

2 0 2 6 - 2 7



PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARS

C O N F E R R A L

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

VANYA QUIÑONES PH.D.



Becoming a President's Scholar is one of the highest honors a Cal Poly Pomona student can earn. President's Scholars exemplify academic excellence, leadership, resilience, and a genuine commitment to serving others. Their accomplishments reflect not only exceptional talent and determination, but also the values that define our university and the promise of what our graduates can achieve.

Since 1983, more than 600 students have earned the distinction of President's Scholar, joining a remarkable legacy of Broncos whose leadership, innovation, and service have strengthened our campus and made a meaningful impact in their communities and around the world.

As the very best of our Bronco community, President's Scholars embody the spirit of Learn. Do. Become.

Their achievements today are the beginning of a lifetime of purpose and impact. We are proud to celebrate their success and confident they will continue to lead with integrity, serve with compassion, and build brighter futures wherever their paths may take them.

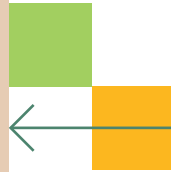
The generosity of our benefactors makes this celebration possible. Their investment in our students opens doors, creates opportunities, and helps prepare the next generation of leaders, innovators, and changemakers who will make a lasting impact in their communities and beyond.

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate our President's Scholars and recognize their remarkable achievements. Congratulations to this year's honorees. Your hard work, perseverance, and commitment to excellence make us proud, and we look forward to all that you will accomplish in the years ahead.



BENEFACTORS

DRS. JANET & W. KEITH KELLOGG II



Janet "Jean" Kellogg and W. Keith Kellogg II were longtime supporters of the university. In 1999, the Kelloggs donated \$200,000 to match contributions to the President's Council Scholars program. Their gift inspired numerous individual and family donations, leading to the creation of a significant endowment fund.

W. Keith Kellogg II is the namesake and grandson of cereal magnate W.K. Kellogg, one of the university's founders. He and Janet were champions of the W. Keith and Janet Kellogg University Art Gallery, which was expanded because of their generous support. The Honors College was named the Keith & Jean Kellogg Honors College in 2006 after a generous bequest from the W. Keith Kellogg II Trust.

In 1994, W. Keith Kellogg II received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Cal Poly Pomona and was also recognized as an honorary university alumnus. He passed away in 2005; Janet Kellogg passed away in 2014.



GRACEY MACDONALD



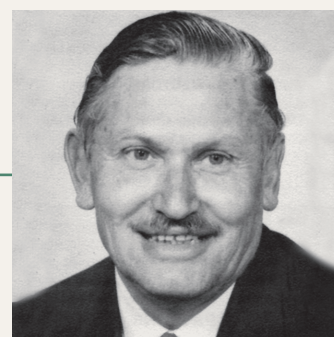
MAJOR: Animal Science (Pre-Veterinary)
Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture

ACTIVITIES:
Veterinary Assistant, Advanced General Practice/Urgent Care Clinic; CPP Equestrian Show Team; CPP Pre-Veterinary Club; Volunteer, Local Animal Shelter; Volunteer, San Bernardino County Fair Livestock Program; Raising Cattle; Horseback Riding

Growing up around livestock, Gracey MacDonald developed an appreciation for the dedication, responsibility and compassion required to care for animals. Early experiences raising cattle and assisting with ranch work grew into a passion for veterinary medicine, reinforced through hands-on experiences at the county fair and in a professional veterinary setting. At Cal Poly Pomona, Gracey combines academic learning with practical experience, working as a veterinary assistant and participating in the university's Pre-Veterinary Club and Equestrian Show Team. She also volunteers at her local animal shelter and supports youth exhibitors at the San Bernardino County Fair. Gracey's great-grandfather is one of her greatest role models. His love for agriculture, unwavering faith and strong work ethic continue to guide her. She is also fascinated by holistic and plant-based approaches, believing that traditional and complementary medicine can improve animal health and well-being. Gracey plans to earn her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree and work with large-scale producers and family farms. She hopes to advance sustainable agriculture while educating future generations about responsible animal care and welfare.

Albert Zoraster President's Scholar

2026-2027



Christine and Albert Zoraster joined the President's Council in 1992. Christine endowed this scholarship in the memory of her husband Albert. His life celebrated the ideals of hard work and determination; he was an advocate for his community, industry and children. The Albert Zoraster scholarship is awarded to the student who values hard work and is dedicated to the enrichment of their community.

MICHELLE BAGGETT



MAJOR: Master of Science in Agriculture; Plant Science Option
Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture

ACTIVITIES:
CPP Apiary Support; Instructional Support, Plant Science Department; Pollinator Health

Michelle Baggett's interest in agricultural plant science began with a passion for growing her own food. When she decided to change careers, agriculture offered a meaningful path aligned with her interests in sustainability, food production and plant systems. As she learned more about the essential role that bees play in ecosystems and agriculture, she became interested in bee science, which now shapes her master's project. At Cal Poly Pomona, Michelle balances graduate study with hands-on opportunities. She helps run the CPP Apiary and provides instructional support for the Department of Plant Science. Outside school and work, she enjoys family, movies and recharging. Michelle credits Professor Anna Soper as an important mentor and supporter, whose guidance has helped her build confidence. She also draws from her experience living off grid for two years in a school bus she converted into a tiny home, which taught her resourcefulness, sustainability and adaptability. Michelle hopes to continue supporting students at Cal Poly Pomona and eventually broaden her impact through teaching, mentorship, outreach or program development in sustainable agriculture.

Rinehart Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Larry Rinehart is the former president and chief executive officer of PFF Bank & Trust in Pomona and is a member of the President's Council. As a graduate from Pomona High School and the University of La Verne, Rinehart has been involved in the local community for many years. He has actively participated on various boards such as the Pomona Valley Red Cross, Mt. Baldy United Way, Fairplex, Casa Colina and the Cal Poly Pomona University Educational Trust. The Rinehart Family scholarship was established to recognize an outstanding student who is committed to the university and their local community.

