

Press Release

October 9, 2020

Sonia Martinez
Chief Academic Officer
(3232) 262-0997
smartinez@greatmindsinstem.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Great Minds in STEM Awards Over \$239,000 in Merit-Based Scholarships

Montebello, CA – Great Minds in STEM (GMiS) is pleased to announce its Class of 2020 GMiS STEM Scholars, which includes 104 outstanding recipients receiving more than \$239,000 in financial support. Over 1,200 completed applications from across the nation were reviewed for this merit-based scholarship program, which recognizes excellence in academics, community service and leadership.

This year, due to COVID-19, scholars were honored virtually at the Scholars Reception, on Thursday, September 29, and the Student Leadership Awards Show on Friday, October 8. Both events were part of the virtual 2020 GMiS Conference.

The GMiS STEM Scholarships is one of four scholarship types within the GMiS Scholars Program. The other three scholarships are the California Medical Scholarships, California Health Scholarships and the Artemio G. Navarro Scholarships.

The California Medical Scholarships provides financial assistance and support for underrepresented STEM students pursuing medical degrees at four California medical schools: University of California, Davis; University of California, Los Angeles; University of California, San Francisco; and the University of Southern California. GMiS awards up to ten scholarships, each valued at \$5,000, to medical students pursuing specialization in mental health, rehabilitative and geriatric medicine, and individuals with disabilities.

Applications are due November 30, 2020.

The California Health Scholarships provide support to underrepresented undergraduate students pursuing full-time studies in a health-related field of study at any institution in California. GMiS awards up to five scholarships each valued at \$1,000.

The Artemio G. Navarro Scholarships, in May 2020, awarded \$2,000 scholarships to 15 high school graduates from the Bishop Mora Salesian High School, which is in the Boyle Heights community of East Los Angeles, CA. The Navarro Scholars are enrolled in STEM programs at 4-year universities across the country this Fall semester.

This year, the GMiS Scholarship Program will award 134 scholarships totaling close to \$325K. Since 2001, GMiS will have awarded over \$5M to more than 1,700 college students.

If you are interested in supporting the Great Minds in STEM Scholars Program, please contact Sonia Martinez, Chief Academic Officer (smartinez@greatmindsinstem.org) or Bertha Haro, Director of Development (bharo@greatmindsinstem.org). Information on the GMiS Scholarship Program may be accessed online at www.greatmindsinstem.org/scholarships/

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Congratulations to the Class of 2020 GMiS STEM Scholars!

CORPORATE/FEDERAL AGENCY SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS

American Petroleum Institute

Brenden Herkenhoff	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Elijah Pierre-Toussaint	Civil Engineering	Freshman	Bradley University
Juan Saucedo	Civil Engineering	Freshman	Colorado State University, Fort Collins
Kami Otero De Owens	Computer Science	Senior	New Mexico State University
Wendy Paola Puche-Umbarita	Applied Mathematics	Senior	New Mexico State University

Chevron Corporation

Victoria Beaubrun	Computer Engineering	Sophomore	Eastern Florida State College
Esteban Charry	Computer Science	Freshman	University of California, Berkeley
Elizabeth DeFazio	Chemical Engineering	Junior	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Brian Gonzalez	Electrical Engineering	Junior	University of Texas at El Paso
Jason Gonzalez	Computer Science	Freshman	Yale University
Garrett Guerrero	Engineering, General	Freshman	Texas A&M University
Talaicia Isaacs	Computer Science	Freshman	University of Central Florida
Betshaida Jaramillo	Computer Science	Freshman	Tufts University
Brendon Mak	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	University of Texas at Austin
Selina Martinez	Electrical & Comp. Eng.	Freshman	University of Southern California
Eduardo Mata	Electrical Engineering	Freshman	Washington State University
Jose Medina	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	Arizona State University
Carlos Pacheco	Mechanical Engineering	Freshman	Georgia Institute of Technology
Juan Perez	Computer Science	Sophomore	Georgia Institute of Technology
Marcos Perez	Mechanical Engineering	Sophomore	University of Texas at Austin
Maximino Robles	Computer Science	Junior	New Mexico State University
Veronica Salas	Comp. Science and Linguistics	Freshman	University of California, Berkeley
Glorian Serrano	Computer Engineering	Freshman	University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Andres Tapia	Computer Science	Junior	University of Illinois at Chicago
Moises Trejo	Computer Science	Junior	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Pablo Vidal	Mechanical Engineering	Freshman	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Corteva AgriScience

