Introducing Our 2022 Rising Star Scholars
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Susy Arranaga Partida

St. Helena High School Senior
“The people I have been raised alongside are some of the hardest working individuals you will ever meet. They have devoted their lives to help their children get an education…The reason I want to go to college and continue my education is to make my community proud. I want to make good use of the sacrifices my parents have made for me”

“I plan to attend Napa Valley College due to the fact that it’s faculty and teachings have helped students be able to achieve their goals and desires in an affordable way. After my two years at Napa Valley College, I plan to transfer to UC Davis or a nursing program.”
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Joell Marcus Desa

Napa High School Senior
“My parents have instilled the importance of getting an education since early on in my life. With awarding me this scholarship, I will be able to financially release some burden from my parents...my dream is to have a degree in visual arts...this degree enhances my gift which is art and technology”

“I am a senior at Napa High School with an interest in the visual arts and design program at NVC. I hope to further my career and transfer to a four-year university.”
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Maria C. Garcia Mosqueda

Napa Valley College, Napa Valley Adult Ed
“This scholarship would help me reduce my stress level and focus on my classes and my daughter’s development. I provide everything at home since I am the head of the family. I’m taking 1 or 2 classes per semester because I try to balance work, head of household responsibilities and my education.”

“I have a desire to improve myself personally and professionally; I’m always working toward my goal of providing an education and a promising future for my daughter.

My purpose is to work in the field of education and I would like to be an Instructional Assistant at an elementary school. In 2020, I decided to take a big step and to enroll in a Child and Family Studies class at Napa Valley College so I could learn more about child development.”
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Lizbeth Hernandez

Gap Year; Clark University, Massachusetts
"College is something that used to seem a dream away and now it is just a few steps away. My parents are my number one supporters with my Mom always focused on learning new ways to help further me and my siblings academically. I want to show my siblings that college is a possibility for anyone"

"I plan to go to a four year university to major in architecture and minor in entrepreneurship. I fell in love with architecture due to its combination of art and representation of history through time. Once I pursue my degrees I will open my own interior architectural firm that specializes in making environmentally friendly designs, reducing my carbon footprint and having a positive impact on my client’s moods"
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Vanesa Macias

CSU Sacramento, finishing first year

“When I was young, I had to help my parents fill out paperwork. This didn’t cause any barriers for me, on the contrary, it caused my knowledge in both languages to grow. Although an 8-year-old me was crying at the dinner table every time she had to fill out big people’s papers, I will be forever thankful that I got the opportunity to help my parents in a way that also benefitted me.”

“I had to work on my own path to college with very little help from others, making me a stronger, more powerful student and individual…I want to give back to those people that have helped me prosper…by getting a degree, preferably in nursing, I will be able to give back to the entire community”
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Yesica Macias Bonilla

Vintage High School Senior
“I want to make my family proud, especially my Mom since we have both been through a lot in order to have the opportunities for my education and life stability. My goals are to graduate from college with a Bachelor’s Degree in Biology, then I will go to medical school to become a Physician Assistant.”

“I looked into different careers and settled on the career of Physician Assistant. This career impressed me because it is a great career in which you can interact and give care to a lot of patients. Another great thing that attracted me to this career is the fact that they do a lot for their communities and they are able to do community service.”
Jorge Ortiz Alvarez
Recent Valley Oak High School Graduate
“I will be the first generation that goes to college; with the help of this scholarship and other financial aids, I hope to achieve my dream and make my parents proud of having a son that graduated from college. Now, I’m focused on working and helping my parent with bills and necessities”

“The whole family needs to be healthy to move on. I’ll be continuously helping my family while I patiently wait to go to college. I’m studying to hopefully get my AA degree and from there, move on and possibly transfer to a different university and get my bachelor’s degree if everything goes as planned.”
Sam Perez

"As I am learning to teach in Spanish, I have learned that it is crucial to have bilingual teachers in California to assist many Spanish-speaking families who cannot speak English. I have witnessed this firsthand, and it is devastating that many teachers do not focus on those students who need to learn Spanish and then English."

CSU Long Beach, Liberal Studies BA

"Being first generation in my family has also given me the realization that I am pursuing higher education for myself and paving the road for my cousins in high school and those to come into our family. Ultimately my parents are primarily the reason for my desire to graduate with a BA with credentials to teach Spanish and English."
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Judith Rodriguez

Napa High Graduate, Boys & Girls Club Staff
“...my parents are a big motivation in my life, but my biggest motivation are all the kids I’ve worked with...the kids give my job and life a purpose, I’ve become a better person ever since I started seeing how I’ve impacted many kids’ lives. I want to continue making my parents proud but most importantly I want to continue making kids feel happy and safe”

“I come from a very hardworking, tenacious, caring and loving family. My family is one of my main priorities in life...I am planning to take a Child & Community Class and also take some other classes to get my g.e.d and then continue from there. This is why I want to continue my journey because the love I have in my eyes every time a little human walks by is real”
2022 Rising Star Scholar
Karla Zenon Alvarez

Napa High School Senior
“My family has motivated me to continue school, especially my parents. They gave up their lives for my siblings and I, to give us what they couldn’t have and I know earning my degree would bring so much joy to their hearts. I owe it to my parents, grandparents, siblings and my community.”

“My hopes are to go to school, study and become a nurse or dental hygienist. Helping out others and giving back has always been a goal for me because I was lucky enough to receive some support many others aren’t able to. I’m thankful Magnolia Park homes provided my siblings, neighbors and myself homework support for so many years.”
Congratulations Scholars!

[Images of scholarship recipients]
Good Night
&
Thank You
Rising Star Scholarship Award & Fundraising Event
Tuesday May 17, 2022, 5:30pm