

Council Message

n behalf of the entire City Council, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 City of Commerce Scholarship Program Awards Breakfast.

To all the scholarship recipients here today, I extend my heartfelt congratulations. Each one of you exemplifies the potential and promise within our city. Your dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment have not only brought pride to our community but also served as an inspiration to others.

As you embark on your journey through higher education, know that the City Council stands beside you, supporting you every step of the way. We believe in your ability to make a difference in the world and have full confidence that you will excel in all your endeavors.

I would also like to express our gratitude to all the donors who have contributed to the City of Commerce Scholarship Program. Your belief in the power of education and your willingness to invest in the future of our students has not gone unnoticed. Your contributions have transformed lives, opening doors of opportunity that may have otherwise remained closed.

Your partnership with the City of Commerce is truly valued and appreciated. We applaud your commitment to making a positive impact in our community, and we wish you continued success in your respective businesses and endeavors.

Once again, congratulations to all the scholarship recipients. May your achievements today be the steppingstones to a bright and prosperous future. We are proud of each and every one of you, and we look forward to witnessing your continued success in the years to come.

Thank you all for joining us today and for being a part of this special celebration. Together, we can create a better tomorrow for the City of Commerce and its residents.

Mayor Argumedo



Education Commission

The Education Commission is honored to congratulate this year's scholarship recipients. It is an honor to witness the talent and educational drive the residents of the City of Commerce possess. We as the Education Commission make it a goal to support the library in any educational components it provides.

We would like to thank the donors who have made a profound difference in the lives of our scholars, enabling them to pursue their educational dreams and achieve their goals. As we continue our mission to empower the next generation through education, we want you to know that your generosity is the driving force behind our success. Together we are creating a ripple effect of change that will be felt through years to come.

Again, congratulations to all and much success in your future educational endeavors.

Director of Library Services

On behalf of the Commerce Library, it is my immense pleasure to congratulate you on being selected as the recipient of our scholarship. generously funded by our local businesses and community. This achievement is a true testament to all your hard work, dedication, and academic excellence.

Receiving a scholarship does not only recognize your outstanding academic performance but also highlights your potential and promise for future success. We are immensely proud of your accomplishment and trust that this scholarship will serve as a steppingstone toward achieving your academic and career goals. We look forward to witnessing your continued accomplishments!

Our scholarships are generously funded by our local businesses and community. We are truly grateful to our donors for their continued support and investment in the education of our students.

We look forward to witnessing your continued accomplishments, and warmly remind you that your Commerce Library is always here for any educational needs you might have. Once again, congratulations on this well-deserved scholarship.

Sonia Bautista, Director of Library Services



History of the City of Commerce Scholarship Program

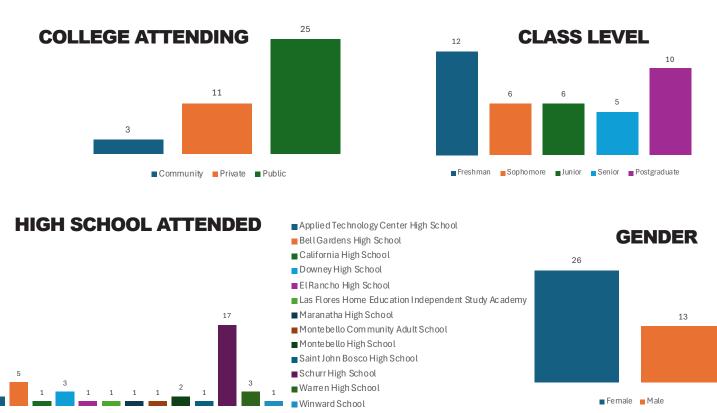
The City of Commerce Scholarship Program began in 1980. In its earliest years, donations were given from local civic organizations and service clubs. Scholarships ranged from \$50-\$300. The program proved to be very successful and well received. Before long, contributions began coming in from the business community, as well as from civic groups. Scholarship increased both in the size of the award and in the number given. In 2024, scholarships ranging from \$1,000-\$4,000 will be awarded to 39 Commerce residents.

The Commerce City Council is dedicated to promoting education in the community and is happy to help make a college education more available to its residents. Statistics from the National Center for Education show that in 2020, the median earnings of those with a master's or higher degree were \$69,700, some 17 percent higher than the earnings of those with a bachelor's degree (\$59,600). In the same year, the median earnings of those with a bachelor's degree (\$59,600). In the same year, the median earnings of those with a bachelor's degree (\$59,600).

