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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: May 17, 2018

Thirteen Valley Students Receive Scholarships

San Fernando, CA (May 17, 2018) – The Education Commission of the City of San Fernando proudly announces 13 recipients in its third annual scholarship contest.

Daniel Pearl Magnet senior **Rachel Bullock** has been awarded a \$500 scholarship for a public service announcement created regarding water conservation. The scholarship was funded by a generous donation from SEIU Local 721 and Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O’Neill, LLP.

San Fernando senior **Fernando Morales** of Social Justice Humanitas Academy was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from Republic Services for an essay on recycling.

Five high school seniors and college students who submitted essays on social justice were awarded the Gabriel Fernandez Memorial Scholarship as follows:

\$1,000 scholarship recipients:

Richard Hoffman, senior, Academy of Scientific Exploration

Rachel Ochoa, senior, Social Justice Humanitas

\$500 scholarship recipients:

Porus Karwa, senior, Van Nuys High School

Berenice Magana, senior, San Fernando High School

Aracely Chavez, freshman, Georgetown University

The Gabriel Fernandez Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of the eight-year-old Palmdale boy whose life was taken by his mother and her boyfriend in 2013. Scholarships were funded from donations from the California Latino Water Coalition Foundation, the Community Investment Fund from Mayor Sylvia Ballin, and friends and family of Gabriel Fernandez.

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PRESS RELEASE

Eight students were awarded the Elias Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship by writing personal essays on character and improving their community.

\$1,000 scholarship recipients:

Fernando Morales, senior, Social Justice Humanitas Academy
Marlene Nava, senior, Social Justice Humanitas Academy

\$500 scholarship recipients:

Frida Ruiz, senior, Social Justice Humanitas Academy
Maria Jimenez, senior, Social Justice Humanitas Academy
Rachel Ochoa, senior, Social Justice Humanitas Academy
Angela Drexler, sophomore, UC Berkeley
Lorena Del Toro, sophomore, San Jose State University (Vaughn graduate)
Jocelyn Casillas, sophomore, University of California, Los Angeles

The Elias Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of an ASE student who lost his life during the heavy rains of February 2017. Scholarships were funded from donations from the Community Investment Fund from Mayor Sylvia Ballin, and Pahola Mascorro, Elias’ mother, SEIU Local 721, Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O’Neill, LLP, and community members.

Recipients will be honored at an awards reception on May 22, 2018.

The City of San Fernando Education Commission supports the educational needs of families in the City of San Fernando and assists the City Council on youth education matters with the goal of increasing student achievement and safety.

The California Latino Water Coalition Foundation donated scholarship funds to encourage students to pursue a higher education.

The Independent Cities Finance Authority’s charitable program is known as the ICFA Community Outreach Program. This program allows ICFA Board Members the opportunity to make a contribution to a charitable program of their choice that will assist in investing in their respective communities which will produce long-term benefits, including civic pride.

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