

## **Six Winners of RELAC Scholarships Selected**

The Board of Directors congratulates the six winners of RELAC's 2023 scholarships: Brooke Bushong, Anaya Harrison, Aliyah Hodes, Kristi Ikemoto, Zina Ogunnaya, and Johanna Zeise.

The students and their RELAC sponsors will be honored at RELAC's Recognition Luncheon on Aug. 10 at Almansor Court in Alhambra.

This is the fourth year of the scholarship program, which is open to RELAC members and their families. Five \$1,000 scholarships are normally awarded, but this year a sixth scholarship was approved by the Board on a one-time basis in honor of former RELAC Director Evelyn Gutierrez, who was one of the founding members of the scholarship program and served as chair of the evaluation committee. RELAC received donations in Gutierrez's memory when she died unexpectedly in 2022 and the Board decided to supplement those funds to enable the award of the sixth scholarship.

Director Linda C. Hopkins, chair of the Scholarship Committee, said Kristi Ikemoto was selected for the Evelyn Gutierrez Scholarship Award in consideration of her accomplishments, including her community service.

The 2023 scholarship winners and the RELAC family member nominating them:

**Brooke Bushong**, nominated by her grandfather James Jakubal, was accepted by the University of Alabama and Penn State, but chose to attend Texas-Christian University. Interested in anatomy and the functions of the human body, her goal is to be an orthopedic surgeon.

**Anaya Harrison**, nominated by her grandmother Janie Harrison, has chosen to attend UC Berkeley, and says her goal is to be a nurse practitioner trained in obstetrics and gynecology so she can educate and advocate for women, saving lives through education and representation.

**Aliyah Hodges**, nominated by her grandmother Terri Morris, was accepted by four California state universities but decided to attend the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She will major in kinesiology, with the goal of becoming a team physician/athletic trainer.

**Kristi Ikemoto**, nominated by her grandfather Kenneth Ikemoto, was accepted by Cal Poly Pomona, California State University, Long Beach and Chapman University but chose to attend UCLA. She is interested in psychobiology and through education, plans to continue to expand her views of the world.

**Zina Ogunnaya**, nominated by her father, Cyril Ogunnaya, was accepted to Mount Saint Mary's Academy and Rutgers University in New Jersey. She will be a graduate student in the fall at Rutgers, pursuing a clinical psychology degree.

**Johanna Zeise**, nominated by her grandmother Jean Zeise, loves agriculture and horses, and plans to attend North Dakota State University, where she will major in equine science with an emphasis on equine nutrition.