



Kelly Smith Memorial Scholarship

1/20/2026

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Kingston Decker

Dear Scholarship Committee,

It is my pleasure to recommend Kingston Decker for The Kelly Smith Memorial Scholarship. I have known Kingston for more than sixteen years and have had the opportunity to watch him grow into a mature, respectful, and hardworking young man who genuinely cares about others.

Kingston grew up in Helotes, Texas, where he learned the importance of responsibility and hard work through his involvement in agriculture and community service. He has volunteered with Scholars and Athletes Serving Others (SASO), often alongside his mother, making volunteer work a family effort. Through this experience, Kingston attended personal growth meetings on etiquette, CPR, life-saving techniques, and college preparation. More importantly, he learned the value of being there for people when they need support the most. These lessons shaped his character and helped him develop a strong sense of service and loyalty to his community.

Kingston also volunteers with his mother, who teaches at Kuentz Elementary School in Helotes. Through the Panther PALS program, he mentors fifth grade students and helps with school events, always willing to lend a hand wherever needed. His example and calm approach make him a positive role model for younger students.

In addition to his community involvement, Kingston is a dedicated member of the Agriculture Science and Technology Academy (ASTA). In ninth grade he raised broiler chickens, and in eleventh grade he raised egg layers, which inspired him to start his own small business called King's Layers. Through this venture and using his technology background, Kingston learned how to manage daily operations, handle expenses, and care for animals. What sets him apart is how he used his business to give back. He donates fresh eggs to local events, neighbors, and to fire and police departments through his Kingston's Kindness Campaign, showing his commitment to serving others.

He also hosts the annual Chicken Pickers Breakfast at his home for ASTA students who raise broilers and compete at the Gerlach Agricultural Auditorium. These experiences have taught Kingston responsibility, respect, discipline, and what it takes to run a small business with purpose.

Outside of academics and agriculture, Kingston has played basketball since the age of five, competing in both AAU and varsity teams. Sports have taught him teamwork, leadership, and the value of steady effort over time. He has also been a member of the National Honor Society since middle school, which has guided his belief that integrity is something you live by every day.

Through his involvement in agriculture, community service, running a business, and athletics, Kingston has become a well-rounded individual who leads with compassion and humility. His

actions consistently reflect values that align with the spirit of The Kelly Smith Memorial Scholarship— leadership, respect, service, and integrity.

Kingston comes from a family that is deeply respected in our community for their kindness and commitment to helping others. I am confident that he will continue to make a positive difference wherever he goes. I fully support his recommendation and sincerely encourage the scholarship committee to support Kingston as he takes the next meaningful step toward a bright and promising future in his education.

Sincerely,

Zaragoza Ramos

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