



Contact:  
Laura Frnka-Davis  
LFD Communications for Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation  
346-388-3797 office  
713-409-1480 cell  
[laura@lfdcommunications.com](mailto:laura@lfdcommunications.com)

## **Santa Fe Students Design the Unfillable Chair to Honor Fallen Classmates and Teachers**

(Santa Fe, Texas DATE) – As the third anniversary of the Santa Fe High School shooting approaches on May 18, current and former students are preparing to unveil a remembrance piece that will be part of the larger planned Santa Fe Ten Memorial to remember, honor, and celebrate the lives lost on that tragic day.

Five current and former students from Santa Fe High School created the design, naming it the Unfillable Chair to represent the absence of ten fallen students and teachers.

“Many suffered a tremendous loss on May 18, 2018, that they will carry with them forever,” said Megan Grove, Chair of the Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation, a nonprofit whose mission is to honor and remember those lost in the Santa Fe High School shooting. “The Unfillable Chair will be a beacon of light illuminating the darkness from within, recognizing ten kindred spirits that the students of Santa Fe High School will always remember.”

The Unfillable Chair will stand over eight feet high, and the empty seat will be four feet wide by three feet deep. The exaggerated height reinforces the concept that the chair will never be filled and will sit in commemoration of those lost too soon. As described by Corrigan Garcia, Class of 2018 Valedictorian, the back will be illuminated with, “crossed arrows for the Indians, our mascot, showing the inter reliance and strength within Santa Fe. The ‘X shape’ the arrows make creates the Roman numeral for 10.”

“The Unfillable Chair makes me think of how my heart won’t be filled by anyone else. That piece of my heart will always feel empty. I will carry love for those we lost on May 18 in my heart for the rest of my life,” said Reagan Gaona, Class of 2020 and girlfriend to Chris Stone, one of the victims.

-MORE -

## Santa Fe Students Design the Unfillable Chair to Honor Fallen Classmates and Teachers – page 2

Garcia and Gaona, along with current and former classmates Maegan Huddleston (Class of 2019), Morgan Wilson (Class of 2021), and Chailyn Gillespie (Class of 2021), came up with individual designs and ideas on how the chair should look.

“To me, the Unfillable Chair represents the void that can never be filled,” said Wilson.

“Even though our fellow loved ones have passed, we should recognize that they are not to be replaced but to be forever known,” said Gillespie.

After the students finished their designs, they met with community members, the Santa Fe Memorial Foundation, and family members of those whose lives were lost to choose the best elements of each concept to develop a meaningful and elegant piece.

“The Unfillable Chair represents to me everything that Kyle will never be able to do,” said Gail McLeod, mother to Kyle McLeod, who died during the shooting three years ago. “He will never be able to sit at the table and eat dinner with us again. He will never be able to sit next to me and tell me how his day went or tell me where he wants to go to college or tell me that he found his true love. That is why the chair is unfillable – because we cannot make any new memories with him sitting next to us.”

National Signs is fabricating the chair, and it will be installed near the ten remembrance trees that were planted at the high school on the first anniversary of the shooting. Santa Fe High School students will lead a dedication ceremony on May 18, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. to unveil the Unfillable Chair to the Santa Fe community.

“We’d like to extend a sincere thank you to Cody W. Johnson, JD, CEO of National Signs and his team for their assistance turning the students’ vision into a reality, and to our donors, Arrowhead Electric and Gulf Coast Aerobic Systems, for providing the necessary electrical and trenching. We are deeply grateful to Jack and Lynn Skufca of the Skufca Family Foundation for their support of the students and generosity in sponsoring this profound piece,” said Grove.

Students and the Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation are currently raising funds for the remainder of the memorial, which will become a permanent fixture at the high school. For more information or to donate, visit [www.sftenmemorial.org](http://www.sftenmemorial.org).

### **About the Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation**

The Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to design and build a memorial that remembers and honors those who died and all individuals impact on May 18, 2018, in the Santa Fe High School shooting. The intention of the Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation is to honor the ten collectively and as individuals and strive to do so within the boundaries of each families’ comfort. The Foundation seeks to ensure each of the ten are remembered, honored, and celebrated. For more information, visit [www.sftenmemorial.org](http://www.sftenmemorial.org).