

# Scholarships

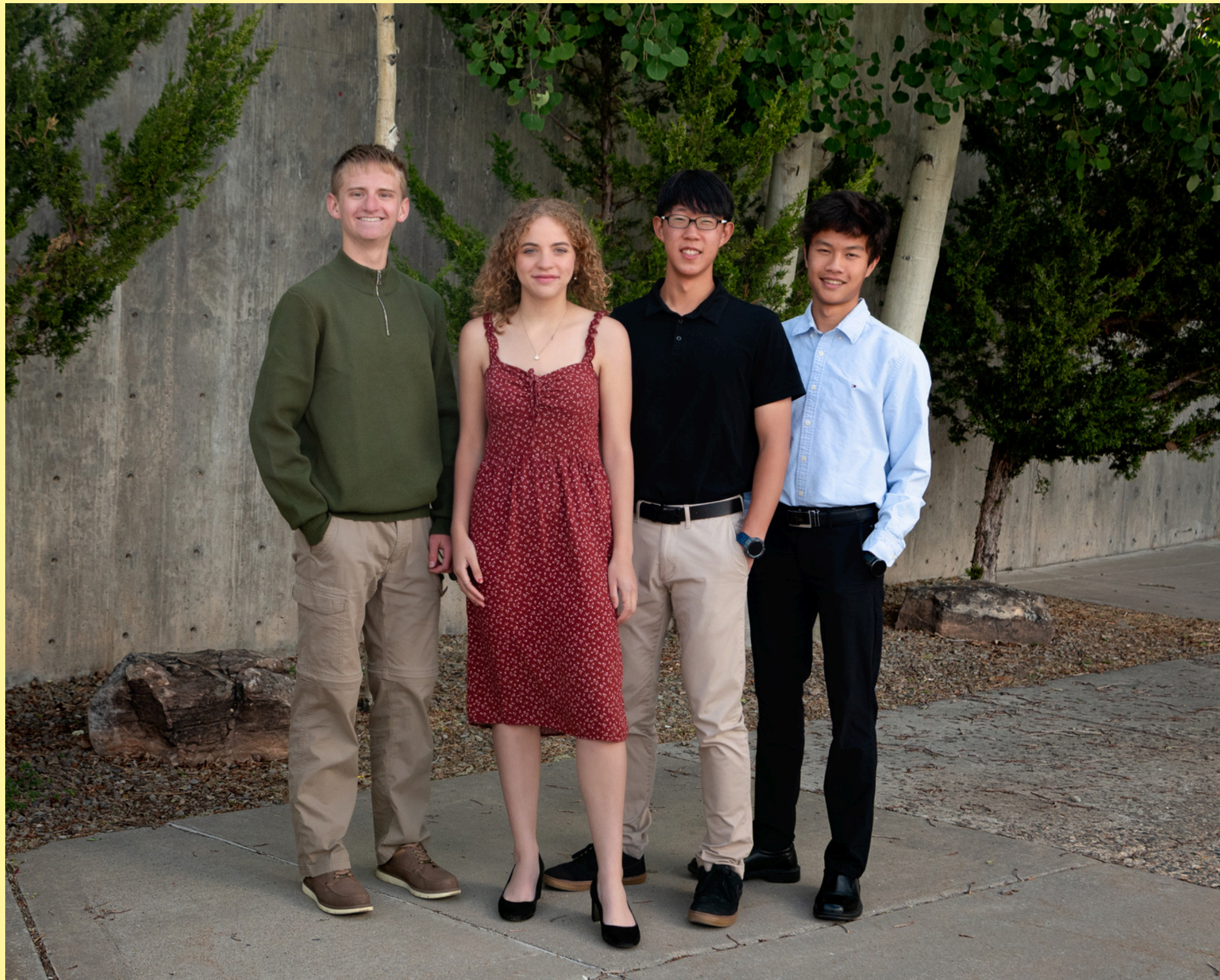


Class of 2025

# ABOUT OUR SCHOLARSHIPS

Los Alamos Public Schools Foundation awards four different types of scholarships for LAHS graduating seniors. Community service scholarships are for students who have demonstrated service contributions to the students and community of the Los Alamos Public Schools. This year LAPS Foundation awarded one scholarship for a student planning on a career technical path. New this year is a scholarship for the graduating senior who has previously served on the Foundation board as a student member. Also new this year is the Future Teachers scholarship for a senior who is planning a career in education. As part of each of the Foundation scholarships, the student recipient names an Educator of Distinction, someone who has had a positive impact on the student during their time in Los Alamos Public Schools. The Foundation celebrates the Educators of Distinction along with the scholarship recipients.

LAPS Foundation also administers several memorial scholarships each year. These scholarships recognize people who were part of the Los Alamos community or the schools and whose families, friends and former students want to honor their memory.



# Congratulations Hilltoppers!

LAPS Foundation  
Community Service  
Scholarship Recipients

# Student Board Member Scholarship Uxue Sansinena

*Educator of Distinction*

**Margo Batha**

Uxue served as a student member of the LAPS Foundation board from spring 2023 until spring 2025. Congratulations, Uxue! Thank you for your participation and valuable input. We can't wait to see what your future holds.



College: Columbia University  
Major: Political Science and Pre-Law

# Community Service Scholarship Michael Bane



College: United States Air Force Academy  
Major: Aeronautical Engineering

***Educator of Distinction***

**Jovita Mowrer**

*"Beyond her skill as a teacher, I was acutely aware that Ms. Mowrer loved her students and her job. Ms. Mowrer's passion for education, individualizing her instruction when needed, and skill in meeting the needs of all learners was evident in each lesson. As her student-intern, I was able to hone my skills with organization, time management, grading, tutoring, and giving feedback. She prepared me with valuable on-the-job skills."*



College: Fordham University  
Major: Political Science and Pre-Law