ETHAN NAVARRO



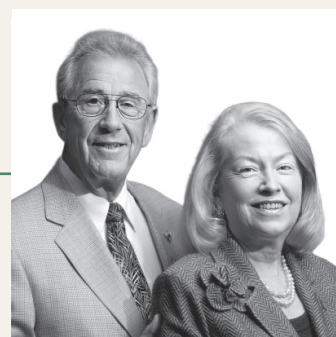
MAJOR: Technology
Operations Management
Minor: Contract
Management
**College of Business
Administration**

ACTIVITIES:
President, Latino
Business Student
Association; Academic
Chairman, Hermanos
Unidos; Field and Snack
Shack Crew, Advantage
Flag League; Coach,
Advantage Flag League
Kindergarten Clinic;
Coach, The Pink Outlaws
Girls' Flag Football Team

Ethan Navarro is drawn to the systems that make businesses work, from planning and production to the contracts and relationships that support daily operations. His interest in technology operations management comes from a curiosity about what happens behind the scenes, where materials, people, agreements and processes come together to create efficiency and solve problems. His minor in contract management adds another layer of understanding. At Cal Poly Pomona, Ethan found a community that has helped him grow personally, professionally and academically. He serves as president of the Latino Business Student Association and academic chairman of Hermanos Unidos. He also works with Advantage Flag League, managing operations, mentoring new team members and coaching young athletes in football. Inspired by his father, Ethan knows the importance of work ethic, respect, consistency and meaningful relationships. As the oldest sibling, grandson and nephew, Ethan aims to set a positive example. He hopes to build a career improving business operations while inspiring younger siblings and cousins to pursue even greater opportunities.

Mark Aldrich President's Scholar

2026-2027



Long-time philanthropists and Cal Poly Pomona supporters, Jo and Ted Dutton generously established this scholarship named after their son, Mark Aldrich. Mark is a Cal Poly Pomona alumnus who earned a bachelor's degree in finance, real estate and law in 1994. To recognize the contributions made by the fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, first consideration is given to its members for the Mark Aldrich scholarship.

REGINA DE LOS SANTOS



MAJOR: Marketing Management
College of Business Administration

ACTIVITIES:
Resident Advisor, University Housing; Front Desk Assistant, University Housing; Vice President of Marketing, Women in Business; CPR Instructor, American Red Cross; Co-Founder, Heartwise; UC Davis Medical Health Cardiac Education Events and Charity Walks

The stories found in film, music and media helped Regina de los Santos feel seen and connected. Those experiences inspired her appreciation for the power of storytelling to shape emotion and strengthen community. At Cal Poly Pomona, Regina serves as a resident advisor with University Housing, supporting students as they begin their college journeys, welcoming residents and helping them navigate campus life. As vice president of marketing for Women in Business, she helps create space for women to build networks, confidence and professional skills. Her commitment to service extends beyond campus through cardiac education events, charity walks, and Heartwise, a nonprofit she co-founded with her mother to expand CPR and AED education. Regina's family are her greatest role models. Their immigrant journey, love and positivity have shaped her determination to pursue her goals while sharing kindness. A creative at heart, she enjoys photography, music, songwriting and crafts ranging from crochet to video editing. Regina hopes to work in entertainment marketing and lead creative teams that build authentic, inclusive campaigns that bring people together through stories.

Michael
and Eileen
Considine
President's
Scholar

2026-2027



Alumnus Michael Considine and his wife Eileen have been active supporters of Cal Poly Pomona. From industrial manufacturing to investment management and sod distribution, the Considines have been fortunate in their business endeavors. Students who demonstrate the ability to succeed and enhance the financial or banking industries are awarded the Eileen and Michael Considine scholarship.

JESSICA HE



MAJOR: Computer Information Systems;
Minor: Mathematics and Statistics
College of Business Administration

ACTIVITIES:
Member, Management Information System Student Association (MISSA) Data Analytics Team; Undergraduate Researcher with Dr. Sonya Zhang; Technical Intern, YouWorld Inc.

Jessica He's academic path began in economics, but her growing interest in technical and quantitative work led her toward data science, mathematics, artificial intelligence and computer information systems. The international transfer student brings a global perspective to her studies and is interested in the intersection of data, finance and technology. At Cal Poly Pomona, Jessica has built a strong foundation through classroom learning and hands-on experience. She is a member of the MISSA Data Analytics Team, conducts undergraduate research with Professor Sonya Zhang and gained industry experience as a technical intern with YouWorld Inc. She volunteered with the 2026 ETHConf in New York, the largest Ethereum gathering in the United States, deepening her exposure to emerging technology and innovation. Jessica looks to Chinese American freestyle skier and model Eileen Gu as a role model for her discipline, positivity and commitment to growth. Gu's words, "Pain is temporary, pressure is a privilege," remind Jessica to view challenges as opportunities. In the next five years, she hopes to pursue a Ph.D. focused on data and finance.

Gregoire Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Ronald Gregoire began his impressive career in the auto dealership business by joining an accounting firm after graduating with honors from Cal Poly Pomona in 1971. Following many successful years in the auto industry, Ron sold his business to enjoy time with family and friends. The Gregoire Family scholarship is presented to the student who exhibits strong leadership abilities and a determination to succeed.

ESMERALDA IRIBE



MAJOR: Multiple
Subject Credential
College of Education &
Integrative Studies

ACTIVITIES:
Substitute Teacher,
Corona-Norco Unified
School District and
Riverside Unified School
District; Sunday School
Teacher, VantagePoint
Church; Social Justice
Action Committee;
Coordinator, Project
Sunshine at UC Riverside

Education, language access and service have shaped Esmeralda Iribé's career journey in teaching. Before entering the credential program at Cal Poly Pomona, she volunteered at the San Bernardino Free Clinic as a Spanish translator and clinic coordinator, helping patients in underserved communities understand their care. That experience sparked her passion for educating others, especially when she could bridge language barriers and help families feel supported. That spirit of service continued through Project Sunshine at UC Riverside, where she organized recreational activities for pediatric patients, and now through her work as a Sunday school teacher at VantagePoint Church. She also serves as a substitute teacher in local school districts and participates in Cal Poly Pomona's Social Justice Action Committee. Esmeralda earned a bachelor's degree in neuroscience and worked as an EMT in a children's hospital before realizing her greatest sense of purpose came from educating patients, families, and students. She hopes to become a dual-immersion teacher who creates culturally responsive classrooms where every student feels valued, supported and empowered to succeed.

