Atascocita High School senior wins journalism award and $1,000 scholarship

Megan Jenkins, AHS Talon staff writer and senior recently won the Korva Coleman Excellence Award, a national award named after the NPR reporter. This award recognizes outstanding media pieces produced by students. "I was in awe when I found out I won the Korva Coleman award. I couldn't believe it at first and I think I'm still processing it," says Megan. Categories included online print, video and audio. Megan was the national winner in the print category for her "Danger Behind the Wheel" story.

Monica Rhor, AHS Journalism/Yearbook Adviser says, "Megan is a journalism teacher's dream: a talented writer who also is a dogged, yet compassionate reporter -- and who always meets deadline. As a Talon staffer, Megan has handled a wide range of stories, from feature profiles to news stories about the growth of AP classes and changes in the SAT. The story that won the Korva Coleman award is an example of Megan at her best. A challenging piece about the dangers of reckless driving, it required in-depth reporting and sensitive interviews with the families and friends of accident victims. Megan handled it with great heart and with great skill. I could not be prouder of her."

Only three students from across the country receive this award. Megan explains, "Winning the Korva Coleman award is such an honor. I couldn't have done this without the support and encouragement of my adviser and fellow staff members."

In addition to her award Megan won a $1,000 scholarship and a paid trip to Phoenix, Arizona for the award ceremony. Sadly Megan will not be in attendance because the award ceremony falls during the week of finals. In the fall Megan plans to attend either University of North Texas or University of Texas at Dallas where she will continue her passion for writing and reporting. You can read Megan's award winning story here: ahstalon.com/showcase/2014/03/25/shattered-dreams-package/