



SCHOLARSHIP SEASON 2015 - 2016

A Message from our Committee Chair



David S. Levy

Scholarships, like grants, are a form of gift aid. Gift aid is free money for college that does not need to be earned or repaid. Scholarships are the best type of student financial aid because they reduce the net price of college (the difference between a college's annual cost of attendance and scholarship and grant assistance awarded).

The use of scholarships and financial aid in higher education is a dynamic field, driven by the growing focus on the cost of college and students' ability to pay. As college has grown more expensive and state funding has been reduced, students and their families are shouldering more of the financial burden. The availability of scholarships from organizations such as the Community Foundation of the Verdugos (CFV) to offset borrowing is an increasingly important concern for most students and families. A 2016 study showed that scholarships and grants funded 34 percent of college expenses in the 2015-16 school year, up from 30 percent the year before.

Each year, the CFV and other local philanthropic groups award scholarship aid to deserving students in our community. For example, in 2016, the CFV awarded more than \$143,000 (unaudited figure) to 106 local students to support their dreams of going to college. These students are attending colleges and universities nationwide during the 2016-17 academic year.

Your contribution to the scholarships administered by the CFV can help to ensure that deserving students in our community are able to access the quality educational opportunities they desire.



Liz Marquez, Coordinator

It is always gratifying through my role with the Community Foundation of the Verdugos (CFV) to eventually see our scholarship recipients starting off on their college journey. I am the one at the beginning of our

scholarship season promoting the awards being offered by the CFV at local college-career fairs and communicating about them to local counselors. In my work, I am the link between students applying for scholarships and the Scholarship Committee Members who make the eventual student award selections.

Being able to answer student questions - sometimes even those from parents - and processing applications is critical to the smooth implementation of applicant consideration and selection. This also includes the coordination and processing of scholarship awards issued to the schools that students will be attending. I take great pleasure in witnessing all the worthy recipients who are awarded for their hard work and seeing them recognized at our annual scholarship events!

Inquiries about scholarship awards can be directed to me at any time during the year at (818) 241-8040 or via email at Elizabeth@cfverdugos.org. Please note that the CFV's 2016-17 scholarship application deadline is March 2, 2017. The application process has been streamlined and students will now be able to apply online - please go to www.cfverdugos.org to apply after December 1.

Finally, a special "thank you" is extended to all of our current scholarship fund holders for making the difference in these young lives and motivating them to obtain a higher education! And to those considering opening a scholarship fund, I urge you to do so. It will be the ultimate gift that keeps on giving!

Scholarship Funds with the CFV



Edna Karinski, CEO

As a public 501(c)(3), the Community Foundation of the Verdugos' mission states that by combining the power of donors with charitable needs, we can increase the reliability and impact of nonprofits by building endowed funds that support self-reliant organizations. This includes helping donors to create impactful scholarship funds that help students to achieve their educational goals.

If you are an individual, family, group, or business considering scholarship awards, an endowed scholarship fund with the CFV can help you to fulfill a goal to make a difference in someone's future. Opening a fund can be done in about an hour with a minimum starting fund balance of \$25,000. We are in particular need for awards that can assist students going into the trades such as culinary, auto mechanics, graphic design, cosmetology/makeup, etc. Graduate students (those who have completed a four-year degree but are pursuing a master's degree) are also in search of scholarship awards.

Please contact me at 818-241-8040 or email Edna@cfverdugos.org for more information. I am always happy to discuss charitable wishes that donors have to help make our world a better place!

2015-2016 Student Awards

Awards for GCC Students

Chuck Benedict Memorial Journalism Scholarship (GCC)

Giron, Tatianna

Reinhart Family Scholarship (GCC)

Benlian, Yeraz

Tuesday Afternoon Club Scholarship (GCC)

Heckmann, Naomi
Tang, Johanna

Shirley & Joel Youngquist Nursing Scholarship (GCC)

Hovhannisyann, Tatevik

Career-Focused Awards

Dr. John & Mae Benjamin Scholarship

Harvey, Rachel

Katherine Bush Memorial Scholarship Renewals

Ampig, Kristen
Borgeson-Leake, Teagan
Choi, Timothy
Cota, Hailee
McCreary, Joy

Phil Ellis Scholarship

Matthews, Jacob
Mitchell, Benjamin
Parsamian, Linda

Margaret & Leonard Kaufman Medical Scholarship

Lam, Carrie
Sura, Tyler

John & Elsie Krikorian Journalism Scholarship

Aboolian, Elin
Alparaz, Aurora

Oakmont Scholarship

Campbell, Michaela
Fielding, Kelsey
Harris, Sean
Howard, Alexandra
Icheva, Iva
Perez, Michelle