Gwen Evans La Bounty President's Scholar

2026-2027



The first lady of Cal Poly Pomona from 1977 to 1985, Gwen Evans La Bounty was a devoted wife and mother; she embraced the university community until she passed away in 1985. As an advocate for education, Gwen pursued her teaching credential, served as a PTA president and was involved in a local preschool program. Gwen served as a role model of charity and compassion, and the Gwen Evans La Bounty scholarship is awarded to the student who represents these attributes and is committed to educational excellence.

ANAPAULA ZAVALA



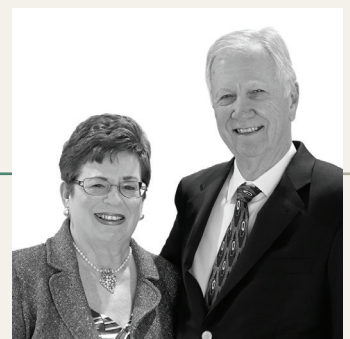
MAJOR: Early Childhood Studies
College of Education and Integrative Studies

ACTIVITIES:
Afrofuturism Initiative
2025-2026 Cohort; Boys & Girls Club Volunteer;
Resident Student Association Delegate;
Hermanas Unidas Steering Committee;
Teaching Assistant, CPP Children's Center

Anapaula Zavala's commitment to education is rooted in her belief that classrooms should foster belonging, creativity and justice. Her first job working with children confirmed her desire to pursue a career in education and showed her the importance of providing emotional support inside and outside the classroom. Drawing from her childhood experiences, she hopes to create learning environments where children feel welcomed, understood and encouraged to grow. At Cal Poly Pomona, Anapaula has built that commitment through campus involvement and service. She was part of the Afrofuturism Initiative 2025-26 cohort, serves as a Resident Student Association delegate, participates in Hermanas Unidas and works as a teaching assistant at the Children's Center. Anapaula admires Kim Hongjoong, the leader of the K-Pop group ATEEZ, for his self-taught creativity and willingness to take risks. In the age of artificial intelligence, she hopes to help students protect their creativity, critical thinking and individual voice. Anapaula approaches education through a social justice lens and plans to start a nonprofit advocating for nontraditional and neurodivergent students.

Roberts Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Dorothy and Kent Roberts have been members of the President's Council since 1985. As past owners of an English language development publishing business for 26 years and active participants in several educational nonprofits in their community, the Roberts demonstrate their dedication to the educational process on a daily basis. The Roberts Family scholarship is intended to recognize promising students who are seeking educational careers, have demonstrated superior scholastic performance and want to make a difference in the world.

TREVOR CHENG



MAJOR: Electrical
Engineering
College of Engineering

ACTIVITIES:
Kellogg Honors College;
Epic Movement Men's
Bible Study Leader
and Weekly Meeting
Coordinator; FCBC
Walnut College Group
Student Leader;
BroncoSpace BILL-EE

Trevor Cheng's interest in electrical engineering began with a simple question: How do the systems behind everyday technology work so seamlessly to improve people's lives? Seeing devices ranging from automatic doors to robotic arms to artificial limbs, Trevor became fascinated by how engineering can transform ideas into technology that improves daily life. Initially drawn to prosthetics and articulated devices, he has also developed an interest in power engineering and the infrastructure needed to support a changing world. Trevor is a member of the Kellogg Honors College and has been involved with BroncoSpace BILL-EE. Beyond campus, he serves his church community by leading a men's Bible study, planning events, supporting newcomers and sharing his musical talents on piano and drums. Trevor credits his father with teaching him to take initiative and serve others, lessons he carries into every aspect of his life. He tutors friends, shares study resources and enjoys building meaningful connections. In the future, he hopes to work in biomedical technology or power infrastructure, using engineering to help people move forward in an evolving world.

Chang Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Wen and Mei Lien Chang are outstanding supporters of their community and Cal Poly Pomona. Wen and Mei Lien firmly believe that education is the most effective tool to aid all social classes in the pursuit of their dreams. The Chang Family scholarship was established to assist outstanding engineering students in their pursuit of scholastic excellence.

LYNN LATT HTUN



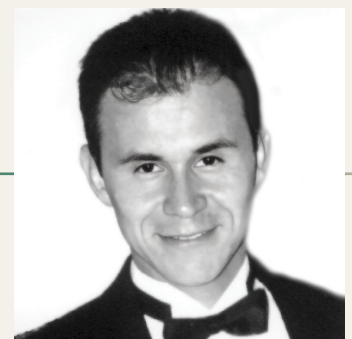
MAJOR: Computer Engineering
College of Engineering

ACTIVITIES:
Kellogg Honors College (KHC); KHC Club; International Student Club; Asian Pacific Islander Student Community; Society of Women Engineers; Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE); Undergraduate Researcher, SHIELD Project

Lynn Latt Htun has always been fascinated by technology's ability to solve real-world problems. Computer engineering appealed to her because it combines hardware, software and artificial intelligence to create practical solutions that can improve safety, efficiency and everyday life. Through coursework and undergraduate research, she has developed a strong interest in intelligent systems and their potential to serve communities. Lynn is a member of the Kellogg Honors College (KHC) and participates in the KHC Club, International Student Club, Asian Pacific Islander student community, Society of Women Engineers and IEEE. She also conducts undergraduate research on SHIELD, a deep learning-based framework for suspect detection and evacuation routing being prepared for publication as an IEEE conference paper. Off campus, she volunteers at her Burmese Christian church and enjoys hiking, traveling, badminton and photography. The Myanmar native credits her parents' sacrifices, encouragement and values of hard work, humility, resilience and compassion for guiding her as an international student. Lynn hopes to develop technologies that combine embedded systems, artificial intelligence and computer vision while mentoring future engineers.

Oscar Perlaza President's Scholar

2026-2027



As the former director of the Maximizing Engineering Potential (MEP) program, Catharine Hudspeth has helped countless students on their way to successful careers in engineering. The Oscar Perlaza scholarship was created to recognize the outstanding leadership and perseverance of a highly motivated MEP civil engineering alumnus whose life ended too soon. The Oscar Perlaza scholarship is awarded to the student who exemplifies leadership and dedication to the development of others.

