

## Named Scholarships and Recipients

**CalRTA Division #58** of the California Retired Teachers Association is 550 members strong and supports scholarships with numerous fundraising activities throughout the year. (*Sharron Green, WCC Adult School*)

**David Calfee/Richmond Rotary** Judge Calfee was raised in Richmond where he practiced law until he was elected Municipal Court judge in 1958. A 60-year member of the Richmond Rotary, his dedication to students is evidenced by his donation to the club with the request that it be used for scholarships. (*Jahiem Jones, Kennedy High School*)

**Nancy Hendrickson** graduated from Framingham State in Massachusetts and accepted a dietetics position at Mills College in Oakland, California. Volunteering as a parent at Madera Elementary led to a part time teacher's aid position there, followed by many years as a resource and reading intervention paraprofessional at El Sobrante and Tara Hills Elementary Schools. After retiring, she became a strong supporter of West Contra Costa Retired Educators Scholarships, inspired by the life stories and aspirations of the recipients. (*Genevieve Schweitzer, El Cerrito High School*)

**Scott Honey** is a Pinole Valley graduate and former WCCRE scholarship recipient. He has provided a scholarship in appreciation of the kindness of teachers and staff members throughout his 20 years as a student in public education. Currently living in Hong Kong, this scholarship helps him stay connected to his hometown roots. (*Devin Dinh, Pinole Valley High School*)

**James W. Kelly** taught math for 40 years at Richmond High and has remembered the WCCRE Scholarship Fund with an annual contribution from his trust fund. (*Tamara Flores, Richmond High School*)

**Mechanics Bank** is Richmond's hometown bank and continues its community support by providing a scholarship for a graduating senior through the WCCRE scholarship fund. (*Uyen Bui, DeAnza High School*)

**Linda Pereira** was a life-long area resident and a member of the last class to graduate from Richmond Union High School before it was demolished and then rebuilt to the present structure. She dedicated her life to the students of WCCUSD through various jobs in the district. Her final position was maintaining athletic areas, making sure that RHS always had great fields. (*Andrea Melendez, Richmond High School*)

**Patricia Rupley** served the district for many years as a teacher, counselor, principal, and central office administrator. Her lasting legacy was her unyielding commitment to making the schools responsive to the ever-changing needs of the students. (*Alondra Carmona Gonzalez, Kennedy High School*)

**David Shank** spent his entire career at Helms Middle School where he was a well-liked Industrial Arts and Math teacher. His support of students lives on with a generous donation to the WCCRE scholarship fund. (*Kimberly Cardenas, DeAnza High School*)

**Joanna Sykes** was a dedicated WCCUSD teacher for 40 years, mostly at Sheldon Elementary School where she happily taught kindergarten. An inspiring teacher beloved by students and parents, Joanna brought the joy and love for learning directly into the classroom and continues her support with a memorial scholarship. (*Nouhamin Leoulekal, Middle College High School*)

**Rick Tracy/Mary Jo Beyer**—Rick was a kind, caring, diligent, and dedicated educator. He taught at every elementary grade level in the district and also served as vice principal and principal, retiring as principal of Hanna Ranch. At the height of the Vietnam War, Rick was drafted into the army directly out of his 4th grade classroom at Montalvin Manor. He spent a year in Pleiku, Vietnam where he participated in MEDCAP missions in support of the Montagnard community in the central highlands and mobilized his family back home to send clothing and food donations. He grew to detest all war. His wife, **Mary Jo Beyer** was a loving and popular kindergarten teacher. Because both Rick and Mary Jo believed in the importance of higher education, they have created a memorial scholarship for graduating WCCUSD seniors. (*Alyssa Burton, Hercules High School*)

## WEST CONTRA COSTA RETIRED EDUCATORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

# 45th Annual

# Scholarship Awards

## 2021



West Contra Costa  
Division 58

***CalRTA Division #58 is very proud to announce that this year we have reached the \$1,000,000+ mark in scholarships awarded over the past 45 years.***

*Despite the fact that the celebration of the current scholarship awardees takes place against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the amazing achievements of the 2021 scholarship recipients cannot be dimmed.*

*The academic success and the leadership skills this group has demonstrated is an excellent predictor of the roles they will play in the future of our community, our country and the world.*

*We congratulate you!*

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the West Contra Costa Retired Educators Scholarship Fund is to raise funds to provide post-secondary scholarships to students graduating from the following schools of the West Contra Costa Unified School District: DeAnza High, El Cerrito High, Sylvester Greenwood Academy, Hercules High, Kennedy High, Middle College High, Pinole Valley High, Richmond High, Vista High, and the Adult School.

## SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

*A special thank you to all scholarship donors as well as the participants in the following:*

The Annual Benefit Drawing, Donations, Division #58 CalRTA Annual Budget Allocation, Memorial and Honorarium Gifts, Boutique Sales, Little Red Schoolhouse Donations, Amazon Smile Donations, and the Scholarship Quilt Raffle.

## HISTORY

In 1977, the California Retired Teachers Association (CalRTA), Division #58, representing retired employees of the Richmond Unified School District, (now the WCCUSD), began a fund to honor A.L. Bernes, a counselor for 30 years, by awarding scholarships to high school graduates.

The West Contra Costa Retired Educators Scholarship Fund was established in 1996 as an independent board. The Fund is governed by a board of fourteen directors. All board members are retired educators. The directors serve three-year terms, and are limited to two consecutive terms. They serve without compensation. Policy matters are decided by majority vote.

The first year, an award of \$100 was given—**this year there are 38 awards of \$2,000 each.** To date, the Fund has granted a total of \$1,042,250 to 725 students. We wish to thank the generosity of all of the retired and current employees and friends of education who help us continue this important program.

You may visit the website at [wccscholarship.org](http://wccscholarship.org) for informational updates and a list of this year's donors.

### WCCRE Scholarship Fund Board of Directors

<b>President</b> Sue Kahn	<b>VP/Recording Secretary</b> Bev Morsony	<b>Treasurer</b> Rit Huybrechts	<b>Financial Secretary</b> Linda O'Connor	<b>Corresponding Secretary</b> Marilyn O'Brian	<b>Scholarship Chairs</b> Catherine Giacalone Patty Halonen
<b>Parlementarian</b> Linda LaNere					

**Directors:** Cheryl Broomall, Linda Cohen, Pat Dornan, Lisa Dwiggin, Linda LaNere, JoLynn Subramanian

**Ex Officio Members CalRTA Division #58:** Sofia Close and Jo Scherich

## 2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

### DE ANZA HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Uyen Bui</i>	<i>Vanesa Rivera Jaime</i>
<i>Mia Cacho</i>	<i>Misha Sitchon</i>
<i>Kimberly Cardenas</i>	<i>Emely Villa</i>
<i>Cecelia Kuang</i>	

### EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Mara Bravo-Santos</i>	<i>Tina Khangtintsang</i>
<i>Kyra Chee</i>	<i>Sophia Merish-Rose</i>
<i>Willia Gibson</i>	<i>Genevieve Schweitzer</i>
<i>Suchita Khanal</i>	<i>Amelia Willett Burfoot</i>

### HERCULES HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Alyssa Burton</i>	<i>Nuhamen Molla</i>
<i>Aliyah Castaneda</i>	

### KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Alondra Carmona Gonzalez</i>	<i>Jahiem Jones</i>
---------------------------------	---------------------

### MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Saalem Abdellaoui</i>	<i>Thomas Leung</i>
<i>Kalif Byrd</i>	<i>Mylinn Tran</i>
<i>Nouhamin Leoulekal</i>	

### PINOLE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Anita Chinwuba</i>	<i>Joi Gonzales</i>
<i>Devin Dinh</i>	<i>Thomas Nguyen</i>
<i>Kaitlynn Dwy</i>	

### RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL

<i>Tamara Flores</i>	<i>Mekayla Saechao</i>
<i>Yael Gutierrez</i>	<i>Graciela Vazquez</i>
<i>Andrea Melendez</i>	<i>Lizbeth Zaragoza Ponce</i>

### WEST CONTRA COSTA ADULT SCHOOL

<i>Sharron Green</i>	<i>Erica Moreno</i>
----------------------	---------------------