

Grad-Time Herald

FORMER DFTS SCHOLAR RECIPIENT PHILLIPS PAYS IT FORWARD

Former **Dollars for Tustin Scholars** recipient, **Shaun Phillips**, surprised the Board of Directors with his outstanding generosity with an announcement at the 2023 Scholarship Dinner. Shaun will endow a full \$6,000 scholarship in 2024 to a worthy scholarship applicant! A local attorney with a practice based in Irvine, California, Shaun has been a past donor to the program, but this is his response to “paying it forward” by sharing the successes of his legal practice. Scholarship Vice President Laura Valencia announced the new scholarship at our November meeting. He shared the following comments with Mrs. Valencia:



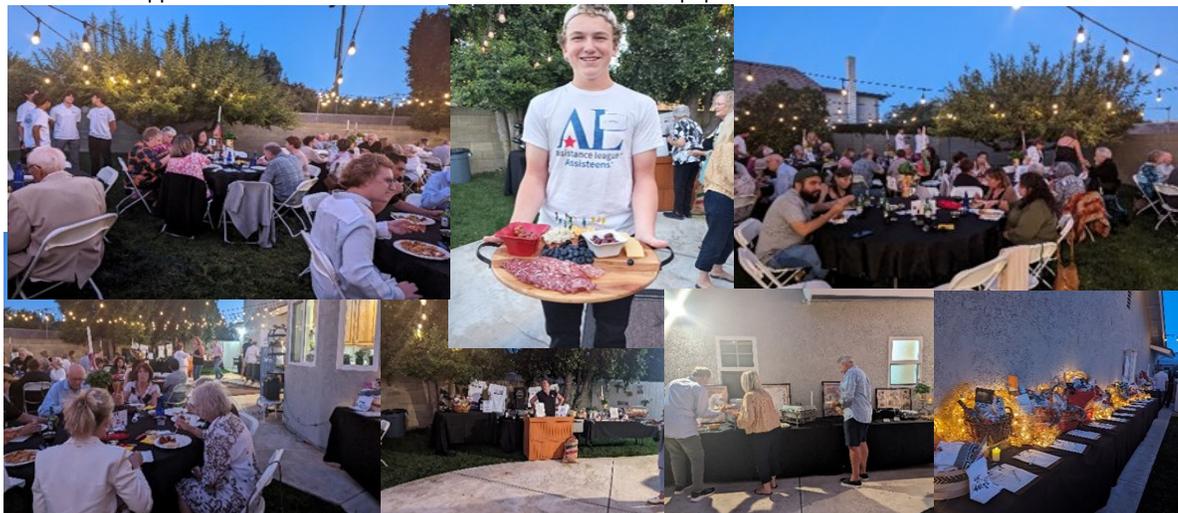
“It was early 2008. I had found a local organization that offered \$5,000 scholarships to students headed to college. The name: Dollars for Tustin Scholars. I applied, I interviewed, and somehow managed to squeeze through a crack – clearly when someone wasn’t paying attention – and was offered a scholarship to help pay my way through UCLA. Well, a lot has happened since then. The speed of life has caught up to me, as it catches up to many of us. I opened the doors to Benchmark Injury Law three years ago, in order to practice law with values: family, integrity, generosity, and service. These are the very same values that I have always experienced, as first a scholarship recipient, and now, a supporter, of DFTS. It was a great privilege this year to be able to “pay it forward,” and donate a scholarship to a lucky recipient who I cannot wait to meet. I have always felt “at home” with DFTS, and I hope to help continue that spirit of fellowship and service going forward. Dollars for Tustin Scholars thanks Shaun Phillips for his financial support and recognition of the importance of supporting Tustin scholars in their dream to complete a college education!”

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ITALIANFEST IS ANOTHER DELICIOUS SUCCESS!

On a beautiful October evening, supporters and guests dined on artisan pizzas, tasty pasta from Roma d’Italia, and scrumptious salads and desserts. Italian wine, beer, and sodas toasted the ambiance of the event. Heartfelt “thank you” to all who supported the Silent and Live Auction items. This annual popular event earned more dollars for our scholars!



VALUABLE DFTS FACTS

- DFTS HAS AWARDED COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS SINCE 1987.
- A DFTS SCHOLARSHIP HAS A VALUE OF \$6,000 (\$1,500 EACH YEAR).
- DFTS IS AN ALL-VOLUNTEER NON-PROFIT 501 c (3) GROUP
- ALL PROFITS FROM ALL EVENTS GO TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS.
- SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED TO GRADUATING SENIORS FROM TUSD HIGH SCHOOLS.

