

# Kennedy-King

Memorial College Scholarship Fund, Ltd.

*Investing in our youth for a better tomorrow.*

**Founding Board Members (1968):** Louis Bernstein • James Boman • Frank Bryant • Arthur Caines • Arthur Carter • Lawrence Crouchett • Harley Hull • Tim Lynch, Jr. • Edmund Regalia • Robert Schroder • Fortney (Pete) Stark



## Kennedy-King Mentors: Making a Difference

Kennedy-King Alumni and current recipients are brunching with their Mentors, Ellen Williams and Brad Macy. Ellen, a Kennedy-King Board Member since 2007, says “We have been mentoring scholars for over ten years, and it is one of the most rewarding things we do, as we receive as much, if not more, than we give back.”

Shown left to right:

- **Delaney Ruiz**
  - o The current Alfonse Upshaw scholar who attended Los Medanos & Diablo Valley College.
  - o Currently enrolled in the nursing program at Samuel Merritt University in Oakland.
- **Cindy López Ceja**
  - o A 2019 Kennedy-King scholarship recipient, gifted from Kaiser-Permanente, who attended Diablo Valley College.
  - o Graduated from Samuel Merritt University with a nursing degree.
  - o Now working for Kaiser-Permanente in their Antioch Medical Center.
- **Ellen Williams** – Kennedy-King Board member and co-host
- **Brad Macy** – Co-host
- **Amy Okusun**
  - o A 2019 Kennedy-King Scholar who attended Los Medanos College
  - o Graduated from UCLA with a degree in Cellular and Molecular Biology
  - o Now a Research Associate with iQ Biosciences in Berkeley.
- **Janae Protheroe**
  - o A Los Medanos College scholar who will be pursuing her Nursing Degree at Cal State – East Bay in 2023.

## Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund 2022 Update

Kennedy-King was created 55-years ago as a living memorial to the social justice dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Kennedy-King seeks to find racial, social, and economic justice through education. We believe education enables access to opportunities, more equitable wealth distribution, and promotes social justice.

Our mission is to provide scholarships to underrepresented minority community college students, principally those that identify as socially, economically, or educationally disadvantaged. We draw our scholars from the three Contra Costa community colleges so that they can transfer to a four-year institution and complete their education. The exceptional vision of the Founding Members has been recognized by the Contra Costa community through their sustaining and increasing support of Kennedy-King. We also support former scholars pursuing their graduate degree and award grants to current Contra Costa County community college students facing extreme hardships.

In 2022, Kennedy-King awarded an additional 34 scholars. Our scholarships have been awarded to 956 recipients. Almost \$6.2 million have been awarded to-date. Currently six former scholarship recipients are members of the Kennedy-King Board. We look forward to a future in which the Board is predominantly comprised of former scholarship recipients. We thank our donors as these accomplishments would not have been possible without your generosity and continuing support.

The 2022  
**Kennedy King Memorial Scholarship Recipients**

Undergraduate Scholars		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		
		Graduate Scholars
		
		
	<p><i>Investing in our youth for a better tomorrow.</i></p> 	

# Meet our Kennedy-King Scholars

Meet more Kennedy-King Scholars at [www.kennedyking.org](http://www.kennedyking.org).

## BRITTNEE DONITHAN



*A Los Medanos College student, Brittnee says "I am different and that difference cost me family, community, and support. My father worked hard to assimilate and be seen as anything other than what we are, Mexican. Growing up in poverty, taking on the parent-leader role to my siblings and being LGBTQ+ made me resilient."*

**Brittnee Donithan** has transferred to the University of California where she is pursuing her Sociology major. An English Professor wrote she "first met Brittnee during student hours. Brittnee came in with the specific intent of making a connection with me and to express gratitude for my teaching style and the accessibility of the course materials."

## ETHAN FORD

*Ethan was raised by a single mother. He says that the lack of a father figure in his life was difficult but taught him responsibility. He put himself through Diablo Valley College working three jobs. Ethan is majoring in Business and Economics at the University of Southern California (USC) to pursue his dream of becoming an entrepreneur and venture into fields such as real estate, modeling, art, clothing and music.*



*Steve Schaefer Scholar*

**Ethan Ford** describes himself as "a studious, humble, hardworking, and ambitious young black man. My drive for success stems from growing up struggling and wanting better for my family and me. In my 19 years of life, I've faced a lot of hardships." Losing his great grandmother who helped raise him as an adolescent and lacking an active and significant father figure affected him most.