VICTORIA SANDOVAL RIOS



MAJOR: Civil Engineering - Geospatial Option
College of Engineering

ACTIVITIES: President, CPP Surveying Team; California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA) Student Chapter; National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS); California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA); American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS); Engineers Without Borders; Student Mentor, Maximizing Engineering Potential-Women in Science and Engineering (MEP-WiSE)

A curiosity about civil engineering's many disciplines led Victoria Sandoval Rios to surveying, where she found the perfect blend of technology, mathematics, problem-solving and hands-on fieldwork. She learned that nearly every engineering project begins with a survey. Whether using GPS, drones, computer-aided design (CAD) or legal boundary research, she enjoys work that supports infrastructure, preserves property rights and leaves a lasting impact on communities. At Cal Poly Pomona, Victoria serves as president of the CPP Surveying Team and is active in the CLSA Student Chapter, organizing events, mentoring students and promoting the surveying profession. She also works as a survey technician at Conaway Geomatics. Victoria has been shaped by mentors who encouraged her to pursue opportunities beyond the classroom and introduced her to the surveying profession's culture of mentorship and service. She especially enjoys bringing people together, connecting students with mentors and industry professionals and helping others recognize their own potential. Looking to the future, Victoria hopes to become both a professional land surveyor and a professional civil engineer, leading complex projects while mentoring future surveyors and engineers.

Shelton Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Michael (Doc) and Tina Shelton have been part of the campus community for more than 30 years. The Sheltons are each the first member of their respective families to achieve a college education. This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Doc's parents, Otto and Lois Shelton, who grew up during the Great Depression and were only able to attend school through the eighth grade. The Shelton Family Scholarship is designed to provide recognition and assistance to an outstanding student who is first in their immediate family to attend college.

BIMANI ABEY SUNDARA DISSANAYAKE



MAJOR: Civil
Engineering
College of Engineering

ACTIVITIES:
Civil Engineering Intern,
KPFF; Undergraduate
Researcher, STARS
Undergraduate Research
Program; Tau Beta
Pi; Phi Theta Kappa
Honor Society; Media
Creator, North American
Society for Trenchless
Technology (NASTT)
CPP Student Chapter;
American Concrete
Institute; American
Society of Civil Engineers

Bimani Abeysundara Dissanayake's interest in civil engineering began with a childhood curiosity about how the built environment takes shape. She wondered how buildings remain strong, how roads and bridges are designed and how ideas drawn on paper become real structures that people depend on every day. That curiosity grew into a passion for creating work that serves communities through thoughtful design and construction. At Cal Poly Pomona, Bimani has pursued that passion through research, professional experience and student involvement. She is a civil engineering intern at KPFF, a structural, civil and survey engineering firm. Bimani is deeply grateful to her family, especially her parents, whose support has helped guide her journey. After moving to the United States alone from Sri Lanka, she drew strength from their sacrifices, encouragement and pride in even her smallest achievements. That journey has made her resilient, focused and deeply appreciative of opportunity. Bimani hopes to become an engineer, pursue graduate study, start her own construction company and create a nonprofit that supports talented students facing financial or family hardships.

Iana
Williams
President's
Scholar

2026-2027



As the former director of the Maximizing Engineering Potential (MEP) program, Catharine Hudspeth has helped countless students on their way to successful careers in engineering. The Iana Williams scholarship was created to remember the outstanding leadership of a highly motivated MEP electrical engineering alumna whose life was cut short. The Iana Williams scholarship is intended to bring recognition to a student who has continued in Iana's tradition of furthering the development of technical expertise in their community.

TAU WALSH



MAJOR: Electrical Engineering
College of Engineering

ACTIVITIES:
CPP Melee (Esports Club); Formula Electric; Audio Visual Technician, Associated Students, Inc. (ASI); Music

Technology has always been at the center of Tau Walsh's curiosity. Fascinated by computer hardware, audio equipment, gaming consoles and the systems that power everyday technology, Tau discovered that electrical engineering can transform his curiosity into innovation. At Cal Poly Pomona, Tau continues to build technical expertise through involvement in Formula Electric and CPP Melee, while also supporting campus events as an audio-visual technician for ASI. Tau credits software engineer Linus Torvalds as a source of inspiration, admiring his commitment to open-source technology and the lasting impact around the world. Torvalds reinforces Tau's belief that engineering should improve lives by creating technology that is practical, meaningful and accessible. Looking ahead, Tau hopes to build a career as a mixed-signal hardware engineer, applying the knowledge gained at Cal Poly Pomona to develop innovative electronic systems.

Jasen Strand Memorial President's Scholar

2026-2027



Tina and Peter Strand created the scholarship in memory of their son, Cal Poly Pomona mechanical engineering student Jasen Strand who was diagnosed with Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy at age six and who passed away in 2010. Committed to enjoying life to its fullest, Jasen was passionate about learning, overcame challenges and became a bright, energetic scholar, excelling in his academic endeavors. Tina and Peter Strand are honoring Jasen's support from the Disability Resource Center by providing educational resources for more students with disabilities and who share Jasen's enthusiasm for learning.

RYAN NGUYEN



MAJOR: Master of Science in Civil Engineering
College of Engineering

ACTIVITIES:
Institute of Transportation Engineers; American Society of Civil Engineers; Orange County Traffic Engineering Council; Bible Study Volunteer, La Purisima Catholic Church

Inspired by the opportunity to solve real-world problems, Ryan Nguyen pursued civil engineering to turn his strengths in math and science into meaningful improvements for communities. His interest in transportation grew during his first internship, when redesign work on a familiar roadway ramp his friends often complained about helped him see how engineering can directly affect safety, movement and daily experiences. At Cal Poly Pomona, Ryan continues to explore transportation and multimodal systems through involvement with the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Orange County Traffic Engineering Council. He also works with Caltrans District 12, gaining experience that aligns with his career goals. Nguyen is a Bible study volunteer at La Purisima Catholic Church and enjoys trading cards, bouldering, origami, guitar, video games and learning about cybersecurity. Ryan credits his father, uncle and friends with encouraging him to make thoughtful decisions, keep improving and pursue meaningful work. Ryan hopes to become a professional engineer, work on multimodal transportation projects, lead projects and deliver work that positively impacts communities.

Frank D. Whitehead President's Scholar

2026-2027



Helen and Frank (Don) Whitehead co-founded LOUD Engineering in 1967 with just three employees, including Helen and Don. By the time they retired, their company was renowned for its skill and efficiency in the design, overhaul, and manufacture of airplane and helicopter landing gears. The Frank D. Whitehead Family scholarship is provided to recognize the achievements of outstanding graduate engineering students.