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS TO BE AVAILABLE IN JANUARY

Attention 2024 Graduating TUSD Seniors!!!

Dollars for Tustin Scholars (DFTS) announces the application process for its 2024 scholarships. All graduating TUSD seniors are encouraged to apply! Get information on the this year’s NEW application process on the DFTS website and from your high school counselor. Our website is: <tustindollarsforscholars.org>

SCHOLARS: WHERE ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

STEVEN GOOD



I have finally made it to a university, and so far it's going fairly smoothly. I am taking digital media history, music synthesis, audio recording, and a class on the Adobe Creative Suite. I am struggling a bit in my audio recording class, as there is a lot of memorization required, and my memory is very bad. I participate in many of the campus social events on Mondays through Wednesdays. I occasionally stop by the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) cultural center on campus to hang out. I'm still active in the Orange County Aspergers Support Group, where I attend their monthly game nights when possible. I'm continuing to work at Karate For All. I did volunteer during summer on Tuesday evenings, but I had to stop once school began. I am very grateful to have DFTS's support. Now that I am at CSUDH, tuition is now a lot more than it was at IVC. I have had to buy some expensive equipment for my classes, instead of textbooks.

MICHAEL SHUGARMAN



I'm a junior at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business majoring in Business Management with a minor in Professional Sales and will be interning over the summer with Stryker as a Medical Device Sales Intern in Chicago. This semester has been extremely challenging, as I completed Indiana's Integrative Core semester through the business school. During this program, I learned the principles of Finance, Marketing, Supply Chain, and HR Management. Despite its difficulty, I'm grateful for the experience, as each subject learned has already proven applicable in the professional opportunities I've participated in so far. Lastly, next semester, I'll be studying abroad in Barcelona, where I'll be exploring both academically and through travel across Europe.

MIA MARCHETTI



I am currently attending the University of Wisconsin, Madison as a pre-business major with the intent to study marketing. At Madison, I am a member of the sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma and plan to join a business club, volunteer at local organizations in Madison, and hopefully join a club or intramurals sports team. I can't thank Dollars for Tustin Scholars enough for believing in me and my future. I am so grateful to be part of such a supportive community.

ARISSA CALVILLO



I am in the fall semester of my Junior year at San Diego State University. Over the summer I gained so much confidence and assurance in my skills and future in a marketing career that I decided to drop my finance minor and solely focus on pursuing marketing. I have been very involved in the American Marketing Association at SDSU which has allowed me to network with so many industry professionals, enhance my marketing skills, and has been a huge part in how I landed my internship. I was offered a part time position as the junior organic search specialist for Power Digital. This opportunity is a tremendous step forward in my professional goals and I could not be more thrilled to see the impact this journey will have. I have had to prioritize time management, mental toughness, and a hard work ethic in order to be successful this semester. I am so grateful for Dollars for Tustin Scholars for the support in my college journey. I am very excited for what's to come in my next two years of college.

ELLA CARDOZA



I am a Senior at Michigan State University majoring in Integrative Biology and minoring in environment and Sustainability Studies. I currently have been involved academically and in extracurriculars. I work in the Schrenk Geomicrobiology Laboratory on campus, conducting funded microbiology research on hydrothermal vent microbes. Extracurricular-wise, I started a club, Astrobiology Club, and I am one of the Co-Presidents. In addition, I volunteer through Kappa Delta Alpha Chapter, working with Prevent Child Abuse America and local Girl Scout troops. DFTS means a lot to me, as they help fund my academics, something very important to my and my future! In the future, I want to take a gap year and apply to PhD programs revolving around environmental microbiology and astrobiology. I am interested in doing research in either academia or for the government at NASA.

MARY NORMAN



I am going into my fourth year at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo studying Environmental Engineering. In June, I completed a project on wastewater treatment where I designed a MBBR wastewater treatment system for New Mansoura in Egypt. My project won the international HIVER and IIE competition, and as a reward I was flown to Cairo for a week to participate in a conference with students from Florida, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Jordan, Palestine, and Egypt! This school year I am a fellow for the California College Corps where I am working at the San Luis Obispo Water Resources Recovery Facility doing energy conservation work. This scholarship will not only allow me to continue my education as an Environmental Engineer, but help support my family as well. I am forever grateful for Dollars for Tustin Scholars for supporting me!

