

Club Honors 20 With

The Club's Joannie Mukai Scholarship Program

Congratulations!

The Club family is filled with young people of promise, hope, service... and achievement.

The Club is pleased to announce the winners of the Club's annual Scholarship Program for 2013. The Club's Scholarship program was named for the late Joannie Mukai, the former Club Board Member who passed away in 2010.

Those eligible included Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2013.

Here are the recipients of the 20 scholarships:

- Bryanne Carter, daughter of Alisa Carter, LAPD;
- Monica DeLoera, daughter of Jorge DeLoera, Rec and Parks;
- Lorena De La Peña, daughter of Miguel Barcenas, Housing;
- Chelsea Cardenas, daughter of Hector Cardenas, DWP;
- Hayley Gladson, daughter of Greg Gladson, Airports;

Here are brief profiles of the awardees:



BRYANNE CARTER

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Bryanne graduated from St. Anthony High School in Long Beach and plans to attend Hollins University in Virginia in the fall, studying mechanical engineering.

At St. Anthony, Bryanne was involved in the Tournament of Roses Parade,

the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles and the Avon Walk, and with her church. She was also involved in campus ministry, the cheerleading squad, student government, diversity week, outreach to elementary schools and to children taken into protective custody (through the LAPD) and the California Scholarship Federation, and was a member of the National Honor Society.

"I have enjoyed my time in high school," she wrote in her application essay. "I will miss seeing my friends, but I also look forward to trying new things and meeting new people. I can't wait to share my experiences with others, and I look forward to expanding my community involvement as I continue my education in college."

She's the daughter of Alisa Carter, LAPD.

throughout high school have made me a more resilient and persistent individual, and that these qualities will aid me in overcoming the obstacles that are yet to come."

She's the daughter of Jorge DeLoera, Rec and Parks.



LORENA DE LA PEÑA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Lorena graduated from Independence High School in Bakersfield and plans to attend the University of California, Davis, in the fall, majoring in chemistry.

In high school, she played sports all four years, was the vice president of

the medical club and treasurer for the forensics/speech and debate club. She graduated with honors. She earned the "best writer" award from the Energy and Utility Academy. She volunteered at the Carriage House Retirement Home, the (Kern County) Sheriff's Activities League, at St. Philip the Apostle Church, and in a teen outreach program.

"After having earned my Bachelor's degree, I hope to go on to medical school to fulfill my dream of becoming a brain surgeon," she writes. "Another future goal of mine, which I am currently working on, is to inspire my younger sister; every day I try to be the best role model I can for her I hope that, by achieving my college plans and growing as an individual, that she does the same."

She's the daughter of Miguel Barcenas, Housing.



MONICA DELOERA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Monica graduated from Baldwin Park High School and plans to attend the University of California, Irvine, in the fall, studying in the School of Physical Sciences.

At Baldwin Park High School, she was a member of the orchestra (violin) and was

the orchestra's librarian, she was the treasurer of the Art Club, she played badminton, and she performed as part of the Relay for Life and the "El Día de la Virgen de Guadalupe" festival. She graduated with honors. She also volunteered at Kaiser Permanente.

"I would like to become a scientist and find solutions to the pollution issues that are developing across the planet today.

"Everyone knows that it is one thing to simply have a dream, and another thing to actually take the steps necessary to make that dream come true. I firmly believe that, although my road to success has only begun, I am taking the correct steps to ensure I am on the right track. I am confident that my struggles to achieve my goals



CHELSEA CARDENAS

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Chelsea graduated from Alhambra High School and plans to attend San Francisco State University in the fall, studying biology.

At Alhambra, she was co-captain of the cross-country team, and she was the fundraising chair, tutor and

ambassador for the Advanced Placement program. She is also a caregiver at her church.

At age 12, Chelsea was diagnosed with *anorexia nervosa*. "At such a tender age, still just a child, I had to evaluate what was important in my life, like staying healthy and doing well in school,"

THE CLUB

Mukai Scholarships

for 2013 awards \$500 to 20 members of the Club family.

