



Local youths receive scholarships, awards

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Pictured are the winners of YCF's Yolo Youth Service Awards and Community Service Awards: Jackie Ramirez, Elliana Bisgaard-Church, Yammy Kung, Justin Kortuem, Kayla Baker, Sandra Anaya, Jasmine Segall, Taryn Cadena, Shermila Pia, Reyna Madueno of KOLORS for Marina Sadiq, and Ning Xu for Melissa Xu. (Courtesy)

Young people throughout Yolo County contribute a great deal to their local communities by volunteering.

Three of them and the Yolo County nonprofits they volunteered with have been selected to be recipients of Yolo Community Foundation's Yolo Youth Service Awards in honor of their outstanding performance, emerging leadership and dedication to local philanthropy.

An additional 22 youths will receive Community Service Achievement Awards for their hundreds of

hours as volunteers in Yolo County communities. The recipients' contributions reflect substantial interest and dedication to the local community.

The Yolo Community Foundation believes that leadership requires a commitment to service. Therefore, the Yolo Youth Service Awards have been designed to promote and recognize youth involvement in community life.

By encouraging young people to volunteer, Yolo Community Foundation hopes to nurture the future leadership of Yolo County. YCF's Yolo Youth Service Awards support the development of youth leadership in the county through awards of innovative, paired grants to students and to the nonprofits the awardees have volunteered at least 60 hours with.

Yolo Community Foundation made grants of \$1,000 to the Yolo County nonprofit where the young person volunteered and a \$1,000 scholarship to the student. The grants were made from Yolo Community Foundation's Community Development Fund. The following youth received Scholarships:

- Elliana Bisgaard-Church of Davis Senior High School volunteered an average of 8 hours a week over several years with Freedom From Hunger, a nonprofit fighting chronic hunger and poverty through self-sustainability through microfinance, education, and health protection. Elliana started a student chapter of Freedom From Hunger at Davis High School with a classmate to generate awareness among her peers about chronic hunger and poverty. Her club developed a number of fundraising dances (four over three years) raising \$10,000 for Freedom From Hunger providing approximately 125 loans to women and their families.
- Justin Kortuem, a River City High School student in West Sacramento, volunteered 98 hours with the

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Yolo County Anti-Tobacco Youth Coalition (YUFA STAR.) As president of YUFA STAR, he has been active in planning and organizing events held at River City High School to educate youth about the dangers of tobacco. Kortuem also played a key role in advocating a tobacco retail license in West Sacramento through polling community members, presentations to various West Sacramento community organizations, meetings with Yolo County Board Supervisors, City Council members and speaking before the West Sacramento City Council.

- Jacquelin Ramirez, a student at Woodland High School, volunteered 125 hours with the Yolo Family Resource Center. Yolo Family Resource Center provides a spectrum of services including counseling, support groups, peer support, parent education and enrichment activities designed to provide access to cultural understanding and opportunities for children. Ramirez assisted in coordinating numerous events including a Plan To Lead Conference at Dingle Elementary School for Spanish speaking parents.

The following youth received Community Service Achievement Awards for their numerous hours of service to the community as volunteers:

- Sandra Anaya of Davis volunteered with Yolo Mutual Housing Association in planning and preparations for numerous events.
- Jamie Anderson of Winters coached sixth graders in Destination Imagination which is a community and school based program that encourages problem solving.
- Kayla Baker of Woodland volunteered with 4-H Clever Clovers in a variety of activities including canned food drives, holiday food baskets for the needy, as Jr. Sheep Leader, at Sheep Skills Day and

Spring Shows.

- Taryn Cadena of Woodland volunteered with Wayfarer Center, Foster Care and Arbor Day Festivals and raised funds for the LN-4 Project which purchases artificial hands for amputees living in third world countries, Heifer International, National Wheelchair Association, and KIVA through Rotary Interact Club, District 5160.
- Paula Dinozo of Woodland prepared meals at the Stone Soup Ministry at Holy Rosary Catholic Church.
- Ryan Hofstrand of Winters taught classes and helped with repairs and maintenance at Boy Scout Camp Robert Cole.
- Seyedeh Sheida Hosseini of Davis volunteered as an Algebra tutor at Douglass Middle School in Woodland and helped feed the hungry at Saint Martin's Church.
- Chengappa Kodira of Davis helped instill a love for science and learning in young children through her work with Explorit Science Center.
- Yammy Kung of Davis volunteered through Davis High Key Club with Davis Community Meals, Davis Art Center, Yolo County Library book sales, Salvation Army bell ringing, Tree Davis, Waldorf May Fair, Kiwanis 4th of July parade, Davis Farmer's Market, Davis Stampede, Environmental Club gardening, Breakfast with the Bunny, FFA Banquet, Turkey Trot and SPCA pet adoptions.
- Eddie Lampkin of Woodland helped Yolo Family Resource Center as part of the Woodland Coalition for Youth in designing and painting a mural to deter graffiti in a local shopping area.
- Jessica Moore of West Sacramento helped those who came to Holy Cross St. Vincent DePaul to

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receive food, clothing and furniture.

Endowment.

• Eric Ni of Woodland built a bookcase for a local literacy department at the public library and helped with can drives, flag ceremonies, and service dinners through Woodland Boy Scout Troop 68.

• Shermila Pia of Davis volunteered as a Science Teaching Assistant at Explorit Science Center.

• Helianis Quijoda Salazar of Davis volunteered with Yolo County SPCA at their Thrift Store.

• Marina Sadiq of Woodland taught students through performances through KOLORS Teen Theater.

• Jasmine Segall of Davis volunteered with KDVS 90.3 FM in their news department writing and recording original daily news briefs.

• Briana Sherlock of Davis coached soccer through Davis AYSO Region 218.

• Tin Truong of Woodland volunteered as a Junior Auxiliary member at Woodland Healthcare providing patients, their families and visitors with assistance. • Rebecca Varela of Woodland helped American Red Cross in their office and at numerous events.

• Shuangjun Wang of Davis worked as an assistant to Davis Children's Chorale.

• Melissa Xu of Davis volunteered with Team Davis Local Support Fund enriching the lives of Davis children and adults with developmental, cognitive and/or physical disabilities.

Donors to Yolo Community Foundation's Yolo Youth Service Awards included Roy Bellhorn, Henry and Linda Bennett, Maggie Burns, Stephen Cohen, Joan Hogan, Laura Hogan, and the California

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