



2021



SANTA ANA  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS  
FOUNDATION  
SCHOLARSHIP  
AWARDS  
CEREMONY

April 28, 2021



# SAPSF Business Scholarship

- The SAPSF Business Scholarship is awarded to a student who has achieved academically in high school, has been highly involved in extracurricular activities, and has expressed an interest in pursuing a business major in College.



## Christie Nguyen

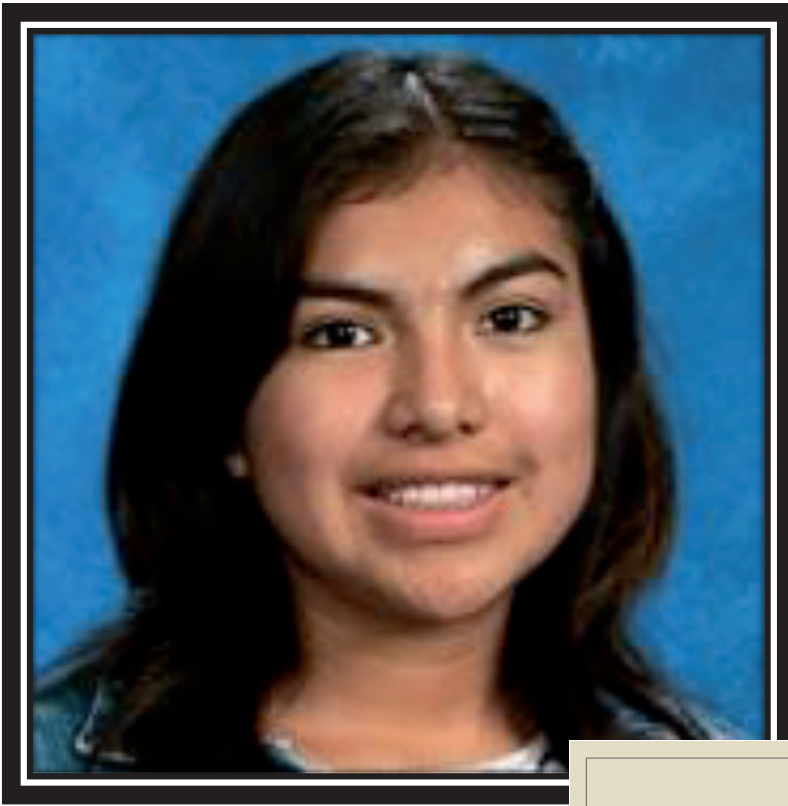
Seegerstrom High School

◦ Christie has applied to college and she is considering a major in international business. Christie is included in the Principal's Crimson Roll, which recognizes students with a GPA of 4.0 and above. She has also received academic honors in math, science, English and history. Christie has extensive experience in community service and currently interns in data trace information services.



# Champion of Character Scholarship

◦ The Champion of Character Scholarship is awarded to one student from each high school selected by the counseling department. The student represents an individual who has overcome challenges and has persisted to reach his or her goals to achieve higher education.



## Alexis Benitez

ALA Circulos High School

◦ The key words used to describe Alexis are: perseverant, resilient, kindhearted, passionate, and advocate. Alexis came to this country six years ago, and she has overcome a language barrier. Alexis is a top Speech and Debate student, and she coaches the middle and elementary school students on the team. Alexis plans to attend college and major in nursing, and she wants to give back to her home country after completing college.



## Mariela Montiel Century High School

◦ Mariela is known for being resilient, intelligent, focused, hard working, and courageous. Mariela has taken on additional responsibilities within her family and works part-time. As a student at Century, Mariela participates in the eBusiness Academy and ASB, and she will complete two semesters of college courses by the time she graduates. Mariela is committed to the goal of attending college after graduation.



## Angel Sarinana

### Cesar Chavez High School

◦ The key words used to describe Angel are: responsible, dedicated, mature, strong, conscientious. Although Angel had challenges in her life, she was determined to overcome them. Angel recently earned all A's in her grades, and she is the ASB president at Chavez. Angel plans to attend Santa Ana College and wants to study Criminal Justice or Psychology. Her goal is to work with children and to be a positive role model.



