

TAHOE DONNER GIVING FUND 2019 SCHOLARSHIPS

By **MARCIA ARGYRIS**

In June, the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund awarded 10 scholarships totaling \$216,000 to graduates from Truckee High School, North Tahoe High School, Forest Charter School and Sierra High School. An additional \$10,000 will be awarded later this summer to continuing scholars.

Giving Fund members Marcia Argyris, Barbara Ramsay and Suzanne Sullivan participated with other members of the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF) volunteer scholarship committee in reviewing 144 applications from graduating seniors in the Truckee Tahoe Unified School District and several charter and private schools. Each affiliate came to the table with a list of graduates who met the requirements of the scholarships they applied for, which range from smaller one-time awards to full four-year endowments. To qualify for an award from the Giving Fund, the graduate should:

- Be accepted at a post-secondary two-year or four-year college or university or an accredited institution offering career technical education.
- Demonstrate the capacity for success by having at least a preferred 3.0 GPA based on a 4-point scale.
- Demonstrate financial need.
- Preference is given to students who are the first generation in their family to seek post-secondary education.

This year, thanks to an extremely generous Tahoe Donner donor, four \$50,000 IMPACT Scholarships were awarded to students for whom higher education can be a life changing experience. These four students will receive up to \$10,000 per year with the option to extend to a fifth year if conditions warrant.

At the end of the process, the Giving Fund recommended and the board of directors approved the following scholarships:



Mariela Angel-Estrada,
IMPACT Scholar

North Tahoe High School, first in family to attend college, attending Butte Community College, majoring in health and

humanities. After two years at BCC she plans to transfer to California State University, Chico.



Arturo Colmenares,
IMPACT Scholar

Truckee High School, first in family to attend college, attending University of Nevada, Reno, majoring in education with a goal of teaching primary grades.



Fatima Gamaz,
IMPACT Scholar

Truckee High School, first in family to attend college, attending California State University, Stanislaus, accepted into the nursing program.



Daphne Lezo Duran,
IMPACT Scholar

Truckee High School, first in family to attend college, attending California State University, Chico, majoring in psychology.



Martin Barvo-Karvonen

Truckee High School, first in family to attend college, attending Santa Barbara Community College, majoring in accounting and business.



Kendall Jeffery

Forest Charter High School, attending Dominican College, majoring in psychology.



Christian Nicely

Coldstream High School, attending California State University, Northridge, majoring in musical education.



Joe Pierce

North Tahoe High School, attending San Diego State University, majoring in mechanical engineering.



Vanessa Radilla

North Tahoe High School, attending University of Nevada, Reno, majoring in health with a goal of becoming an optometrist.



Sydney Torrez

Truckee High School, attending Santa Rosa Junior College, majoring in engineering.

These scholarships enable the students to attend college and move forward with their career goals. Knowing that they have their community's support bolsters their confidence and encourages them to continue. You, as Tahoe Donner full- and part-time residents, should feel very proud that you are playing a vital role in the future of so many deserving local youth.

Please consider a contribution to the Giving Fund to help us continue this scholarship program and to support local non-profits. We will be joining TTCF's open competitive grant committee for non-profits this fall so a contribution today will be put to work before the end of the year! It is easy to contribute at tahoedonner.com/giving-fund.

The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is chartered by the Tahoe Donner Board of Directors. All contributions are voluntary tax-deductible gifts from TD members and friends. The Giving Fund is an Affiliate Fund with the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation. For more information on the Giving Fund or to make a contribution, visit our web page at tahoedonner.com/giving-fund. Contact tdgf@tahoedonner.com with questions or to volunteer for the committee. Thank you to our Founding Partner, Elements Mountain Company, for their continued support.

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