



Juan Nevarez Memorial
SCHOLARSHIP
IMPACT REPORT



2023

Karol, 2023 Scholarship Recipient

Thank You!

from our Executive Director

When Vineyard Team promotes sustainable winegrowing, we not only address natural resources, we also protect our most valuable resource - the *people*.

Since 2015, the **Juan Nevarez Memorial Scholarship** has invested over \$270,000 to help the children of our community pay for college. 98 percent have been the first in their family to earn a higher education.

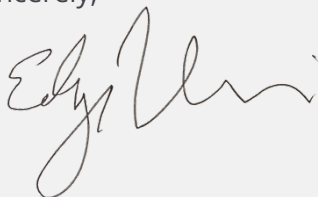
Each year, we review applicants who face seemingly insurmountable life challenges from being a teen dad to the death of a mother. And yet, each scholar strives for a better life for themselves and their family. They all embody the essence of Juan Nevarez, a beloved member of the California Central Coast winegrape industry.

Although Juan struggled to read and write, he dreamed of higher education for his children. He worked to turn his dream into a reality and share opportunities with others.

Your generosity has made a life-changing impact on a student.

Thank you for investing in the next generation.

Sincerely,







Beth Vukmanic
Executive Director



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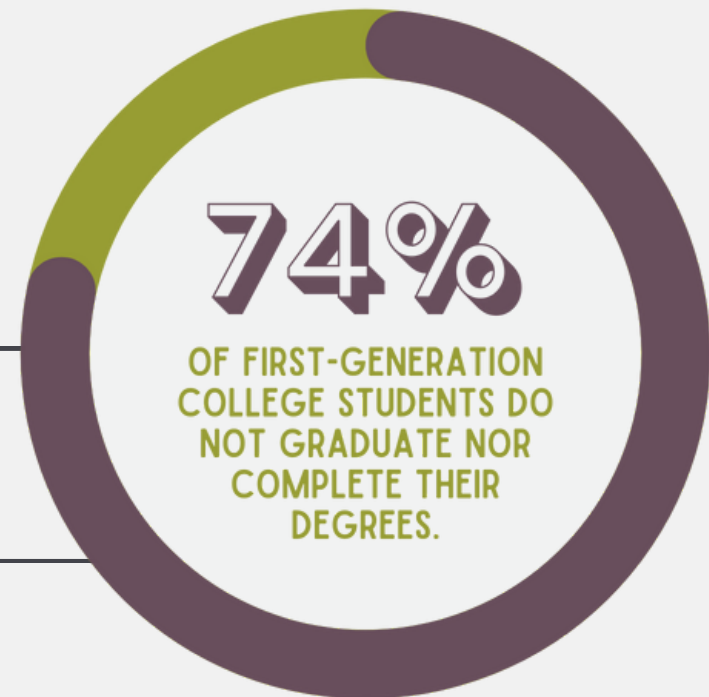
Investing in the *Next Generation*

Higher education is important to many students but paying for college can be challenging. **The Juan Nevarez Memorial Scholarship makes higher education investments in the children of California's vineyard and winery workers.**

98 percent of awardees are **the first in their family to enroll in a higher education institution.**

First-generation students have more barriers – they cannot ask their parents how to navigate the system, budgets are often tight, and they can feel guilty for leaving their families.

This funding helps students and their families achieve their dream of becoming a college graduate and pursuing a professional career.



* Pew Research Center

The Unexpected Role of *Student & Caretaker*



When tragedy struck, Blanca Flor didn't hesitate to step up to become the caretaker that her family was losing.

Her mother was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer when Blanca, the eldest of six children, was only fifteen years old. Since they lived in Mexico and her father was working in the United States, Blanca became responsible for caring for her five younger siblings and her ailing mother.

She knew she had to put her family first, so she dropped out of school and spent her days learning to cook, tackling home duties, running errands, and caring for her family.