- Royce Wilson, son of Juanita Carter, Library;
- Sydney Young, daughter of Charlette Rodgers Starkey, Personnel;
- Tiffany Riser, daughter of Timothy Riser, Airports;
- Lindsay Vega, daughter of Pierre Vega, Building and Safety;
- Angelica Torres, daughter of Salvador Torres, Public Works;
- Nataleigh Maia, daughter of Donald Maia, Airports;
- Ashley Collins, daughter of Anselmo Collins, DWP;
- Bethany Costa, daughter of Samuel Costa, Airports;
- Baylee Gerardo, daughter of Albert Gerardo, Public Works;
- Patricia Sanchez, daughter of Patrick Sanchez, DWP;
- Aryel Gilmer, daughter of Tonja Bellard-Evans, Personnel;
- Alexandria Huerta, daughter of Maria Pena, General Services;
- Deepak Atyam, son of Suneeta Atyam, Building and Safety;
- Austen Ma, son of Thomas Woo, Public Works; and
- Jessica Wheelles, daughter of Christina Wheelles, DWP.

Congratulations to the awardees, and the Club wishes the best success to all those who applied.

she writes. "I view this part of my life as my greatest achievement, since overcoming *anorexia nervosa* meant life. After overcoming such a life-threatening and emotionally debilitating disease, I came to view life in a whole new perspective; it is worth every second of an upward battle because your prize is your life. And you get to choose how you will use it."

She's the daughter of Hector Cardenas, DWP.



HAYLEY GLADSON

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Hayley graduated from Heritage High School in Menifee and plans to attend Cal State San Marcos in the fall as a pre-health major.

In high school, she was active in golf, volleyball and softball, and she graduated with academic honors. She participated in Relay for Life and with the Ontario Airport Firefighters' Children Fund.

"Some people are in their career for the money, and yes, that plays a big part in all our lives," she writes. "But my real reasoning behind my choice [to pursue nursing] is because I want to make a difference in this world. Not only do I want to be known as 'the nurse

at the hospital,' but I want to be a friend to those who are unable to care for themselves. Just making one person smile is what makes all your hard work worth something. I want to be that person who can bring happiness to one's life, and if I can do that through saving a life, then I will feel that I have lived life for that it's worth."

She's the daughter of Greg Gladson, Airports.



ROYCE WILSON

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Royce graduated from Torrance High School and plans to attend San Francisco State University in the fall, seeking a degree in business administration.

In high school, Royce had perfect attendance and participated in the Kiwanis Service Club and was a student rep for the PTSA. He volunteered as part of the St. Margaret Mary Youth Ministry, the Guidance Church, the Armed Forces Day, the National AYSO Soccer Games in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Heal the Bay. He won the AYSO Character Counts Award in 2009 and 2010.

"In my life, I have seen too many African-American males choose the wrong path," he writes. "I am an African-American male who is determined to succeed. I am walking on the right path.

"In the future, I see myself as an advertiser utilizing my business administration/marketing degree from San Francisco State to reach out to the poor in urban communities. I am going to college to realize my full potential, which I will measure in how much I can do for others."

He's the son of Juanita Carter, Library.



SYDNEY YOUNG

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Sydney graduated from St. Mary's Academy in Inglewood and plans to attend Howard University in Washington, D.C., in the fall.

At St. Mary's Academy, she was a cheerleader and cheer captain, a spirit ambassador, a member of the National Art Honor Society, and in the Advanced Placement Laureate Club. She was a National Art Honor Society scholar, and AP Scholar, and was on the second honor roll. She volunteered at the Petsave Foundation.

"Just as discovering my [late] grandfather's sketchbook influenced me [to become an artist], my goal is to develop a three-prong plan

to influence the children in my community," she writes. "As an African American, my goals are to leave a legacy that will provide direction for students who are unable to travel; to enter the world of artistic expression; and to make a living in this chosen field. After college, I'd like to work with my local city government to establish a public program dedicated to providing children with hands-on experience in the visual arts."

She's the daughter of Charlette Rodgers Starkey, Personnel.