## Brian Enriquez Godinez Fundamental High School

◦ Brian is mature, dedicated, outgoing, humble and a leader. Although Brian has been challenged to take on additional responsibility in his home life, he looks for academic challenges, and has taken AP and honors classes. Brian is the Junior MESA representative, a member of ACE (Architect Construction Engineering Club), and he participates in AISS (Achievement Institute of Scientific Studies). He volunteers with elementary students to teach math. Brian plans to attend college and pursue a career in the STEM field.





## Brandy Cerda

Loren Griset High School

◦ The key words used to describe Brandy are: resilient, motivated, aspiring, determined, and focused. Although she was academically challenged, Brandy is now receiving straight A's in her classes, while working part time. She is determined to join the College Promise program at Santa Ana College, then receive her Bachelor's Degree from a UC School.



## Paulina Escobar Middle College High School

◦ Paulina is known for being diligent, ambitious, organized, empathetic, and resilient. Paulina has shouldered additional responsibilities at home to help her family. This June she will earn her A.A. degree and she has taken on the added rigor of completing the Honors Transfer Program at Santa Ana College. At school, Paulina helped to start the Technologies Club, and she has also been involved with the Make a Difference club. Outside of school, she holds a job and does volunteer work. Paulina is interested in pursuing a profession in psychology.



## Neftali Ortiz

Saddleback High School

◦ Neftali is known for being responsible, a role-model, determined, stellar, talented, and courageous. She has taken on additional responsibility at home. Neftali has good grades, and she is involved on campus, with UCI's Saturday School of Law, Drama Club, Dance Team, and Show Choir. She also works and does volunteer work in the community. Neftali plans to attend college and to become a social worker.



## Shirley Meunier Santa Ana High School

◦ Shirley is hardworking, dedicated, enthusiastic, passionate learner, and responsible. Shirley has overcome a family tragedy and a language barrier. She has taken AP courses as well attending Santa Ana College. She has been involved in NJROTC, Speech and Debate, Elizabeth G. Macias Legal Studies Program, Chamber Singers, Jazz Choir, and Dance Conservatories. Shirley has received a GPA of 4.4. Shirley plans to graduate from college, run her family business and apply to law school, and become an aid in an embassy abroad.



## Jacqueline Trejo

Segerstrom Fundamental High School

◦ Key words that can be used to describe Jacqueline are: tenacious, persistent, survivor, positive, and courteous. Overcoming challenges in her life, Jacqueline is a GATE student and she is participating in the Engineering pathway (Project Lead the Way). Jacqueline wants to be an architect or civil engineer and she is pursuing her educational goals by applying to universities.



## Angelica Quintana Valley High School

◦ Angelica has been described as motivated, resilient, a change maker, an advocate, and an activist. She has faced challenges, and she participates in the Nicolas Academic Center and AVID. Angelica joined the Boys and Men of Color initiative, in support of their primary purpose to shed light on the social, academic, and economic plight that impacts youth. In her leadership role, she used her voice as a grant writer to secure funds for the organization. Angelica plans to attend college to study film and her goal is to support social change through film.

*Congratulations*

*Class of 2021*



## **SAUSD Merit Scholarship**

The SAUSD Merit Scholarship is awarded to students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, have been highly involved in school and community activities and plan to attend a university upon graduation from high school.





Daniela Salazar  
Segerstrom Fundamental High  
School

◦ Daniela aspires to develop affordable technology resources to provide to her community. She has applied to college, with a major in computer engineering. Her awards include Principal's Honor Roll and AP Scholar. She is President of the League of United Latin American Citizens, and Co-President of the National Honor Society and Girls Who Code. She volunteers for the Ronald McDonald House of Charities and has participated in an internship as a teacher assistant.



## Isabel Ortega Middle College High School

◦ Isabel's goal is to empower people. To attain that goal, she plans to major in political science and ethnic studies, go to law school, and pursue a career in politics. She is Secretary of Make A Difference and participates in Speech and Debate, where she was awarded as a Bradley University finalist. Isabel has been involved in volunteering for political campaigns, and she will receive her AA in Liberal Arts from Santa Ana College in June. Isabel has applied to college, and she plans to major in political science.



## Stephany Gutierrez

Santa Ana High School

◦ Stephany has been accepted to USC, and she plans to pursue a major in philosophy or political science, then attend Law school. Becoming a lawyer would allow her to help her community. Stephany is the Vice-President of Key Club and a member of the Freshman Mentor Program. She is also the President of Connect4Cancer, and she participates in the Orange County Higher Education Mentoring Program.



