

Grad-Time Herald

TDFS NAMES FIVE NEW SCHOLARS FOR 2021!

YARIN APARICIO

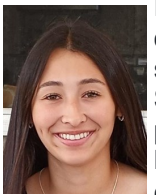
(Beckman) Johns Hopkins' Whiting School of Engineering



I've participated in the Hopkins LEAD Program that jumpstarts freshman with a week of intensive leadership development before orientation week. I joined Baja SAE, a team of engineering students tasked with designing, building, and testing an off-road vehicle, with the end goal of competing against other universities in a variety of categories. I also auditioned for and was accepted into ¡Baila!, Hopkins' only (and best) LatinX dance team. I've found a family of welcoming, loving people who share my culture and want nothing more than to see me succeed, and demonstrate it through their words and actions. The team has truly been a blessing to me, and made my transition from California to Maryland much easier.

ARISSA CALVILLO

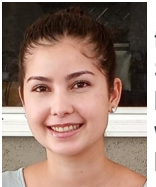
(Foothill) San Diego State University



I am currently majoring in finance with a minor in marketing. First year students are eligible to join student organizations starting second semester; therefore, I am looking forward to getting involved on campus next semester! Some organizations that interest me at SDSU are the American Marketing Association and the Sports Business Initiative. As I familiarize myself with all the resources and opportunities my college campus has to offer, I am greatly excited to begin new endeavors knowing I have the amazing support of Tustin Dollars for Scholars. The support of TDFS has relieved some of the financial stress and concerns associated with college allowing me to concentrate on my studies.

GENEVIEVE GANDARA

(Beckman) California Institute of Technology



I am studying Mechanical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology. I also plan to continue mentoring younger students in their STEM pursuits by joining organizations at Caltech such as Rise Tutoring and Society of Women in Engineering. I have absolutely loved growing up in the Tustin Unified School so I am honored by the community's continued support as I go to college. I am beyond thankful for this scholarship, which is giving me the opportunity to further my education so that I can become an engineer and help build a better world. I look forward to my future endeavors while still remaining connected to my community.

CAMERON NGUYEN

(Beckman) Westcliff University



I am majoring in Business Administration, and after careful consideration, I may minor in finance. Baseball has started and I have been at the Great Park at 7am every weekday practicing/conditioning with the college team. Despite the challenges presented, I have been able to prove my dedication to both myself and my team. I have been showing up to voluntary workouts where no one else bothered to go, really honing in on my skill set. I also have two jobs while maintaining a 3.9 GPA. Receiving this scholarship is a gift from Heaven for my family. TDFS has given me and my mom a financial break in college, with the scholarship giving me free education for the year and helping us save for the future. She has been able to focus on time to herself and my brother, who has begun his sophomore year of high school.

MICHAEL SHUGARMAN

(Beckman) Indiana University-Bloomington



I am studying business management at the Kelley School of Business, I will switch into business law when the time comes. I have now been enjoying every second college. This level is very different from the traditional high school setting, but it hasn't stopped me from going out of my way to get the help that I need. I go into my professor's office hours to review and ensure that I have everything on track. The scholarship has been very meaningful in that it is allowing me to focus solely on school and not the financial aspect of attending a university. I've met a lot of people and it is clear that the financial stress is weighing down on them, so to be backed by such a wonderful organization is truly an incredible thing that I'm very proud of. Thank you again for everything,

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VALUABLE TDFS FACTS

- TDFS HAS AWARDED COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS SINCE 1987.
- A TDFS SCHOLARSHIP HAS A VALUE OF \$6,000 (\$1,500 EACH YEAR).
- TDFS IS AN OFFICIAL CHAPTER OF SCHOLARSHIP AMERICA .
- TDFS IS AN ALL-VOLUNTEER NONPROFIT 501 c (3) GROUP
- ALL PROFITS FROM ALL EVENTS GO TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS.

OUR CURRENT SCHOLARS REPORT IN

DARREN GERCHICK



I'm going into my senior year at UCLA where I am currently pursuing a bachelors of science in mathematics and economics with a specialization in computing. I lived in Manhattan this summer where I completed an internship at J.P. Morgan in their equity derivative trading division. It was such a great and meaningful experience spending a summer across the country from my home in Southern California, but I definitely missed the amazing weather, my friends, and my family. I'm really looking forward to taking full advantage of my senior year following a year defined by zooms and quarantine, and following graduation I will hopefully be working a job in either finance or business or going to graduate school. Thank you to everyone at TDFS for all your generous support.