# Community Service Scholarship

## Isabella Blair

***Educator of Distinction***

### Lynn Ovaska

*“Mrs. Ovaska is someone who goes above and beyond to make her students feel loved, supported, and worthy. I observed how students gravitated toward her, sensing something special about her presence. She created opportunities that forever changed my perspective on the world. I aspire to be as giving and compassionate as she is.”*

# Community Service Scholarship Jonathan Chen

## *Educators of Distinction*

### **Michela Ombelli**

*“Ms. Ombelli is an educator whose passion for teaching transformed my understanding of learning. From her, I learned that school is not merely a place to accumulate grades, but a platform for expanding one’s mind, overcoming setbacks, and cultivating resilience. Her unwavering dedication to nurturing critical thinking and academic growth has forever altered my educational journey.”*

### **Michelle Rosette**

*A mentor’s true legacy is written in their students’ courage. Ms. Rosette’s greatest gift has been her unwavering faith in the unseen. She taught me to measure success not by comparison to others, but by refining my own voice. This mindset—of using myself as the only competition—has become my compass, guiding me through auditions, academics, and even moments of self-doubt. In a world eager to define us by rankings and labels, she showed me that growth is a quiet, relentless act: one note, one step, one day at a time.*



College: Rice University

Majors: Electrical & Computer Engineering



College: United States Naval Academy  
Major: Nuclear Engineering

# Community Service Scholarship Hayden Kim

***Educator of Distinction***

**Aron Ayers**

*“Having Chief Ayers as a mentor was an experience that solidified the meaning of many important virtues, such as integrity, honor, and discipline. I remember one sentence that has become the center of my leadership philosophy: “A leader takes care of their people.” Chief Ayers is my Educator of Distinction because of his enormous positive impact on my aptitude as a leader and a person of character.”*

# Career Technical Scholarship

## Elijah Duran

*Educator of Distinction*

## Melinda Atkinson

*"Ms. Atkinson emphasized the importance of mastering the basics and taught us the "why" behind every technique. Because of her, I've come to see cooking not just as a skill, but as an art and one that I can master with time, effort, and passion. I am deeply grateful for everything she's taught me, and I carry those lessons with pride every time I step into a kitchen."*