MARCO DAVID RAYAS



MAJOR: Architecture
College of
Environmental Design

ACTIVITIES:
Kellogg Honors College
(KHC); American Institute
of Architecture Students;
First-Year Studio
Teaching Assistant;
Study Abroad in Japan
and Italy; Oil Painting;
Tennis; Languages and
Global Exchange

Marco David Rayas is drawn to architecture because of its power to create spaces that respond to people's needs. His interest began in a high school course and grew through the Architecture, Construction and Engineering Mentorship Program, where he first explored the field in depth. Through SoCal National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) and Cal Poly Pomona, he found inspiration in the creativity, effort and innovation of studio culture. He is also interested in languages and global exchange, with plans to study abroad in Japan and Italy. Beyond architecture, he enjoys oil painting and tennis. Marco considers his father a role model, crediting him with teaching the discipline needed for success and happiness. Marco lists resilience as one of his defining qualities, as he has learned to adapt to new environments by focusing on growth and opportunity. He hopes to become an architect, pursue graduate study, specialize in interior design, support his family, guide his younger brothers and make a wider impact in his community.

James H.
Jones
President's
Scholar

2026-2027



The late Lt. Col. James Jones was a longtime university supporter who established two major art collections for Cal Poly Pomona. After serving in World War II, Jones studied citrus fruit production at the Cal Poly Voorhis campus and finally received his degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 1951. The James H. Jones scholarship is presented to an exceptional environmental design student who seeks to improve the community.

DIEGO HERRERA



MAJOR: Architecture
College of Environmental
Design

ACTIVITIES:
Co-President, CPP
National Organization
of Minority Architecture
Students; Student
Representative,
Southern California
National Organization
of Minority Architects
(NOMA); Architecture
Training Camps; Design
Apprentice, HMC
Architects; 3D Printin

Diego Herrera's interest in architecture began in a high school course that introduced him to the Architecture, Construction and Engineering Mentorship Program. As a mentee, he became involved with SoCal NOMA and began learning the foundational concepts of architecture. When he arrived at Cal Poly Pomona and stepped into the architecture studio, he was inspired by the creativity, effort and innovation of the students around him. Diego served as co-president of CPP's National Organization of Minority Architecture Students and now represents students with the Southern California chapter of NOMA. He also contributes to architecture training camps, where he enjoys teaching others about the field. Diego works as a design apprentice at HMC Architects, assisting with the development of healthcare-related projects. His sense of purpose shapes the care and quality he brings to design. Outside of architecture, Diego enjoys 3D printing, making cosplay pieces, video games and swing dancing. He hopes to become a licensed architect, potentially start his own firm and use architecture to help others thrive.

Dr. Andrew G. Chong President's Scholar

2026-2027



Dr. Andrew Chong knows how important it is to see things clearly. As a successful optometrist in the San Gabriel Valley, he owns and operates two businesses. With a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, a master's degree in business administration and a doctorate in optometry, Chong values the educational opportunities provided to him. The Dr. Andrew G. Chong scholarship is awarded to recognize exceptional students from any major.

TAYLOR LEPALE



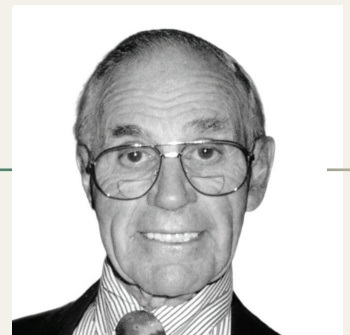
MAJOR: Hospitality
Management
**The Collins College of
Hospitality Management**

ACTIVITIES:
Cal Poly Rose Float;
Kellogg Honors College
(KHC); Alpha Lambda
Delta; National Society
of Leadership and
Success; The Walt Disney
Company; Reading;
Photography; Traveling;
Event Planning

Hospitality has been part of Taylor Lepale's life for as long as she can remember. Growing up, she helped her parents serve their church community, learning the importance of caring for others and creating welcoming experiences. Those early lessons shaped her passion for bringing people together and pursuing a career in hospitality. At Cal Poly Pomona, Taylor continues to build on her passions through involvement in Cal Poly Rose Float, the Kellogg Honors College, Alpha Lambda Delta and the National Society of Leadership and Success. She also works for The Walt Disney Company, gaining hands-on experience in one of the world's leading guest service organizations. Through the Disney College Program, she strengthened her communication, problem-solving and leadership skills while creating meaningful experiences for guests. Taylor credits her parents as her greatest role models, inspired by their kindness, generosity and selfless commitment to serving others. In the future, Taylor hopes to build a career with Disney as an event planner, using creativity, care and attention to detail to create unforgettable experiences.

Al Levie Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



In memory of Al Levie, who passed away in 1999, this President's Council Scholarship is named after the man who was instrumental in the initial fund-raising efforts of what is now known as The Collins College of Hospitality Management. Levie brought his leadership and expertise along with a vast network of industry executives to the young school in the '80s. The Al Levie Family scholarship was established to recognize high-achieving students in the hospitality management program.

ROSALIND THORBOURN



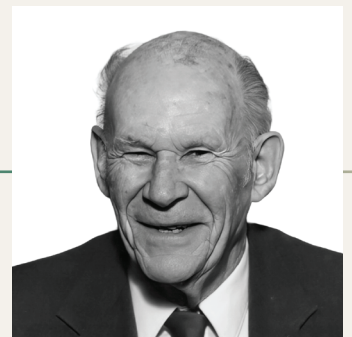
MAJOR: Hospitality Management;
Minor: Marketing Management
The Collins College of Hospitality Management

ACTIVITIES:
Supervisor, Cal Poly Pomona Enterprises' Centerpointe Dining Commons; Eta Sigma Delta International Hospitality Management Society; Pomona Valley Pride; Ozzie & Friends Pet Rescue

Rosalind Thorbourn is passionate about the leadership and organizational culture that shape both employee experiences and exceptional hospitality service. As a supervisor at Cal Poly Pomona Enterprises' Centerpointe Dining Commons and a graduate student in the Master of Science in Hospitality Management program, she sees firsthand that great service begins with strong, supportive leadership. Her academic and professional interests focus on employee psychological safety and engagement and building healthier workplace cultures across the hospitality industry. Rosalind is a member of Eta Sigma Delta International Hospitality Management Society and volunteers with Pomona Valley Pride and Ozzie & Friends Pet Rescue. She credits her parents as her greatest role models, and draws inspiration from their perseverance, humility and belief in continuous growth. Naturally curious, Rosalind enjoys learning through leadership research, psychology, personal development and operational improvement. In the future, she hopes to lead teams with confidence, develop people with care, and demonstrate that employee well-being is essential to long-term success in hospitality and meaningful guest experiences.

