



Westlands Water District

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For Immediate Release
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Westlands Water District Announces Recipients of the West Side Scholarships

FRESNO – Six outstanding high school seniors from communities on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley have been selected to receive scholarships offered by the Westlands Water District. The 2016 scholarships are offered by Westlands under a program to recognize and reward exceptional academic achievement and leadership by graduate seniors at area high schools.

The recipients of the 2016 scholarships are:

Kristina Raulino, a senior at Lemoore High School. Ms. Raulino is an honors student who plans on attending West Hills Community College to pursue a degree in Psychology. She has been actively involved in tennis and the Future Farmers of America and has served as the Club Secretary for the California Scholarship Federation.

Jonathan Sanchez, a senior at Riverdale High School. Mr. Sanchez plans to attend California Polytechnic State University to pursue a degree in Agricultural Engineering. He is an honors student who has received awards for honor roll and student of the month, and is heavily involved in soccer, cross country, baseball and football. Additionally, he is a member of the California Scholarship Federation and AVID.

Delaney Walker, a senior at Coalinga High School. Ms. Walker plans to attend University of California, Los Angeles to pursue a degree in Education/English. She has been actively involved in basketball and tennis and received awards for honor roll and mock trial. She is also a member of the California Scholarship Federation.

Jonathan Guzman, a senior at Tranquillity High School. Mr. Guzman plans to attend the University of California, Irvine to pursue a degree in Business and Finance. He is an honors student actively involved in football and basketball and has received awards for bi-literacy and the Principal's Honor Roll for all four high school years.

Savannah Rodriguez, a senior at Mendota High School. Ms. Rodriguez is an honors student who plans on attending University of California, Santa Cruz to pursue a degree in Feminist Studies. She has been involved in softball and badminton and received awards for perfect attendance, leadership and MESA.

Fatima Gamino, a senior at Firebaugh High School. Ms. Gamino plans to attend University of California, Merced to pursue a degree in Chemical Sciences. She has received several awards including Senior of the Month, Top Academic Athlete and Superintendent's List. Additionally, she has been involved in the Spanish Club, cross country and Academic Decathlon.

Each scholarship recipient will receive \$1,000 to be used for community college or university expenses. Applicants were judged on their academic performance, school activities and community leadership. Each applicant submitted an essay on an agricultural-related topic.

"Westlands is honored to provide this assistance for these outstanding student leaders," said Tom Birmingham, general manager of Westlands. "These scholarships represent a small gesture of thanks and support to the communities on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley that make our region such a productive and vibrant place."

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