The adversity she faced gave her ambition to become a cardiologist. Today, she is determined to do what it takes to help members of her community who face similar hardships. She plans to complete her general education at Cuesta College before transferring to San Diego State University, where she visited during a field trip and fell in love with the ambiance, programs, and sense of community.

SCHOLARS

2023 Scholarship Recipients



Adanely, Sonoma State Univ.
Alberto, Cal State Fresno
Alexis, San Diego State Univ.
Ana Carolina, UCLA
Blanca Flor, Cuesta College
Carlos, UC Merced

Christian, UC Davis
Cristal, Cuesta College
Daniel, Cuesta College
Erick, UC Davis
Karol, Fresno City College
Kimberly, Cal Poly - SLO

Kristal, Cal State Fresno
Lizbeth, Cuesta College
Lupita, Hartnell College
Nancy, Hartnell College
Rocelin, Cal State Long Beach
Yasmin, Cal Lutheran Univ.

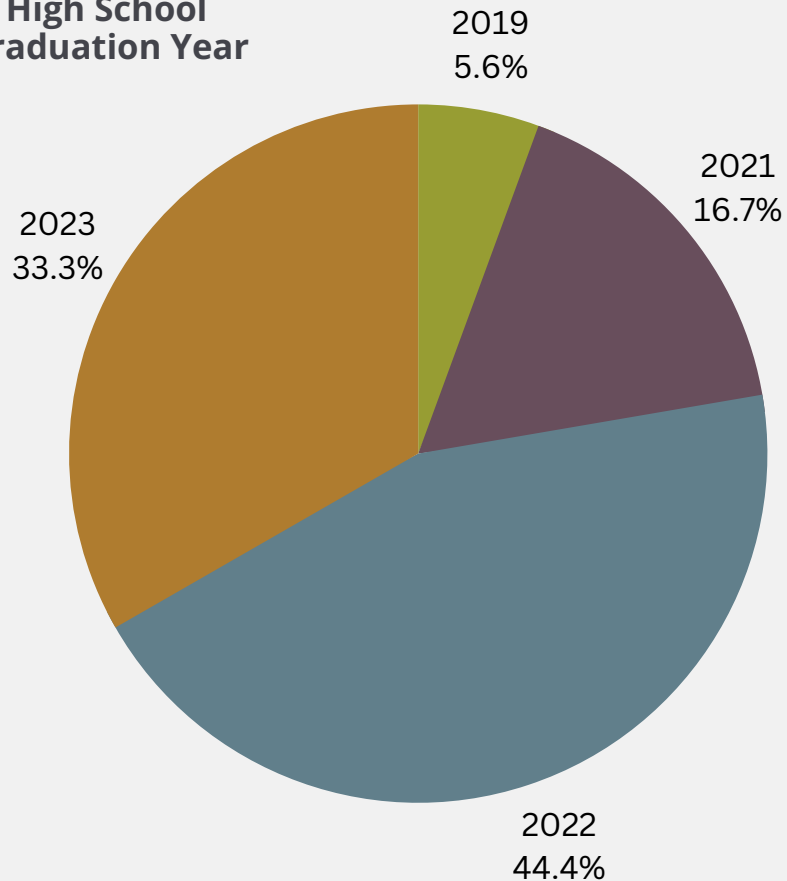
STATISTICS

18
SCHOLARS

\$58k
AWARDED

17 / 18
1ST GEN COLLEGE
STUDENT

High School Graduation Year

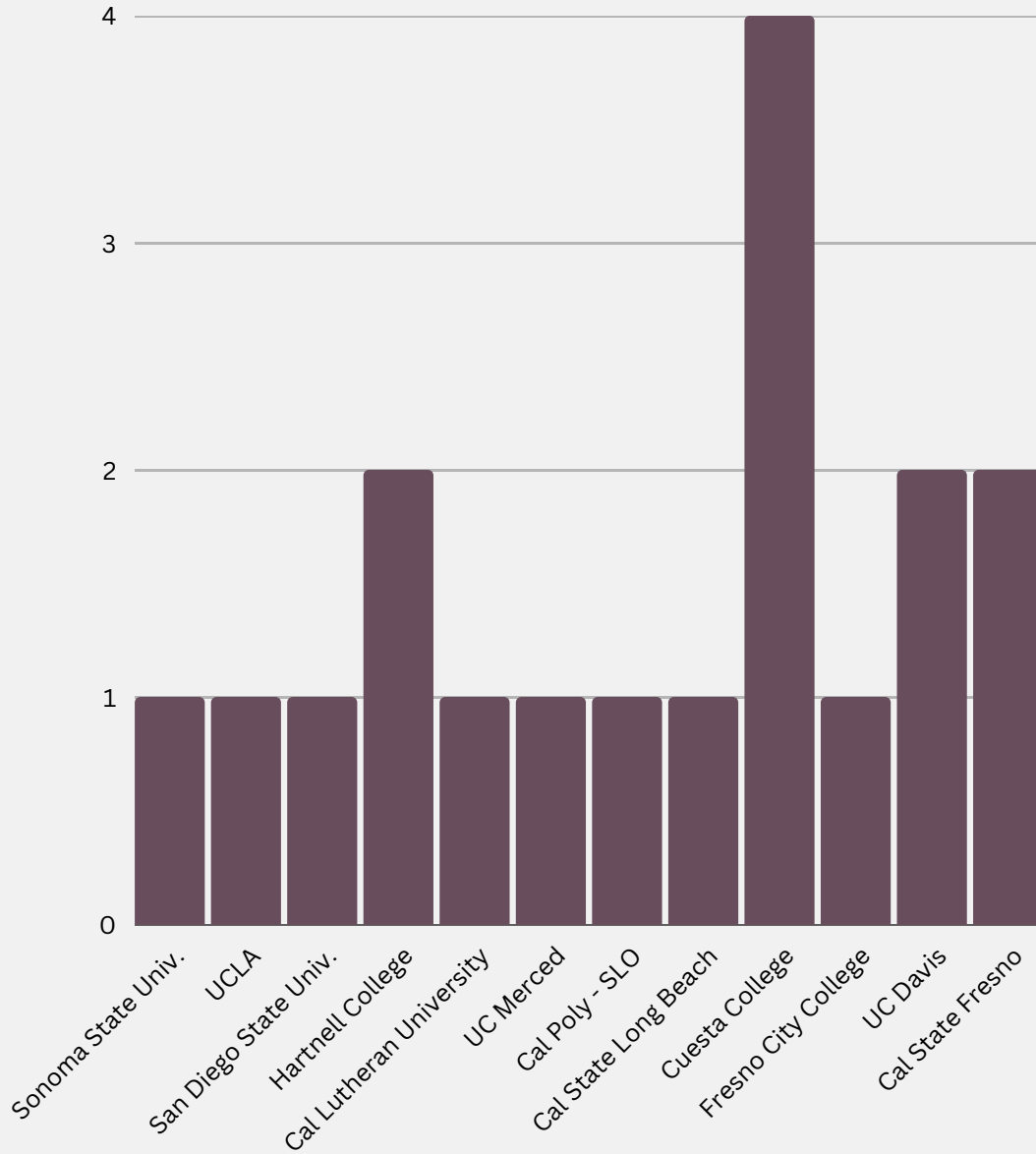


Thanks to a partnership with **Must! Charities**, this unique program provides multi-year scholarships and support services.

By providing a mix of financial aid and mentorship, this program helps boost graduation rates and develop a qualified workforce that is committed to serving their community.