Winners.... at a Glance

Thirty-nine Commerce residents were awarded scholarships for the year 2024. They represent a wide array of backgrounds, interests, and talents. They represent our heritage and give us reason to be proud. They have many experiences and dreams set before them. Collectively, they represent our future.

"Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence." - Abigail Adams



2024 City of Commerce Scholarship Program Scholars





Dianne D. Chevez Hernandez East Los Angeles College Freshman Forensic Psychology \$1,500



Kelise K. Jackson University of Notre Dame Junior History \$3,000



Joseph A. Sainz University of Southern California Freshman Film Production \$4,000



TransTech Scholar



Erik E. Herrera University of California, Berkeley Postgraduate Mathematics \$2,000



Scott R. Baroni California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Sophomore Computer Science \$2,000

HARVEY CAPITAL CORP.

Harvey Capital Scholar



Chris A. Lopez, California State University, Los Angeles Freshman Mechanical Engineering \$4,000

Link Logistics Real Estate Scholar

LINK

2024 City of Commerce Scholarship Program Recipients



Karina A. Amor A.T. Still University Postgraduate Occupational Therapy \$1,000



Mark A. Jimenez Arkansas State University Postgraduate Public Administration \$1,500



Destiny L. Moreno Biola University Freshman Health Science \$2,500



Delilah R. Moreno California Baptist University Sophomore Health Science \$1,000



Diego Castañeda California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Senior Biology \$1,000



Angela M. Marquez California State University, Fullerton Freshman Business Administration \$1,500



Jonathan A. Montes California State University, Fullerton Sophomore Business Administration \$1,500



Alondra Valencia California State University, Fullerton Freshman Biology \$2,500



Jazmine Diaz California State University, Los Angeles Freshman Kinesiology \$2,500



Laryssa A. Gomez California State University, Los Angeles Senior Marketing Management \$1,500



Isabella A. Loya California State University, Los Angeles Freshman Psychology \$1,000



Antonio R. Montes III California State University, Los Angeles Postgraduate Teaching \$1,000

2024 City of Commerce Scholarship Program Recipients



Citlalli Ortiz California State University, Los Angeles Junior Urban Learning \$1,000



Daniel Jauregui Cerritos College Sophomore Biology \$1,000



Alma D. Valencia California State University, Los Angeles Postgraduate Sociology \$1,000



Jesus A. Toscano California State University, Long Beach Postgraduate Business Administration \$1,000



Angelica Limon California State University, Northridge Freshman Psychology \$1,500



Angelina E. Zamorano Cerritos College Sophomore Liberal Arts & Sciences \$1,000



Jennifer P. Reyes Claremont Graduate University Postgraduate Public Policy \$1,000



Xochitl Baltazar Grand Canyon University Postgraduate Clinical Mental Health Counseling \$1,500



Mia L. Casillas Loyola Marymount University Junior Psychology \$1,000



Sophia E. Ortega San Diego State University Senior Sociology \$1,500



Alexander J. Frias San Francisco State University Senior Nursing \$2,000



Juliana Vargas San Jose State University Freshman Accounting \$1,500

2024 City of Commerce Scholarship Program Recipients



Alejandra R. Ceballos Savannah College of Art & Design Freshman Production Design Film and TV \$1,500



Alexis B. Martinez University of California, Davis Junior Biochemistry and Molecular Biology \$1,500



Juan C. Mena Jr. University of California, Davis Senior Chemical Engineering \$1,000



Lizbeth A. Gomez University of California, Los Angeles Postgraduate Acute Care Gerontology \$1,500



Genoveva Gama-Lopez University of California, San Diego Junior Psychology \$1,000



Andres M. Gomez University of California, San Diego Sophomore Human Biology \$1,000



Oscar A. Mendez University of California, San Diego Freshman Aerospace Engineering \$2,500



Chantal Y. Sotomayor University of Southern California Postgraduate Occupational Therapy \$1,500



Avril J. Kester Utah Tech University Junior Marketing and Management \$1,500

We would like to acknowledge these individual donors and ask you to patronize these businesses.





