

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE BERKELEY COMMUNITY FUND AWARDS \$432,000 IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

BERKELEY, CA – The Berkeley Community Fund (BCF) is excited to announce the award of \$432,000 in scholarships to 27 Berkeley High School students. The group will become part of the BCF's High Hopes Scholarship Program receiving financial assistance, one-on-one mentoring and other supports to help them succeed in and graduate from college. An awards ceremony will be held on June 13, 2016 at the Berkeley City Club to honor the new students who will join the community of High Hopes Scholars already in college.

Aia Abushareefh
Laila Bendrai
Rogelio Castro
Ernesto Garcia Jr.
Ana Hernandez-Tijero
Wun-Ci Hou
Daniel Jones
Jeremy Jones
Bubacarr Kora
Emily Lam
Felipe Leon
Alejandra Leon-Herrera
Enrique Lopez
Emily Maciel

Alexandria Miles
Bryant Monroe
Kristian Overbey
Katherine Pham
Andrew Pongtananon
Donna Ramirez-Cruz
Daan Reyes
Carena Ridgeway
Angel Robinson
Jessaly Sinchico Andrango
Jacari Trent-Pontoon
Mi Anna Wiggins
Jeffrey Yu

The 2016 High Hopes Scholars are planning to study political science, urban planning, business, environmental science, education, criminal justice, and art. The majority will study at the campuses of the University of California and California State Universities. A couple plan to travel out of state and will attend the University of Arizona and Yale.

The High Hopes Scholarship Program provides \$16,000 need-based scholarships to talented and resilient Berkeley high school students. The financial support helps close the gap between the true cost of attending college and the typical financial aid award. Scholarships are funded through generous donations from the community.

The program also helps students successfully navigate the challenges they encounter in college through a critical array of support services including one-to-one mentorship, financial literacy training, transition-to-college workshops, and support from a college success coordinator.

About the Berkeley Community Fund

The Berkeley Community Fund is a charitable nonprofit organization founded in 1991 by a group of friends whose love for Berkeley and hope for an economically and socially diverse city inspired them to set up a fund to reflect those goals. The High Hopes Scholarship Program was created in 2008 and, since then, has awarded more than \$2.69 million to 168 students.

Visit the BCF web site at www.berkfund.org or Facebook page at www.facebook.com/berkfund to learn more about BCF and its programs, to apply to become a mentor, or to make a donation to support future High Hopes Scholars.