkid@neighborsgo.com) or visit [neighborsgo.com/goodkid](http://neighborsgo.com/goodkid) for details on how to get them in print.*

**SUN RAY CHINESE SCHOOL**

## Beating the competition

**First-place winners** in the recent Sun Ray Math Competition show off their trophies at Sun Ray Chinese School in Carrollton. More than 500 kindergarten through 10th-grade students participated in the math competition, and more than 150 first-through eighth-grade students competed in the 2012 North Texas Youth Spelling Bee held at the school.



Photo submitted by ROGER HUNG

### PETS OF THE WEEK



**SASHA**

**Age/sex:** 2-year-old female  
**Breed:** border collie/chow mix  
 Sasha is regal and attentive with a calm, quiet demeanor. She likes to stay in close proximity of people. She walks like a pro on a leash and takes instruction well. She will be a great companion for the large-dog lover, and would benefit from having a large yard to get plenty of exercise.



**LANIE**

**Age/sex:** 3-year-old female  
**Breed:** striped tabby  
 Lanie is a shy, sweet girl, who responds well to petting and a soothing voice. She will be a great companion to a patient owner once she gets used to her new surroundings and has a steady, comfortable routine to follow.

*The Farmers Branch Animal Adoption Center is located at 3727 Valley View Lane. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Adoption fees are \$85, which includes sterilization, shots, testing and 30 days of pet insurance. For more information, call 972-919-8770.*