The Lundberg Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Derek and Lance Lundberg created this scholarship in memory of their father, Dr. Donald Lundberg, who founded the Hotel and Restaurant Management Program at Cal Poly Pomona in 1973. Dr. Lundberg was a beloved mentor, educator and prolific author, writing many books on tourism, restaurants, cooking, and industry leadership. The scholarship honors Dr. Lundberg's unwavering commitment to pay forward the support he himself received to assist students achieve their dreams.

ZARA LOZANO



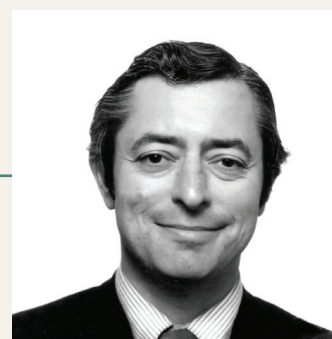
MAJOR: Music
Industry Studies
College of Letters, Arts,
and Social Sciences

ACTIVITIES:
Digital Marketing and
Artist Development
Intern, Golden Brain
Records; Founder and
President, CPP Music
Industry Association;
Historian, Kellogg
Honors College Club;
CPP BARKADA;
Songwriters' Showcase
Ensemble; Singing;
Songwriting; Guitar;
Dance

Zara Lozano is passionate about both music performance and the business strategies that help artists thrive. Music industry studies allows her to grow artistically while learning how marketing, branding, creative direction and data-driven decision-making can shape an artist's career. She is inspired by how creativity and analytics work together to build meaningful connections between artists and audiences. Zara founded and serves as president of the CPP Music Industry Association, creating opportunities for students interested in performance, production, marketing and business. She leads club operations, events, partnerships, and branding while serving as historian for the Kellogg Honors College Club and participating in BARKADA, the Songwriters' Showcase Ensemble, and the campus production of "Little Shop of Horrors." Over the summer, she worked as a digital marketing and artist development intern at Golden Brain Records. Zara admires Filipino artist Beabadoobee, whose authenticity and representation inspired her own aspirations. With a musical theater background, Zara brings performance, storytelling and discipline to her work. She hopes to release music and help build a more artist-centered music industry.

Arthur M. Berman President's Scholar

2026-2027



Michael Berman was formerly employed at Cal Poly Pomona as the vice president for instructional and information technology. His family and friends established this scholarship in honor of Mike's late father, Arthur M. Berman. Art Berman worked for the Los Angeles Times for more than 30 years; he served as a mentor for many people in the newspaper industry and strongly believed in encouraging young people to determine their own futures. He saw education, and higher education in particular, as the most important tool for self-development. The Arthur M. Berman scholarship will honor a student who is working toward a career in journalism or public service.

ANNE KELLEY JOHNSON



MAJOR: Criminology
**College of Letters, Arts,
and Social Sciences**

ACTIVITIES:
Cal Poly Pomona
Enterprises Facilities
Management;
Criminology Club;
Fitness; Drawing;
Makeup; Baking; Ryman
Arts Alumna

Long before choosing her major, Anne Kelley Johnson discovered an interest in criminology through an unlikely source: *The X-Files*. The show's mysteries sparked her curiosity about psychology, human behavior and what drives people to commit crimes. Over time, those questions developed into a passion for understanding how biology, psychology and environment shape actions. At Cal Poly Pomona, Anne is a member of the Criminology Club and works for Cal Poly Pomona Enterprises in Facilities Management. Outside of school and work, she enjoys the gym, drawing, makeup and baking. As a Ryman Arts alumna, she values the way art has strengthened her patience, attention to detail and ability to observe the world from multiple perspectives. Anne sees her mother as her greatest role model and is inspired by her tenacity, courage and perseverance. Anne sees her analytical and creative sides as equally important to who she is. She hopes to work for the federal government in a research and analysis role, contributing to a justice system rooted in evidence, compassion and public safety.

Bernard and Lucie Bidart President's Scholar

2026-2027



A partner with the law firm of Shernoff, Bidart & Darras in Claremont, Michael Bidart is an alumnus with a degree in economics. It was Bidart's parents, Bernard and Lucie, who inspired him to be an attorney. His parents encouraged their sons to pursue college degrees, knowing firsthand the hardships of life without a college education. The Bernard and Lucie Bidart scholarship has been established to help others fulfill their own educational dreams.

ANN-KATRIN BOCK



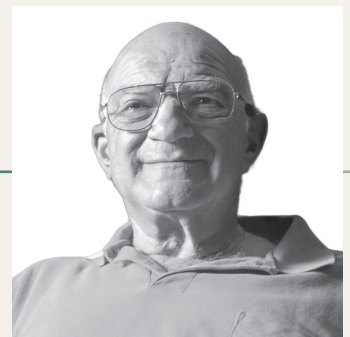
MAJOR: Political Science
College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

ACTIVITIES:
CPP Decolonial Interpretivist Research Lab; Political Research Quarterly Lab Fellow; CPP National Model United Nations Team Delegate and Head Delegate; Junior Editor, CPP Undergraduate Journal of Political Science; Political Science Department Student Grader; Horseback Riding

Ann-Katrin Bock's path to political science began in her first American government class at community college. Growing up in Germany, she was interested in history and current events, but moving to the United States made questions about government, power and political systems feel more immediate. That curiosity grew into a passion for security studies, conflict, geopolitics and international relations. At Cal Poly Pomona, Ann-Katrin has pursued those interests through the CPP Decolonial Interpretivist Research Lab, the Political Research Quarterly Lab, the National Model United Nations Team and the CPP Undergraduate Journal of Political Science. She has also worked in the Graduate Studies Office and as a student grader in the Department of Political Science. Ann-Katrin credits mentors who recognized her potential and encouraged her to pursue opportunities beyond her comfort zone. Growing up on a farm in northern Germany, completing vocational training, training horses and moving to California on her own shaped her resilience and perspective. She hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in political science and international relations, teach at a university and inspire future students.

