

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***California Wine Grape Growers Foundation Awards Eight Scholarships for Higher Education***

**Sacramento, Calif., June 2, 2009** – Eight high school seniors are getting a chance to pursue their dream of attending college, thanks to scholarships awarded by the California Wine Grape Growers Foundation (CWGGF).

Margarito Lua of Santa Maria is this year's recipient of the Robert N. Miller Scholarship, awarded exclusively to Central Coast students planning to major in or are currently enrolled in viticulture and enology programs at Alan Hancock Community College or California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly). Miller's family established the scholarship in 2006 to honor his memory, passion for innovation and commitment to enhancing the Central Coast wine growing business.

Selected for four-year \$4,000 annual scholarships were: Consuelo Macias of Redwood Valley, Marilou Montanez of Middletown and Nicholas Reed of Hidden Valley Lake.

Two-year \$1,000 annual scholarships were awarded to: Kaitlyn Goff of Kelseyville, Jenna Greenmyer of Acampo, Carmelita Mendoza of Kerman and Milagros Prado of Parlier.

“As is the case every year, there were so many deserving applicants to choose from. It's always difficult to select only a few,” said CWGGF Board Chair Ben Drake. “We strive to increase our fundraising amounts so we can award even more scholarships to send more students to college each year.”

The California Wine Grape Growers Foundation was created in 1999 by the California Association of Winegrape Growers to perpetuate the scholarship program it created in 1998. The program awards education scholarships to high school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are vineyard employees of wine grape growers.

For more information and applications, visit the CAWG Web site at [www.cawg.org](http://www.cawg.org) or call 800 241-1800.

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# About the Scholarship Winners

## ***Robert N. Miller Scholarship***

**Margarito Lua**  
Santa Maria High School

*Margarito plans on attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. "Working in the vineyards helped me decide to one day be an excellent winemaker, and maybe have my own vineyard as well," she said.*

## ***Four-year Scholarships***

**Consuelo Macias**  
High School

*After attending UC Davis, Consuelo wants to work in either the medical or Ukiah teaching field. When she looks back on her experience of tutoring and mentoring, she said, "I taught them a few things, and they showed me my future."*

**Marilou Montanez**  
Lower Lake High School

*Marilou plans on pursuing a psychology degree at Sonoma State and hopes to work with children and their families. "My parents have assured me I will be better educated [than them] and that if I keep going to school and do as good as I have been I could even earn a doctorate degree in the future," she said.*

**Nicholas Reed**  
Middletown High School

*Nicholas plans on majoring in biology at UC San Diego. "I knew I wanted to become a doctor, to be able to help people and prevent children from losing their family members to illnesses or injuries like I have lost mine," he said. "I'll be able to give back to the community by saving lives and preventing the suffering that comes with the loss of a loved one."*

## ***Two-year Scholarships***

**Kaitlyn Goff**  
Kelseyville High School

*Kaitlyn plans on attending Shasta Community College. "After finishing college I plan on giving back to my community by becoming my dream, a teacher and coach, so that other students do not fall short of their goals because there was someone around to push them and encourage them to not give up on their dream," she said.*

**Jenna Greenmyer**  
Lodi High School

*Jenna, who wants to own her own ranch, will attend Delta Community College and pursue a degree in agriculture business. "I wish to continue my education so that I will become knowledgeable in agriculture and learn what it takes to run a successful business," she said.*

**Carmelita Mendoza**  
Kerman High School

*Carmelita plans on attending Fresno City College to pursue her dream of being a doctor. "I want to pursue a college degree because I would be the first one in my family. Education is very important to me because I want to be someone in life," she said.*

**Milagros Prado**  
Parlier High School

*Milagros plans on attending Reedley College and then transferring to a state university to study interior design and Spanish. "Not only will I decorate but also build houses and buildings," she said. "I would like to keep being a translator for the Tzu Chi Foundation where they have free clinics."*

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