## VANESSA GONZALEZ



*Concord Feed/Brickyard Building Scholar*

*Vanessa is a first-generation Latina student. Since she was 15, she has provided financial support for her widowed mother and a younger brother. She maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA in high school and played varsity soccer and ran cross country. She has maintained this stellar performance at Diablo Valley College and will be transferring to UC Davis to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Psychology.*

**Vanessa Gonzalez** has been actively involved in school and community activities. As a member of the California Scholarship Federation, she participated in countless hours of community service. She also volunteered at the Monument Crisis Center, a family resource center that assists at-risk and low-income in Contra Costa County. She also worked with the Rotary Club of Concord Interact Club and volunteered to help do a campus clean-up at her high school.

## MARISA KLAPPERICH

*Marisa is passionate about protecting our environment. She was introduced to green chemistry in high school, and determined finding renewable materials to replace hazardous chemicals, reagents, and solvents was something she wanted to pursue. Diablo Valley College provided an avenue for pursuing her passion. She transferred to UC Davis for her Bachelor's degree in chemistry.*



*Chevron Scholar*

**Maria Klapperich** is someone who is passionate about finding new ways to help protect our environment. "I am interested in either becoming a chemistry researcher that designs these green chemicals or a chemist that applies these principles. So, in order to achieve these dreams, I hope to either pursue a PhD in chemistry or to become a pharmaceutical researcher."



# Meet More Current Scholars

Meet more Kennedy-King Scholars at [www.kennedyking.org](http://www.kennedyking.org).

## CHIEDZA-LOICE PRICKISIE



Art & Robin Rangel Scholar

*"I've experienced many hardships in my life but these obstacles have made me stronger. From being kicked out of high school in Zimbabwe to being a full time college student who has dreams of being a producer in Hollywood. Working full time, going to school full time and providing for a family is never easy, but I've been able to achieve my own goals in the process."*

**Chiedza-Loice Prickisie**, a scholar from Diablo Valley College and Los Medanos College, will be transferring to Cal State Northridge to study Film. "After I graduate I anticipate entering into the film industry using my various skills of screenwriting, editing, cinematography, directing and producing in Los Angeles. My goal is to create short films as a way to break through in this profession."

## PHILLIP PREWITT



GRADUATE SCHOLAR

Treehouse Fund Scholar

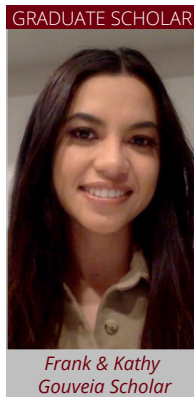
*Phillip was a 2019 Scholarship recipient from Diablo Valley College. He attended Cal State East Bay to obtain his Bachelor's degree in Sociology. Phillip was raised by his mother who always reminded him that his greatest assets were his dedication and perseverance. Those were the words that enabled him to overcome obstacles such as beating cancer twice. My goal is to become a licensed social worker so that I can build stronger communities and stronger individuals. Phillip is attending San Francisco State.*

**Phillip Prewitt** called it "A Helping Hand. This is something we all need on this journey we call life. No one has ever gotten anywhere without one. I was dealt a hand of setbacks since this system wasn't created for individuals like me to succeed. Without helping hands along the way, I never would have made it."

## ALEJANDRA CAMACHO

*Alejandra is a first generation college student who began her college work at Los Medanos College. She received a Kennedy-King Scholarship in 2016 and attended the University of California – Santa Barbara where she graduated in 2020 with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication. Her aspirations are to become a Family Law attorney. She is enrolled at Golden Gate University of Law.*

**Alejandra Camacho** wrote "I was nine years old when I came to the United States with my uncle Tony. I applied to Los Medanos College where I received a lot of help, and I was able to transfer to UCSB. I had no idea how I was going to pay for it but, I received financial aid and I applied for several scholarships including Kennedy-King. My journey has not been a walk in the park; I have had difficult days where I have felt alone. I feel that I always must work twice as hard to prove to myself and others that I am worthy of being in this country."