## Naomi Flores Century High School

◦ Naomi has applied to college and plans to major in chemistry or biochemistry, and then pursue graduate work in microbiology. She aspires to work to find vaccines and cures for pathogens. Naomi has participated in the Earl Wood Scholar Program, and she is the chief officer in the eBusiness Academy (VEI international). She also participates in the school volleyball team. Naomi volunteers for the Salvation Army in Santa Ana and for her local church. She has been awarded with the ROSES Award (Top Math student) and as one of the top students at the Saturday Academy of Law.



## Vania Vazquez Vergara Godinez Fundamental High School

◦ Vania plans to pursue a career in nursing and has applied to college. She participates in ASB leadership and as an officer for Key Club. Vania has volunteered with Engage 360, LunchBagOC, and a soup kitchen in Orange County. She has received the Great Grizzly Award and the Perfect G Award. Vania plans to work with nonprofit health organizations in order to help people have access to healthcare.

Nancy Diaz Miller

Memorial Scholarship



Nancy Diaz-Miller grew up in Norwalk, California. She was the first born in her family and was kept busy overseeing her three younger brothers. School and education played a major role in her life. She graduated from St. Paul High School and then entered Cerritos College. While attending Cerritos, she studied hard and earned a spot on the cheer squad as Freida Falcon. Transferring to CSUF, she majored in English with a minor in Physical Education. She met her future husband while attending CSUF as an undergraduate and later earned a master's degree from the same school.

Nancy was full of energy and curiosity which led her to many new interests. During her life, she was a runner competing in numerous half-marathons, learned to sign so she could communicate with deaf individuals, traveled to three continents, practiced Tai Chi, and was an avid zip-liner.

Nancy is well remembered for her engaging smile, servant heart, and love for her family and friends. Birthdays were calendared, remembered, and most importantly, celebrated!

Her faith was central to her life and career and was the source of her forty plus years as an educator serving others as a teacher, principal, and District Administrator for SAUSD.

Nancy's kind deeds and words full of wisdom have touched the hearts and minds of many individuals.

Her life was cut short by a tragic car accident, but her care and love for others was all so genuine and heartfelt.



## Nicolas Huizar Santa Ana High School

◦ College has been a major goal for Nicolas, and he aspires to work for Disney. He has been accepted to CSUF, and he plans to major in studio art. Nicolas has been a member of CSF for three years, on the Principal's Honor Roll, and recognized as a Carson Scholar. He has also participated in AVID and Soccer. Nicolas has provided volunteer service in the community as part of the Intercoastal Clean-Up, the Veteran's Hygiene Drive, and Toys For Tots.





## Tina Vu

Middle College High School

◦ Tina's professional goal is to pursue a career in healthcare. She has been accepted at the University of Redlands, with a major in health and medicine. Tina is a Co-President of the Art Club and a founding member of the Make A Difference Club, and participates in the Pre-Med Club, and the Boys and Girls Club's College Bound program. Tina has also been recognized for her academic achievement on the Principals Honor Roll 4.0+.



# Quick Start CTE Scholarship

**The Quick Start CTE Scholarship is awarded to students who have been enrolled in the high school CTE Program for a minimum of four semesters and expect to continue in the same field of study in college.**



## Aleidy Rogel Century High School

◦ Aleidy's goal is to help members of her community to improve their mental health and education standards. She has been accepted to the University of LaVerne, and plans to major in psychology and education. Through the Teacher Education Academy, Aleidy was able to participate in a professional internship course, where she would tutor second graders to help them improve their reading levels. She also volunteers as a mentor in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Aleidy has received the 7th Annual Good Citizens Award, and she was recognized as the February 2021 Soroptimist Young Women of Achievement.



## Stephanie Vazquez

Middle College High School

◦ Stephanie plans to attend college and major in Public Health or Biology, with the goal of becoming a Physician's Assistant. Stephanie has been recognized on the Gold Honor Roll with a GPA of 4.0 throughout her high school career. She has participated in the Saturday Academy of Law and the Make a Difference Club. Stephanie has volunteered for the Sierra Preparatory Academy Parent Center, food drives, and the Santa Ana Public Library.