TIFFANY RISER

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

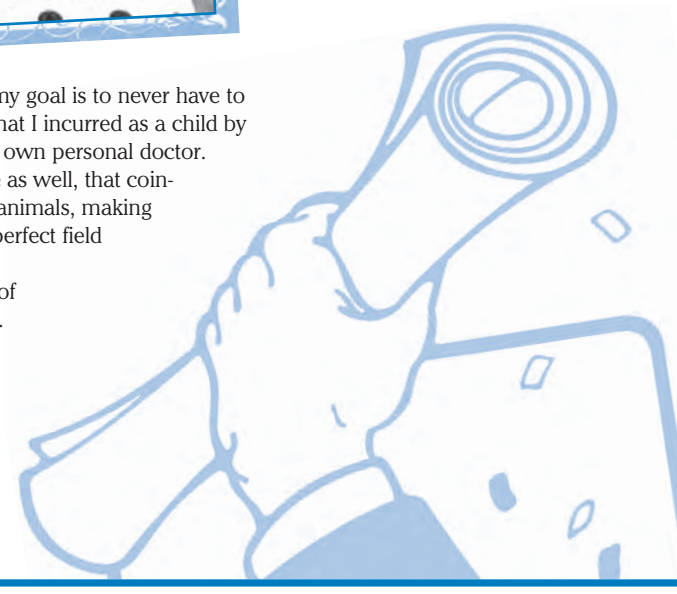
Tiffany graduated from King High School in Riverside and currently attends Cal Poly Pomona, where she is studying animal science.

Her application lists more than three pages of community service and scholastic achievements, including academic, musical, artistic and spiritual accomplishments.

"My whole life... I have cared for, loved and cried over the many animals I have had that passed away because we were not always able to offer them the prime health care that they needed," she writes.

"And now my goal is to never have to experience the losses that I incurred as a child by becoming my animals' own personal doctor. I have a love of science as well, that coincides with my love for animals, making veterinary science the perfect field for me."

She's the daughter of Timothy Riser, Airports.





LINDSY VEGA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Lindsay graduated from Glendora High School and will begin her fourth year at Cal State Fullerton in the fall, majoring in communicative disorders.

She lists three pages of high school and college honors, activities and volunteerism, notably: basketball, Camp Titan and Ronald McDonald House, academic honors, food drives and the Japanese Community Center in the San Gabriel Valley.

"I hope to specialize as a speech therapist in either stuttering or autism," she writes. "I know that my job will require much patience and repetition, but I am

more than glad to fulfill that need. It will be a test of my skills as a speech language pathologist, and also something rewarding to remind myself why I love helping people speak to the world around them."

She's the daughter of Pierre Vega, Building and Safety.



ANGELICA TORRES

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Angelica graduated from Golden Valley High School in Eagle Rock and plans to attend the University of California, Santa Cruz in the fall, majoring in anthropology.

In high school, she was a member of the Key Club and the National Honor Society. She participated in cross-country and soccer. She volunteered with the Girl Scouts, Million Meals (for Haiti) and doing readings at her church.

"Growing up in Eagle Rock, I was surrounded by people whose cultures were not like my own," she writes. "Being surrounded by them, I got to learn a little bit about their cultures and compared them

to the traditions of my own culture. Then, in high school, when I got to learn about cultures worldwide not only in the classroom but from my new-found friends at my new high school, my desire to learn more about where all these different cultures came from grew stronger. Now I get the chance to satisfy my desire by studying and researching different cultures at the university level."

She's the daughter of Salvador Torres, Public Works.



NATALEIGH MAIA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Nataleigh attends Biola University in La Mirada and plans to be a nurse.

She volunteers with the Children's Hunger Fund, Operation Christmas Child and the music ministry at her church, visiting the elderly at convalescent homes, giving away backpacks to the homeless, and at Kaiser Permanente. In high school, she was involved in sports and cheerleading.

"I want eventually to become a head nurse and go into a specialized field, and I am interested in children's oncology," she writes. "I will continue to be a hard-working, dedicated student and stay focused

on my lifelong dream of becoming a nurse."

She's the daughter of Donald Maia, Airports.



ASHLEY COLLINS

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Ashley plans to attend Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass., in the fall.

