

# Educational Guidance Center Scholarship Bulletin

Fall 2004

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EGC is a Department of  
Education TRiO Talent  
Search Program

## Gates Millennium Scholarships

More information available at: <http://www.gmsp.org>

### Overview

Gates Millennium Scholars is a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation scholarship earmarked for African American, American Indian/Alaska Natives, Asian Pacific Islander American and Hispanic American who demonstrate leadership abilities to complete their college education at the institution of their choice. Scholars must meet additional eligibility requirements, be recommended by an adult familiar with their non-academic activities and be nominated by an educational professional.

**Amount:** The award amount varies depending on the cost of tuition, fees, books and living expenses as well as the availability of grants, scholarships reported on the submitted financial aid award letter. The scholarship may be

renewed annually based on satisfactory academic progress, full-time employment and timely submission of required documents.

**Deadline:** for materials is 12:00 PM EST January 14, 2005.

### Eligibility

Students must: claim one of the ethnicities listed above, be legal citizens, permanent residents of the United States, have attained a GPA of 3.3 out of 4.0 (unweighted), be entering a U.S. accredited college or university as a full-time, degree-seeking freshman, have demonstrated leadership skills through participation in community service, extracurricular and other activities and

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## EGC SoCal Tour Scholarship Winner:

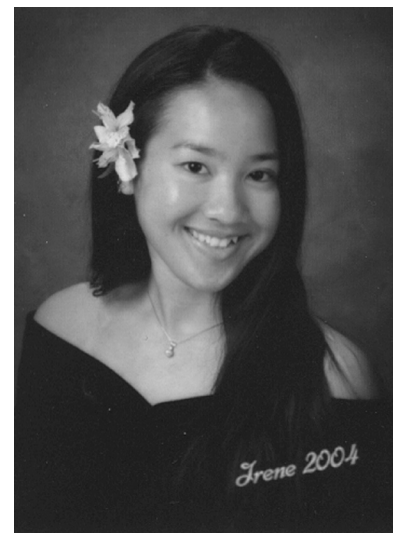
### Irene Phakeovilay

***What kind of extracurricular activities/community service have you been involved in during high school?***

My involvement in extracurricular activities and community service during high school has been an overwhelming experience, yet a rewarding one. I say overwhelming because it was difficult to manage my academics while actively participating in several non-academic activities. From a young age, I had continuously utilized community resources. Now, it has come my turn to start giving back.

I volunteered to mentor middle school students through the Fri-

day Night Live (FNL) program, and served communities through the Skyline Interact Club, a community service organization. I also participated in Skyline's tennis and swim team. My active involvement in these organizations led me to assume the treasury and sergeant-at-arms positions of Interact, and co-captain position of swim team for two consecutive years. Aside from community service and sports, I served at least 100 hours as a delegate of the California YMCA Youth and Government Model Legislature. In my latter years of high school, I was employed as a pet



care associate at Petsmart, and interned at Youth Sounds, a non-profit media arts organization based in Oakland, CA. The experiences I gained from these activities have helped me to mature and become wiser, which is an unexpected reward that I have

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meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria.

**Nomination**

Scholars can be nominated by professional educators such as Principals, teachers, guidance counselors, higher education representatives who are familiar with the student’s academic achievement. Nominators must act in their personal capacity and must not be a relative of the Nominee.

**Recommenders**

A recommender can be any adult who is familiar with the Nominee’s community service and leadership activi-

ties. Nominators may also serve as Recommenders. Recommenders must act in their personal capacity and may not be related to the Nominee.

**Selection Process**

Eligible students should submit complete nomination packages (Nominee, Nominator and Recommender Forms) by midnight January 14, 2005 to be considered for scholarships. Nominees who emerge from the selection process as candidates for a scholarship will be asked to submit their transcripts, college/university admission letters and financial aid award letters.

Application materials may be submitted online at the GMS website: [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org)  
Paper application materials must be sent to:  
Gates Millennium Scholars  
POB 1434  
Alexandria, VA 22313  
Toll-free number:  
1-877-690-4677  
*Note: Faxes and mail that requires a signature for receipt of delivery will not be accepted.*

For more information, please visit the GMSP website: [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org)



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come to value immensely.

***What classes did you enjoy the most in high school and why?***

English 3 AP, American Government, and the Art of Digital Filmmaking were the classes I enjoyed the most in high school. These classes have not only enhanced my intellect, but they have also sharpened my communication skills. AP English taught me that my interpretation of literary works may be occasionally uncommon, but was as valid as long as I could

prove it. This pushed me to take risks and

be more innovative in my writing. Through discussion in AP Government about politics, I learned to efficiently compromise with others by listening to and considering all ideas (whether or not I agreed with them) - which broadened my political knowledge. Unlike AP English and Government, Digital Filmmaking was more of a “hand-on” learning experience. Digital Filmmaking founded my skills to communicate my ideas visually, not just orally and/or in writing. The array of communication skills I gained through my enrollment in these courses has raised my confi-

dence, making me a more interactive individual.