GENEVIEVE GANDARA



I am a rising junior majoring in mechanical engineering at Caltech. I am heavily involved in the Engineers Without Borders Club (EWB) and CaltechY volunteer tutoring. This summer, I participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship program at Caltech. I conducted lab-scale experiments of carbonate-based sorbents that absorb over 99% of CO₂ in a gas stream for many hours, with the goal of upscaling to industry with the Caltech start-up company C-Quester. I also went on a surveying trip in the Cotopaxi province of Ecuador to collect technical and social data with the goal of improving the community's water system. I am very grateful to be supported by the generous donors and volunteers of this program.

KIERA McNAMEE



I have officially started my 2nd year at UCLA, and I could not be at a better place as a Business Economics major, a member (and newly appointed social chair) of the Delta Gamma sorority. I feel as though I have found my people at school, and I am so appreciative for the friendships that I have made over my first year. Highlights include participating in the Dance Marathon for 15 hours to fight against Pediatric AIDS, having multiple hometown x school crossovers, having guide dogs present at our philanthropy event. I am so beyond grateful to the Dollars for Tustin Scholars for making all of this possible. This past year has been packed with memories to last a lifetime, and it would not have been possible without you all!

JOSH CUCCI



I am currently a sophomore at San Jose State University, studying aviation and professional flight. I obtained my commercial pilot certificate during the spring semester, and I am now flying with a major aircraft manufacturer across the country as a flight test engineer. I am looking forward to the future and the support to come!

SCHOLARS: WHERE ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

ETHAN CHUNG

I am a senior at UC Berkeley in Bioengineering and Business Administration in the Management, Entrepreneurship, and Technology Program. Being a senior, I am both excited and sad that I will be graduating this year. I am wrapping up most of the requirements for my major, and am taking Business and Bioengineering classes. System Design Automation has been a fun exploration in how to apply coding to the lab setting; currently learning how CRISPR functions on a low-level to process, design, and edit genes. Personal Finance has been an extremely helpful class in learning more about successfully investing and budgeting my money, which seems applicable as I get ready to graduate. Thank you so much to the Dollars for Tustin Scholars community for enabling this great college experience!

YARIN CAMACHO APARICIO



I am a third year student at Johns Hopkins University studying Physics with a minor in Mathematics and a minor in Visual Arts. I am taking courses on Quantum Mechanics, Electromagnetic Theory, Ancient Egypt, and Complex Analysis! I spent my summer working for Johns Hopkins' Center for Talented Youth as a Teaching Assistant for a class on Special Relativity! This was my second summer working for CTY, and each time I grow more aware of my passion for teaching and learning, both as a student and now, as an educator. I've been spending my time playing soccer and rock climbing. I am looking into a research position in a condensed matter lab here on campus, and expect to meet with my prospective mentor sometime in the next two weeks. The money from DFTS will come in especially useful, as I am now paying rent and buying groceries myself, and it is so reassuring to have that extra money in the bank. Thank you very much for all your support! Best wishes from Baltimore!

ALI SHIMABUKU



I am a freshman at the University of Utah, and I am working on a double major in business and film. So far, college has offered me so many new friends, opportunities and freedom! I have been able to use lots of my school resources and attend on campus events to get involved. As a big school, the football games bring lots of excitement to campus and the energy is awesome. One great thing about University of Utah is there is many outdoor opportunities and gets you off campus and moving! I am grateful for my DFTS scholarship because it has enabled me to live in a living learning community which has been my one of my favorite parts of college. Living in my dorm, Lassonde, have given me access to good food, nice facilities, well-designed study spaces, and unlimited coffee. Living here has also connected me with close friends and allowed me to meet people with entrepreneurial goals like me.

KYLIE McMAHON



I am currently attending my first semester at TCU! I am majoring in Strategic communications with a sports emphasis. I have already started an internship with TCU Athletics Creative Content where I help edit and film TCU sports. Additionally, I just joined a sorority called Gamma Phi Beta! I've already participated in a few sisterhood events and it has been so much fun! TCU has so many daily activities for students from petting zoos to football games. I have met many people from across the country I'm glad to call friends. It is still early in the school year, but I already love it here. I would like to thank Dollars for Tustin Scholars for helping fund my college education and all the amazing opportunities that follow.

KAYLA KASHIMA



I am super excited to go into my first year at UCLA as a Human Biology and Society major! While I'm still undecided on what I want to be, I'm leaning towards either becoming a physical therapist and/or entering the medical field or becoming a journalist. I've been preparing for college, swimming at my local swim club, working as a youth and adult swim instructor at Woollett Aquatics Center. I've been a Girl Scout since I was in preschool and earned my Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award. Dollars for Tustin Scholars Organization is truly amazing. Because of their generosity, I know I can now graduate from college without putting my family in major debt. Thank you so much DFTS!

