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2021-22

**20 Yuma Area Students
Awarded \$54,500**

**WELCOME
NEW WILDCATS!**



“BEAR DOWN”



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YUMA UA Alumni Club



YumaCats

Proudly Presents

The

2021-22

YUMACATS

SCHOLARSHIP



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RECIPIENTS

CORPORATE SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS

AMIGO FARMS

JASSMIN TOVAR

PARENTS Teresa and Martin Nolasco
SCHOOL Gila Ridge High School
CLASS RANK 16/471
GPA 4.000

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- **MAJOR:** Law School
- **LIFE GOALS:** Immigration Lawyer

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Jassmin played Junior Varsity Basketball and was a member of the Spanish Club.

Jassmin has been a member of the A-Team throughout her High School years. She was also a member of the National Honor Society. Jassmin was president of the AVID Club and did student tutoring through AVID. She also was an Art Gallery Exhibitionist during her High School Years.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“Jassmin’s talents and abilities include strong organization and time management skills, working with any type of individual and encouraging true collaboration, speaking her mind freely and with confidence and demonstrating executive function skills that surpass those of her age group.” Jassmin has a keen attention to detail and natural fluent leadership abilities. She has an uncanny drive to understand her course work.

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

“ I am a person who thinks and plans ahead. I have always wanted to be a lawyer. Living in Yuma, Az. has allowed me to see immigration issues first hand and compelled me to want to help. My bilingual self wants to minor in Spanish so that I can be most effective in all situations. ”

ARIZONA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

ESTELA ROBLES

PARENTS Maria Luisa Nuñez and Miguel Angel Robles
SCHOOL AWC
GPA 3.85

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- **MAJOR:** Family Studies and Human Development
- **LIFE GOALS:** To provide mental health services to the community, especially to children



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INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Estela has a wide variety of volunteer experience, working with Relay for Life, Wildcats for the Community, a theatrical event and a youth group at her church. Her high school transcript is impressive and she has continued to earn high grades at AWC.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“She is always on top of her game in education, she works hard for her grades and is task oriented.”

“Extraordinarily responsible with an impressive ability to retain knowledge.”

“I was astounded by her dedication, her willingness to go out of her way to help others, and her leadership. I could always trust Estela to help me lead her peers in whatever task she was assigned because of her great initiation. On multiple occasions Estela has gone above and beyond to make sure to include everyone and fully lead team projects and has helped organize summer youth retreats.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Estela will have completed 91 college credits at the end of the Spring 2021 semester, earning a 3.85 thus far. She will also earn her second associate’s degree, in Family Studies, having already earned an associate’s degree in Psychology/Sociology with Academic Distinction in December of 2020. Her drive to become a mental health resource in our community is clear.

1ST BANK YUMA

MARIA ZEPEDA-GOMEZ

FAMILY Parents-Humberto and Gardenia Zepeda.
Husband-Daniel Miranda, sons-Daniel, David, and Diego

SCHOOL AWC

GPA 3.349

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Veterinary Science
- LIFE GOALS: Vet

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“At all times I found Maria Zepeda insightful and dependable. I would recommend her because she is motivated and works hard to do what is best for her family and the community.” Maria Zepeda builds relationships as wife, a mother, a farm manager, a coworker and as a student. She shows to be adaptable, flexible, and resourceful; she is knowledgeable and passionate for what she cares for.”

“Her main ability is balance. This student is amazing as she balances a whole family, household, and her education while still being there for people.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Very personable. Greeted everyone with engaging smile. Rough start when originally started college, but re-energized after having 3 children. Parents did not think college was for her and she let that hold her down initially. Worked in family business and although content, there continued to be an emptiness knowing her dream would never be fulfilled and that she never gave herself a fighting chance. Learned from past and has new motivation.- wants to show her children what hard work looks like. Worked for a bit with juveniles and realized she could make a difference with young people who found themselves not thinking they were capable of succeeding. Learned that her true passion was animals and wants to be a vet. Now works with humane society and has plan for how to finish vet School at UA.