## Sheilian Herrera Segerstrom Fundamental High School

◦ Sheilian had an incredible experience in her internship at the South Coast Global Medical Center, which has made her even more focused on her goal to become a pediatrician. She has received both the Hospital Occupations Certificate and Dental Assistant Certificate. Sheilian has applied to college, with the major of premed. Her academic excellence has been recognized, and she has received the Principles Award and Night of the Scholars. Her extracurricular involvement includes LULAC and she volunteers help at local food drives.



## Jose Miguel Serrano

Valley High School

◦ Jose is dedicated to filmmaking, and he has been accepted at Chapman University with a major in film production. Jose has worked to create videos in the CTE program, including videos to promote local businesses. He has participated in the YCP Screenwriting Program and Just Write It! workshops, and has completed the New Media program. Jose received first place in the SkillsUSA Regional Audio/Radio Competition, finalist in the SAUSD Literary Arts Contest, and Honor Roll. Jose is also the leader for the Falcon Club and Link Crew.



## Pedro De La Rosa Valley High School

◦ Pedro aspires to a career in social work in order to help people solve and cope with problems in their everyday lives. He has applied to college, with a major in sociology and human resources. Pedro has participated in Banking On Our Youth, HSI Leadership Camp, the Mock Trial Team, and Link Crew. He has also completed the Automotive Academy. He works with his father on kitchen installations, and as a volunteer, he has provided breakfast service to seniors in the community.



## **SAUSD Retired Administrators Scholarship**

- **The SAUSD Retired Administrator Scholarship is awarded to student who have demonstrated excellent academic achievement, are actively involved in school activities, and plan to study in the field of education in college.**





## Jamie Arias

Century High School

◦ Jamie's professional goal is to be able to pursue studies in psychology in order to work with children with autism. She has applied to college. Jamie is currently completing the CTE Medical Core, and she participates in the Anteatr Academy, AVID, the Nicholas Academic Center(NAC), Volleyball, Softball and Key Club. She has volunteered at church and for political campaigns.



## Leslie Esquivel Century High School

◦ After gaining experience through the TEACH Academy internship working tutoring young students, Leslie decided that she wanted to become an elementary school teacher. She has applied to college, and her goal is to study linguistics at university and gain her teaching credentials to become an ESL teacher. Leslie has been recognized as the R.O.S.E.S 10th Grade Scholar of the Year. She is involved in Girls Tennis, Nicholas Academic Center and Key Club. Leslie has also volunteered for Big Brother Big Sisters, Kidworks, and Engage 360.



## Irma Mateo Gatica

Godinez Fundamental High School

◦ In her freshman year Irma began helping students with math and discovered her love for teaching. Irma plans to teach math, and she has applied to college. She has participated in AVID, the UCI Academy of Law, the Nicholas Academic Center, and the College Apps Academy. She is a member of Key Club, the Quiz Bowl, and the Adolescentes de la Esperanza. Irma is a youth organizer for the Youth Empowerment Network and the Youth for Active and Safe Communities. She has received the Legacy Award, the Perfect G Award, and the Great Grizzly Award.



## Lourdes Enriquez Segerstrom Fundamental High School

◦ Lourdes aspires to pursue a career in writing, and to become an author with an emphasis on publishing novels focused on bringing awareness to societal and global issues. Lourdes has applied to college, with a major of English and Creative Writing. She participates in journalism, where she is the op-ed Section Editor, as well as Publicist for the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Environmental Club, Speech & Debate and Mock Trial. Lourdes has been recognized by the Simon Family Foundation.



## Denise Reyna Garcia Valley High School

◦ Denise plans to major in elementary child development and then become an elementary school teacher. She has been accepted at CSU Dominguez Hills and CSU Sacramento. Denise participates in the Star club, AVID, and TRIO- Talent Search. She also volunteers for the Family Pride program in Santa Ana. For all four years of high school, Denise has had perfect attendance as well as being on Honor Roll.