***How did you benefit the most from being involved in EGC?***

Whenever I found myself puzzled or just overwhelmed from striving to be the best college bound student I could, my EGC counselor would assist me through one-on-one academic advising. This enabled me to also provide my peers with a similar support system when they later experience the same dilemmas as I had been in. I found it satisfying to

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***Now, it has come my turn to start giving back.***

help them because it was my way of indirectly thanking EGC for its efforts to guide me.

I attended the Southern California EGC College Tour, and it benefited me more than I had anticipated it to. The tour stressed how imperative it was to have an exceptional idea of which colleges would better suit me. I learned that not only should the academic quality of an institution be considered, but also its environment and on-campus life; because college ultimately becomes a home away from home. Had I not gone on the college tour, I would have missed out

on applying to a number of universities that I would be content with to attend. UC Santa Barbara was one of the universities I applied to only after visiting the institution in person. And UCSB is the college I have chosen with satisfaction to be a student at. ***What is the most important lesson you have learned from your high school experience and why?***

I matured through taking several AP and honor courses, along with participating in various extra-curricular activities at Skyline, because it

was an on-going challenge to manage my time for

these commitments. In the process, I learned that resources are always available, but it is my responsibility to efficiently utilize them; pushing me to be more self-reliant. And furthermore, understand that the efforts I put forth toward anything is the root of what makes an experience valuable, in the sense of being beneficial. This is the most important lesson I have learned from my high school experience because it is an empowering concept to live by.

*More SoCal Scholarship winners in the next issue!*



# Upcoming Scholarships and Deadlines

## January

### Discover Card Scholarship

Award Amount: \$2,500

Deadline: January 3, 2005

Description:

This scholarship program was established to recognize and reward high school juniors who have accomplishments in many areas of their lives. The focus is on their outstanding achievements beyond academics. More than 460 scholarships are available to high school juniors nationwide. Up to 9 scholarships are being offered in each state and the District of Columbia, plus nine national awards. The awards may be used for tuition, books, fees, supplies and equipment for instruction. To get a scholarship application package:

(1) see your high school counselor in September, (2) go online beginning October 1st at [www.discovercard.com/tribute.htm](http://www.discovercard.com/tribute.htm), (3) visit [www.aasa.org/discover.htm](http://www.aasa.org/discover.htm), (4) call (703) 875-0708 or (5) mail the request form on the back. For more information, send a letter to:

Discover Card Scholarship  
c/o American Association of School Administrators  
P.O. Box 9338  
Arlington, VA 22219  
Website: <http://www.aasa.org/discover.htm>

### National High School Essay Contest

Award Amount: \$3,000

Deadline: January 7, 2005

Description:

This National High School Essay contest is open to all students in grades nine through twelve who are attending public, private or parochial school or participating in a high school correspondence program in any of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, or US citizens attending schools overseas.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.unausa.org/>

### Ron Brown Scholarship

Award Amount: \$40,000

Deadline: January 9, 2005

Description:

Applicants should be academically talented, highly motivated African-American high school seniors who intend to pursue undergraduate degrees full-time. The program honors the late Ronald H. Brown, Secretary of Commerce during the Clinton Administration. These scholarships are reserved for exceptional individuals who share Brown's traits of excellence, leadership, commitment to public service and desire to make a difference. In addition, applicants must demonstrate financial need. In March, 20 finalists are invited to participate in a weekend selection process in Washington, D.C. at the expense of the CAP Foundation. Applicants must be either a US citizen or permanent resident.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.ronbrown.org>

### CSU Chico President's Scholarship

Award Amount: \$12,000

Deadline: January 30, 2005

Description:

This scholarship is available to high school seniors who will be attending Chico State. Recipients of the scholarships will be determined by results of the competitive examinations taken at the CSU Chico campus. Student involvement in extracurricular activities and a personal statement will also be considered.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.csuchico.edu/prs/scholars>

## February

### UC Berkeley's Achievement Award

Award Amount: \$5,700

Deadline: February 18, 2005

Description:

The California Alumni Association presents this scholarship to financially needy incoming freshmen and junior transfers to UC Berkeley only. Applicants should demonstrate a history of involvement in outreach programs, a willingness to give back to the community, and academic achievement despite significant disadvantages.

For more information, visit:

[http://alumni.berkeley.edu/Students/Scholarships\\_and\\_Awards/Achievement\\_Award.asp](http://alumni.berkeley.edu/Students/Scholarships_and_Awards/Achievement_Award.asp)

### MAFEI-Wested Scholarship

Award Amount: \$2,000

Deadline: February 25, 2005

Description:

Applicants must have attended an Oakland Public High School, or been enrolled in home instruction through Oakland Public School, for at least two years. Awarded to Oakland Public School student who has exhibited leadership qualities and community service and has participated in a school internship. All applicants must attend a 4 year college or university.

To receive an application, send a letter of request to:

Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute  
1203 Preservation Parkway Suite 303  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 835-0391

### Additional scholarship websites:

<http://www.fastweb.com>

<http://www.scholarshipwizard.org>

<http://www.finaid.org>

<http://www.xap.com>

<http://mach25.collegenet.com>

<http://www.scholarship-page.com>

<http://www.fastaid.com>