WILLIAM ORTMAYER



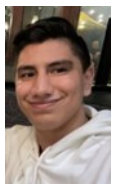
The spring of my sophomore year at the University of Alabama was busy but filled with fun and new experiences. I remain involved in our Culverhouse Investment Management Group (CIMG) and the majority of my extracurricular time is spent working on pitches and research for our portfolio. I have decided to pursue a career in equity research and will be working for Vulcan Value Partners in Birmingham as a research intern. I have begun research with one of my accounting professors and had the opportunity to present on our current project regarding the impact of false and sensationalized media on investors. I have maintained a 4.0 GPA. I am on the leadership team for Special Olympics at the university. I have become the Vice President of our Stand-Up Paddleboarding Club and I've enjoyed regularly paddleboarding on our river next to campus. I loved every second of it and am always so grateful for the generosity of Dollars for Scholars in assisting me in affording such an incredible experience.

MACY STARK



I'm a junior at San Diego State University as a Kinesiology major with an emphasis in Physical Therapy. My passion in life is to become an occupational therapist. I am now entering my major-specific classes. This past semester I excelled in anatomy and physiology, physics, exercise and nutritional science, and nutrition. While I was home in Orange County, I got to spend a lot of time with my best friend Jeremy. Jeremy is a twenty-one year old boy with Down syndrome. I got to see him thrive in his second year of college and prosper at his want to change the world. He is very involved in raising money for Ruby's Rainbow so that other students with disabilities could achieve scholarships to attend college. In summer I worked in San Diego for a practice that specializes in speech, physical, and occupational therapy. I can definitely say that it is my passion to want to help young children overcome their disabilities and thrive on their own in all aspects of their life. Thank you Tustin Dollars for Scholars for following my journey through college and making this dream become reality!

DAVID LUJAN



This last school year has been a huge challenge for everyone, having to adjust to being completely online as well as now having to start transitioning back to in-person classes for the upcoming school year. Because of the uncertainties from how the worldwide COVID situation develops it became very difficult to obtain a summer internship or even job offers for my engineering field. I have been accepted as a Campus Representative for the upcoming school year and have begun my training for giving campus tours to prospective students, parents, and high-school/transfer students. I was blessed to start my new employment with Disneyland. This has been a challenging time during the school year, but I was able to persevere and finished with a 3.8 GPA, as well as having the opportunity to be the Powertrain Lead Engineer for my BAJA SAE racecar team for this upcoming school year, my future looks bright as I continue on my way to graduate next year.

AYUSHI SHARMA



I hope everything is going well for all the members of TDFS with things slowly starting to fall back into place :) I have been keeping myself busy with taking a heavy course load, working as a part-time tutor & spending time with friends and family. I have enjoyed the virtual work environment since it allowed me to have a very flexible schedule and spend time with family, but I also miss the in-person interactions with professors & fellow students. I finalized my course plan that would allow me to graduate by the end of the upcoming school year. I also signed an internship offer letter for this summer and I'm very excited to gain this real world experience on top of what I have been learning at school. I'm looking forward to starting my last year at UCSD. I'm very grateful that the TDFS community is still continuing to provide financial support to students like me. It has helped reduce some of my worries about college tuition and I'm able to focus on my classes and explore my interests in my major. I really do appreciate it. Thank you.

ALANAH CALVILLO



I am in my third year at San Diego state. I have loved my experience here so far as I have made a lot of really good friends and enjoy all my classes. I haven't been on campus since spring semester of freshmen year, so I am excited to be back in person. I also can't wait to have my sister at SDSU with me! This summer I have been keeping busy working at a local law firm. This job has given me the opportunity to gain firsthand experience in the law industry. Last I am extremely grateful for Tustin dollars for scholars and the support they continue to give me!

SCOTT LEANDRO



This semester was my favorite season of learning due to the unique combination of practical skills, critical thinking, and new discovery: Business Communication Protocol; Texts & Contexts; Introduction to Law; Introduction to Marketing Strategy; and Matters of Life and Death. As I reflected on the past semester, I noticed business courses have required the most energy, and unfortunately, withdrawal to study. Utilizing many skill/interest based tests, I am trying a new major this coming semester. I will be studying global health, which begins broadly by examining poverty, food inequality, epidemiology, and waste/resource management, then ends with focused research. For extracurriculars, I spent my time this semester working with my student ministry. It is my passion to pour into and shepherd students in their faith, which takes a *lot* of time but is well worth the sacrifice. I spent time planning and hosting students/ friends for dinners. Then, I am in a soccer league and work about 10 hours a week, which takes up the remainder of my time. I am so thankful for the support of TDFS, which allows me to engage in educational and social experiences that are fostering unprecedented personal growth and joy.

