

RSF HONORS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AT ANNUAL CEREMONY

The Rossmoor Scholarship Foundation (RSF) held its annual Awards Ceremony and Reception at the Events Center on Sunday afternoon, May 26. This year RSF awarded \$340,000 (the most RSF ever raised annually) in \$3,500 scholarships to 84 students--the most students ever awarded a stipend in a single year. Students were from six local high schools and Diablo Valley (DVC) and Los Medanos Colleges.

During the first-hour reception, students and their proud parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends mingled with RSF trustees and donors while sampling the beverage and food, including two huge fruit plates donated by Diablo Foods. They posed for photos before moving to the Tahoe Room, where RSF President Shirley Wiegand greeted everyone before turning the formal ceremony over to her husband Wayne, a fellow RSF Trustee. Seated on stage behind Shirley and Wayne were donors of named scholarships and add-on awards.

Wayne initially paid tribute to the families that have been supporting scholarship winners all their lives, then introduced Veronica Cheung, 2023 RSF scholarship winner and DVC graduate now attending UC Berkeley majoring in Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences. “Promise yourself to remember the emotions you feel today, all the pride and joy,” she advised. “When times are rough, remind yourself ... how wondrous it is to be recognized and awarded by the lovely folks of Rossmoor, and let that fuel your mind, body, and soul.”

After Veronica finished, all scholarship students marched across the stage, school by school, to receive their scholarship certificates. As they accepted the certificate, students identified their birthplace and the college they would be attending. Most will be attending California campuses (e.g., Davis, Berkeley, Sacramento State, San Diego State).

As students accepted their certificates Wayne also identified those receiving named scholarships, including ten students who received Diablo Subaru “Share the Love” Scholarships, four who received Lorraine Mox Memorial Scholarships, four who received Rossmoor Rotary Club Scholarships, and individual students receiving the Miller Family, Mike Seither Memorial, Joe Anthony, Larry Cahn, Gene Shaw, Penny

Ittner, and Rossmoor Realty scholarships. He also acknowledged students receiving add-on awards of an additional \$2,500, including the Calvin Hagstrom Family Trust (3 students), the Computer Club of Rossmoor (2 students), the Walsh/Ledin Instrumental Music Add-on (2 students), the Sylvia Kaplan Community Service Add-on (2 students), the Eleanor Knapp Single Mothers Add-on (3 students), the Frank Wang Chinese American Association of Rossmoor Add-on (2 students), the Linda Ledgerwood Employed Students, the Social Justice, and the Eleana Peratis Women in STEM Add-ons (each given to one student).

In addition to choosing recipients from local high schools and community colleges, each year RSF also awards two scholarships to GRF employes or their children. Rossmoorians read about recipients Cynthia Garcia and Angel Gonzalez in RSF trustee Patsy Sharaf's article about them in the June 12 issue of the Rossmoor News.

In her closing remarks, Shirley Wiegand reminded her audience that RSF trustees always cover all administrative expenses--including the expenses associated with the Awards Ceremony—to guarantee what has now become an RSF “birdsong” statement (beautiful to hear, but ever consistent) that Rossmoor News readers have read scores of times over the years: “Every dollar donated goes into a scholarship” for local students who are academically gifted but financially hard pressed.

Submitted by: Wayne A. Wiegand, RSF Trustee

Accompanying photos by: Mark Forrette and Lori Wong