

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Intel Foundation and NAVSEA/SSP Top Great Minds in STEM™ Class of  
2015 HENAAC Scholars Sponsors**

*GMiS Awards Close to \$400,000 in College Scholarships*

*Monterey Park, CA, August 24, 2015* – Now in its 27<sup>th</sup> year of promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) to underserved and underrepresented communities, Great Minds in STEM™ (GMiS) is pleased to name the initial cohort of 107 students of the Class of 2015 HENAAC Scholars. This class of awardees represents the outstanding scholastic achievements of some of the nation's most technically-talented students. Over 1,400 applications were received for this merit-based scholarship competition.

This year, the Intel Foundation joined the GMiS circle of scholarship sponsors by providing eight highly-competitive \$10,000 scholarships to qualified graduate students. Additionally, for the 6<sup>th</sup> year, NAVSEA/SSP continued the support of incoming freshman attending a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) by sponsoring 14 \$10,000 U.S. Navy STEM Scholarships, with the opportunity for students to continue receiving support through their Student Employment Program.

GMiS awards scholarships in three categories: Corporate/Federal Agency-Sponsored Scholarships; Special Recognition Scholarships; and *In Memoriam* and Personal Tribute Scholarships. In addition to the scholarship, GMiS subsidizes travel, registration and hotel accommodations costs for each scholar to attend the 27<sup>th</sup> HENAAC STEM Career Conference, in Pasadena, CA, from October 14 – 18, 2015, where scholars have the opportunity to engage with their sponsor.

At the conference, the scholars will be honored during the Scholars Pinning Ceremony and the Student Leadership Dinner. The Scholars Pinning Ceremony will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015, starting at 9:00 PM. The Student Leadership Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2015, from 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Both events will be at the Pasadena Convention Center.

If you are interested in supporting the Great Minds in STEM HENAAC Scholars Program for the 2015-16 academic year, please contact Dr. Gary Cruz at [gcruz@greatmindsinstem.org](mailto:gcruz@greatmindsinstem.org).

Congratulations again to the GMiS Class of 2015 HENAAC Scholars! Following is the first announcement of this outstanding class.

**\$10,000 Intel Foundation Scholarship**

Aldo Aguirre	D. Candidate	Mechanical Engineering	University of Illinois at Chicago
CJ Barberan	Doctoral	Electrical Engineering	Rice University
Melissa Barona	Doctoral	Chemical Engineering	Northwestern University
Juan Barragan	Masters	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Triana Carmentate	Masters	Computer Science	Florida International University
Eric Chaidez	Masters	Electrical Engineering	Texas A&M University
Jessica Montes	Masters	Electrical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Neel Shah	Masters	Electrical/Computer Engineering	Northeastern University

**\$10,000 U.S. Navy STEM Scholarship**

*(Sponsored by NAVSEA & SSP)*

Amanda Acosta	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Cynthia Aguillon	Freshman	Computer Engineering	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Isaac Aldape	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Celene Cantabrana	Freshman	Engineering	University of California, Merced
Erica De La Cruz	Freshman	Computer Engineering	University of California, Santa Cruz
Damian Garavito	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of New Mexico
Johnathon Garcia	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Patrick Gutierrez	Freshman	Physics	University of Texas at El Paso
Jazmine Madrigal	Freshman	Computer Science	University of New Mexico
Kaitlin Miller	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of Houston
Ricardo Muniz	Freshman	Computer Engineering	University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Andres Ortiz	Freshman	Physics/Mathematics	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Devin Salazar	Freshman	Civil Engineering	University of New Mexico
Genaro Sosa	Freshman	Computer Engineering	California State University, Fullerton

**CORPORATE/FEDERAL AGENCY SPONSORED SCHOLARSHIPS**

Booz Allen Hamilton

Frank Osorio	Junior	Electrical Engineering	Hartnell College
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Cummins, Inc.

Paulina Almada	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Jose Mendez	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Juan Vargas	Senior	Metallurgical & Materials Eng	University of Texas at El Paso

Dow Chemical

Antonio Jaramillo	Sophomore	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at Austin
Sheri Lopez	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	University of New Mexico

### Edison International

Jessica Barrios	Masters	Civil Engineering	University of Southern California
Elizabeth Berry	Sophomore	Civil Engineering	California State University, Fresno
Alicia Esquivel	Sophomore	Civil Engineering	Loyola Marymount University
Frank Garcia	Senior	Electrical Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Saida Gomez	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Pyae Hein	Junior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Orval Hernandez-Marcial	Masters	Civil Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Maria Medina Alva	Senior	Industrial Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Jeovanny Reyes	Junior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Martin Sandoval	Senior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles

### EMC<sup>2</sup> Corporation

Natalie Benavidez	Junior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Mariana Garcia	Sophomore	Computer Science	California State University, Monterey Bay
Gerardo Sanchez	Senior	Computer Engineering	University of South Florida
Fernando Serna	Sophomore	Computer Science	Washington State University Tri-Cities
Mitchell Topete	Senior	Computer Science	University of California, San Diego

### Lockheed Martin Corporation

Anthony Becerril	Senior	Electrical Engineering	California State University, Long Beach
Laura Carrasco	Senior	Electrical Engineering	University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Stephanie Chavez	Senior	Aerospace Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Keysha Gonzalez	Senior	Computer Engineering	University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Angel Ramirez	Senior	Electrical Engineering	Universidad Politecnica de Puerto Rico
Karina Quintana	Senior	Electrical Engineering	Florida International University
Maribel Torres-Velazquez	Senior	Electrical Engineering	University of Puerto Rico

