

## ***California Wine Grape Growers Foundation Awards 10 Scholarships for Higher Education***

**Sacramento, Calif., June 10, 2010** -- The California Wine Grape Growers Foundation has awarded 10 high school seniors with scholarships to aid in their dream of higher education. The CWGGF board also voted to increase the scholarship amounts this year due to increasing costs of education. Two-year recipients will receive \$2000, up from the previous amount of \$1,000 and four-year recipients will receive \$8000, up from \$4,000. Congratulations to this year's winners:

### ***Four-year Scholarship Recipients***

Andrea Gonzalez, Ukiah High School, Ukiah  
Analíy Ortiz, River City High School, West Sacramento

### ***Two-year Scholarship Recipients***

Maria Aguilar, Healdsburg High School, Healdsburg  
Amanda Anderson, Point Arena High School, Gualala  
Jaime De Anda, North Salinas High School, San Juan Bautista  
Erica Greenmyer, Lodi High School, Lodi  
Martha Merlin, Healdsburg High School, Healdsburg

Kenneth Block of Atascadero High School is this year's recipient of the Robert N. Miller Scholarship, awarded exclusively to Central Coast students who plan 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). The Miller family established the scholarship in 2006 to honor Robert Miller's memory, his passion for innovation and his commitment to enhance the Central Coast wine growing business.

CWGGF also administers the Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance scholarship, which is designed to engage local community and encourage higher education. Recipients were Jacob Moore from Paso Robles High School, \$1,000 and Estafania Ramirez from Shandon High School, \$1,000.

"The Foundation has been very successful in raising money for this worthy cause and we were excited to increase the scholarship amounts this year because of that success," said Board Chair J.R. Shannon. "These scholarships make it possible for students to attend college, increase their education and hopefully come back to make a difference in their communities."

The California Wine Grape Growers Foundation was created in 1999 by the California Association of Winegrape Growers to perpetuate a 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 CWGGF Web site at [www.cwggf.org](http://www.cwggf.org) or call 800 241-1800.

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# About the Scholarship Winners

## *Four-year Scholarships*

**Andrea Gonzalez**  
Ukiah High School

*Andrea is interested in psychology and social work. "Becoming a leader in the Latino community is one of my primary goals. Education is a pathway to leadership and activism."*

**Analiy Ortiz**  
River City High School

*Analiy plans to become a cardiac pediatrician. "I have discovered my true dreams and to this day seek to take the steps that will lead me to my aspirations; that will lead me to become an inspiration for those who just like me traveled to this nation with the desire to surpass any struggle."*

## *Two-year Scholarships*

**Maria Aguilar**  
Healdsburg High School

*Maria hopes to become veterinarian. "My future depends on the goals that I intend to achieve. I will graduate from high school, go to college and help my family and my community."*

**Amanda Anderson**  
Point Arena High School

*Amanda plans to study science in college. "I believe that by attending college I will be able to do more with my life than just have a high school diploma."*

**Jaime De Anda**  
North Salinas High School

*Jaime plans to be a marketing manager after graduating college. "Through my childhood I have submerged my soul in education, letting the fuel of knowledge and virtues drive me."*

**Erica Greenmyer**  
Lodi High School

*Erica wants to work in the wine industry or be a teacher. "I would like to further my career in agriculture and with this scholarship I think I could come that much closer to this goal."*

**Martha Merlin**  
Healdsburg High School

*Martha hopes to attend college and become a counselor. "I strongly believe in giving back to my community and make a difference by helping our future generations and giving minorities the hope to pursue a better future."*

## *Robert N. Miller Scholarship*

**Kenneth Block**  
Atascadero High School

*"My ultimate career aspirations are to own and operate my own environmentally friendly vineyard and winery in San Luis Obispo County. I hope to set an example not only for my community but also for the state of California in a push for sustainable agriculture."*

## *Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance Scholarship*

**Jacob Moore**  
Paso Robles High School

*Jacob plans to study marine biology. "The importance of education, especially in a contemporary context, is a fundamental necessity. With the knowledge gained in the journey of life, we find pure moments of living on that path that gives us the strength and passion that makes us pursue what is around the corner."*

**Estafania Ramirez**  
Shandon High School

*Estafania plans to study business administration. "I strongly believe that if a person strives for the extra mile, they will soon enough reach their goal in life. I am determined to go that extra mile."*