

SAN BRUNO

Community Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAN BRUNO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS CRESTMoor NEIGHBORHOOD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO TEN OUTSTANDING SAN BRUNO STUDENTS

***Foundation Awards \$160,000 in Multi-Year Scholarships
to Recognize Scholars' Service to the San Bruno Community***

San Bruno, California, May 20, 2024 – The San Bruno Community Foundation today announced the 2024 recipients of the Crestmoor Neighborhood Memorial Scholarship. Founded in 2016, the Scholarship provides multi-year college scholarship awards to exceptional San Bruno students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the San Bruno community. The 2024 Crestmoor Scholars are Capuchino High School seniors Justin Chan, Xenia Gomez Iñiguez, Emilio Ramirez, Sareena Robinson, Jessilyn Rodriguez, and Kaley Shum, and Skyline College students Celina Buncayo, Camille Catolos, Eden Huang, and Thet Mon Kyaw.

The Foundation created the Crestmoor Scholarship in 2016 in honor of the community members most directly affected by the disaster, especially the eight San Bruno residents who lost their lives. The scholarship program ensures that the tragedy of September 9, 2010, is not forgotten and that the resiliency, teamwork, leadership, and commitment to community displayed throughout San Bruno in the aftermath of the explosion are honored in the annual

recipients of the Scholarship. Since 2016, 91 deserving San Bruno students have received Crestmoor Scholarships totaling \$1,355,000.

In 2024, the Foundation is awarding multi-year scholarships totaling \$160,000. Headed to four-year colleges in the fall, Chan (who will attend UC San Diego), Gomez Iñiguez (UC Berkeley), Ramirez (San Francisco State University), Robinson (UC Berkeley), Rodriguez (UC Berkeley), and Shum (UCLA) will each receive a \$20,000 scholarship (\$5,000 a year for four years). As transfer students, Buncayo (who is headed to UC Berkeley), Catolos (UC Santa Cruz), Huang (UC Berkeley), and Kyaw (UC Berkeley) will each receive \$10,000 in scholarship funding (\$5,000 a year for two years).

“We are thrilled to help the 2024 Crestmoor Scholars realize their dream of pursuing a college degree, and our investment in them is an investment in San Bruno’s future,” said Malissa Netane-Jones, President of the Foundation’s Board of Directors. “The Crestmoor Scholars’ service to San Bruno spans a wide range of involvement – from educating classmates on recycling and composting, to tutoring peers and younger children, to mentoring girls interested in pursuing careers in STEM, to promoting mental health service awareness, to founding and leading a diverse set of student organizations – that is truly inspiring. We look forward to seeing these students continue their studies in computer science, astrophysics, political science, biology, and other fields.”

This year, the Foundation received 66 applications for the Crestmoor Scholarship. In selecting the 2024 recipients from a highly competitive applicant pool, the Foundation’s selection panel evaluated, first and foremost, applicants’ demonstrated engagement in the San Bruno community, as well as their financial need, academic record, extracurricular activities, and examples of leadership, teamwork, and collaboration – important qualities that were displayed throughout the San Bruno community in the aftermath of the 2010 explosion and fire. Brief biographies of the ten 2024 Crestmoor Scholars can be found on the Foundation’s website at www.sbcf.org.

SBCF is funding the 2024 Crestmoor Scholarship with investment proceeds from a portion of the restitution funds resulting from the City of San Bruno's settlement with Pacific Gas & Electric Company following the 2010 gas pipeline explosion that devastated San Bruno's Crestmoor neighborhood, as well as a generous donation from Allan and Mary Lou Johnson.

The Foundation will recognize the 2024 Crestmoor Scholars at its June 5, 2024, Board meeting which will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the San Bruno Senior Center, 1555 Crystal Springs Road, San Bruno. Community members are welcome to attend in person and will have the opportunity to meet the Crestmoor Scholars at 6:30 p.m. at a reception preceding the Board meeting. The public may also attend the Board meeting virtually on Zoom, starting at 7:00 p.m.:

Zoom Webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83803625077?pwd=UVNTcDJoY1ZoTkxvZUFjbFVhWEFkQT09>

Webinar ID: 838 0362 5077

Passcode: 531303

Dial-in: (669) 900-6833

The San Bruno Community Foundation is the nonprofit organization created by the City of San Bruno to administer the \$70 million in restitution funds received from PG&E after the devastating 2010 gas pipeline explosion in San Bruno's Crestmoor neighborhood. The Foundation serves the San Bruno community by investing in projects, programs, services, and facilities that have significant and lasting benefits. Through making grants, leveraging partnerships, and taking advantage of other resources, the SBCF assists and enables the community to maximize shared investments and realize their subsequent enhancements and benefits. For more information, visit www.sbcf.org.

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The San Bruno Community Foundation honors 10 San Bruno students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the San Bruno community with multi-year college scholarships totaling \$160,000.