Rob Richardson

Memorial Scholarship



**Rob Richardson was a founding member of the Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation.**

**He grew up in Santa Ana, attended Willard Intermediate and Santa Ana High School. As a young teen, he led a student letter writing campaign and spoke at the Santa Ana City Council and the School Board, urging both to leave the trees in front of Willard. They are still there today. He later became class president at Santa Ana High. He graduated from UCLA in 1984 with a degree in political science and history.**

**Richardson went on to serve his town in many ways. He was a councilman for eight years, from 1990 through '98. He served on the Santa Ana Unified School Board even longer, from 1987 through 1990, and again from 2003 until 2016, including stints as president of the board. He also held leadership roles in numerous organizations, including local chapters of the Boys and Girls Club, the Kiwanis Club, the Salvation Army and the Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation.**

**Rob Richardson passed away in on July 26, 2020.**

**His leadership and friendly smile are missed by all who knew him.**



## Cielo Echegoyen

Santa Ana High School

◦ Cielo's plans to become an oncologist. She has been accepted to Harvard, where she will major in Molecular and Cell Biology. Cielo is a co-founder of the Santa Ana Student Representatives, where she was able to collaborate with the Superintendent to ensure students can survey teachers. She is also a Speech and Debate officer and the first female debater at the High School level. Cielo has volunteered at the Santa Ana Public Library and in the Freshman Mentor Program, and she has completed an internship with Latham & Watkins LLP. Cielo has received the UCI Saturday Academy of Law's Scholar Award and the AP Scholar with Distinction Award.



# *Signatures*

# *Signatures*

## Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation Scholarships

### Rob Richardson Civic and Community Scholarship (1) \$1,000

*This scholarship is awarded to students who have been highly involved in civic and community service. To qualify, students must have a 3.0 GPA or higher.*

### Santa Ana Business Scholarship (1) \$1,000.00

*This scholarship is awarded to students who have worked or who have served an internship while attending high school. To qualify the student must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher.*

### Champion of Character Scholarship (10) \$1,000.00

*This scholarship is awarded to one counselor-nominated senior from each high school, who has demonstrated exceptional character and perseverance to achieve academic success.*

### Merit Scholarship (5) \$1,000.00

*This scholarship is awarded to students with outstanding leadership and high academic achievement. To qualify, the student must have a 3.5 GPA or higher.*

### Nancy Miller Memorial Scholarship (2) \$1,500.00

*This scholarship is awarded in memory of Nancy Diaz Miller, a retired SAUSD Administrator. As the Director of Pupil Support Services, and as an elementary principal, she dedicated her career to supporting all students to become successful. This scholarship is awarded to students who may have overcome life challenges and have been actively involved in their school and/or community.*

### Retired Administrators Scholarship (6) \$500.00

*This scholarship is awarded to students who have achieved academic success, have been involved in community service, and have demonstrated exemplary leadership. To qualify, the student must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA or higher.*

### Quick Start (5) \$500

*This scholarship is awarded to students who have been focused on CTE certificate programs and wish to pursue a professional certificate in preparation for work.*



**SANTA ANA**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

### SAPSF Board of Directors 2020-21

**Lucinda Pueblos**, Vice President

**Janelle McLoughlin**, Chief Financial Officer

**Alexandra Ito**, Secretary

**Jimmy Bruhl**, Principal, Santiago Elementary School, SAUSD

**Cheryl Eberly**, Principal Librarian, Young Adult and Volunteer Services, City of Santa Ana

**Jeff Gothard**, Creative Director, Gothard Media Services

**Vivian Hanson**, Teacher and Alumni, SAUSD; Santa Ana Educators Association Representative

**Sonia R. Llamas, Ed.D., L.C.S.W.**, Assistant Superintendent, K-12 School Performance & Culture, SAUSD

**Robyn MacNair**, Visual and Performing Arts Specialist, SAUSD

**Beau Menchaca**, CTE Program Coordinator, SAUSD

**Teresa Mercado-Cota**, Assistant Dean, Public Affairs, Governmental Relations, Santa Ana College

**Marta Moyer**, Retired Teacher, Curriculum Specialist and Instructional Coach, SAUSD

**Erika Pereyra**, Library Media Technician, SAUSD; Chapter President's Representative, California School Employees Association Chapter 41

**Carolina Tercero**, Retired School Administrator, SAUSD

### Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation

1601 East Chestnut Avenue  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

The Santa Ana Public Schools Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organized under the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for public and charitable purposes. Federal ID#27-3210071



**SANTA ANA**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

Thank you and  
Congratulations

Class of 2021!