SOROPTIMIST

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AWARDS PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Aging and Gerontology Education Award (A.G.E. Scholarship)

This is awarded to Concentration Year Students accepted into the School of Social Work, CSUC. Chico Hartford Partnership Program in Aging Education (HIPPAE), Excellence in Serving Older Adults. HIPPAE is an innovative program for students interested in gaining knowledge, skills and experience working with older adults.

Sierra Schmidt a Masters of Social Work graduate student with CSU, Chico. She is passionate about creating and implementing innovative solutions that help older adults successfully age in place. She is interested in activist efforts that work towards disrupting systemic ageism, and the use of creative arts in bringing healing to the aging process. Currently, Sierra is an intern of the Northern California Counties TimeBank and has worked with a small team in designing a Home Share program. The Home Share program is an affordable housing solution that matches older adults who wish to age in place, with community members who are in need of housing. Sierra's long-term goals are to design and implement local housing, transportation, and companionship programs that address the many barriers older adults experience when attempting to age in place. In her free time, Sierra enjoys being in nature, snuggling with her pup, and reading poetry.

Kathleen Harrington is a Masters of Social Work graduate student with CSU, Chico. During her undergraduate studies at San Francisco State University, she interned as the Palliative Care Social Work Intern at St. Francis Memorial Hospital. Currently she is interning with Enloe Home Health and Hospice. Since the age of 17, she has known that she wanted to work in hospice care and two life-changing events led her to this life goal. The first being, when her father was 64 years old, she was born. This helped her to value family and have respect for the older population. The second was when at age 17, her father was in an accident and died. She was alone in the hospital without a social worker or anyone to guide her through what was happening. This motivated her to work in the death and dying field, so she can provide the support to others that she did not receive in such a significant moment. She is looking forward to graduating and fulfilling her goal of working in hospice care.

Dr. Valene Smith Soroptimist Graduate Scholarship

Established by Dr. Valene Smith and SI Chico, this scholarship is awarded to business or interdisciplinary graduate students at CSUC, who embody the Soroptimist spirit of service. This is a club only award with selection process completed by CSUC.

Megan Luke earned her Bachelor's degree in agriculture at Chico State, and is currently pursuing a graduate degree in interdisciplinary studies for agroecology and integrated pest management. She plans to earn her doctorate to work in research and development of sustainable agroecological management systems and teach at community college or University. Her advisor Elizabeth A. Boyd, PhD describes Meagan as being "...cognizant of world issues and seeks to find solutions to challenges through education and experience".

Soroptimist International Goodwill & Understanding Scholarship

This scholarship is for non-resident international students who have completed at least 24 units at CSUC. Recipients must indicate they plan to remain in the United States to complete a Masters degree. Preference is for students who have completed an undergraduate degree in their own country. This is a club only award with selection process completed by CSUC.

Iknur Aktemur is from Turkey. She is currently pursuing a graduate degree in political science. She plans to earn a doctorate to become a university professor, and work to affect change in Turkey's family and social policies. Iknur's mentor Lori M. Weber, PhD describes her contributions in the classroom as being, "thoughtful, reasoned, and often provide a meaningful intercultural perspective..."

Butte College Scholarships

These scholarships acknowledge and support those students who are committed to achieving their academic goals and who demonstrate potential to be successful in their future career paths. This is a club only award with selection process completed by Butte College.

Alijah Gray plans to graduate with Honors from Butte College PTK Society with a degree in Social and Behavior Science. She will be applying to a Surgical Technician program in San Bruno and, once accepted, will begin summer 2019. If not accepted this year, as it is a lottery, she will finish two more classes and apply to the Butte College Nursing program and the Surgical Tech program and has the option of transferring to a California State University.
Alijah is fluent in American Sign Language and Spanish and plans to keep up her language skills in caring for patients in the hospital. "This scholarship will help pay for my tuition, cover the cost of books. This scholarship is truly a gift and I am beyond grateful!"

Nicole Agins is a Biology major with a minor in Zoology. She plans to pursue a career at a rehab zoo upon graduating from Humboldt State. Nichole is currently a junior carrying 12 units, and plans to graduate from Butte with an AS. After graduation, she will attend Humboldt State to earn a Masters in Biology. "The SI Chico Scholarship has lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals, just as you have helped me."



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SOROPTIMIST PLEDGE

I pledge allegiance to Soroptimism, and to the ideals or which it stands: the sincerity of friendship, the joy of achievement, the dignity of service, the integrity of profession, the love of country.

I will put forth my greatest effort to promote, uphold and defent these ideals for a larger fellowship in home, in society, in business, for country and for God.