

Community Scholarship Program

Providing opportunities for local students to achieve their higher education dreams



\$2.2 Million

Distributed in
scholarships since 1988



450+

Scholarship
recipients



75%

First-generation college
students in 2024



78%

of scholarship funds
are 4-year awards

Help Students Pursue their Educational Goals

Since 1988, the Community Foundation's Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$2.2 million to over 450 college students from Santa Cruz County.

Provide Need-Based Support

Supporting scholarships for low-income students means they spend less time working, incur less debt, and dedicate themselves more fully to academic coursework and internships.

Help in Accessing Aid & Paying for School

We offer students access to a financial aid expert to learn how to negotiate colleges' aid offers, maximize the public funding available, and minimize reliance on private loans.

Build Thriving Communities

Supporting local students helps grow our local workforce, ensuring it can meet the needs of tomorrow's employers.



Sofia, Cynthia & Jesus pictured above, with scholarship donor Penny, are just three of the many college students helped by Community Foundation scholarships as they become the first in their families to attend college. Awardees typically receive between \$2,500 and \$20,000.

Support Education & College Access at Community Foundation Santa Cruz County

The Santa Cruz County Scholarship Endowment fund exists to benefit students of our region forever. It provides you, your business, family, or friends the option to support the higher education costs facing local students, without needing to administer a small scholarship fund or foundation on your own.



Santa Cruz High School
Class of 2009



Stanford University
Class of 2013



Columbia Business School
Class of 2020

In 2009, Camira Powell graduated from Santa Cruz High and won the Community Foundation's R.H. Beel Memorial Scholarship.

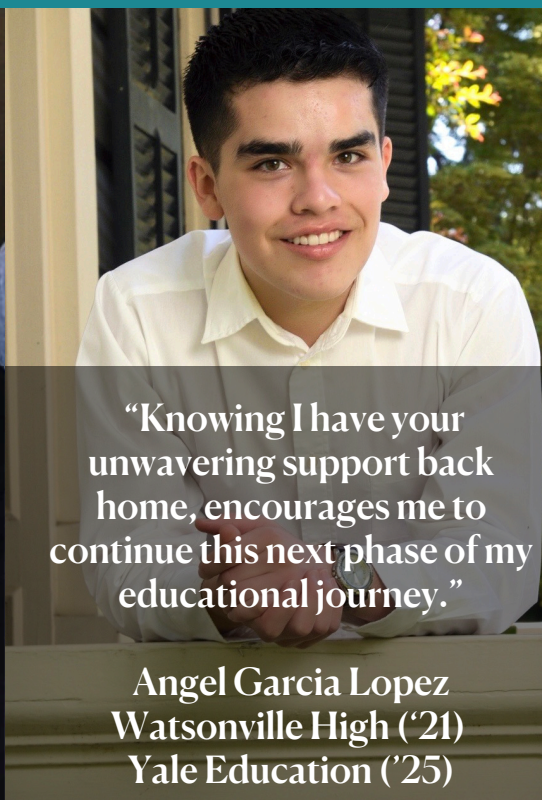
That award, along with scholarships and financial aid from Stanford, meant Camira was on her way to take on the world. She earned an MBA and is now a VP at a global PR firm in New York.

The Beel Scholarship is one of 35 awards the Community Foundation offers every year.



“As a 1st-gen student the cost of college was daunting, and this scholarship is such a huge investment in my future.”

Lynda Otero
Soquel High ('23)
UC Berkeley PoliSci ('27)



“Knowing I have your unwavering support back home, encourages me to continue this next phase of my educational journey.”

Angel Garcia Lopez
Watsonville High ('21)
Yale Education ('25)



“This scholarship brings me much closer to my goal of beginning my nursing career unencumbered by debt.”

Katie Wise
San Lorenzo Valley High ('23)
Pt. Loma Nazarene Nursing ('27)



Questions? Contact Kevin Heuer,
Director of Engagement & Impact
(831) 662-2030 or kheuer@cfsc.org

