



CALIFORNIA
TABLE GRAPE
COMMISSION

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 22, 2022

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California Table Grape Growers Award Scholarships

Fresno, CA – California table grape growers are helping make the dream of a college education a reality for nine high-achieving students who will begin college this fall.

Three \$25,000 field worker scholarships were awarded to students attending four-year universities; three \$14,500 bridge field worker scholarships were awarded to students attending community college for two years, then transferring to a four-year university. To qualify for a field worker scholarship, the applicant, parent, or guardian must work in the California table grape harvest.

Three \$25,000 agricultural scholarships were awarded to students attending a four-year university and studying a field related to agriculture.

The table grape growers of California have awarded scholarships to deserving students from table grape growing regions since 1985.

Scholarship winners were interviewed to reflect on their scholarships and experiences. Meet the 2022 California Table Grape Commission scholarship recipients below and please follow the link to hear them in their own words: <https://www.grapesfromcalifornia.com/community-outreach/scholarship-recipients/>

\$25,000 Field Worker Scholarships



Mr. Alan Menchaca is a graduate of Cesar E. Chavez High School in Delano, California and will attend UC Berkeley to major in applied mathematics. Alan graduated with a 4.55 GPA and received the AP Scholar Award, which is given to students who pass three AP exams. As captain of the varsity tennis team, Alan and his team won the South Sequoia League Championship.



Ms. Hannah Villaruz is a graduate of Cesar E. Chavez High School in Delano, California and will attend California State University, Bakersfield to major in nursing. Hannah graduated with a 4.28 GPA, and received the Superintendent's Honor Roll every semester at Cesar E. Chavez High School. She also served as the Associated Student Body Publicity Commissioner.



Mr. Favian Zamudio is a graduate of Arvin High School in Arvin, California and will attend UC Berkley to major in writing. Favian graduated with a 4.44 GPA. He also graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree in Communication from Bakersfield College. Favian made the Principal's List and Honor Roll every semester at Arvin High School.

\$14,500 Bridge Field Worker Scholarships



Ms. Desteny Navarro is a graduate of Lindsay High School in Lindsay, California and will attend College of the Sequoias, then transfer to a four-year university to major in nursing. Desteny graduated with a 3.6 GPA, was an active member of Associated Student Body leadership, and volunteered to support food drives, mask giveaways, and Christmas gift distributions.



Ms. Perla Ortiz is a graduate of Tulare Western High School in Tulare, California and will attend College of the Sequoias, then plans to transfer to Fresno State University to major in nursing. Perla graduated with a 3.61 GPA and is preparing to take the state board certification to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. Perla was involved in the Tulare Youth Ambassadors Leadership program as well as the Pre-Medical Academy.



Ms. Adriana Peña is a graduate of Dinuba High School in Dinuba, California and will attend Reedley College, then plans to transfer to UC Davis to major in psychology and minor in Spanish. Adriana graduated with a 4.14 GPA. Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, Adriana received IRS certifications to help low-income families or individuals file their taxes for free.

\$25,000 Agricultural Scholarships



Mr. Adam Erickson is a graduate of Kingsburg High School in Kingsburg, California and will attend Fresno State University to major in plant science. Adam graduated with a 4.05 GPA and was awarded the Rotary Top 40 Award as a freshman, sophomore, and junior. Adam was a member of the school baseball team and volunteered his spare time with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club as well as youth baseball and basketball programs.



Mr. Frank Fernandes is a graduate of Mission Oak High School in Tulare, California and will attend Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo to major in agricultural systems management. Frank graduated with a 4.12 GPA and received a Seal of Biliteracy for his four years of proficiency in English and Portuguese. Frank completed his Career Technical Education in agricultural mechanics at Mission Oak High School, and was an active member of the California Scholarship Federation, Tulare FFA, and the Society for Portuguese American Students.



Ms. Isabella Ribeiro is a graduate of Tulare Western High School in Tulare, California and will attend Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo to major in agricultural communications. Isabella graduated with a 4.29 GPA and in many leadership roles with the Tulare FFA program, including Tulare Chapter President and San Joaquin Regional President. In addition to her various leadership roles, Isabella was a member of the varsity swim team and an avid community service volunteer.

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