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GRIFFIN RANCHES

JACOB STRAUB

PARENTS David and Leann Straub
SCHOOL Yuma High School
CLASS RANK 9/238
GPA 3.721

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- **MAJOR:** Business Management (Eller College of Management)
- **LIFE GOALS:** Become successful and help kids like me try and reach their dreams

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Jacob is a five-time A-Team award recipient. He was also awarded the football offensive player of the year award (OPOY) twice. He likes to help people who have car problems, assist in mechanics, and is proud of the work he has accomplished with RDO Water. He loves cars and football.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“I would recommend this student because he is a reliable young man who does his best to push past his limits in education. Jacob has the drive to achieve his goals, no matter where he decides to take them. Playing sports in high school has given him the determination to keep his grades high or there will be consequences. Aside from understanding the consequences of certain actions he takes, he will rise above the trivial paths that are put in front of him with a smile on his face because he knows that he is doing what he can in order to gain more experience and fulfill his goals themselves.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Jacob is a caring individual. When he gets knocked down, he will always get back up. He also loves helping other people achieve their dreams. He has set extremely high expectations for himself. Family is the most important thing to him and the main reason why he wants to be successful. We know he will make his family, along with all of us, immensely proud. We have no doubt that Jacob will be a true success story and give back to our community after he has graduated from the University of Arizona.

MISENHIMER, AIVAZIAN, & TENNANT, P.C.

YAHAIRA LEON GOMEZ

PARENTS Maria Gomez and Javier Leon
SCHOOL AWC
GPA 3.136

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- **MAJOR:** Psychology
- **LIFE GOALS:** to obtain a master's degree in counseling or social psychology

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Yahaira completed a work study program in Transfer Services at AWC and has volunteered at C Produce and Cesar Chavez Elementary School. She has been very active in volleyball both during high school and beyond, serving as Treasurer for the volleyball club, as assistant coach at Southwest Junior High, and as a volunteer coach for the San Luis High School team.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“Yahaira has the skill set to work with her peers and adults alike. She has surrounded herself with positive role models, and also serves as a positive role model for her younger brother as well. She has a strong sense of community and a desire to improve personally and professionally.”



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“She has so much potential to contribute to her community once she reaches her objective to earn her degree. She is a well rounded and mature young woman who will surely take advantage of such a wonderful opportunity presented to her.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Yahaira will have completed an expected 75 credits towards her college education at the completion of the Spring 2021 semester, earning recognition on the Dean’s List at AWC. She received multiple glowing recommendations for her work ethic, organization and communication skills.

NATIONAL BANK OF ARIZONA SCHOLARSHIP

BEATRIZ MOJARDIN

PARENTS Magda and Jose Mojardin
SCHOOL Yuma Catholic High School
CLASS RANK 23/86
GPA 3.8113

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Undecided
- LIFE GOALS: Be involved in marketing/business.

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Beatriz has been involved in several areas of activity, including Future Farmers of America, Chess Club, and the National Honor Society. She has earned positions on the Honor Roll and the A-Team Honor Roll. Her achievements also include the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth Award in recognition for her work in Zoology.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“Beatriz is an outstanding individual who not only has a desire to succeed in the classroom but outside of the classroom. Beatriz has a remarkable passion to aid in the help of others. She is a volunteer for several organizations in our community as well as participates in after school activities.” “I believe that dedication and determination are Beatriz’s main talents.” “Beatriz Mojardin lights up a room when she enters, radiating pure joy and positivity.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Beatriz has completed 42 units of college credit already. She has maintained an impressive GPA while also pursuing several areas of endeavor in an effort to fine-tune her future career aspirations. Despite a challenging course load, she maintains part-time employment and is actively involved in the community. She has found time to volunteer and investigate potential interests ranging from the medical field to education to business. Beatriz strikes the committee as a well-rounded and very well prepared individual who is mature beyond her years.