Academic-Focused Awards

Christopher A. Burrows Memorial Scholarship

Matthews, Jacob
Menemenlis, Sofia
Strong, Kimball
Zhang, Selena

Frank & Ann Leone Scholarship

Cuateco, Daniel

Glendale Latino Association Scholarship

Aleman, Andrea
Antezana, Ryan
Chacon, Joana
Cuateco, Daniel
Fortin, Franco
Hernandez, Andrea
Huerta, Joanna
Lapointe, Catherine
Morales, Daisy
Rivera Abril, Lindsay
Brenda Rodriguez, Adriana
Rojas, Jessica
Rufino, Sabrina
Sandoval-Walsh, Viviana
Suarez, Jill
Van Brynke, Natasha
Wightman, Addison

Gonzales-Harris Bilingual Scholarship

Aleman, Andrea
Cuateco, Daniel
Rojas, Jessica
Renewals
Aguayo, Gissela
Corea, Bernie
Cuateco, Jacqueline
Cuc, Edmee
Dominguez-Meneses, Edgar
Dominguez-Meneses, Lina
Garcia, Christian
Rosales, Brenda
Trujillo, Rachel

Awards from the Heart

"Big Man Fritsche" Scholarship (GCC)

Pham, Jennifer

"Big Man Fritsche" Scholarship (High School)

Aboolian, Elin
Duffy, Caroline
Renewals
Ansell, Andrew
Elkins, Joseph
Ketsamian, Serhad

1st Christian Church of Glendale Scholarship

Cuateco, Daniel
De Castro, Amikka
Frink, Rebecca
Harvey, Rachel
Ho, Justin
Holmquist, Mackenzie
Kim, Eleanor
Landaverde, Johan
Matheu, Mark
Matthews, Jacob
Orlando, Giancarlo
Puglia, Gareen
Sy, Hannah
Walker, Brian

Renewals

Alvarado, Diana
Arabejo, Arabella
Blood, John
Boller, Whitley
Choi, Erica
Cuateco, Jacqueline
De Borja, Mia
Fielding, Kelsey
Ghahremanians, Sani
Goldstein, Noah
Gonzalez, Sarah
Guerra Canela, Andrea
Hacopian, Nyirie
Hacopian, Paulette
Hansen, Porter
Jimenez, Katherine
Khan, Amanda
Kim, Hannah
Kim, Sharon
King, Kaelin
Kubela, Jonah
Lee, Jennifer
Linna, Lydia
Lombardo, William
Lopez, Emely
Melnyk, Megan
Middleton, McKenna
Murrin, Michael
Romano, Brittany
Simonian, Shant
Stepanian, Sevana
Traber, Gavin

Sambar Scholarship Endowment

Kim, Kyu Eun (Christine)
Lakin, Bostin
Serrano, Jean Pauline

Tuesday Afternoon Club Scholarship

Chung, Alycia
Ramos, Ma Alexa

Annual Scholarship Recognition Event Inspires!

The CFV hosts an annual Scholarship Recognition Event at the end of each scholarship season. This is a way in which students can be publicly recognized for their efforts in front of their peers, family, donors and community. The event has been hosted on a Saturday morning at the Pickwick Center for a number of years and has been made possible in part through the ongoing support of Honorary Scholarship Chair Betty Porto, VP of Community Relations for Porto's Bakery. Porto's also provides gift certificates for each awardee to make their hard work a sweet victory!

The 2016 event held on May 21 was co-sponsored by Hutchinson and Bloodgood LLP (thanks to Joe Muriello, CPA) of Glendale in addition to Porto's support. Toni Beck Espinoza along with David S. Levy and Irene Sang were the centerpiece sponsors. Attendees also had the pleasure of hearing words from student speaker Defin Acosta (Gonzales-Harris awardee) and keynote speaker, Michael Cusumano of Cusumano Real Estate Group. Mr. Cusumano inspired listeners with a heartfelt story of his friend who overcame seemingly insurmountable odds: from high school dropout to UCLA Law School graduate before becoming the youngest appointed sitting judge followed by being elected to the California State Assembly and then on to Congress. You can watch Mr. Cusumano's full talk by going to the CFV's website at cfverdugos.org/news-events/ and clicking on the Keynote Speaker image to find out who this person is and to also learn the two things you need to do in order to attain your own personal goals and dreams!