College: Santa Fe Community College  
Major: Culinary Arts





College: New Mexico Highlands University  
Major: Education



# Future Teachers Scholarship

## Harmony Gutierrez

*Educator of Distinction*

**Ellen McBee**

*"Ms. McBee was a nice role model for me. With her help, I never gave up on school. She has been there for me since I was a Freshman and she has always helped me throughout my school years. She believed in me so much I'm just really thankful I could have a teacher like her."*

# Sophia Feldman Memorial Scholarship

**Zoe Bent**  
**Isabella Blair**  
**Hayden Kim**  
**Sofia West**



This scholarship is awarded in the memory of Sophia Feldman, an LAHS sophomore who passed away in September 2019.

Sophia had many interests, including dance, music, and speech/debate, but one of her greatest passions was helping and supporting people. The award is selected based on exemplary academic and personal conduct combined with mentoring/support of younger students.



# June and Harry Ettinger Memorial Scholarship

## Nuala Colgan



The Ettinger scholarship honors a graduating student who loves books. Applicants are asked to write a personal narrative concerning an age-appropriate book that was not required for school and that has not been translated into a visual medium. The narrative demonstrates the ways the book added to the student's understanding of the human condition or had enhanced their life. Nuala wrote an essay about the book *The Mighty Miss Malone* by Christopher Paul Curtis.

# Friends of Los Alamos County Libraries Scholarship



The Friends of Los Alamos County Libraries award their scholarships in partnership with LAPS Foundation's Ettinger scholarship honoring four graduating students who love books and write an essay about a book which has impacted them.

**Linnea Mason**  
**Sophie Bathrick-Price**  
**Claire Whitley**  
**Nuala Colgan**  
**Samuel Carmer**

# Kristin Kosiewicz Substance Abuse Awareness Scholarship



The Kosiewicz Scholarship is awarded annually in memory of Kristin Kosiewicz, a 1993 graduate of Los Alamos High School who passed away on September 26, 2021 from an accidental fentanyl overdose. Kristin was an exceptional athlete, a talented artist, and a confident and adventurous world traveler. Kristin enjoyed all things nature and loved to explore the outdoors. This scholarship is awarded annually to graduating LAHS seniors to increase awareness of substance abuse.

**Samuel Carmer**

**Malaika Philip**

**Sophie Bathrick-Price**

**JoyMei Lincoln**

# Raymon "Ray" Maldonado Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is in memory of Raymon "Ray" Maldonado, a Los Alamos High School student who passed away in February 2024. Ray had many interests including robotics, culinary skills, online gaming, Young Life, and mountain biking. He loved the outdoors and was excellent at starting campfires - a skill he learned from his father.



**Jack Dunwoody**  
**Sophia Pieck**  
**Mikayla Padilla**

# Irene Boone Memorial Scholarship



The Boone scholarship is awarded to students pursuing a two or four-year degree at a college, university or technical-vocational program. It is made possible through the generosity of long-time Los Alamos resident and pediatrician, Dr. Irene Boone and her husband, Zanas “Slim” Boone.

**Annabelle Rosette**

**Andie Kelly**

# Ross and Lola Ramsey Memorial Scholarship



**Andie Kelly**

This scholarship is in memory of Ross and Lola Ramsey who worked as a team to manage the Civic Auditorium, now the Duane Smith Auditorium, for over a quarter of a century. From 1951 to 1974, the Ramseys created and directed the renowned Olions theater program and helped students find and develop their potential as they acted in and produced plays, musicals and Topper Revue. A group of alumni students of the Ramseys organized an effort in 2022-23 to celebrate the Ramseys' contributions, name the stage at Duane Smith Auditorium in memory of them and create a scholarship honoring them. This is the third year for the scholarship to be awarded. The 2025 recipient is Andie Kelly.



2023



2024