PILKINGTON CONSTRUCTION CO

FERNANDA HERNANDEZ

PARENTS Ana and Cutberto Hernandez
SCHOOL Yuma Catholic High School
CLASS RANK 39/86
GPA 3.5682

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Art (College of Fine Arts)



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· LIFE GOALS: Work in the fashion industry

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Fernanda earned a spot on the Honor Roll throughout her high school years. She was also involved in the Spanish Club and provided service as a Catechist Assistant and Arcoiris Group Assistant. She also donated her time visiting elders at Grace's Place on a regular basis.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

Fernanda is "humble, teachable, and determined." "She is unfailingly pleasant and respectful." "Fernanda possesses the skills and mindset to achieve success. I know that she will pursue her goals with tenacity and focus while allowing herself to embrace the challenges and victories along the way. Fernanda is prepared to meet the challenges of higher education with confidence and determination. She is bright, creative, and works diligently to get what she wants."

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

The committee was impressed with Fernanda's passion for her chosen career field in fashion. During the interview, she was pleasant and professional. When the topic of fashion came up, she had a noticeable change in demeanor, and her motivation and drive for success became crystal clear.

PINNACLE SEED

FHANIE MEDINA MARTINEZ

PARENTS Andres and Franscisca Medina

SCHOOL Kofa High School

CLASS RANK 26/515

GPA 3.860

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

· MAJOR: Biomedical Sciences (College of Medicine)

· LIFE GOALS: Become a doctor specialized in pediatrics or geriatrics

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Fhanie has been actively involved in gymnastics, cheerleading, and dancing. She has a keen interest in languages and cultures, particularly the French language. She has been involved as the president of the Kofa French Club and is also involved with the National Honor Society for Dance Arts, Key Club, and Dance Club.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

"Fhanie's main talents and abilities include outstanding inter-personal skills, she is a very gifted dancer, she is very patient and calculated when it comes to making important decisions. Additionally, Fhanie is kind and compassionate and she has the ability to make people that she comes into contact with to feel good about themselves. She is neat and articulate, and she is very driven and motivated to be the best at whatever it is that she does." "Fhanie is an outstanding and dedicated student." "Fhanie is one of a kind and I cannot wait to see what she will accomplish in the future."

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Fhanie demonstrates a professional demeanor and expresses herself clearly. She has already completed several college courses and has gained invaluable experience. She is motivated and prepared for success as a Wildcat!

JV SMITH COMPANY

MAKEÑA VERDUGO

PARENTS Robert and Cindy Verdugo

SCHOOL Yuma Catholic High School

CLASS RANK 1/86



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GPA 4.000

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- Biomedical Engineering
- Make a difference in people's lives

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Despite the challenges of this pandemic year, Makeña was very involved in many activities this past year. She was the executive president of the Student Council, and attended the state Student Council Convention.

Makeña was a member of the National Honor Society during her years in High school. She played softball, varsity team Junior and Senior years.

She was a member of FFA and placed in competitions throughout high school. Makeña was active in 4-H and exhibited projects and/or animals at the County Fair.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

Makeña displays many leadership abilities. She is a role model for her peers and very responsible. She has committed herself in providing assistance to the community through different service projects. Once she develops a compassion for something she puts every ounce of energy into being successful. Makeña embodies the characteristics of a strong woman. Despite covid, as president of the student council she created and led many events for the school.

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

“The eye opening event left a forever footprint in my heart and mind to help others and improve lives.”

Makeña talking about her experience with her niece when she had open heart surgery and how it inspired her to want to go into biomedical engineering and expand the possibilities to help people. She is charitable in sharing her time and resources to the betterment of the people around her. Makeña maintains focus and determination to reach greater heights.

WEALTHCARE FINANCIAL

JISSELLE ROMERO

PARENTS Valerie and Rene Romero

SCHOOL AWC

GPA 3.7

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Nutritional Sciences
- LIFE GOALS: Registered Dietician

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Associate Degree earned with High Academic Distinction. AWC INTERNSHIP: assisted in tasks and needs of the Student Success Center at the Arizona Western College campus during the summer. Organized things as needed and was assigned to help plan events. Really enjoys the gym and how staying active helps with her overall healthiness.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“I would recommend Jisselle Romero because she is a devoted individual. Ms. Romero will go above and beyond to exceed expectations. Ms. Romero is an intelligent individual with a bright future. Ms. Romero wants to pursue her career as a Registered Dietician; she is currently accomplishing her personal goal of committing to a fitness regimen to improve her health. Her pledge to her personal goal displays perseverance to her field of study. I have great respect for Ms. Romero as an individual and as a professional.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Outgoing once you get to know her. Has completed over 72 college units. Started college courses the summer



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before senior year. She says “Taking these classes while in high school changed my perspective about everything and matured me to a level I never thought possible. I had grades that I did not think I could ever achieve.” “I am always on top of my work, I turn in assignments earlier than I need to, and I would love to show others that your life can turn around. The University of Arizona is all about academics and working hard for what you want. I am here to show others that literally anything is possible if you have the heart for it.”