Javier Damian-Casillas	Plant Biology	Freshman	University of California, Davis
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Dow Chemical

Marco Avendano	Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	Doct. Student	Georgia Institute of Technology
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David Lopez	Chemical Engineering	Doct. Student	University of Arizona
Unique Luna	Chemistry	Doct. Student	Louisiana State University
Aaron Perez	Chemical Engineering	Masters	University of Houston

Edison International

Moises Aldape	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	California State University, Los Angeles
Jocylene Arevalo	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	California State University, Los Angeles
Emily Barragan	Chemical Engineering	Senior	University of California, Irvine
Daniel Del Rio	Electrical Engineering	Junior	California State University, Los Angeles
Gabriel Estrada	Electrical Engineering	Freshman	California State University, Los Angeles
Erica Fagnan	Mathematics	Senior	University of California, Santa Barbara
Marissa Hernandez	Industrial Engineering	Freshman	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Andrew Hernandez	Computer Science	Sophomore	University of Southern California
Hector Linares	Civil Engineering	Senior	California State University, Los Angeles
Kayla Lopez	Industrial Engineering	Freshman	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Elena Martinez	Applied Mathematics and Computer Science	Junior	Loyola Marymount University
Luis Ramirez	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	University of California, Irvine
Christopher Rocha	Civil Engineering	Senior	California State University, Los Angeles
Jazmin Rosas	Electronic Systems Engineering Technology	Freshman	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Anette Sandoval	Environmental Engineering	Freshman	University of Southern California
Dariel Tapia	Civil Engineering	Senior	California State University, Long Beach
William Welch	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	University of California, Los Angeles

Great Minds in STEM

Giovanni Ferioli	Computer Engineering	Junior	University of Florida
Alejandro Hernandez	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	University of Texas at El Paso

Lockheed Martin Corporation

Alejandro Colina-Valeri	Electrical Engineering	Senior	Tufts University
Dania Duran	Electrical Engineering	Junior	University of Southern California
Isabel Gallegos	Computer Science	Junior	Stanford University
Aaron Hernandez	Computer Science	Senior	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Hanna O'Leary	Electrical & Comp. Eng.	Senior	University of Texas at El Paso
Catalina Sanchez-Maes	Computer Science	Junior	New Mexico State University
Kevin Villanueva	Computer Science	Senior	University of California, Santa Barbara

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Northrop Grumman Corporation

Theodore Martin	Aerospace Engineering	Senior	Florida Institute of Technology
Ashley Tirado-Pujols	Aerospace Engineering	Freshman	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Nicholas Valdes	Computer Engineering	Junior	Texas Tech University
Emmanuel Valencia-Ruiz	Electrical Engineering	Junior	California State University, Los Angeles
Lorena Velasquez	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

Oracle

Bryan Serrano	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	University of Central Florida
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The Boeing Company

Alejandro Garcia	Mechanical Engineering	Masters	Duke University
Joaquin Gomez	Mechanical Engineering	Freshman	California Institute of Technology
Jennifer Lugardo	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	Stanford University
David Pacheco	Electrical Engineering	Junior	California State University, Los Angeles
Nicole Price	Computer Science	Masters	New Mexico State University
Jose Vargas	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	University of Houston

