



ARTS COUNCIL For Monterey County

Enriching the lives of our community through the arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nelly Otsu, Communications Director
Arts Council for Monterey County
831-622-9060 x 110 nelly@arts4mc.org

Arts4MC Awards College Arts Scholarships to Monterey County High School Seniors

[MONTEREY COUNTY, CA - June 2, 2025] - As graduation season unfolds and students prepare to take the next step in their educational journeys, the Arts Council for Monterey County (Arts4MC) proudly announces the recipients of the 2025 College Arts Scholarships. These scholarships recognize six exceptional graduating high school seniors pursuing higher education in creative fields, including one recipient of the prestigious Joann Adair Memorial Scholarship, awarded to a Salinas student in support of their education in the performing arts.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients:

- **Myriam Valdez Alvarez**, Everett Alvarez High School, District 1, *Photography*
 - **Daniel Tapia**, King City High School, District 3, *Architecture*
 - **Dave Sundquist**, North Salinas High School, District 4, *Visual Arts*
 - **Angela Liu**, Pacific Grove High School, District 5, *Music/Violin*
 - **Zion Cho**, Pacific Grove High School, District 5, *Design*
 - **Ileen Li***, Salinas High School, District 2, *Literary Arts/Prose*
- *Recipient of the Joann Adair Memorial Scholarship

Each student has been awarded a \$2,500 College Arts Scholarship, providing essential financial support as they transition into higher education. Funded by the Emile Norman Charitable Trust, these scholarships play a vital role in fostering the next generation of artists and ensuring Monterey County's artistic legacy continues to flourish.

Applications were carefully reviewed by an independent panel of evaluators, including Edgar Lorenzo, Kathleen Bellesiles, Megan Morais, Benjamin Bruce, and Jesse Juarez. Their dedication to selecting students with exceptional talent, vision, and commitment to the arts helps sustain the vibrant creative community in Monterey County.

As these students take their next steps, Arts4MC encourages all aspiring artists to remain open to the vast opportunities within creative fields. The arts are a powerful force for personal and professional growth, with limitless possibilities for impact. By providing scholarships like these, Arts4MC aims to reduce financial barriers and help students pursue their passions.

"This scholarship will help me in my education because it provides extra financial support that I need right now," said recipient Dave Sundquist.

Beyond financial assistance, Arts4MC is actively involved in a tri-county initiative to establish a [Visual Arts and Performing Arts \(VAPA\) Pipeline](#) for local artists to obtain a teaching credential in the arts. This effort aims to provide mentorship, resources, and career pathways to support students as they turn their artistic ambitions into sustainable careers.



ARTS COUNCIL

For Monterey County

Enriching the lives of our community through the arts

“We are thrilled to support these students in their creative pursuits,” said Jacquie Atchison, Executive Director of Arts4MC. “At Arts4MC, we firmly believe that Art Work is Real Work, and we are committed to helping these students build fulfilling careers in the arts.”

These scholarships allow students to explore a range of artistic disciplines, including architecture, fashion design, film, graphic design, illustration, interdisciplinary arts, music, and writing. Through this financial assistance, Arts4MC remains dedicated to empowering young artists and ensuring they have the resources and opportunities to succeed.

To learn more about the Arts Council for Monterey County and the College Arts Scholarships, visit <https://arts4mc.org/scholarships>.

###

*Arts Council for Monterey County (Arts4MC) is committed to enhancing the quality of life for all residents in our region through the arts. We provide a variety of ways to make art more accessible to everyone, including but not limited to providing **Arts Education** programs through schools and community organizations, offering business resources for artists and nonprofits through **BusinessWorks**, creating studio and public art spaces for local artists by **Curating Public Exhibitions** and via **ArtWorks**, awarding **Scholarships**, and providing **Grant Funding** to individual artists and nonprofits for community programs and events related to arts and culture. To learn more, visit arts4mc.org.*



ARTS COUNCIL For Monterey County

Enriching the lives of our community through the arts

PARA PUBLICACIÓN INMEDIATA

Contacto: Nelly Otsu, Directora de Comunicaciones

Arts Council for Monterey County

831-622-9060 x 110 nelly@arts4mc.org

Estudiantes del Condado de Monterey Reciben Becas Artísticas Universitarias de Parte de Arts4MC Para Carreras Creativas

[CONADO DE MONTEREY, CA - 2 de junio, 2025] - A medida que la temporada de graduación se despliega y los estudiantes se preparan para dar el siguiente paso en sus viajes educativos, el Consejo de Artes para el Condado de Monterey (Arts4MC) se enorgullece en anunciar los beneficiarios de las Becas de Artes Universitarias 2025. Estas becas reconocen a seis excepcionales estudiantes de último año de secundaria que desean cursar estudios superiores en campos creativos, incluido un beneficiario de la prestigiosa Beca en Memoria de Joann Adair, concedida a un estudiante de Salinas en apoyo de su educación en las artes escénicas.