STATISTICS

Where Students are *Attending*



12
SCHOOLS
across
9
COUNTIES

Scholar Program Type

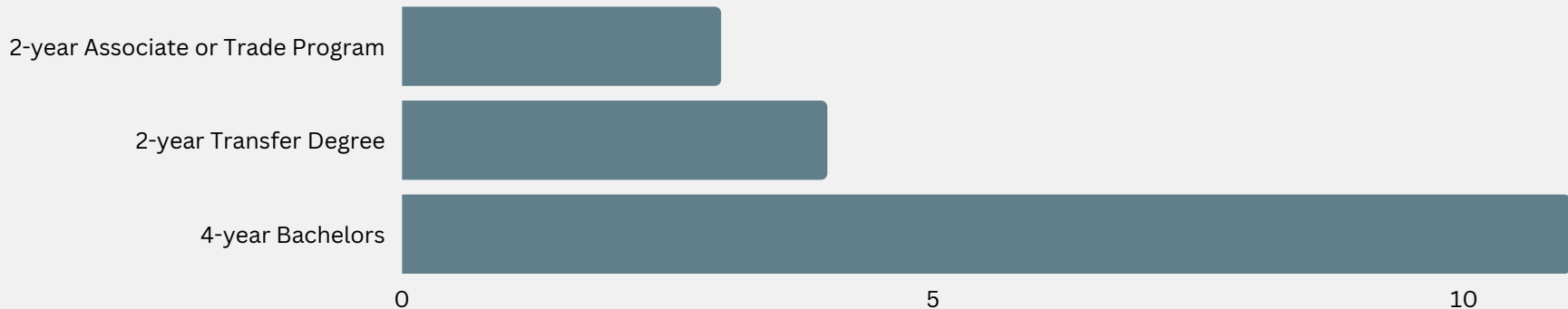
16 FIELDS OF STUDY

"It didn't matter what we wanted to study. Dad insisted we don't come home until our diploma was ready to hang on the living room wall!"

**- Eufemia Nevarez,
Daughter of Juan Nevarez**

- Biology
- Business
- Business & Pre-Medical
- Computer Science
- Criminal Justice
- English
- General Education
- Interior Design

- Kinesiology
- Mathematics
- Nursing
- Paralegal
- Pre-Allied Health
- Pre-Nursing
- Psychology
- Viticulture



PEOPLE

More than a *Scholarship*

Because our goal is college success, the program includes multi-year scholarships to trade, two-, or four-year schools, plus a college success bonus.

A dedicated mentor supports the students throughout their collegiate career.

With the help of our community, we can transform lives by increasing graduation rates and developing a qualified workforce that will contribute to their communities.



Have a job or an internship opportunity? Email the link to Beth@vineyardteam.org and we will share it with the scholars.



Alex Gonzalez

Scholarship Administrator

Mentor's Message

"My goal is to help each student with their biggest challenge. This fall I have worked with scholars on transitioning from high school to college, preparing for the first week of class, reviewing a college budget, double-checking the financial aid checklist, setting up a LinkedIn profile, and updating a resume."

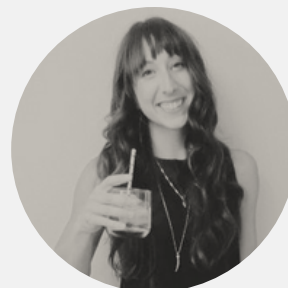
Scholarship *Committee*



Erin Amaral
Pacific Coast Farming



Lori Bickel
Community Member



Katie Bruce
Niner Wine Estates



Caitlyn Pierini
Gibbs Vineyards



Amy Freeman
Baker Wine & Grape Analysis



Randy Gray
Must! Charities



Mia Nevarez
Nevarez Farm Labor



Mindy Record
JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery



Denise Shurtleff
Cambria Vineyards & Winery

PEOPLE

Thank You *Generous Donors*

Contributions from the community continue to be essential to the success of the program. In the true spirit of sustainability, we want to create a long-lasting program so that we can continue to better the lives of our industry's children for decades.

"Juan's mission was to help his employees' families reach their full potential. We always admired his dedication to education. It's an honor to help keep his legacy alive by donating to an amazing cause."

- **Chloé Asseo-Fabre**, L'Aventure Winery, Donor



Evelyn Alvarez-Mendoza

Erin Amaral
Pacific Coast Farming

Jorge Ambriz

Oliver Asberger

Penny Baldwin

Kris Beal

Billy Booker
Coastal Tractor

Douglas Boyer

Tonya Brown
Baicor

Pati Brown

Katy Budge

Diane Burkhart

Elizabeth Byrnes

Robert Casas

Heidi Changala
Changala Winery

Thomas Clemens
Clemens Vineyard Equipment, Inc.

