



2006 Scholarship Recipients (4 Awarded)



Tiffany Perez
Pontiac Northern
High School

Update August, 2007

Tiffany will be attending Oakland University this fall majoring in teaching.

November, 2006

Tiffany wants to pursue a career in Advertising. Her goal is to attend the University of Michigan with double majors in Business and Fine Art. In her scholarship application, Tiffany cites her mother as her major influence in her life. "I witnessed the struggles my mother faced while battling cancer as a single parent. Unable to work because of her illness, she still provided us a stable home environment which helped us develop strong moral values. My mother showed me that if you persevere and push through tough times you can achieve your goals." Tiffany is involved in community outreach activities, volunteers for the Mexican Mutual Society Club, walks in the annual Cystic Fibrosis Fundraiser and is a member of the National Honor Society.



Gary King
Pontiac Northern
High School

Update August, 2007

Gary will be attending Grand Valley State this fall. In addition to receiving the RGMF Scholarship, Gary also received a \$6000 Dave Schmitt Memorial Scholarship. Dave Schmitt was a High School football coach at Pontiac Northern. Gary was also voted Athlete of the Year at Pontiac Northern.

November, 2006

Gary plans on attending Michigan State University to gain a nursing degree. His goals are to graduate at the top of his class and play on the baseball team. "I will use my nursing degree to give back by helping people not only in the hospital but also those in my community who may not be able to afford treatment. In order for me to get to where I need to be I know I am going to need some assistance. I want to thank the Ric Gonzalez Memorial Foundation for starting me off on the right track and giving me the ability to pay some of the college expenses." Gary tutors younger students at Pontiac Northern and volunteers to help the elderly in his neighborhood. "Some try to pay me but I don't accept it because I know some day I will need help and my deeds will come back to me in time."



2006 Scholarship Recipients (continued)



Maria Ibarra
Waterford Mott
High School

Update August, 2007

Maria will be attending U of M this fall.

November, 2006

Maria wants to attend the University of Michigan next fall. Her career goal is to become an optometrist. She volunteers with El Centro la Familia an Easter Seals affiliate that works with Hispanics to teach basic English, with the Salvation Army working in the stores to sort and distribute clothing and has been an instructor passing out child safety seats and teaching their proper installation and use to parents. "From volunteering at the Salvation Army I learned it takes hard work to do something great. Through all these experiences I have become more interested in the news and what politicians are beneficial to my community. I have written letters to representatives to support bills I felt they should pass and become more involved with groups like SADD." Maria credits her family and Hispanic heritage with giving her a strong work ethic and good morals. "I want to help those who have difficulty speaking English; I want to make it easier for them to succeed". She currently attends Waterford Mott High School where she is carrying a course load heavy in the sciences with a 3.43 GPA.



Celia Luna
Western International
High School

Update August, 2007

Celia will be attending University of Detroit this fall.

November, 2006

Celia attends Western International High School in Detroit where she carries a 4.0 GPA while taking a strenuous course load. She is treasurer of the National Honor Society, President of the Student Council, a mentor at Holy Redeemer and works a summer job at SER Metro Jobs for Progress. Celia plans on attending the University of Detroit Mercy and working toward a medical degree to become an anesthesiologist. "I have always been taught to set worthy goals, work hard, remain diligent and strive to make a difference in this world. This is the first step of many and I promise to take full advantage of this opportunity and make the school, my parents and community very proud. Just as Mr. Gonzalez has given back to the community, I one day plan on doing the same. My personal goals have developed from my positive and negative surroundings. The violence and poverty I've grown up with has only motivated me to lead the people in my community down a better path." To which we can only say Amen