Annette F. and Morton J. Blumner President's Scholar

2026-2027



Dr. Sidney Blumner established the Annette F. and Morton J. Blumner CLASS President's Council Scholarship in honor of his parents. Professor Blumner and his mother, Annette Blumner, have supported Cal Poly Pomona's College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences for many years because of their belief in education and youth. "I am a product of public education," Blumner says. "I support public schools because they need help, and the students need help. People need to give back to society." This scholarship supports high performing students in the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences, where he spent 33 years as a tenured faculty member, chair of the Department of Economics, and is now a donor.

ORLONDO WHALEN



MAJOR: Psychology
**College of Letters, Arts,
and Social Sciences**

ACTIVITIES:
Mental Health Intern,
Building Blocks
Healthcare Network;
Mental Health Intern,
The Center for Child
Development; Resident
Advisor, University
Village; Research
Assistant, Dr. Miller's
Personality & Sport
Psychology Lab;
Assistant to Athletics
Facilities and Event
Coordinator, CPP
Intercollegiate Athletics;
Kellogg Honors College
(KHC); Music Production

Witnessing the impact of limited mental health resources in his community sparked Orlando Whalen's interest in psychology and a desire to help others. Those experiences inspired him to pursue a field where he could improve access to care, support underserved communities and help individuals build healthier lives. Orlando is a Kellogg Honors College member, a resident advisor at University Village, a research assistant in Professor Travis Miller's Personality and Sport Psychology Lab, and is the assistant to CPP's Athletics Facilities & Events Coordinator. He is also a mental health intern with Building Blocks Healthcare Network and The Center for Child Development, while supporting youth as a healthy lifestyles specialist with the Baltimore Ravens Boys & Girls Club. Orlando's older brother and role model, a mental health therapist in Baltimore, helped him see mental health as an opportunity to change lives. As a music producer, Orlando also values creativity. He hopes to earn a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and provide culturally responsive care to communities like the one where he grew up on Chicago's South Side.

Nicole Christine Cote President's Scholar

2026-2027



The Côté family endowed this scholarship in honor of Nicole Côté, who passed away during her senior year at Cal Poly Pomona in 1999 at the age of 21. Nicole was the recipient of the 1999-2000 Lowell Overton President's Council Scholarship. Nicole felt strongly that academic scholarships should be awarded based on merit, and it is with that in mind that the Côté family has made this scholarship available to a very qualified student in the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences.

ERIC PAULSEN



MAJOR: Political Science
College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

ACTIVITIES:
2026 Panetta Institute Congressional Intern; Peace Corps Campus Ambassador; Los Angeles County Student Professional Worker; Los Angeles County Elections Assistant; Business Services Student Leader, University Housing Services; Former Orientation Leader; Former California College Corps Fellow

Eric Paulsen decided to major in political science to reach his goal of becoming a lawyer. He wanted to better understand government, public policy and the legal system while developing the critical thinking, research and analytical skills needed for law school. His studies have strengthened his commitment to public service and advocacy. Eric represented Cal Poly Pomona for the 2026 Panetta Institute Congressional Internship, serves as a Peace Corps campus ambassador and has worked with Los Angeles County as both a student professional worker and elections assistant. On campus, he served as a business services student leader with University Housing Services and previously as an orientation leader and California College Corps Fellow. Eric credits his parents with teaching him the importance of integrity, service and giving back to his community. Outside of school, he enjoys spending time in nature, reading and listening to the *Harry Potter* audiobooks narrated by Stephen Fry. He hopes to build a legal career in public service, government or elected office.

Bernard and Lucie Bidart President's Scholar

2026-2027



A partner with the law firm of Shernoff, Bidart & Darras in Claremont, Michael Bidart is an alumnus with a degree in economics. It was Bidart's parents, Bernard and Lucie, who inspired him to be an attorney. His parents encouraged their sons to pursue college degrees, knowing firsthand the hardships of life without a college education. The Bernard and Lucie Bidart scholarship has been established to help others fulfill their own educational dreams.

ALEXIS YRIGOYEN



MAJOR: Anthropology
**College of Letters, Arts,
and Social Sciences**

ACTIVITIES:
McNair Scholar;
ENGAGE Research
Fellow; California Center
for Ethics and Policy
Student Fellow; Digital
Humanities Consortium
Student Fellow;
President, Pi Gamma
Mu Social Science Honor
Society; Instructional
Student Assistant;
Administrative Assistant,
ASI Scuba Dive Center;
Adult Literacy Tutor,
Chino Hills Library; Scuba
Diving; Photography;
Traveling

From an early age, Alexis Yrigoyen was captivated by the past, a curiosity that eventually grew into a passion for anthropology and archaeology. What started as an interest in dinosaurs expanded to ancient civilizations, shipwrecks, Pompeii, the Titanic and the human stories behind historical discoveries. She was drawn to the way anthropology combines science, culture, history and human behavior to understand how people lived, adapted and built communities. Alexis is a McNair Scholar, an ENGAGE Research Fellow, a California Center for Ethics and Policy Student Fellow and a Digital Humanities Consortium Student Fellow. She also serves as president of the Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Honor Society, works as an instructional student assistant and administrative assistant at the ASI Scuba Dive Center and volunteers as an adult literacy tutor at the Chino Hills Library. Alexis credits her parents and academic mentors with encouraging her curiosity and her empathetic, interdisciplinary approach to learning and research. Alexis hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in anthropology, conduct archaeological fieldwork, preserve cultural heritage and make research more accessible to the communities it represents.

Hugh and Judy La Bounty President's Scholar

2026-2027



Hugh O. La Bounty joined the faculty of Cal Poly Pomona in 1953 as an instructor in the English department. He served as the university's third president and was responsible for transforming a regional institution into a major comprehensive university. President La Bounty's legacy includes having established the President's Council in 1980 as well as the President's Scholars program in 1983. The Hugh and Judy La Bounty scholarship is awarded to students who have distinguished themselves as excellent scholars in the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences.