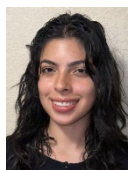
CELINA BUNCAYO: Having grown up in an underserved community in the Philippines, Celina understands the importance of political empowerment. As a political science major at Skyline College, she founded the Politics and Civic Engagement Club, served as a student senator, tutored other students in reading and writing, and has been a leader of the Honors Club. Celina has also worked at an elementary school afterschool program, volunteered on a local county supervisorial campaign, and interned at a voter outreach nonprofit. This fall, Celina will transfer to UC Berkeley, with the goal of becoming an immigration attorney.



CAMILLE CATOLES: As a woman in STEM, Camille is a trailblazer dedicated to helping women and students of color achieve their potential in the sciences. At Skyline College, Camille has been a leader of the Women in Science Engineering Represent and Computer Science clubs, served as a peer tutor at Skyline's STEM Center, led a Scratch programming workshop at the Expanding Your Horizons conference for teen girls, and volunteered with Girls Who Code. Transferring to UC Santa Cruz, Camille plans to major in computer science and explore uses of artificial intelligence in health care and the environmental sciences.



JUSTIN CHAN: Captivated by technology from a young age, Justin will study computer engineering at UC San Diego. At Capuchino High School, where he is a scholar in the International Baccalaureate diploma program, Justin has served as president of the Coding Club and mentored other students interested in artificial intelligence and programming. Motivated by a desire to minimize school lunch waste, he became president of the Environmental Club, educating classmates on recycling and composting and leading community cleanup efforts. Justin also played on the badminton team and led the Chinese Culture Club.



XENIA GOMEZ IÑIGUEZ: Xenia is a leader committed to a life of service. As student body president and a member of the School Site Council at Capuchino High School, Xenia has spoken out against hate speech, gun violence, and sexual harassment and helped to foster a safe, supportive, and creative place for student learning. To motivate young girls to pursue STEM interests, she founded the SAGEx Club at Parkside Intermediate School and served as a Mathnasium tutor. She was captain of the track and field team, specializing in shotput and discus. This fall, Xenia will begin her undergraduate studies in astrophysics at UC Berkeley.



EDEN HUANG: Eden is passionate about data science and exploring how data-driven technology can provide innovative solutions to benefit local communities. As a math major at Skyline College, Eden founded the Data Science Club and has been active in the Computer Science and Engineering and Robotics clubs. He participated in the 2023 Winter Research Scholars Internship program, returning the following year as a mentor for other participants. Eden has also regularly volunteered at the weekly Second Harvest food distribution on the Skyline campus. Eden will transfer to UC Berkeley as a data science major this fall.



THET MON KYAW: Thet's journey from a childhood spent in refugee camps on the Myanmar-Thailand border to Skyline College, where he studied public health, to UC Berkeley, where he will enroll this fall, fuels his drive for public service. Thet aspires to become a physician serving underrepresented communities in refugee camps and war-torn areas. At Skyline, Thet founded the Myanmar Students Union, served as a peer instruction leader at the STEM Center, tutored ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) students in writing and English courses, and promoted mental health service awareness as a health ambassador.



EMILIO RAMIREZ: Family members' battles with cancers have inspired Emilio's dreams of becoming a neurosurgeon and providing care to families in need. A scholar in the International Baccalaureate diploma program at Capuchino High School, Emilio has served as co-president of the Leos Club, vice president of the Environmental Club, volunteer for the San Bruno Period Drive, and member of the Interact, Samosa, and Women's Advocacy clubs. He also played on the high school baseball team all four years. Emilio plans to study biology at San Francisco State University.



SAREENA ROBINSON: Sareena is a Capuchino High School scholar in the International Baccalaureate diploma program and a dedicated member of the San Bruno community. As president of the Math Club and a peer tutor, Sareena loves helping other students. She co-founded the Samosa Club in an effort to educate others about Desi culture, and as a black belt, Sareena supports other youth as a karate instructor. Sareena is also an entrepreneur, providing administrative support to one Etsy shop and launching her own sticker business. Sareena plans to study electrical engineering and computer science at UC Berkeley.



JESSILYN RODRIGUEZ: Jessilyn is determined to become a doctor and, utilizing her Spanish-speaking skills, provide compassionate medical care to underserved communities. In pursuit of that goal, Jessilyn volunteers in the emergency department at Mills-Peninsula Medical Center, participated in Kaiser Permanente's Summer Careers Pathways program, interned with cardiothoracic surgeons at Stanford, and is in the International Baccalaureate diploma program at Capuchino High School. Jessilyn has also been active in the Latino Unidos, Folklorico, and Interact clubs. Jessilyn will begin her studies at UC Berkeley this fall.



KALEY SHUM: A self-described "people person," Kaley loves giving back to her community. She particularly enjoys nurturing and engaging with children, which she has done as a swim instructor, lifeguard, and Junior Giants coach. An International Baccalaureate diploma student at Capuchino High School, Kaley has served as president of the Environmental Club, vice president of the Leos Club, and as captain of both the tennis and badminton teams. Kaley is passionate about addressing the causes and impacts of climate change, and she plans to major in cognitive science at UCLA.