Union Pacific

Claudia Mulero	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	Georgia Institute of Technology
Izcan Ordaz	Civil Engineering	Freshman	University of Texas at Austin
Alonzo Ramon	Computer Engineering	Senior	University of Texas at San Antonio
Diego Zuniga	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

IN MEMORIAM AND PERSONAL TRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

Davila/Treviño Memorial Scholarships

(Sponsored by Davila and Treviño Families)

Alessandro Acevedo	Aerospace Engineering	Sophomore	University of Texas at Austin
Kevin Alvarez	Computer Science	Senior	University of Texas at El Paso
Nina Contreras	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	University of Houston
Vennicio Docasar	Astrophysics	Freshman	University of Texas at Austin
Miguel Fernandez	Computer Science	Senior	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Erasmus Pena	Forensic and Investigative Sci.	Freshman	Texas A&M University
David Perez	Chemical Engineering	Freshman	University of Texas at San Antonio
Britney Ramirez	Chemical Engineering	Sophomore	University of Texas at Austin
Ana Saenz	Civil Engineering	Junior	University of Texas at El Paso
Emanuel Sanchez	Chemical Engineering	Sophomore	University of Houston

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GMIS CEO Scholarship

Dora Gerardo	Mechanical Engineering	Masters	University of Southern California
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GMIS Founders' Scholarships

Charly Gutierrez-Jimenez	Chemical Engineering	Junior	Santa Fe College
Connor Kilzer	Biomedical Engineering	Junior	California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Gionela Lepage	Biomedical Engineering	Junior	University of Florida
Nathalia Ochoa	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Peter Pham	Molecular Environmental Biology and Public Health	Junior	West Valley College

Henry W. Brady Memorial Scholarship

(Sponsored by RADM Patrick Brady (Retired))

Alina Garcia-Taormina	Materials Science	D. Candidate	University of Southern California
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Latina STEAM TEAM Scholarships

(Sponsored by Stephanie Aceves)

Kimberly Hernandez	Engineering Physics	Senior	Wellesley College
Karen Mancera	Bioengineering	Senior	University of Georgia

Leticia S. Montiel Memorial Scholarships

(Sponsored by Rudolf and Sandra Montiel)

Mariana Benitez	Civil Engineering	Doct. Student	University of Texas at El Paso
Nayeli Ontiveros	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	University of Texas at El Paso

Mellado Family Scholarships

(Sponsored by Ray and Carmela Mellado)

Patricia Garcia	Interdisciplinary Engineering	Senior	Florida International University
Luis Sotelo-Martin	Materials Science & Eng.	Doct. Student	University of California, Davis

Robert Amezcua Memorial Scholarships

(Sponsored by Amezcua Family)

Alexis Lopez	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	University of Texas at El Paso
Angela Mendez-Contreras	Electrical Engineering	Junior	University of Texas at El Paso
Daniel Morales	Electrical Engineering	Sophomore	University of Texas at El Paso
Aileen Tapia	Systems Engineering	Masters	University of Texas at El Paso

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Rodriguez Family Scholarship *(Sponsored by Alfredo and Leonor Rodriguez)*

Edgar Guzman	Electrical & Comp. Eng.	Senior	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
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Rui Vogt Alves da Cruz Family Scholarship

Lupita Herrera	Chemical Engineering	Sophomore	University of Houston
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Villarreal Family Scholarships *(Sponsored by Raul and Cecile Villarreal)*

Jessica Gonzalez	Structural Engineering	Masters	University of Texas at San Antonio
Arturo Velazquez	Biomedical Engineering	Senior	University of Houston

[About Great Minds in STEM](#)

Great Minds in STEM™ is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to keeping America technologically strong by promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers, especially in underserved communities. Established in 1989 and based in the Los Angeles area, the organization's national programming focuses on STEM educational awareness from pre-college through college, and on recognizing and documenting the world-class contributions of Hispanic STEM professionals, who serve as role models for the next generation of American engineers and scientists.

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