DANIEL LEON



MAJOR: Psychology/
Criminology
College of Letters, Arts,
and Social Sciences

ACTIVITIES:
Research Assistant,
Prosociality and Well-
Being Lab; Research
Assistant, Sports and
Personality Lab; Lead
Student Assistant,
Centerpointe Front-
of-House; Hospital
Auxiliary Volunteer;
Hospital Registration
Representative; Psi Chi;
Teaching Assistant;
Basketball; Fishing

Daniel Leon's interest in psychology stems from his desire to help others and make people feel valued. As a first-generation student raised by a Vietnamese immigrant mother and a Mexican father, he witnessed barriers that limit access to mental health care and education. Those experiences motivated him to pursue work that expands resources for underrepresented communities. He serves as a research assistant in both the Prosociality and Well-Being and the Sports and Personality labs, and he has presented research at student conferences on and off campus. He also works as a lead student assistant at Centerpointe, volunteers in hospital settings, is involved with Psi Chi and serves as a teaching assistant. Daniel's parents taught him that even small acts of kindness can make a meaningful difference. He is also grateful to professors Rachel Baumsteiger and Travis Miller, whose mentorship inspired his passion for research. He hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and conduct research on early intervention, stigma reduction and mental health care for underserved youth and communities.

Lowell Overton President's Scholar

2026-2027



Lowell Overton is a friend of education. He credits his education at Cal Poly Pomona for his success as a nationally recognized real estate broker. As an active alumnus and founding member of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences alumni chapter, Lowell is engaged in the campus community and various alumni activities and programs. The Lowell Overton scholarship is intended to recognize exceptional students who are engaged in their communities and value their educational opportunities.

MADISON MILES



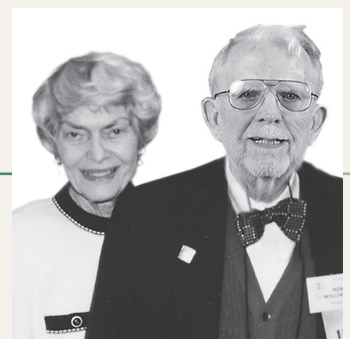
MAJOR: Master's in Psychology
College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences

ACTIVITIES:
Project Sister Family Services Intern; Pomona Unified School District Intern; Advocate for Trauma-Affected Individuals; Community Outreach and Support; Marriage and Family Therapy Practicum

Seeing the impact of limited mental health resources on low-income and underserved communities sparked Madison Miles' commitment to a career in psychology. Her decision to study marriage and family therapy was shaped by the kindness and compassion she received from mentors, teachers, counselors and community members. She hopes to offer that same support to future clients while helping them build resilience and self-compassion. As a graduate student, Madison is completing her practicum with Project Sister Family Services and will intern with the Pomona Unified School District. Her work with Project Sister has strengthened her passion for supporting survivors of sexual assault and interpersonal violence and deepened her commitment to trauma-informed, client-centered care. Madison's greatest role model is her grandfather. His kindness, compassion, integrity and respect for others continue to shape the way she hopes to serve clients and communities. She hopes to open a private therapy practice, specialize in trauma care, expand her training in evidence-based approaches, and write about abuse and trauma to reduce stigma and increase awareness.

Norman Williamson, Jr. Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Norman Williamson Jr. was the son of W.K. Kellogg's only daughter, Elizabeth Kellogg Williamson. His ability to retain and document the history of the Kellogg family was one of Williamson's legacies to his family and the university. Because of his active involvement with Cal Poly Pomona, the Norman Williamson, Jr. Family scholarship was established to honor those dedicated students who are committed to making a difference in their communities.

JAIRON CAICEDO



MAJOR: Computer
Science
College of Science

ACTIVITIES:
Church Member; Guitar;
Music; Video Games;
Emerging Technology;
Peer Support for
College, Scholarships,
Financial Aid, and Career
Opportunities

Seeing how unequal access to technology can influence a student's future sparked Jairon Caicedo's passion for computer science and its potential to create opportunity. Born in Ecuador, he attended a school with very few computers and no internet access. After moving to the United States, he learned English and technology at the same time, a challenge that became a source of motivation and purpose. Jairon is preparing for a career in protecting systems, analyzing risks and helping organizations keep information safe. Beyond the classroom, he is active in his church, enjoys music and playing guitar, plays video games and explores new technology. Jairon's role models include his family and mentors Molly Morin and Gisela Spieler from Rio Hondo College. Their encouragement helped him believe in his potential, especially when he questioned whether he belonged in computer science. He has learned to advocate for himself and find resources, and he hopes to do the same for others. Jairon plans to become a cybersecurity professional and mentor students from underrepresented backgrounds.

Siu Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



The Siu family's involvement with education is longstanding, as evidenced by their generous contributions to the university. Both retired, Annie was an orthodontist and Tim, who passed away, was an anesthesiologist. The Sius enjoyed successful careers in their respective professions. The student who aspires to enrich quality of life through science will be awarded the Siu Family scholarship.

HAILEY CAMPBELL



MAJOR: Computer Science
College of Science

ACTIVITIES: sheCodes; AI and Machine Learning Stock Market Predictor Project; Cal Poly Rose Float; Operation Santa Volunteer, United States Postal Service; Robotics; Programming

Hailey Campbell became interested in computer science in fourth grade after completing an Hour of Code activity. Seeing a few lines of code move characters across a screen sparked a curiosity that quickly grew into coding at home through Code.org, Scratch and Python. Later, C-STEM, VEX Robotics and high school robotics helped her see programming as a way to create, solve problems and bring ideas to life. Hailey is a member of Cal Poly Pomona's sheCodes, in which her team worked on an AI and machine learning stock market predictor. She also contributed to the Cal Poly Rose Float for the 2026 Rose Parade, helping create concealment details for the jaguar tail and macaw wings. Through Operation Santa with the United States Postal Service, she volunteered to respond to children's letters. Hailey praises her grandmother for teaching her patience, creativity and confidence while introducing her to hobbies such as sewing, embroidery, crocheting, cooking and baking. Hailey hopes to work at Disney Imagineering, where she could combine her interest in robotics, AI and themed entertainment.

Kim Family President's Scholar

2026-2027



Alumnus Keith Soon Kim and his wife, Sung, have long supported Cal Poly Pomona. As a math and electrical engineering double major, Keith valued his educational opportunities and actively participated in campus clubs and programs. The Kim family demonstrates its commitment to education by providing opportunities for other students to succeed at Cal Poly Pomona. Outstanding engineering and science students are recognized by the Kim Family scholarship.