DONOR SCHOLARSHIPS

RUSTY & ANN MCBRIDE

SAFA MAHEK

PARENTS Shareef Mohammad Wajid Ali and Hajera Fatima

SCHOOL CHS

CLASS RANK 1/541

GPA 4.0

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Psychology, Health and Human Values minor
- LIFE GOALS: Doctor

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Valedictorian

President of the Renaissance Club

President and founder of the Prep Club

Treasurer for National Honors Society

Treasurer for the Science Club

100 Hours of Service Award: Yuma Regional Medical Center

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“One thing about Safa that sets her apart from many other top students is her kind, humble personality. She is very friendly, and willing to help others. She smiles and greets her teachers as she comes into class. She is honest and sincere, which makes her well-respected by her teachers and her peers.”

“Other students look up to Safa as a natural leader. She is involved in a wide variety of clubs and activities, and holds elected leadership roles in many of them: Safa is a member of the Interact Club, the Health Occupations Students of America, the National Society of High School Scholars, the Robotics Club, and the Yuma Youth Leadership Program. In addition to serving in all of these roles, Safa performs volunteer work at the Yuma Regional Medical Center and at Amberly’s Place Thrift Store (a local charity organization).”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Incredible resume with excellent writing skills.

Significant amount of college credits completed. Significant leadership and volunteer involvement.

Fluent in English, Hindi, and Urdu. “Being a part of the Muslim Student Association will allow me to make friends of the same faith who share similar traditions so that I have someone to celebrate the holidays that mean so much to me. It will also allow me to learn more about my religion and have discussions that are relevant to the issues that Muslims around the globe are facing.”



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YUMACATS CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS

SID WOODS MEMORIAL

TYLER MARTINEZ

PARENTS Steven and Andrea Martinez

SCHOOL Cibola High School

CLASS RANK 2/541

GPA 3.967

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Undecided/No Major Selected (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences CALS)
- LIFE GOALS: to merge the subjects of mathematics, teaching, and chickens, working for the College Board someday creating an AP Agriculture Science course, bring scientific practices into his research

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

President of Cibola FFA and Vice-President of Yuma District FFA

Perfect score on the AP Calculus AB and AP Statistics exams

Completion of AP Calculus BC at Johns Hopkins University

Perfect grades on nearly all calculus courses that Yuma has to offer

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“In my career as an educator, I have known only a few students whose desires, interests, beliefs, and passions did not change in the time we were acquainted. Most young adults have frequently changing minds and fleeting fantasies. Tyler Martinez, however, is not like most students. Tyler’s goals have been clearly set since the day we met, three years ago. He has an unquenchable thirst for knowledge in general, and a definite longing for understanding mathematics and the agriculture sciences”

“Tyler Martinez is without a doubt a gifted mathematician, and his love of learning in every subject will easily carry him past his goals. He amazes me with his drive to create a whole new AP curriculum. He is intelligent, and a young man you must meet to see the sparkle in his eyes and personality. Tyler dreams of math and Ag science. Someday soon, he will be one of the lucky few who gets to do what he loves every day for a living. And as always, he will excel.”

“Tyler is without a doubt the most dedicated and hardworking student I have ever come in contact with. His ability to adapt to any situation as well as the drive to better those around him are what separates him from his peers. He has consistently demonstrated the initiative to improve our FFA chapter as well as working diligently to mentor our younger members.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Tyler is an outstanding individual academically, and a joy to be around. The Scholarship Committee was impressed with his ability to see through challenges and to always try to level up in whichever way he could, like by taking a class at Johns Hopkins University in an effort to up his GPA and be more competitively positioned to apply for universities. He is a rounded student with high academics, acutely developed interests, and a charismatic personality. Coupled with his commitment to working hard and dedication to constant evolution, we feel he would be a perfect representation of Yuma at the UA.