JAMIE QUACH



This first semester at San Diego State has been a very exciting one for me. I took 16 units, and six different courses, ranging from an introduction to the college of science, to a developmental psychology class. Though this was my toughest class because it only meant once a week for a nearly three-hour lecture, the content and connections I built in this class was well worth it. I have been able to explore more in depth into psychology and I liked taking a major specific class. I have also taken up leadership positions. Within my dorm there is a Hall Council where they host events for the dorm. I have taken on the role as President, leading weekly meetings and helping and hosting events.

ANDREW TYSON



Here is a photo of me at a church retreat in Yosemite I did this summer. I am attending Swarthmore College where I am playing lacrosse and majoring in mathematics and statistics and economics and hope to take data analysis or actuarial science. I am taking many difficult classes, like Multi variable calculus and computer science, however I am very interested in them because they could help me with skills I could use for my future jobs. I have joined the Quant club, where we talk about quantitative analysis and how it factors into the "real world" I am so thankful for DFTS because they have given me this opportunity!

ALYSSA GOLDEN



I have started my 2nd year at Brandeis University! When not in classes or studying, I continue to sing in my a capella group, attend Hillel Shabbat dinners, and edit for the Brandeis University Law Journal. I continue to serve as an Associate Justice for Student Union and have partaken in the dining and rules committees. I joined one of the school newspapers and contributed as a copyeditor. Additionally, after hearing that DFTS was in need of a new website, I offered to help out. Between all of my classes and school related activities, I have enjoyed getting to create and manage a new website for the organization. To those who have supported Dollars for Tustin Scholars: thank you! I truly appreciate your generosity and feel lucky to be a Tustin Dollars Scholar!

SCOTT LEANDRO



I graduated in December 2022 from the University of Iowa with a B.B.A in Finance and a minor in Global Health Studies. I started with Deloitte, as an engagement financial advisor. I provide insight to project managers and firm partners for how to improve financial health of projects. I can say that I am so thankful for the flexibility of working remotely and how much my well-being; career success is cared for by the company. In August 2023 my wife, Kylee, and I welcomed our daughter Charlie Elisabeth Leandro into the world! We still reside in Iowa City, IA as we have built so many life-long friendships through our church that saturate my life with abundant joy. Thank you TDFS for contributing to the wonderful life I am able to live!



Current DFTS Scholars

Yarin Aparicio

Beckman High

Ariisa Calvillo

Foothill High

Ella Cardoza

Foothill High

Ethan Chung

Beckman High

Joshua Cucci

Beckman High

Genevieve Gandara

Beckman High

Alyssa Golden

Beckman High School

Steven Good

Foothill High

Kayla Kashima

Foothill High

Mia Marchetti

Foothill High

Kylie McMahon

Foothill High

Kiera McNamee

Foothill High

Cameron Nguyen

Beckman High

Mary Norman

Foothill High

Jamie Quach

Beckman High

Ali Shimabuka

Foothill High

Michael Shugarman

Beckman High

Andrew Tyson

Foothill High

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - LINDA R. LADD

Dear Friends and Members,



Looking back through the years I have served on the Dollars for Tustin Scholars Board; it gives me a great feeling of gratitude in working with our scholarship recipients and their families. Seeing such bright and accomplished students throughout the years gives me great hope for our future.

We have amazing donors and sponsors that help provide funding for our scholarships. Thank you for always supporting us. For all those that have attended our events, Kentucky Derby Party, the Italian

Fest, and our other activities over the years thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Thank you to our Board of Directors who are all volunteers, Jonathan Abelove, Tammis Berkheimer, Richard Nelson, Laura Lynn Valencia., and Pat Machado as well as other volunteers that have helped set up events and worked those events.

Most of all I am hopeful for the future and that Dollars for Tustin Scholars can keep assisting TUSD Seniors the opportunity to make their dreams of a college education come true.

If you want to donate to DFTS or join our merry band of volunteers, please let me know, Lindarladd49@gmail.com.

Regards, Linda Ladd, President, Dollars for Tustin Scholars

SINCERE APPRECIATION TO OUR DONORS

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Ameci Pizza Kitchen+

Anonymous Donor

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Julie & Russell Buetow

Sherri Bull

Sara Cardoza*

Betty Carle

Steve & Cassandra Carroll

Nathan Chandler

Barry & Isela Cooper*

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Kim DeBenedetto*

Mitch DeBenedetto#

Del Mar Racetrack*

Susan Dobak

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Carol Hay

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Roma d'Italia*@

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Saratoga Water *@

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Original Kentucky Derby 2024

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Orange County Mining Company