



MVLA Community Scholars

College Scholarships and Mentoring

10th Anniversary Year



New Scholar Welcome, May 14, 2010

Vision Statement: MVLA Community Scholars improves the economic mobility and quality of life of local, high-potential, underserved youth by providing scholarships to make college accessible and individual mentoring to make a four-year degree achievable

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Meet the Class of 2010



Anastacia

2010 Gail Wagner DeMayo Scholarship

“For academic promise, perseverance, and a strong interest in the arts.”



Martin

2010 Earthbound Farms Award

“For personal vision and a strong interest in environmental science.”



Tania

2010 Rich Fischer Award

“For tenacity and a spirit of generosity toward others.”

Scholar/Mentor/Career Interest, by College

Foothill Community College	
	Edgar/Nuwan Senaratna/Math, science, art: “I am an individual who treasures learning and growing through challenges. I am a leader and a mentor who knows the power of support and encouragement and will help those in need. Most of all, I hold a promise that will not be broken. Determination will overcome any obstacle that stands in my way and will drive me toward the person I am destined to be.”
	Jovita/Linda Eckols/Guadalupe Garcia/Teaching: “I have to combine my life as a mother, student, and worker. To carry out these aspects of my life is not easy. It’s tiring to do to school in the morning, come back home, cook, clean and go to work in the afternoon. I think all I’m doing now is worth it, and some day will pay off. My final goal is to become an English teacher.”
	Juan/Bart Miaullis/Computer Engineering: “I want to cut that chain that has tied my family for a very long time in poverty and do something different in life. What motivated me to continue working hard is the fact that I will be able to give what I never had, and enjoy life instead of fighting for it. I am a dreamer and I am going to succeed because I want to see my dream come true.”
	Martin/Katy and Steve McCormick /Environmental Science: “I want to study environmental science. I am really concerned about the environment. As earth’s human population continues to grow, as technology advances, and humans need and want more, our impact on the world becomes more widespread and severe. Environmental impacts affect human health and well-being. I want to educate myself first, get my degree, and then be able to educate other people about all the problems we are causing to our home planet earth.”
	Ricardo/Phil Rose /History: “Coming from a family where I will be the first to graduate from high school, perseverance is also something that I hold very close to my own personal values, and will get me that much closer to achieving my goal of becoming a neurosurgeon. Coming from a country where poverty is the main factor in preventing people from succeeding, I am always self-motivated and I never let anything stop me.”
	Yessenia/Kris Salmon/Working with people: “I dream of studying nursing, something that will not only benefit my family and also give me a chance to help and be there for others. I want to be successful in college so I can become someone worthy in life. I want to study something in college that will allow me to help my community, something that allows me to make a difference.”

Notre Dame de Namur



Jennifer/Laura Casas Frier/PoliSci: “When I go to college I want to major in Political Science or Pre-Law. I will become an influential woman political figure for the people; one who brings justice, creates effective laws, and makes sure domestic violence rates are lowered.”

Pratt Institute



Anastacia/ Donna Peltz/Graphic Design: “With my education at Pratt, I plan to gain copious knowledge to not only ensure a better future for me and my children but to harness my talent of art and use it to help people. Entering a new and larger community to be a part of and participate in, I want to teach art because my great teachers have become more like mentors to me and continue to inspire me and have lead me to great things.”

San Francisco State



Marcela/Judy Duport /Business: “I plan to major in Business management with a minor in Communications. I believe I will be successful in college because I have the mindset to do so. My stubbornness has helped me in fighting hard even if certain people say I can’t because I have learned that anything is possible if hard work is put into action to get what one wants.”



Tania/ Patricia Dwyer/Nursing: “I want to work as an RN pediatric nurse. I have an interest in helping those in need. I want to be able to assist children and help them grow. I not only want to help the children, but in general the Latino community. I want t o make a difference with my education and provide help for those who are suffering from health issues. “

San Jose State



Kimberlly/Sabra and Gordon Abraham/Bio/Science: “After college I hope to become a clinical lab scientist, since I love science and lab work. With this career, I can help diagnose and inform people in the health care system. I want to have fun and make new discoveries, while also doing important work that can help others.”

Sonoma State



Celia/Kathy Danforth/Environmental Studies: “I am the type of person who relies on myself to get things done and relies on myself for my own happiness. I am a very determined individual and having to live on my own I had to grow up faster and be stronger. I have realized that without determination it is hard to succeed in accomplishing the goal I have of furthering my education.”

St Mary’s College



Karla/Michelle Reichert/Journalism and Communications: “I am now a strong and proud Latina, seeking challenges and striving for success, no longer evidence of the negative stereotypes. For me, those days of my own low expectations and people with even lower expectations are a distant memory, a place I have escaped. I stand tall, an example of the transformational power of the AVID program and a young Latina woman yearning to change.”



Luis/Alicia Crank/Law: “If I have learned anything from my parents, it is that when you are passionate about something, commit to it. My determination to succeed and become a lawyer is clear in my everyday actions. My passion for social justice can be heard when you ask about my opinions on controversial topics and how I wish to better minority rights.”

University of California at Berkeley



Wing Man/Annie Lin Johnson/Business: “I want to create an educational foundation, named after my mother, to award scholarships to hard working students. I want to help all children become educated so they can use their skills and intelligence to develop better opportunities for themselves and others. Through the ripple effect, I believe each child I can help education will help future generations.”

University of California at Davis



Jinjing/John McBirney/Dentistry: “I am excited about my future potential to serve as a dentist. I intend to do charitable work within my future practice, since everyone deserves healthy teeth and a genuine smile. I intend to become more than just a dentist. I also want to be an advocate for people who can’t speak English.”

