

Sept. 24, 2025

To those considering Mackenzie Grizzard:

This is my letter of support for Mackenzie Grizzard's quest for internships and/or employment after graduation this coming May.

As the director of Student Media at Baylor University, I have watched Grizzard grow from one of my students in the beginning media writing class to one of our top reporters and editors for the Baylor Lariat newspaper and digital production at baylorlariat.com. Grizzard has thrived in her second year on staff, working with student reporters in the Advanced Reporting Class as they develop writing skills while cultivating their beats. Grizzard has been able to pass along her strong news gathering skills to the younger students.

Grizzard is the first student from one of my media writing classes to start working for The Lariat, and I'm not surprised she has risen up the ranks. She was a conscientious student and has used that mindset to become a strong reporter. Since her first full semester, she's covered stories that mattered. She's written about homelessness in Waco, been part of our 2024 election coverage, interviewed the university president about DEI at Baylor, covered tuition increases and a prayer vigil for Charlie Kirk. She interviewed a couple of Camp Mystic counselors who survived the terrible Central Texas floods in July. That story gave me chills and gave our readers insight into how their fellow students made it through tragedy.

Grizzard has been a great leader and writer for the Lariat, and I see her being a fantastic hire for any organization she joins. She will immediately jump in and make a difference. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Douglas Pils doug pils@baylor.edu 979-450-6369