Corvus Wealth Advisors

Paul Crout
Helena Agri-Enterprises

David Freed

Amy Freeman

John Giannini
Tourelle, LLC

Mark Greenspan
Advanced Viticulture, Inc.

Bob & Laura Gustin

John Helm
Western Ag Research Professionals

Ian Herdman

Jackson Family Wines

CONTINUED...

PEOPLE

Thank You *Generous Donors*

JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery

Kevin Kalfayan

Kenneth Kossoff

L'Aventure Winery

Bastien Leduc

Seven Oxen - Estate Wines

Janet Leighton

Vista de Los Padres Vineyard

Julian Malone

Sea Smoke

Pam Marrone

Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc.

Mary McCammon

Christian Melendez

Naio Technologies

Mesa Vineyard Management

Greg Miller

Nichino America

Carol Moore

Paso Ridge Vineyard

Alisa Moretto

Block 270 Vineyard

Eddie Muro

Yara North America

Must! Charities

Clemente Nevarez

Valeriano Nevarez

Niner Wine Estates

PA Trellising Systems

Steve Peck

Anji Perry

Pettit Foundation

Bill & Gail Pierce

Pierce Ranch Vineyards

Kelly Rubio

Coast Hills Federal Credit Union

Tia Russell

Penergetic

Debra Saunders

Hearst Ranch Winery

Molly Scott

Warren Shoemaker

Tidal Grow AgriScience

Denise Shurtleff

Silverado WineGrowers Charitable Fund of Napa Valley Community Foundation

Robert Slovick

Terry & Pebble Smith

Diane Smith

Frank Stanek

Chareva Vineyards

Craig Sunada

Chateau Robles Inc.

Tablas Creek Vineyard

David Thompson

Bob Tillman

Alta Colina Vineyard & Winery

Bill Wathen

Foxen Vineyard, Inc.

** Fundraising year is 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023.*

Who is *Juan Nevarez***Juan Nevarez was a dreamer.**

But the difference between Juan and many was his ability to turn his dreams into reality and share that opportunity with others.

Juan Nevarez was only 16 when he decided to come to California with a belief that he could do what it took to achieve his dreams, and a solid work ethic to back it up. Alone, undocumented, and without an education, Juan began setting the foundation for what would become a long and successful career in viticulture. Working in the fields wasn't his long-term plan, but he knew that he had to start where he could with his limited experience and lack of education.

He didn't start his career with a college degree that could speak for his expertise and open doors. He built his 110-acre vineyard piece by piece through hard work alone. His success had to be earned. Although his decades of hard labor proved fruitful, he didn't want the same for his children. He didn't want them to struggle as hard as he did in order to become self-sufficient.

The importance of obtaining a college education was a common subject in the home. Growing up, daughter Mia says college was never an option, "It was something that was going to happen!" Mia's father would tell her that an education isn't just about the piece of paper - it's proof of someone's ability to accomplish something through hard work and dedication.

Staff *Contacts*

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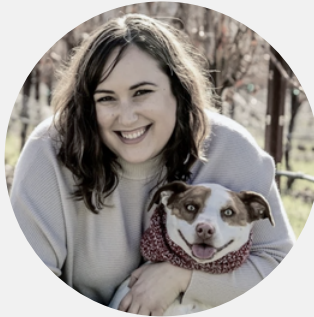


Alex Gonzalez
Scholarship Administrator & Mentor
alex@vineyardteam.org



VINEYARD
TEAM

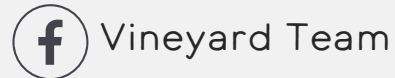
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Whitney Brownie
SIP Certified Coordinator
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Follow Along!



Juan Nevarez Memorial SCHOLARSHIP

