

Gold Filings



Special Scholarship Report, October 2020

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Local Women and Girls Benefit from AAUW Amador Scholarships

by Sue Harrington

A big thank you to Gretchen Carlson, Kathy Guletz and Anna Jones Williams for using their connections with these young women to obtain their stories and the great photographs!

For the past 44 years, the Amador Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has awarded scholarships to local women and girls. The funds have been primarily raised through the annual Home Tour and as it became more successful, the amount for scholarships increased as well as the types of scholarships offered.

Scholarships are available for Community College, Upper Division/Graduate Students and Re-entry Students.

In 2002, the Branch started sending between two and seven girls to Tech Trek, a camp held each summer designed to develop interest, excitement and self-confidence in young women who will enter eighth grade in the fall. The camp is held at a college or university and includes hands-on classes and field trips designed to explore a variety of STEM fields of study – science, technology, engineering, math - in a nurturing environment, taught by women professionally employed in these fields.

The Branch contacted previous scholarship recipients to learn how their scholarships benefited them and to recognize them for their accomplishments.

College Scholarships



Sarah Schwabe

In 2009, **Sarah Schwabe** received a Community College scholarship. She attended Sacramento City College with a major in Teaching Special Education and a minor in Sign Language. Because of her AAUW scholarship and a few others, she was able to be a full-time student athlete without having to work full time. She played on the Sacramento City College Women's Soccer Team. Sarah eventually changed her major to Criminal Justice and graduated from Delta Community College with her Basic POST Certificate (Peace Officer Standards and Training). In 2019, she completed her AA Degree in Administration of Criminal Justice and is now enrolled in National University with an expected graduation date of Spring 2021. She is currently a Deputy with the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office and involved in the C.S.I. team. Sarah says, "I appreciated the opportunity I had to apply and receive your scholarship as it provided valuable financial support during a time when my family was dealing with a major financial hardship."



Gracen Santinelli

Gracen Santinelli expressed her appreciation for two scholarships she received from AAUW. The first as a second-year community college student in 2018 and the second as an upper division student. Gracen began her college studies at Shasta College living and working on the college farm beef unit. The hands-on learning opportunity rather than a classroom situation made school really enjoyable for her. She is now at Chico State where she will be working on the beef unit. Gracen says that the scholarship AAUW awarded her, pushes her to keep following her dreams. Her educational experiences and hands-on opportunities have allowed her to excel so that she can pass down her knowledge to ensure the future of agriculture.



Cheyanne Sheridan

Cheyanne Sheridan received our Upper Division Scholarship in 2018. The scholarship came at a crucial time in the last leg of her college career. She says that in large part due to AAUW, she was able to graduate from Sacramento State debt free with a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and a minor in History. She is currently teaching second grade at Community Christian School in Pine Grove and pursuing her teaching credential and Master's Degree through William Jessup University in Rocklin.

Natasha Kovach received a Community College scholarship in 2019. She moved to South Lake Tahoe to attend Lake Tahoe Community College and is majoring in the forest service. She has plans to continue her education and obtain a Bachelor's Degree or higher.



Rebecca Boulden

Rebecca Boulden received a total of three scholarships from AAUW. In 2010, she attended Tech Trek, then received the Community College Scholarship in 2015 and the Upper Division Scholarship in 2017. Since attending Tech Trek her interests in science have varied from analytical chemistry to neuroscience. She graduated from UC Davis in June 2020 with a Bachelor's of Science in Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior with an emphasis in neurobiology. She is taking a two-year gap period before applying to graduate school to further her studies in one of these areas and later pursue a career in research and education. During this break, she is working as a behavior technician in the Sacramento area to learn more about autism and work in a rewarding field. According to Rebeca, "The scholarships from AAUW have helped me reach my educational goals through financial support as well as by motivating me by showing continued encouragement of my education plans. The AAUW community has had faith in my ability to succeed since I was in middle school and I am so grateful for the confidence I developed from my experiences that have followed me through high school and college."

Please Consider Making a Tax Deductible Donation to the Scholarship Program

As a Branch, we are so proud of the girls and women who have used their scholarship opportunities to further their education and begin successful careers. Congratulations to each of them.

Fund raising has taken on a new look for most organizations this year. It is currently not safe to conduct events like the Home Tour, but we appreciate the support of our members to help continue our scholarship program by donating to the AAUW Scholarship Fund. Contributions can be made through the Amador Community Foundation using the Donate button on our website at <https://amador-ca.aauw.net/> or sending a check to: AAUW Scholarship Fund, P.O. 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685.

Another opportunity for donating will be on Giving Tuesday, December 1, 2020 through the Amador Community Foundation.



AAUW Amador (CA) Branch | PO Box 611, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

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