ROBERT J. MOODY MEMORIAL

HANNAH HASTY

PARENTS Stephanie Harvey-Hasty/ Clayton Hasty/ Jody Hasty-Rodriguez



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SCHOOL AWC
GPA 3.187

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Sustainable Plant Systems- UAYuma
- LIFE GOALS: Food Safety

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Internship at Helena Agri-enterprises
Associate of Applied Science degree in Crop Production
Food safety certificate
Awards/ Scholarships: Yuma County Agriculture Producers: 2019-2020, Ben Nakasawa: 2020, Robert J Moody: 2019

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“Hannah has grown into a studious, hardworking, team player. She has found her purpose in agriculture and has fallen in love with agronomy and the science of agriculture. It has been an amazing experience watching her learn and grow personally, educationally, and professionally.”

“Hannah is working towards becoming a pest control advisor in Yuma agriculture, and will be a tremendous asset to our industry. Hannah has demonstrated a work ethic both at Helena and in school that is well beyond that of most interns that I have ever employed. “

“In the short time that she has been at Helena, our customers already respect her and see a future for her as a PCA, something that takes most individuals a minimum of 7-10 years to accomplish.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

All through high school and even before high school she volunteered almost every week someplace, whether it was at the food bank where her mom worked (she worked with her delivering food boxes at age 10) or she was helping her grandmother at the American Legion serving everybody for bingo night or helping her dad with the Caballeros de Yuma planning and participating in events. “Based on her performance in my class (A+), she demonstrated an ability to critically think through issues and problems. It is my belief that she is a serious student with intentions of using her degree to become a pest control advisor and productive member of our agricultural community “

JOHN WILHELMY MEMORIAL

ZOEY JAMESON

PARENTS Lisa and Wiley Jameson
SCHOOL Antelope High School
CLASS RANK 1/43
GPA 4.000

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Biology Marketing Science
- Make a difference in my community

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Zoey was involved in many different activities in High School. She was team captain for Basketball. She was a member of the National Honor Society. She was president of Student Council. Zoey was active in FFA; she had a number of very successful and important projects in aquaculture receiving 1st place at District level and 1st place at the state level. She was named outstanding FFA member.

Zoey is also involved in many community service projects such as: Key Club food Drive,



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Tri-Valley Ambulance Benefit, Yuma County Food Bank.

Zoey also has CPR and Mental Health training.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

Zoey has strong work ethics, and works diligently in all assigned tasks. She is a great example of tomorrow's leader. Zoey has spent an immense amount of time dedicating herself to the betterment of Antelope, and the community by organizing events within the community, volunteering for various causes, and "most importantly just being a friendly face within our community that people gravitate to."

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Zoey's creativity and motivation helped both her school and community face the challenges of this pandemic year. "The U of A has such a beautiful campus and a positive environment. They have been very helpful and supportive in the process of becoming a U of A student. They care about their students. I believe attending U of A will help me flourish. "

J.R. CULLISON MEMORIAL

EMILY MARTINEZ

PARENTS Terra and Rhett Stallworth and Joseph Martinez

SCHOOL Yuma Catholic High School

CLASS RANK 29/86

GPA 3.65

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

· MAJOR: Agricultural Education

· LIFE GOALS: To bring agricultural education into special education curriculum and to develop/create engaging educational material for special needs people.

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Emily is the lead on FFA and 4-H while maintaining high academics, and beams pride and honor in carrying the same excellence in all things she is involved with.

Yuma Catholic FFA President and Yuma District FFA President

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

"Emily is filled with tenacity – I have seen it both academically and athletically, but perhaps most telling, I have seen it in her relationships in which she chooses never to give up on anybody!"

"She brings her heart, her morals, her values into all she does, and always is thinking of others before herself. This makes her a very selfless leader, and also a very effective one, because her selflessness earns her the respect of others. I have never had a negative interaction with her – she's someone that you leave always feeling happier than when you came."

"Emily is the kind of human being and student that you are so grateful for. She is a friend to all and wants to help bring out the best in everyone. "

"No matter what the situation is, she always motivates students to try new things and get involved. This ability is truly a gift and I know it will make her an amazing teacher in the future."