Email Mentor List

Karina A. Amor A.T. Still University Postgraduate Occupational Therapy amor.karina@yahoo.com

Mark A. Jimenez Arkansas State University Postgraduate Public Administration mark.aj@sbcglobal.net

Destiny L. Moreno Biola University Freshman Health Science destinyleann1120@gmail.com

Delilah R. Moreno California Baptist University Sophomore Health Science delilah.moreno927@gmail.com

Diego Castañeda California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Senior Biology diegocastaneda300@gmail.com

Oscar A. Mendez California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Freshman Aerospace Engineering oscar2uribe@gmail.com

Alondra Valencia California State University, Fullerton Freshman Biology alondravalencia463@gmail.com

Chris A. Lopez California State University, Los Angeles Freshman Mechanical Engineering chrisalopez2806@gmail.com Antonio R. Montes III California State University, Los Angeles Postgraduate Teaching amontes1177@yahoo.com

Alma D. Valencia California State University, Los Angeles Postgraduate Sociology avalen136@calstatela.edu

Jesus A. Toscano California State University, Long Beach Postgraduate Business Administration jesustoscano2012@gmail.com

Daniel Jauregui Cerritos College Sophomore Biology danieljau2005@gmail.com

Jennifer P. Reyes Claremont Graduate University Postgraduate Public Policy jennifer.reyes@laverne.edu

Dianne D. Chevez Hernandez East Los Angeles Colle Freshman Forensic Psychology strayspoink@gmail.com

Xochitl Baltazar Grand Canyon University Postgraduate Clinical Mental Health Counseling baltazar.xochitl@yahoo.com

Mia L. Casillas Loyola Marymount University Junior Psychology mia.l.casillas@gmail.com

Isabella A. Loya Mount Saint Mary's University Freshman Psychology isabellaavaloya@gmail.com Sophia E. Ortega San Diego State University Senior Sociology sophiaortega1013@gmail.com

Alexander J. Frias San Francisco State University Senior Nursing afrias@sfsu.edu

Alejandra R. Ceballos Savannah College of Art & Design Freshman Production Design Film and TV ceballosale05@gmail.com

Andres M. Gomez University of California, San Diego Sophomore Human Biology ang065@ucsd.edu

Juan C. Mena Jr. University of California, Davis Senior Chemical Engineering jcmena13.8@gmail.com

Kelise K. Jackson University of Notre Dame Junior History kjacks24@nd.edu

Chantal Y. Sotomayor University of Southern California Postgraduate Occupational Therapy chantalsotomayor@yahoo.com

Avril J. Kester Utah Tech University Junior Marketing and Management avrilkester04@gmail.com

Special Acknowledgement

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the City of Commerce Scholarship Program or if you would like more information, contact the:

City of Commerce Public Library READs Center

5655 Jillson Street, Commerce, California 90040 (323) 722-6660 ext. 2822 cocpl.org

A special Thanks to this year's Interview Panel and Appeals Board for their time and dedication to this year's scholarship program.



Interview Panel

Eduardo Viramontes Teacher Montebello Unified School District

Karen Jean Fry Senior Human Resources Risk Manager The Commerce Casino and Hotel

> Melissa Demirci Principal TransTech

Appeals Board

Barbara Martine President Datapage, Inc. Marini Lamoureux Educational Specialist Downey Unified School District

Rebecca Flores

Special Reading Coordinator

Stacy L. Sanchez

Special Reading Coordinator

City of Commerce Public Library Literacy READs Staff

Evelyn Diaz Literacy Program Manager

Susana G. Rosales Senior Literacy Library Assistant



Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/COCPL.org



X: https://x.com/CommerceLib Abigail E. Calderon Library Literacy Assistant

Erika Valencia Library Literacy Assistant



Instagram: http://instagram.com/commercelibrary



YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/commercelibrary/videos



Flicker: https://www.flickr.com/photos/commercelibrary/

2024 City of Commerce Scholarship

The City of Commerce is proud to recognize the following donors for their generous contributions to the Commerce Scholarship Program.

\$50,000 The Commerce Hotel·Casino

\$10,000 Harvey Capital Corporation TransTech Engineers, Inc.

\$4,000 Link Logistics Real Estate

> **\$1,288** Kim Seng Company

\$1,000 American Renolit Corporation LA

Philippine FoodTrade Corporation Sportek International, Inc.

\$750

LK Packaging

\$500

A Plus Gutter Systems Inc. - NSI Real Estate LLC Commerce Sister City Association Kleen Kraft Services Inc Lynol Cooling Systems Inc Portofino International Trading USA Sunscope - Sun Coast MDSE Corp Viabella International Inc **\$400** Commerce Truck Stop

\$300 Cal-Royal Products Inc

> **\$250** Beatriz Sarmiento Familia Bautista MDB Inc

> > **\$126** SuperSonic

\$125 Auld Lang Syne Club

\$110 Nellie M. Zepeda

\$100 Anonymous Donor California Closeouts and Liquidations Inc.