



## AAUW-MPB LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS – 2021

The Local Scholarship selection committee is pleased to announce the award of 8 scholarships of \$2,000 each to students at CSUMB, MPC, and Hartnell College. One Scholarship at CSUMB was awarded in memory of Sally Hekkers.

### **Selene-CSUMB and recipient of the Sally Hekkers Memorial Scholarship**

Selene is pursuing a teaching credential through a new program at CSUMB (ITEP). She hopes to become a special education teacher as she was inspired by assisting in a special ed classroom. There she developed a passion for working with students. Selene came from Mexico as a young child and credits her mother for all she has accomplished. Her mother is a single mom that to this day packs lettuce. She worked very hard for her family and Selene seeks to make her proud.

### **Sophia – CSUMB**

Sophia's mantra is "Yes we can! (A quote from Cesar Chavez). It has motivated her to get a college education and much more. She wants to become an educator and help people like herself. She emigrated from Mexico with no English and had to work in the fields to make ends meet for her family. She is currently involved in Community Advocacy, an organization that promotes health among farm workers.

### **Myrna – Hartnell**

Myrna is an immigrant student from Oaxaca, Mexico. She is undocumented and many doors are closed to her. Despite all of this she is determined to get her education and hopes to be a teacher one day. She has had leadership roles in her community and received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Salinas City Elementary School District for serving as a school representative on the District Migrant Advisory Committee.

### **Rosa – Hartnell**

Rosa is going to be a Surgeon. She worked in the fields with her parents until she was 12 years old. She credits her community for helping her get to college to pursue a Science degree. She wants to be a doctor because she witnessed firsthand in the fields of Greenfield the fear that the farm workers have of going to the hospital. They have no insurance or money to pay. She has interned at UCSC as a Research Volunteer and is a mentor to other young girls. Rosa will be participating in AAUW's Tech Trek program this summer!

### **Joanna – Hartnell**

Joanna has had to work full time during the pandemic to support her family as her mother lost her job due to Covid. She still has managed to go to school full time and maintain an excellent GPA. Joanna wants to be a teacher or counselor someday. Her high school counselor told her that Junior college was a waste of her time and not to bother. That has left a lasting impression with her and has influenced her career decision. IF she had not attended Hartnell she would not have found her major and a career path.

### **Dulce – Hartnell**

Dulce is self-supporting. Her mother died in January 2020 and her Dad has not been able to care for her. She is interested in becoming either a Public Health Community Activist or a Radiologist. She has worked in community organizations such as "Building Healthy Communities" and "Crime Prevention through Environmental Design." Her passion is affordable health care for all.

### **Selene – Monterey Peninsula College**

Selene hopes to become a College Professor in Linguistics. She has faced many obstacles in her journey including depression and delay of her education to help family members. One of her professors said the following about Selene: "She has a great passion to push through these barriers for herself and to provide a path for others to follow". She leads by example. She will attend UC San Diego in the fall.

### **Claire Gillott- Monterey Peninsula College**

Claire wants to become a marriage and family counselor by way of the Peace Corps first! She grew up on a ranch in the Chualar Canyon and had to do her homework in her car where she could get internet service! As a high school student, she got a job teaching in Thailand and went off by herself to this foreign land.

*AAUW Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.*

*The AAUW Monterey Peninsula Branch (AAUW/MPB) Local Scholarship Program is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. (IRS ID #81-0567656).*