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Emily came to the interview with UA pride, and at the same time a sense of individuality that makes us feel she'll be an excellent addition to the University and a representation of Yuma. She shared a story about her experience in her family with a special needs sibling, and helping to care for him during COVID-19, and we're proud of not only her academic excellence but also her diligence as a sister and caregiver. Emily will be the first sibling in her immediate family to attend the U of A and is proud to keep the University of Arizona part of



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our family's legacy which consists of 9 UA grads starting with her grandfather.

RUTH (McKALE) & RAY CONWAY MEMORIAL

DARIANA RAMIREZ

PARENTS Maria Ibarra and Francisco Ramirez

SCHOOL Kofa High School

CLASS RANK 3/515

GPA 4.0

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Physiology
- LIFE GOALS: The University of Arizona has allowed me to view my dream of attending college as a reality, an opportunity for me to have a better future, one that I can take full charge of

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Dariana was a part of the A-Team and was nominated for the National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC). She was also the treasurer of the Renaissance Club, a member of the Kofa Junior State of America, and a member of Future Health Professions (HOSA). Dariana also competed in Academic Decathlon and worked behind the scenes with the Drama Club.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

"I think Dariana represents the very best of Yuma high school students. She is intelligent and talented, dedicated and driven, and most importantly she is kind and caring. I know she will put this scholarship to great use in her pursuit of education and her ambitions to serve her community. She will be a wonderful ambassador for this program."

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Dariana is a superstar! She has overcome many obstacles to be where she is today. She is mature beyond her years. Dariana has a true understanding of the hard work it takes to excel in academics, and she has shown it with straight A's throughout her entire high school education. We know Dariana will take her goals and soar with them successfully, along with the skydiving she will partake in with the Arizona Skycats Skydiving Club. As she shared with us in her essay, "I have always loved the thrill of being up in the sky and would think of it as a breath of fresh air from all my studying and courses at the university." Dariana, fly high! You have earned it.

BARBARA MAJOR MEMORIAL

ELLAINA NIETO

PARENTS Antonio and Cassiopia Nieto

SCHOOL Antelope

CLASS RANK 2/48

GPA 4.000

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- Agriculture Education
- Being a mentor for children

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Ellaina has been involved in many activities. She played basketball and was awarded Academic Athlete for Volleyball. She was on the Honor Roll throughout her High School Career. She was vice president for Mohawk Valley 4-H and Dome Valley 4-H. Ellaina received "Champion Swine Showman" at East-County Pre-Fair. Throughout High School Ellaina supported many organizations in her community, i.e. Founders Day Float



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Building, Tractor Rodeo in Wellton, Basketball coach, Mohawk Elementary School, Highway 80 clean-up Antelope

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

Her competitive nature, strong moral compass and compassion for those in need make her an outstanding individual and a role model for other students. Ellaina has an incredible work ethic. She is not afraid to roll up her sleeves and get her hands dirty. She has a heart for community service and helping those in need. She enjoys the work, the challenge, working with others to get things accomplished. .

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Through 4-H and FFA Ellaina worked on community activities in Antelope, Wellton, and Mohawk Valley. I found a love for animals and agriculture, the University of Arizona plays a large role in the Yuma County Fair, where I had many experiences that fostered my love of animals and agriculture.

DON McCAIN MEMORIAL

EMMA DELGADO

PARENTS Amanda Johnson and Francisco Delgado

SCHOOL Kofa High School

CLASS RANK 26/528

GPA 3.9

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Animal Sciences (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences)
- LIFE GOALS: Veterinarian

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Emma has quite the impressive resume highlighting her involvement in many activities including 4H, rodeo, band, and varsity sports. Emma has an impressive academic history as well as consistent involvement in many volunteer activities. Emma is a well-rounded young lady who loves horses and staying active. She has an effervescent, joyous personality and a contagious smile. It is evident she is passionate about animals and staying active in the community and school.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

She is described as a go- getter that is up for any challenge you throw at her. She mentors young 4-H members and is always willing to help. She is described as a pleasure to be around because of her upbeat attitude while still being responsible with her schoolwork, show animals and extracurricular activities. One reference stated, “Emma is a very polite respectful young adult with too many talents to list but here are a few. She is responsible, dedicated, passionate, caring, confident yet humble member of our community. She continues to use her time in positive ways giving back with volunteer work, 4H events, Rodeo horsemanship, band and softball. All of this while maintaining an outstanding GPA and academic position at school.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Emma was extremely outgoing and a joy to interview. She exuded enthusiasm and was engaged throughout the entire interview process. She was able to express her thoughts thoroughly and connected her passion to her college and career aspirations.