In high school, she achieved academic honors, played the flute/piccolo in a concert band, and participated in the Key Club and the California State Girls Conference. She volunteered with the Special Olympics, "Meeting Each Need With Dignity," at the Santa Clarita Public Library, and at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church.

"I have accepted tolerance for the uniqueness of other people," she writes. "I hope to apply this compassionate and cooperative

spirit on a global scale, and my openness to new people and ideas has contributed to my dream of working at the United Nations, an organization in which I hope to participate because I want to dedicate my life to encouraging international cooperation that can transcend race, religion, or any other divisive category. I will always be able to use my unique perspective to impact a world, which, like me, is innately multicultural."

She's the daughter of Anselmo Collins, Airports.



BETHANY COSTA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Bethany attends Pacific Union College in Napa Valley in the fall.

Bethany lists volunteer and school activities, including academic, music, cultural and service-based involvements.

"As an accomplished student and performer, I do aspire of becoming a doctor," she writes. "I am currently working to achieve a Bachelor of Science degree in music while fulfilling pre-medical requirements. Music has always been an outlet for me to express my creativity and relieve stress from academic pressures."

"Although my decisions to study music and become a doctor are two contrasting ideas, I believe that

I will be able to accomplish this goal with compassion, perseverance, and optimism. My past achievements inspire me to become a better person every day, and continue to motivate me to work toward my future."

She's the daughter of Samuel Costa, Airports.



BAYLEE GERARDO

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Baylee graduated from the Pacoima Charter School and plans to attend Cal State Channel Islands in the fall.

In high school, she was involved in the yearbook, softball and cheerleading, and won academic honors. She volunteered as a youth ministry group leader, at the YMCA, and at the San Fernando Valley Summer Camp.

"I have every intention of using every skill that I have gained from my family, community, school and parish, in my life to come," she writes. "I know that anything I put my mind to, I can surely succeed."

"I'm not afraid of not being good enough, because if I've made it this far with getting accepted to each and every college I applied to, I know I can achieve all of my goals. It's clear to me that, just like Milton Berle once said, 'If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.'"

She's the daughter of Albert Gerardo, Public Works.



PATRICIA SANCHEZ

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Patricia graduated from Bellflower High School and plans to attend UCLA this fall, studying biology.

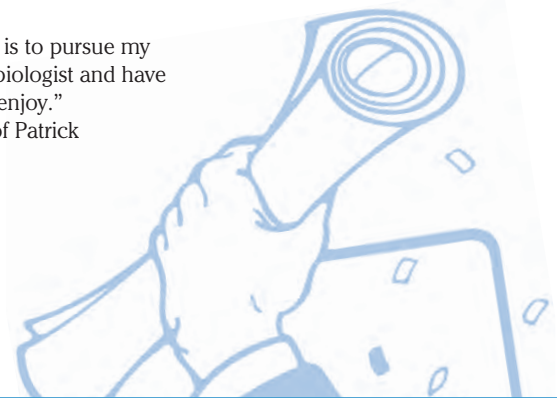
In high school, she participated in the history club, the speech team, music, the Key Club and the California Scholarship Federation, earning academic honors. She volunteered for the Relay for Life, the AIDS Walk, the Tournament of Roses Parade, and a Chamber of Commerce Trick or Treat event.

"Between achieving highest honors, speech tournament awards, choral awards, and other forms of academic recognition, I have learned that one of the most valued

attributes one could have is assiduousness," she writes. "My drive to succeed has carried me through my high school years and has inspired me to always try my best in school and everywhere else. I know this realization will do wonders for me as it has already contributed to much of my success thus far."

"My underlying goal is to pursue my dreams of becoming a biologist and have a career I will sincerely enjoy."

She's the daughter of Patrick Sanchez, DWP.





Mukai Scholarships

– CONTINUED



ARYEL GILMER

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Aryel attends Azusa Pacific University, having earned her Bachelor's degree in business administration, and is now continuing on toward her MBA.

