Press Release - January 19, 2023

J-100 AFJROTC CHARACTER IN LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO ECHS STUDENT

(Del Rio, Texas) - Air Force JROTC Cadet Rebekalys Rivera, daughter of Monica and Juan Rivera, and a senior attending Early College High School, has been awarded the J-100 AFJROTC Character-in-Leadership Award. This scholarship is one of the most prestigious awards any active US Air Force JROTC cadet can receive. Last Friday, the Headquarters Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (HQ AFJROTC) in partnership with Air University (AU), Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC), announced that Rivera was one of 100 AFJROTC Cadets selected nationwide to receive the J-100 AFJROTC Character-in-Leadership Scholarship. She is also the only cadet in SFDRCISD's history to have been selected for this honor.

According to the J-100 AFJROTC Character-in-Leadership Scholarship Program, each recipient will receive a full scholarship with benefits which includes four years of 100% paid tuition at any university, or crosstown partner, with an AFROTC detachment, a \$10,000 per-year allowance for university-owned/on-campus housing, an annual book stipend, and a monthly cadet stipend. Accepting the scholarship will require a cadet to meet all AFROTC requirements and an opportunity to pursue an officer commission.

Additionally, in order to be eligible to apply for the scholarship, applicants must be nominated by their unit instructors and have a 3.0 unweighted GPA, a score of 22 on the ACT or a score of 1100 on the SAT. The applicant must also have a physical fitness score of 50 and must have served a minimum of two calendar years in an AFJROTC program, and be a U.S. Citizen. Each Air Force JROTC unit across the country can nominate 1 to 3 students depending on the number of cadets in the JROTC unit. Senior Aerospace Science Instructor, Lt. Col. Simon Benavides, nominated Rivera. AFJROTC Cadet Rivera was then selected among 200 nominees to continue to the next level, and in the second round, was chosen as one of the top 100 recipients following a successful interview with the selection board members.

"I see Rebekalys as an individual who will not only be successful at any major university and the respective college ROTC program, but I also see her as the type of officer that the Air Force needs, explained Lt. Col. Benavides. I feel that Rebekalys will succeed in whatever she aspires to be. She is well deserving of this prestigious honor." AFJROTC Cadet Rivera plans to attend Texas A&M University this fall.

SFDRCISD proudly congratulates AFJOTC Cadet Rebekalys Rivera for her accomplishments and bids her much success in her future career!