GRADUATE SCHOLAR

Frank & Kathy Gouveia Scholar

## TAMARA (BANDA) SCHROEDER

*Upon graduating from Contra Costa College, Tamara transferred to UC-Davis where she received a Bachelor's in biotechnology. Upon graduation she affiliated with Children's Hospital in Oakland working with an infectious disease physician. She went on to work for a biotech firm where she conducted research studies in immune-oncology. In 2020 she enrolled at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine. She expects to receive her MD in 2024.*

**Tamara Schroeder's** goal after graduation is to practice rural medicine in the central valley of California. She has already identified residency programs in Modesto and Stockton. "Californians living in these areas lack access to care for chronic conditions because many providers in the area are concentrated in the big cities, leaving the rural areas to be extremely underserved. For me, coming back to serve these communities is my way of coming home and giving back."



GRADUATE SCHOLAR

Kaiser-Permanente Scholar

# Kennedy King Alumni: A History of Great Outcomes

Studies have shown that persistence, energy, discipline and focus correlate to success. The Kennedy-King alumni featured are testament to these characteristics and also have a strong commitment to community.

## DIEUDONNÉ KOFFI BROU



- A first generation Ivorian American who grew up in Oakland.
- As young black male navigating historically marginalized communities in Oakland, he found himself a victim of the school-to-prison pipeline. His career path has been shaped by this experience.
- A Kennedy-King Scholar in 2015 from Diablo Valley College.
- Graduated from UCLA with a dual degree in Sociology and African-American/Black Studies in 2017.
- Founder of KOFFI NOIR, a maker of luxury and custom footwear handcrafted by the world's finest artisans. "At KOFFI NOIR we recognize that shoes are the foundation for a person's individual style." His blended West African heritage and Black American experience helped shape his interest in style and fashion.
- Dieudonné is currently the Coordinator of Juvenile Justice Initiatives Program at Urban Peace Movement in Oakland.
- Previously was a Managing Associate with the Alameda County Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership, and a Behavioral Health Counselor for the East Bay Agency for Children.

## MALENA HERRERA



- A 2013 Scholar from Diablo Valley College.
- Graduated from the University of California in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology.
- Malena has developed into an experienced marketing professional with a history of working with non-profit organizations and start-ups in organizing events, social media marketing, as well as creating work culture and product focused blogs.
- She is currently a Senior Events Specialist and Marketing Campaigns Specialist for Kintone, a San Francisco cloud-based business application platform with a goal to "build a society brimming with teamwork."
- In her current capacity Malena leads digital events strategy, planning and execution.
- Her interest in marketing began while she was in college when she worked as an Operations and Communications Intern with the Contra Costa Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

**DONATE  
NOW!**

*Mail your donation to*  
**Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund**  
P.O. Box 2643 • Martinez, CA 94553  
*Or donate online at [www.kennedyking.org](http://www.kennedyking.org)*

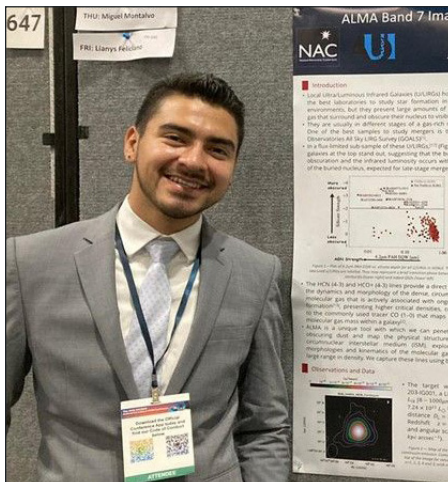
# More Alumni: A History of Great Outcomes

## DANNESHA LEWIS



- Danni Lewis is a 2016 Kennedy-King Scholar from Diablo Valley College;
- She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration from California State University – Sacramento in 2018;
- After receiving her Bachelor's Degree Danni went to work for Medrio, a San Francisco based firm that develops software for fast & flexible eClinical tools. She still works for Medrio 4+ years later;
- Following a timeout to give birth to her son, Danni returned to school to pursue a Master of Cybersecurity degree from the University of San Diego. She was a 2021 Kennedy-King Graduate Scholar. She continued to work with Medrio during her graduate work;
- Danni has a variety of interest and causes that provides her perspective—children, economic empowerment, education, health, human rights and science & technology are part of her span of causes;
- She closes with this important message: "If you're looking to donate to a great cause, Kennedy-King is one of them! Last night (2021) they presented over \$360,000 to scholarship recipients just like me and we are so blessed!"

