

SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS GRATEFUL FOR GIVING FUND SUPPORT!

BY KATIE VENI, GIVING FUND COMMITTEE

Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is proud to provide two \$2,000 scholarships annually to deserving Truckee and North Tahoe high school graduates who demonstrate financial need. In April, we reviewed 120 applications and selected two wonderful students for our 2017 scholarships. We will profile them here for you next month.

But, first, we are pleased to report that because contributions to the Giving Fund more than doubled in 2016, we are able to provide an additional \$1,000 for our three past recipients who are all continuing their studies in good standing.

MICHAELA NESS. Our one scholarship recipient from 2015, Michaela Ness, is highly focused on her studies. Now a sophomore at UNR studying secondary education, Ness has made the Dean's list every semester. She carries more than a full load, hoping to have her bachelor's degree and teaching certificate within an accelerated 4-year timeline. Volunteering in Washoe County schools to get a feel for what it is like in the classroom has brought clarity to her choice of major.

"I think I really chose the right path. I get a lot of fulfillment out of teaching," said Ness. Ultimately, she would like a teaching assignment in the Tahoe area, but will be seeking certification for Nevada and Oregon, too, increasing her chances of getting a good job and making the best of wherever she lands.

ADAM ALESSI. 2016 Forest Charter grad Adam Alessi is at Butte College in Chico, working on EMT, paramedic and fire-fighter training. Alessi demonstrates strong devotion to his professional dream with grades that

place him at the top of his class. Alessi has chosen comprehensive training to make him an attractive job candidate. This spring, he took a national registry exam to qualify for employment immediately as an EMT regionally. It will take 18–24 months to complete his instruction, which will include a year of paramedic training, ambulance service internships, and a semester training five days a week in the fire academy.

Adam, too, is happy with his career choice, saying, "The first year has been challenging but fun. I really enjoyed it. I recently did an ambulance run, getting a real taste of my future."

ALONDRA DELGADILLO. This year, with the unexpected stress of a divorce in the family adding to the challenges of raising her young son and working five days a week while studying with a full load, Alondra Delgadillo manages to get through with inspiring grace and good grades. Dedicated to fulfilling her passion for helping others, Delgadillo is studying psychology at Sierra College on her way to UNR and a career as an adoption counselor. She'll be taking summer classes to finish at Sierra College in fall, still figuring out how to overcome the financial challenges of transfer to UNR. She relies on family to help with childcare and she is grateful for the support of



Michaela Ness, our one scholarship recipient from 2015, with Merle Fajans, who is founding co-chair of the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund.

her family and her community.

"The Tahoe Donner scholarship was a big help to me, and now the news that there is more support... I'm just really grateful," Delgadillo says.

We are proud of our students and their accomplishments!

Future graduates and their families may find more information on the scholarship application process at Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation website: www.ttcfn.net.

GROW THE GIVING FUND WITH YOUR GIFT TODAY.

Inspired by these remarkable young people pursuing their dreams?

Scholarships are just one way the Giving Fund gives to our community.

We invite you to designate your annual Tahoe Donner Giving Fund contributions to "SCHOLARSHIPS" to make a difference in promising young lives through our scholarship fund.

Give today. Online at www.tahoedonner.com/giving-fund. Or mail check payable to "Tahoe Donner Giving Fund" to Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation, PO Box 366, Truckee, CA 96160.

