News Release

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

AREA STUDENT RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

**HOUSTON** (Aug. 24, 2007)—University of St. Thomas student and resident of the Cy-Fair area Ruth Cañas was chosen as the recipient of the Ellen and Scipio de Kanter Dual-Language Scholarship.

Cañas was awarded the scholarship because of her high academic standing and her plans to pursue a career in elementary bilingual education. Born in El Salvador, the junior bilingual education major received her associate's degree in graphic design but then realized she wanted a career that would allow her to travel and make a difference in peoples' lives. Having grown up learning Spanish from her parents and English in school, she strongly believes in the value of bilingualism.

"I believe that if kids stick with a bilingual program from elementary school to high school, they will be more likely to succeed in college and in the job market because they have a more competitive edge," Cañas said.

Dr. Ellen de Kanter served as instructor and director of bilingual education at UST for 26 years before retiring in May 2005. The scholarship was created by her children to honor their mother and father. It is open to dual-language students of high academic standing in UST's School of Education.

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