## MIGUEL MONTALVO



- Miguel Montalvo is a first-generation college student who emigrated from El Salvador five years ago. His college career in El Salvador got interrupted when he had to work to help with family finances.
- His immigration to the US was done in order to pursue his career aspirations in Engineering Physics. He enrolled in Diablo Valley College to lay the groundwork for his STEM interests.
- In response to a question about the challenges of Latino students enrolled in STEM majors, he indicated that there is self-doubt (imposter syndrome). He built a community of support around himself to succeed.
- A 2021 Kennedy-King Scholar, Miguel is now a Senior at the University of California majoring in Engineering Physics.
- His goal is to work with NASA. To further his knowledge he has completed additional research at UC Santa Cruz in astrophysics, and at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory
- Miguel is on course to graduate in 2023. His future looks bright.

## Major Donors to Kennedy-King include

- Barbara Louie Fund @ East Bay Community Foundation
- Chevron Inc.
- Concord Feed/Brickyard Building Materials
- Ron & Diane de Golia
- Gagen, McCoy, McMahon Law Firm
- Frank & Kathy Gouveia
- Leshner Foundation
- Nikki Maziasz
- Greg & Michele McCoy
- John & Sunne McPeak
- Uriel and Isabella Oseguera
- Miller, Starr and Regalia
- Arthur & Robin Rangel
- Gwen Regalia
- Sharon Simpson
- Swarts Scholarship Endowment Fund @ East Bay Community Foundation
- The Treehouse Fund
- Alfonse Upshaw



**Kennedy-King Memorial  
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P.O. Box 2643, Martinez, CA 94553  
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www.kennedyking.org

INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH FOR A BETTER TOMORROW.

# Kennedy-King College Scholarship Fund

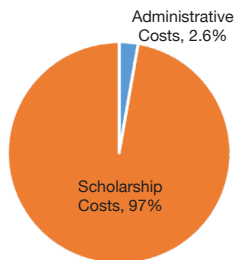
## A Model of Financial Efficiency & Positive Outcomes

Thanks to our generous donors and volunteers!

### EXPENSE RATIO

For Fiscal Year 2022

Almost ALL your dollars go toward providing scholarships!

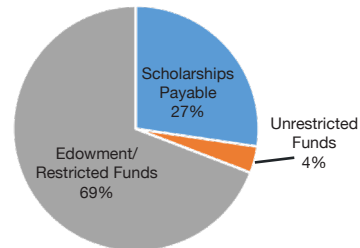


An all-volunteer organization. No paid Staff.

### FUND STATUS

As of 6/30/2022

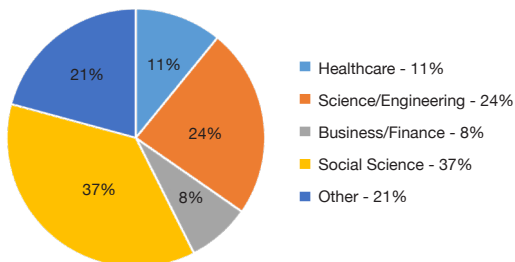
Creating a sustainable financial base



Responsible custodian of your donations.

### ACADEMIC MAJORS

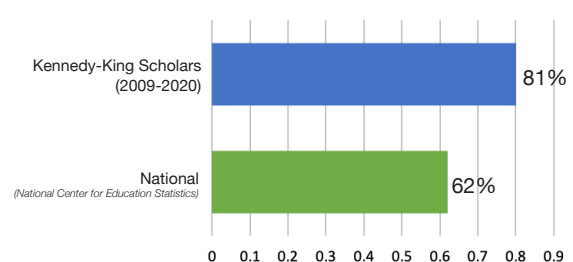
2009-2022



Preparing the workforce for the 21st Century.

### GRADUATION RATES

Kennedy-King Scholars Succeed in the Classroom (2009-2020)



Kennedy-King Scholars succeed in the classroom.

**Happy New Year!**

From the Board of the  
Kennedy-King Memorial Scholarship Fund

Wishing you and your family  
a safe and healthy 2023!