MIA HANSON



I am a second-year student at Cal State Fullerton in Public Health and plan to have a career in nursing. I am also a member of the Honors Program. I struggled a little with online learning because of not being able to meet in-person, but have learned to deal with these online restrictions. I started volunteering with a program at my school called Future Titans Read. I made reading videos for children of all ages for the Future Titans Read YouTube channel to provide kids with a place to access inclusive and diverse books. Academically, I have maintained a high GPA and good standing. I have also managed to pass my chemistry summer course. I am pleased to say that I have to opportunity to live on-campus next semester and cannot wait to experience all of the things I didn't get to do. I was offered a wonderful financial aid package for next year along with the remainder of my Tustin Dollars for Scholars scholarship, and I can focus more on experiencing college. I plan to be more involved in student life and join more clubs now that everything will be in-person. Wish me luck!

SCHOLAR REPORTS CONTINUED

STONE BODINI



I have continued my career in the field of information technology while working at the Taco Bell headquarters. I was able to work fully remote throughout this last year and will continue to do so until January of 2022. It gives me the chance to work from home while I finish my last semester at Cal State Fullerton. Summer I was in the Bay Area to further develop myself. I completed summer classes and worked remotely while completing programming and technical projects to add to my resume. I focused on building the foundation for the next steps in my career development. As I finish my last semester I will be applying to higher up technical roles in several different cities with many different companies. As I say every year, this would not have been possible without the help from the Tustin Dollars for Scholars scholarship as it takes a lot of the financial weight off my shoulders and allows me to explore less lucrative outlets that have a higher payoff later with experience. Hope everyone is doing well.

AJ STARK



In my junior year, I took upper-division chemical engineering classes. One class that I really enjoyed was my machine learning class which uses computer programming, algorithms, and other statistical methods to analyze data in order to better understand patterns. I was able to complete various projects pertaining to chemical engineering systems, which I found to be very applicable to the real world. I also took courses that expanded my interests outside of my traditional engineering classes. I accepted a summer internship at a biotechnology company, working as a quality assurance intern. I was extremely excited to start this internship because it was something I had worked really hard to receive for the last three years. As I head into my final year at UC Berkeley, I cannot wait to go back to in-person classes, labs, and football games. I can't thank Tustin's Dollars for Scholars for the help they have provided me over the last couple of years and their continuing support as I head into my final year. Without TDFS, I definitely wouldn't have obtained the most amazing college experience! Go Bears!

RILEY PRENDERGAST



Winter quarter, I still had to walk to campus in the rain and cold and get tested for COVID twice a week. The hardest part of online school for me this past year was creating a space for school, work, and home. When you have to do all three from your bedroom, it makes it difficult to compartmentalize; one thing I will never take for granted again. This summer I was accepted into a paid research program for my department. I am working on atomic physics, and the title is "Non-linear Excitations in Continuous and Discrete Models." It is one of the most important subjects in modern-day physics. As a result, I was unable to work at the Office of the Registrar where I have been a student assistant creating tools for students to use when planning out their courses. I edited flowcharts and visual plans for students to see what classes they need to take and when they should take them in order to graduate. It was tedious, but I loved knowing every student on campus had seen and used their flowchart

- something I had a hand in making. Fall quarter at Cal Poly will be my last term as an undergraduate. I can honestly say the thing I'm most excited for is studying in the library again with my friends whom I rarely saw. Thank you again for welcoming me into the TDFS family.

MARY NORMAN



I'm in my second year of college at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. As I play for the Cal Poly Women's Soccer team I was required to live on campus with all of the other freshmen athletes in the "athlete dorm." At times this was stressful because it slightly resembled a petri dish of sweat and muck, but I am beyond grateful for other athletic acquaintances I made. This year centered around the completion of my support courses and I have had a passion for my major's niche concentration of addressing food security in marginalized communities ever since I discovered just what Environmental Engineering entails. In the fall I will continue to progress through my physics and chemistry prerequisites, as well as complete all of my math prerequisites so I can begin delving into my major classes. I intend to apply to the Blended BS+MS program so I can continue my education as a fifth year to officially graduate as a student-athlete with a bachelor's and master's in environmental engineering. I am beyond grateful for Tustin Dollars For Scholars for supporting me through my time at Cal Poly and I will continue to work my hardest to make you proud in the classroom and on the soccer field! Best Regards.

ETHAN CHUNG



Spring 2021 was my first semester living in Berkeley and first time living away from home. It was hard to get home sick because of the liveliness of meeting new friends and enjoying some independence. I truly enjoyed being out-and-about and experiencing something new each day. I even grew my hair out for a while, truly embracing the free-flowing nature of Berkeley! I became a part of a consulting club on campus called Berkeley Business Society and was a contract consultant for ThermoFisher Scientific. I gave strategy and competitive analysis for neonatal testing kits in international markets (which is as niche of a field to research as it sounds), and found it was great exposure to having hands-on business experience. I competed in case competitions and was honored to have placed as a finalist with my team in the Visa International Case Competition. This summer I worked as a Product and Strategy Intern at an education technology startup called Nimble. The work has been extremely rewarding, but beyond work I have appreciated the relationships formed with my coworkers the most. This Spring has been truly amazing in personal growth and finding balance between my work and social life!

