

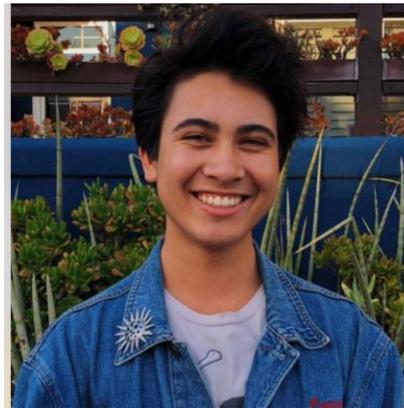


**Filipino-American Cultural Organization
(FACO)
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<http://www.filamcultural.com>

2018 Scholarship Winners

**1st - \$ 1,500 Presented by Scholarship Chair Ms. Nelly Taguba
Robert Belshaw
Rancho Buena Vista High**



ROBERT is 18 years old and attends Rancho Buena Vista High School. Robert's total GPA of 4.73 speaks volume. He has utilized his skills in History, Math and Physics to tutor other students through the CA SCHOLARSHIP FEDERATION. In sports, he has participated in Track and Field, Chess Tournaments and Regional tournament for the Science Olympiad. He holds a 3rd degree black belt in Taekwondo and was an assistant instructor for younger students. He is employed as a Lifeguard for the Legoland Waterpark. He is a recipient of several scholastic honors and recognition awards such as SAN DIEGO REGIONAL SCIENCE OLYMPIAD DYNAMIC PLANET, PRINCIPAL'S ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL and NORTH DIVISION IV ACADEMIC TEAM CHAMPIONS, AP SCHOLAR WITH DISTINCTION and SECOND PLACE for the CA MATH LEAGUE CONTEST. In Community work, he help set up for marathon and fundraising events and environmental cleanups and restorations.

Robert will attend UCLA, aiming for a BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING. He is clearly a multitalented young man and without question, will achieve successfully on any field of study that he chooses to pursue.

It is with pride and joy that I present to you our First Place Winner of the 2018 Filipino-American Scholarship Program of the North San Diego County!

2nd - \$ 1,200 Presented by: Scholarship Co-Chair Ms. Wendy Abon-Thrower
Troy J Toquero
El Camino High School



Troy Tuquero was born in Dededo, Guam in 2000. He graduated with honors from El Camino High School in the top 4% of his class. He is very proud of his parent's dedication to teach him how to value education, hard work and dedication to family and community. He will be attending UC San Diego in the fall to study political science. With Troy academic performance and outgoing personality that interacts well with his peers, he will be an outstanding addition to his chosen university. Congratulations Troy!

3rd - \$ 1,000 Presented by: Ms. Genevieve Wunder
Aleksander Bejarano
Sage Creek High School



Aleksander J. Bejarano is an 18 year old graduate of Sage Creek High School. He has received many accolades while attending school. It has been said about Aleksander – ‘he has a warm personality and is always smiling’. He has met all his educational goals and I am sure will excel in any future challenges. He is proud of his connect to the Filipino cultural, family traditions both past and present. He stated 'This is what has made him what he is today'. It is my pleasure to be allowed to give this \$1,000 Scholarship to Aleksander.

4th - \$ 800 – Presented by: Ms. Miriam Day
Taylor Reese De Guzman
Del Norte High School



The recipient of our fourth-place scholastic cash award for \$800 is an impressive young lady from Del Norte High School in Poway.

She is well-rounded, who has been continually involved in school extracurricular activities such as taking part in talent shows. She sang throughout high school with the High School Choir; actively took part in sporting events such as Club and Varsity Volleyball; involved in community outreach, making tremendous friends and connections with Link Crew, Peer Leaders, Mentors-2-Motivate, Del Norte Ambassadors, National Honors Society, California Scholarship Federation, Choir Council, Acapella and Filipino-American Club. Despite her hectic schedule, she was able to maintain a remarkable GPA all through High School.

Lastly and most importantly, she cherishes her close connection with her family and her faith. Her cultural and spiritual upbringing are the two factors that molded her over-all perspective and core beliefs as a young adult, who is ready to conquer the world.

Let's give a shout-out to Taylor-Reese de Guzman.

5th - \$ 500 – Presented by: Imelda Agtarap
Jonathan Vitug
El Camino High School



JONATHAN is a 17 yrs. old scholar student and a recent graduate who attended El Camino High School. He is a leader both in and out of the classroom. He establishes extremely high standards for himself and others, especially considering that he is a first generation student in his family to go to college. Jonathan has set his goals to pursue a Psychology Degree at UCSD this fall. His teacher has distinguished him as an outstanding student whose work has been extremely exceptional, far beyond the scope of the requirements for all his assignments and labs in school. Jonathan is very popular with his peers and has managed to keep up an impressive and outstanding G.P.A. with consistent straight A's and multiple AP classes throughout High School, even while he has been involved in Choir, Cross Country and Physics Club. He has been a Treasurer for the Junior Civitan Club and the Asian Pacific Student Union, as well as Secretary for his Photo Club.

Jonathan brings with him an attitude and energy that other students and faculty will value as an important part of their educational experience for he attributes a monumental part of his well being and academic success to the culture and family that raised him for the last 17 years. He quotes, “ Seeing people like Manny Pacquiao and Jessica Sanchez succeed in their respective fields, and knowing that I come from the same beloved heritage, deeply inspires me to make a positive impact on the world. “ I have no doubt he will be successful. He would be an outstanding representative of our organization’s scholarship.

It is with great pride and pleasure to present to you Jonathan Vitug as our (5th) Fifth Place Winner of the SD North County 2018 Filipino-American Scholarship Award of \$500