SUE CANDREA MEMORIAL

CARLOS CASTELLANOS-MENDOZA

PARENTS Ana Mendoza

SCHOOL San Luis High School



VIDEO- <https://tinyurl.com/x9k8kc2j>

CLASS RANK 17/658

GPA 3.95

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Computer Science
- LIFE GOALS: Software Developer

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Carlos is heavily involved in the Upward Bound program. He is also an outreach coordinator for the Geek Guild Club. He was also the ambassador for the San Luis High School CTE program. His other extracurricular activities include the Washington Leadership Training Institute (2019), Upward Bound Summer Camp (2019) and Virtual Summer Camp (2020), Vice President for CTE Leaders (2020-2021), Vice President for Academic Decathlon (2020-2021) and the National Honor Society (2020-2021). Carlos also volunteered at the Yuma Children’s Festival of the Arts and Crossroads Mission, assisting the shelter’s kitchen and preparing ingredients for lunch and dinner to serve the less fortunate in our community.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“The last thing I want to mention about Carlos is his kindness. He strives to lift other students up. I have seen him on multiple occasions lending a helping hand to a student in need whether it be on homework or because they were hurting in some way. He has always had a calm way of speaking and a light that allows him to share his sense of humor even when times are difficult. He is a good friend and a good person.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Carlos impressed the entire scholarship committee when we interviewed him. His kindness seeped throughout the interview process, and you could see his passion for his future goal of being a software developer, with an interest in cyber security. Carlos, like many of his other peers, had to readjust due to the pandemic, and he was able to make it work at home during remote learning. Carlos is close with his family, and is motivated by his grandmother, his mother and his brothers, along with other members of his family. There is no question that Carlos will excel at the University of Arizona and make us all proud.

YUMA CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

NINA ALMODOVA

PARENTS Nina Almodova Torres

SCHOOL AWC

GPA 3.61

INTENDED MAJOR/ FUTURE PLANS

- MAJOR: Pre-Neuroscience & Cognitive Science
- LIFE GOALS: to become a neurologist

INTERESTS/ AWARDS

Nina has an excellent academic record. She achieved Gila Ridge’s A-Team multiple times during her high school career, and is expected to earn her Associate of Science degree with Academic Distinction from AWC at the completion of the Spring 2021 semester. Nina has previously volunteered at Hospice Compassus of Yuma and has served in multiple capacities at AWC working as a Spanish Tutor, a Note-Taker, an Embedded Mathematics Aide, and a Mathematics Tutor.

QUOTES FROM RECOMMENDATIONS

“If you are looking for Yuma’s “Best and Brightest” Nina is a perfect choice.”



YumaCats

VIDEO- <https://tinyurl.com/x9k8kc2j>

“Faculty in multiple areas recommended her, and students find her helpful and knowledgeable. She has demonstrated versatility in working with students in several subjects and adaptability in making a swift transition to online/remote work. She is driven to succeed academically and will persevere.”

INFORMATION FOUND IMPRESSIVE FROM APPLICATION AND/OR INTERVIEW

Nina’s drive to become a neurologist is clear, and she is well on her way to achieving her goal with 80 college credits completed after this semester. She was truly a joy to interview; she is very well spoken and was prepared with thoughtful and thorough answers.



YumaCats

VIDEO- <https://tinyurl.com/x9k8kc2j>

YUMACATS HONORS

20 Yuma Area Students

***7 AWC students *13 HS students**

\$54,500 AWARDED



YumaCats

Welcome to the



VIDEO- <https://tinyurl.com/x9k8kc2j>

YumaCats

Wildcat Family!