STEVEN GOOD



After doing very poorly in the fall, I managed to pull myself out of the hole with the help of my parents who are very supportive of me. I saw a mental health counselor to help with stress management, and I also had my Disability Services counselor check in with me to see how I was doing. I dedicated my time by studying more, requesting note takers, and utilizing many office hours sessions with my professors. Had I not done those things and not received the support I needed, I would have ended up failing again. This past semester, I retook my general chemistry and engineering programming classes and an introductory piano class and a study skills class. I passed them all with As and Bs. With the COVID-19 restrictions being gradually lifted and vaccinations rolling out, I was able to return to volunteering at my karate dojo. I reduced my volunteer hours to allow me to dedicate more time to school. I'm still attending the engineering club meetings, and I was appointed to be an inter-club council representative for the club for the upcoming school year. I've continued to participate in virtual game nights with the Orange County Aspergers Support Group. This semester is proof that I am perfectly capable of being successful in college, and that my lack of resilience let me down in the fall. I am trying to become more independent and responsible, but it is a process, and I am still grateful for all the support I have been given.

GRADUATES



MARISSA GERCHICK



JUAN LOPEZ



RYAN GERCHICK

Current TDFS Scholars

- Yarin Aparicio**
Beckman High
- Stone Bodini**
Foothill High
- Alanah Calvillo**
Foothill High
- Arissa Calvillo**
Foothill High
- Ella Cardoza**
Foothill High
- Ethan Chung**
Beckman High
- Genevieve Gandara**
Beckman -High
- Darren Gerchick**
Beckman High
- Steven Good**
Foothill High
- Mia Hanson**
Beckman High
- Scott Leandro**
Foothill High
- Daniel Lopez**
Tustin High
- Jose David Lujan**
Beckman High
- Cameron Nguyen**
Beckman High
- Mary Norman**
Foothill High
- William Ortmayer**
Foothill High
- Riley Prendergast**
Beckman High
- Ayushi Sharma**
Tustin High
- Michael Shugarman**
Beckman High
- Austin Stark**
Foothill High
- Macy Stark**
Foothill High
- Isabelle Yardumian**
Tustin High

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - LINDA R. LADD

Dear Members and Friends of TDFS,



Tustin Dollars for Scholars Board of Directors want to officially congratulate Pat Machado on receiving the honor of Tustin Area Woman of the Year for 2020. For those of us that know Pat, know that she is a tireless and devoted volunteer for Tustin Dollars for Scholars, we are proud she is a member of our Board of Directors.

For Pat's over a decade involvement in our organization, she has been a leader and a doer. She has been in leadership roles multiple times serving as Board Secretary for two different terms, Vice President of Membership, Treasurer, and for two years as our organization's President. Pat currently serves on our Board as Past President. With all these jobs within Tustin Dollars for Scholars you would think that would be enough, but not for Pat. Pat has done shopping and food cold storage for our Concerts in the Park food sales every year. Pat is also the editor for our quarterly Newsletter. Pat is also our organization's grant writer.

If you need it done, have Pat do it. Pat is a natural leader and is organized and is gifted in dealing with people. Pat not only volunteers for TDFS but she also volunteers with other community groups including, Tustin Area Council for Fine Arts, Tustin Community Foundation, and Santa Ana – Tustin Rotary to name a few. So, you can see why Dr. Patricia Machado was named as Tustin Area Woman of the Year for 2020. It is definitely a well-deserved recognition. And from your friends and colleagues at Tustin Dollars for Scholars, Congratulations, and WAY TO GO PAT!

SINCERE APPRECIATION TO OUR DONORS

- | | | |
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*memory of Jewell/Dorothy Brown
 +RIP
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CAROLYN WOOD IS HONORED AS A TDFS OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER



On a sunny California June day, members of TACFA joined founding member Carolyn Wood for a delicious lunch at her new home in Orange. The staff set up a beautiful table outdoors for the group and offered a choice of yummy entrees followed by an assortment of homemade cookies. All enjoyed talking to Carolyn and getting updated on her activities. She is busy! TDFS President Linda Ladd presented Carolyn with a special Certificate of Recognition for her many years of volunteer work with the organization. Carolyn joined the group with her friend and former employer, Ceil Kirby Morgan, who was the local manufacturer of Thomas Guides. She mentored many of the current members when they joined the (formerly-named) Tustin Women's Chamber of Commerce who were the founders of the current national affiliate, Tustin Dollars for Scholars. You can always find Carolyn at the Concerts in the Park booth taking orders for our famous and delicious hot dogs, hamburgers, and brats. **Thank you, Carolyn, for your many years of dedication! We love you!**