Over 106 students were awarded \$143,000 (unaudited) in awards. Assistance was provided by CFV Staff Edna Karinski (CEO), Julie Burg (Staff Accountant), and Elizabeth Marquez (Scholarship Coordinator) in conjunction with CFV Board Members. Special thanks to our volunteers Estela Acosta, Sofia Acosta, Louis Burg, and Nancy Guillen. Many thanks to the event's MC David S. Levy for keeping the program lively and memorable!

Scholarship Funds

Chuck Benedict Memorial Journalism Scholarship

Dr. John & Mae Benjamin Scholarship

"Big Man Fritsche" Scholarship

Christopher A. Burrows Memorial Scholarship

First Christian Church of Glendale Scholarship

Margaret & Leonard Kaufman Medical Scholarship

Frank & Ann Leone Scholarship

Glendale Latino Association Scholarship

Gonzales-Harris Bilingual Scholarship

John & Elsie Krikorian Journalism Scholarship

Oakmont Scholarship

Reinhart Family Scholarship

Sambar Scholarship Endowment

Tuesday Afternoon Club Scholarship

Shirley & Joel Youngquist Nursing Scholarship



Top Photo: Honorary Scholarship Chair Betty Porto, VP of Community Relations for Porto's Bakery.

Middle Photo: Keynote speaker, Michael Cusumano of Cusumano Real Estate Group.

Middle Photo: The Glendale Latino Association Scholarship Group.

Bottom Photo: "Big Man Fritsche" Scholarship Group.

CFV Scholarship Committee

Betty Porto
Honorary Chair

David S. Levy
Chair

Michael Cusumano
Toni Beck Espinoza
Alena Hacopian
Michael Seaton

Inaugural Gonzales-Harris Awardees Graduate in 2016!



Helping others came naturally for the Gonzales sisters. Their story is one of hard work, community, and the wish to leave a legacy for others to follow. Margaret, Evelyn, and Virginia were born to Ralph and Marie Gonzales and hailed from Wilcox, Arizona. Ralph and Marie taught their daughters to value family, culture, and love for this country. Upon relocating to Glendale they continued to nurture strong work ethics, education, and the idea of giving back. While Margaret and Evelyn never married, Virginia did but had no children.



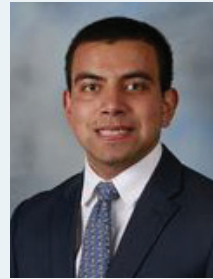
Through the benevolent foresight of these sisters, and a suggestion from their good friend Elsa Kreider, they left \$1.1 million to create scholarships for youth. The first three Gonzales-Harris awards were given in 2012 to Delfin Acosta, Adrian Alvarez, and Jorge Barriga. The “GH” awards are impactful because a student is eligible to receive up to \$6,000 each year of their undergraduate studies if grades are kept up and community service is done. Since 2012, 16 students have received a total of \$227,350 in awards (unaudited).

In the spring of 2016, it was with much celebration that the CFV saw its three inaugural students graduate with undergraduate degrees. Without a doubt, the Gonzales-Harris sisters would be pleased with the way their legacy is being made a reality through the students of today.

Top Photo: Margaret, Evelyn, and Virginia Gonzales.

Bottom Photo: Board Member Ernest Burger & Gonzales Family friend Elsa Kreider.

Quotes from our Recipients



“The Gonzales-Harris Scholarship was essential to my development as an individual as it gave me the time to learn outside the classroom through encounters with people who have changed my perspective of life and the world.”

– Jorge G. Barriga



“The Gonzalez-Harris Scholarship gave me an immeasurable gift, the freedom to choose what I wanted to make of myself. Displacing the doubts that came along with being a first-generation college student, it gave me the courage to pursue what I hope will become a meaningful career.”

– Delfin A. Acosta



“This scholarship has been integral to supporting my education here at Syracuse University and relieving much financial burden from my parents for the past three years.”

– Adrian E. Alvarez