### NASA Langley Research Center

O'Lori Weston	Freshman	Biology	Hampton University
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### Northrop Grumman Corporation Foundation

Francisco Garcia-Salas	Junior	Electrical Engineering	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Evan Hernandez	Sophomore	Computer Science	University of Wisconsin - Madison

Tunji Ogiefu	Junior	Computer/Electrical Engineering	Morgan State University
Oracle			
Andrea Luna	Junior	Electrical Engineering	Crafton Hills College
Rockwell Collins			
Roya Edalatpour	Senior	Electrical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Adrian Ramirez	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Erick Salazar	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
The Boeing Company			
Gabriela Bran	D. Candidate	Mechanical Engineering	University of California, Los Angeles
Diana Castro	Senior	Aerospace Engineering	California State University, Long Beach
Victor Esparza	Masters	Electrical Engineering	University of Southern California
Ivan Figueroa	Senior	Aerospace Engineering	California State University, Long Beach
Leslie Perez	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	University of Southern California
The Chrysler Foundation			
Ernesto Covarrubias	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Cynthia Garcia	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	El Paso Community College
Joseph Garcia	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of California, Irvine
Ana Guzman	Senior	Civil Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Patrick Hogan	Senior	Chemical Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Marcelo Murcia	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Alexsandra Olaya	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	Florida International University
Manuel Retana	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Nevada, Reno

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIPS

#### Associated Administrator of Los Angeles (AALA) Scholarship (Sponsored in part by GMiS)

Rosalia Hernandez	Freshman	Aerospace Engineering	University of California, Irvine
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#### National Football Hall of Fame – San Gabriel Valley/Pasadena Chapter Scholarship (Sponsored by GMiS)

Daniel Gardea	Freshman	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Brandon Lopez	Freshman	Biomedical Engineering	University of California, Irvine
David Tolmachoff	Freshman	Engineering	University of Notre Dame

Shell Oil Company Scholarship  
(GMIS STEM Showdown™)

Haishat Alli	Junior	Engineering Physics	Tulane University
Mitchell Fullerton	Sophomore	Bioinnovation	Tulane University
Nicole Krawczewicz	Senior	Engineering Physics	Tulane University
Kaito Kuroda	Senior	Math & Computer Science	Tulane University
Ciara Simmons-Pino	Senior	Civil & Environmental Eng.	Rice University
Mickyle Stanbury	Junior	Chemical Engineering	Rice University

**IN MEMORIAM AND PERSONAL TRIBUTE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Chevron - Ann Seki Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Chevron)

Mark Alvarez	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
Alessandro Archila	Sophomore	Petroleum Engineering	University of Oklahoma
Max Hassell	Sophomore	Chemical Engineering	Rice University
Hector Hernandez	Sophomore	Petroleum Engineering	University of Oklahoma
Fernando Jacinto	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Long Beach
Makayla Santillan	Junior	Chemical Engineering	Texas A&M University – Kingsville
Guillermo Villalobos	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	Texas A&M University

Davila-Treviño Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by the David Davila and Joe Treviño Families)

Emmanuel Culebro	Junior	Electrical Engineering	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Elia Garcia	Senior	Biology	University of Houston
Rebekah Kawas	Junior	Biology	Texas A&M International University
Jasmine Lucero	Senior	Industrial Engineering	University of Texas at Arlington
Raul Membreno	Junior	Biology	University of Texas at San Antonio
Elizabeth Moreno	Junior	Industrial Engineering	Texas Tech University
Mario Orrantia	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Juan Perez	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Federico Salinas	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at Austin
Kevin Schnittker	Senior	Metallurgical & Materials Eng	University of Texas at El Paso

Leticia S. Montiel Memorial Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Rudy Montiel)

Sofia Martin	Senior	Civil Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
Paloma Zamarripa	Senior	Civil Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso

Lopez-Piñeda Family Scholarship  
(Sponsored by Bayron Lopez)

Sandra Hernandez-Andrade	Junior	Industrial Technology	California State University, Los Angeles
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Francisco Moxo-Galicia	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
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Raytheon - Jose R. Silva Memorial Scholarship  
*(Sponsored by Raytheon)*

Lucero Buendia	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	University of Texas at El Paso
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Victoria Alegria Tracy Memorial Scholarship  
*(Sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. John Tracy)*

Liliana Montes De Oca	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
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Samantha Sotéz	Senior	Mechanical Engineering	California State University, Los Angeles
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Villarreal Family Scholarship  
*(Sponsored by Raul Villarreal)*

Alberto Beltran	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	Purdue University
Mirtha Echeverria	Junior	Mechanical Engineering	Miami Dade College

A second scholarship announcement is scheduled for September 16, 2015, in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month. The announcement will include the GMiS Community College Scholarships, the GMiS Outstanding Graduate Student Leadership Award and the GMiS Outstanding Undergraduate Student Leadership Award. Recipients of the scholarships sponsored by the Amezcua Family, Lemus Medical, Ray and Carmela Mellado, and other new sponsors will be included.

**About Great Minds in STEM™**

Great Minds in STEM™ is an education, national 501(c)3 nonprofit, whose vision is to be a national leader in keeping America technologically strong by promoting science, technology, engineering and math careers especially in underserved communities. Now, in its 27<sup>th</sup> year, it remains the only national entity, which has consistently recognized the esteemed technical achievements of STEM role models through a selective, peer-reviewed process. For more information on GMiS, please contact Monica Villafana, Director of Professional Programs, at (323) 262-0997 and visit the Great Minds in STEM™ website at [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org).

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