Felicidades a los becarios de este año:

- **Myriam Valdez Alvarez**, Everett Alvarez High School, Distrito 1, *Fotografía*
- **Daniel Tapia**, King City High School, Distrito 3, *Arquitectura*
- **Dave Sundquist**, North Salinas High School, Distrito 4, *Visual Arts*
- **Angela Liu**, Pacific Grove High School, Distrito 5, *Música/Violín*
- **Zion Cho**, Pacific Grove High School, Distrito 5, *Diseño*
- **Ileen Li***, Salinas High School, Distrito 2, *Artes Literarias/Prosa*
*Recibirá la Beca en Memoria de Joann Adair

A cada estudiante se le ha concedido una beca de \$2,500, proporcionando un apoyo financiero esencial en su transición a la educación superior. Financiadas por Emile Norman Charitable Trust, estas becas desempeñan un papel vital en fomentar la próxima generación de artistas y garantizar que el legado artístico del Condado de Monterey siga floreciendo.

Las solicitudes fueron cuidadosamente revisadas por un panel independiente de evaluadores, compuesto de Edgar Lorenzo, Kathleen Bellesiles, Megan Morais, Benjamin Bruce y Jesse Juarez. Su dedicación a la selección de estudiantes con talento excepcional, la visión y el compromiso con las artes ayuda a mantener la vibrante comunidad creativa en el Condado de Monterey.

Mientras estos estudiantes dan sus siguientes pasos, Arts4MC anima a todos pensando en una carrera artística, que se mantengan abiertos a las enormes oportunidades que ofrecen los campos creativos. Las artes son una fuerza poderosa para el crecimiento personal y profesional, con posibilidades de impacto ilimitadas. Con becas como esta, Arts4MC intenta reducir las barreras financieras y ayudar a los estudiantes a seguir sus pasiones.

«Esta beca me ayudará en mi educación porque me proporciona un apoyo financiero adicional que necesito en este momento», afirma estudiante becado Dave Sundquist.



ARTS COUNCIL

For Monterey County

Enriching the lives of our community through the arts

Más allá de la ayuda económica, Arts4MC participa activamente en una iniciativa formada por tres condados en la región para establecer [un camino para que los artistas locales obtengan una credencial de enseñanza de las artes Visuales y Escénicas \(VAPA, por sus siglas en inglés\)](#). El objetivo de esta iniciativa es proporcionar tutoría, recursos e itinerarios profesionales para ayudar a los estudiantes a convertir sus ambiciones artísticas en carreras sostenibles.

«Estamos encantados de apoyar a estos estudiantes en sus carreras como creativos», dijo Jacquie Atchison, Directora Ejecutiva de Arts4MC. «En Arts4MC, creemos firmemente que el trabajo artístico es un trabajo real, y estamos comprometidos a ayudar a estos estudiantes a construir carreras satisfactorias en las artes».

Estas becas permiten a los estudiantes explorar diversas disciplinas artísticas, como arquitectura, diseño de moda, cine, diseño gráfico, ilustración, artes interdisciplinarias, música y escritura. A través de esta ayuda financiera, Arts4MC sigue dedicándose a potenciar a los jóvenes artistas y a garantizar que tengan los recursos y las oportunidades para triunfar.

Para obtener más información sobre el Consejo de Artes para el Condado de Monterey y las Becas Universitarias de Arte, visite <https://arts4mc.org/scholarships>.

###

Arts Council for Monterey County (Arts4MC) se compromete a mejorar la calidad de vida de todos los residentes de nuestra región a través de las artes. Ofrecemos una variedad de maneras de hacer el arte más accesible a todos, incluyendo, pero no limitado a proporcionar programas de Educación Artística a través de escuelas y organizaciones comunitarias, ofreciendo recursos de negocios para artistas y organizaciones sin fines de lucro a través de BusinessWorks, la creación de espacios de estudio y de arte público para artistas locales mediante la Curaduría De Exposiciones Públicas y a través de ArtWorks, la concesión de Becas, y la concesión de Subvenciones a artistas individuales y organizaciones sin fines de lucro para programas comunitarios y eventos relacionados con las artes y la cultura. Para más información, visite arts4mc.org.



ARTS COUNCIL For Monterey County

Enriching the lives of our community through the arts

***Congratulations, 2025 College Arts Scholarship Recipients
¡Felicidades estudiantes!***



ANGELA LIU

Pacific Grove High School



DANIEL TAPIA

King City High School



DAVE SUNDQUIST

North Salinas High School



ILEEN LI

Salinas High School



MYRIAM VALDEZ ALVAREZ

Everett Alvarez High School



ZION CHO

Pacific Grove High School