She is on the dean's list, is a member of the Scholars for Business Achievement club, the Faith Foundation, and helped lead personal finance workshops for students. She has also worked at Faith Community Church as a ministry leader and media volunteer. She volunteers with children whose parents are in prison, and helps clean the lawns of the elderly.

"It is not by accident that I have been blessed with the opportunity

to be part of a community that fosters a love for higher education," she writes. "Through the collaboration with my advisers, my mentors and other students, I have been greatly impacted by the accountability in my academic journey.

"As I begin a new chapter in life, I am eagerly waiting to leap into the next opportunity."

She's the daughter of Tonja Bellard-Evans, Personnel.



AUSTEN MA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Austen graduated from Ayala High School in Chino Hills and plans to attend UCLA in the fall, studying biology.

He was active in the school band, the percussion ensemble and the archery alliance all four years in high school, and has been a musical instructor at local schools. He has also achieved academic honors.

"Four years ago... a catastrophic accident left me completely blind in one eye, with little to no hope of ever recovering any vision," he writes. "It was the miracle of modern science that did what no one thought was humanly possible – it allowed the blind to see again.

"My ultimate goal is to become an essential part in the restoration of those who have been hurt. I am well aware of the healing abilities that all people have upon the people around them, and I seek to contribute to this honorable field of action. My pursuit of becoming a doctor embodies my aspiration to fully harness the power of healing for those suffering around me, just as my doctors have done for me."

He's the son of Thomas Woo, Public Works.



ALEXANDRIA HUERTA

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Alexandria graduated from St. Paul High School in Santa Fe Springs and plans to attend the University of California, Davis, in the fall, studying neurobiology, physiology and behavior.

She played basketball in high school, won academic honors, and participated in the yearbook, the Associated Student Body, the drama dept., the Ambassador's Club, the Spanish Honor Society and the National Honor Society. She volunteered at the Whittier Public Library, Harbor UCLA Medical Center, as a mock trial student coach, for the Soroptomists, the March for Hunger, and for the AIDS Walk.

"A higher education will help me apply my knowledge in the medical field," she writes. "I aspire to become a highly noted neurobiologist in the world of medicine. While my height has not changed since freshman year, my perspective on the world has. I have gained a clear vision of how I want the world to be in ten years, and I am ecstatic because I know I have what it takes to make my visions real. My time within the walls of my room is dwindling to an end, and I am eager to live up to my full potential and become my dreams."

She's the daughter of Maria Pena, General Services.



JESSICA WHEELLES

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Jessica graduated from West Ranch High School in Stevenson Ranch, and plans to attend San Diego State University in the fall, studying chemistry.

In high school, she was involved in the choir and the glee club, and she volunteered building bicycles for homeless children. She also earned academic honors.

"Having a chemistry background, I can then venture into the research of new drugs and cures," she writes. "This is my highest-ranking goal for my future. I want, more than anything, to create new drugs that will help people. I want to research and study and invent ways to possibly

cure cancer and diabetes and other ailments that plague not only my family, but every other family in the world. I don't care for the recognition or the prestige; I just want to do something that will change people's lives for the better. I want to create a world where there is no fear of dying young."

She's the daughter of Christina Wheelles, DWP.



DEEPAK ATYAM

\$500 Joannie Mukai Scholarship Recipient

Deepak attends the University of California, San Diego, studying aerospace engineering.

He interned at the Jet Propulsion Lab, where he worked on the Curiosity Mars rover; the Langley Research Center (NASA); and the Marshall Space Flight Center (NASA). At UCSD, he created and is the president of the Triton Rocket Club, and participates in Students for the Exploration and Development of Space and Model United Nations. He plays Ultimate Frisbee and plays in the marching band and wind symphony. He volunteers as a science/math outreach mentor, for beach cleanup and blood drives, and he

mentors high school students.

"My experiences as the president of the Triton Rocket Club, Students for the Development of Space Club, and internships with NASA have given me amazing opportunities to learn and work in the space-based industry," he writes. "I know that the industry of tomorrow needs innovative technology as well as great leaders to move forward. I am prepared to build on my past experiences and remain confident that I will be an integral part in the future of space travel."

He's the son of Suneeta Atyam, Building and Safety.

