

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Intel Foundation and NAVSEA/SSP Top Great Minds in STEM Class of  
2015 HENAAC Scholars Sponsors**

*GMiS Awards Close to \$400,000 in College Scholarships*

Monterey Park, CA, August 24, 2015 – Now in its 27<sup>th</sup> year of promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) to underserved and underrepresented communities, Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) is pleased to name the initial cohort of 107 students of the Class of 2015 HENAAC Scholars. This class of awardees represents the outstanding scholastic achievements of some of the nation's most technically-talented students. Over 1,400 applications were received for this merit-based scholarship competition.

This year, the Intel Foundation joined the GMiS circle of scholarship sponsors by providing eight highly-competitive \$10,000 scholarships to qualified graduate students. Additionally, for the 6<sup>th</sup> year, NAVSEA/SSP continued the support of incoming freshman attending a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) by sponsoring 14 \$10,000 U.S. Navy STEM Scholarships, with the opportunity for students to continue receiving support through their Student Employment Program.

GMiS awards scholarships in three categories: Corporate/Federal Agency-Sponsored Scholarships; Special Recognition Scholarships; and *In Memoriam* and Personal Tribute Scholarships. In addition to the scholarship, GMiS subsidizes travel, registration and hotel accommodations costs for each scholar to attend the 27<sup>th</sup> HENAAC STEM Career Conference, in Pasadena, CA, from October 14 – 18, 2015, where scholars have the opportunity to engage with their sponsor.

At the conference, the scholars will be honored during the Scholars Pinning Ceremony and the Student Leadership Dinner. The Scholars Pinning Ceremony will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015, starting at 9:00 PM. The Student Leadership Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2015, from 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Both events will be at the Pasadena Convention Center.

If you are interested in supporting the Great Minds in STEM HENAAC Scholars Program for the 2015-16 academic year, please contact Dr. Gary Cruz at [gacruz@greatmindsinstem.org](mailto:gacruz@greatmindsinstem.org).

Congratulations again to the GMiS Class of 2015 HENAAC Scholars! Following is the first announcement of this outstanding class.

**\$10,000 Intel Foundation Scholarship**

Aldo Aguirre	D. Candidate	Mechanical Engineering	University of Illinois at Chicago
CJ Barberan	Doctoral	Electrical Engineering	Rice University
Melissa Barona	Doctoral	Chemical Engineering	Northwestern University
Juan Barragan	Masters	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Triana Carmentate	Masters	Computer Science	Florida International University
Eric Chaidez	Masters	Electrical Engineering	Texas A&M University
Jessica Montes	Masters	Electrical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Neel Shah	Masters	Electrical/Computer Engineering	Northeastern University

**\$10,000 U.S. Navy STEM Scholarship**

*(Sponsored by NAVSEA & SSP)*

Amanda Acosta	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Cynthia Aguillon	Freshman	Computer Engineering	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Isaac Aldape	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Celene Cantabrana	Freshman	Engineering	University of California, Merced
Erica De La Cruz	Freshman	Computer Engineering	University of California, Santa Cruz
Damian Garavito	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of New Mexico
Johnathon Garcia	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Patrick Gutierrez	Freshman	Physics	University of Texas at El Paso
Jazmine Madrigal	Freshman	Computer Science	University of New Mexico
Kaitlin Miller	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of Houston
Ricardo Muniz	Freshman	Computer Engineering	University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Andres Ortiz	Freshman	Physics/Mathematics	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Devin Salazar	Freshman	Civil Engineering	University of New Mexico
Genaro Sosa	Freshman	Computer Engineering	California State University, Fullerton

**CORPORATE/FEDERAL AGENCY SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS**

Booz Allen Hamilton

Frank Osorio	Junior	Electrical Engineering	Hartnell College
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Cummins, Inc.

Paulina Almada	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Jose Mendez	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Juan Vargas	Senior	Metallurgical & Materials Eng	University of Texas at El Paso

Dow Chemical

Antonio Jaramillo	Sophomore	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at Austin
Sheri Lopez	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	University of New Mexico

Edison International

Jessica Barrios	Masters	Civil Engineering	University of Southern California
Elizabeth Berry	Sophomore	Civil Engineering	California State University, Fresno
Alicia Esquivel	Sophomore	Civil Engineering	Loyola Marymount University
Frank Garcia	Senior	Electrical Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Saida Gomez	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Pyae Hein	Junior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Orval Hernandez-Marcial	Masters	Civil Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Maria Medina Alva	Senior	Industrial Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Jeovanny Reyes	Junior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles



Tunji Ogiefo                  Junior                  Computer/Electrical Engineering          Morgan State University

Oracle

Andrea Luna                  Junior                  Electrical Engineering                  Crafton Hills College

Rockwell Collins

Shell Oil Company Scholarship  
(*GMiS STEM Showdown™*)

Haishat Alli	Junior	Engineering Physics	Tulane University
Mitchell Fullerton	Sophomore	Bioinnovation	Tulane University
Nicole Krawczewicz	Senior	Engineering Physics	Tulane University
Kaito Kuroda	Senior	Math & Computer Science	Tulane University
Ciara Simmons-Pino	Senior	Civil & Environmental Eng.	Rice University
Mickyle Stanbury	Junior	Chemical Engineering	Rice University

***IN MEMORIAM AND PERSONAL TRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIPS***

Chevron - Ann Seki Memorial Scholarship  
(*Sponsored by Chevron*)

Mark Alvarez                      Junior or 3(C)6.5(o)-1 Ho

Francisco Moxo-Galicia Junior Mechanical Engineering California State University, Los Angeles

Raytheon - Jose R. Silva Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Raytheon)

Lucero Buendia Junior Mechanical Engineering University of Texas at El Paso

Victoria Alegria Tracy Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. John Tracy)

Liliana Montes De Oca Junior Mechanical Engineering California State University, Los Angeles

Samantha Sotez Senior Mechanical Engineering California State University, Los Angeles

Villarreal Family Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Raul Villarreal)

Alberto Beltran Junior Mechanical Engineering Purdue University  
Mirtha Echeverria Junior Mechanical Engineering Miami Dade College

A second scholarship announcement is scheduled for September 16, 2015, in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month. The announcement will include the GMiS Community College Scholarships, the GMiS Outstanding Graduate Student Leadership Award and the GMiS Outstanding Undergraduate Student Leadership Award. Recipients of the scholarships are sponsored by the Amezcua Family, Lemus Medical, Ray and Carmela Mellado, and other sponsors will be included.

About Great Minds in STEM™

Great Minds in STEM™ is an education, national 501(c)3 nonprofit whose vision is to be a national leader in keeping America technologically strong by promoting science, technology, engineering and math careers especially in underserved communities. Now, in its 27th year, it remains the only national entity, which has consistently recognized the exceptional technical achievements of STEM role models through a selective, peer-reviewed process. For information on GMiS, please contact Monica Villafana, Director of Professional Programs (323) 262-0997 and visit the Great Minds in STEM website at [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org)

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