

TO: Larry Mendonca, Superintendent

Regular Meeting

SUBJECT: Leo Volz Scholarship

April 14, 2025

BACKGROUND

The Leo Volz Scholarship award was established to present scholarships to Oakdale High School graduates who represent the most outstanding all-around students of their graduating class. The Board of Trustees of the Oakdale Joint Unified School District is authorized to award the scholarship.

The current Leo Volz selection committee is comprised of Maggie Banducci, Laurie Doerksen, Arijaan Norwood, Rick Jones, Jacob Barber, Melissa Franca and Terri Taylor.

To qualify for the Volz Scholarship, a senior student must have obtained a weighted grade point average of 3.76 or higher after seven semesters OR a combined verbal/math score of at least 1270 points on the SAT or minimum score of 27 on the ACT. All eligible candidates are invited to a meeting where the scholarship is discussed and the application process is reviewed, and they are invited to apply. Each student is assigned a personal, confidential identification number so that the identity of the applying students is kept confidential during the application process. This year there were sixty-five qualified applicants for the Volz Scholarship. Thirty-three students chose to compete in the application process.

ANALYSIS

The committee evaluates applicants using the following criteria:

1. Financial Need
2. Student Academic Performance
3. Student Participation and Achievement in:
 - a. School sports
 - b. Student government
 - c. Music or drama
 - d. Extracurricular activities
4. Service to the community of Oakdale
5. Employment
6. Other Student Factors
7. Student Essay
8. Student Interview

Previous scholarship winners are:

- 1997 Melissa Wharff (University of the Pacific)
- 1998 David Poldolsky (UC San Diego)
- 1999 Nathan Cogburn (UC Berkeley)

- 2000 Alexandria Durr (St. Mary's College)
- 2001 Aislin Powell (Brigham Young University)
- Keith Jenkins (University of Washington)
- Bethany Birkholz (Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo)
- 2002 Neeraj Panchal (UCLA)
- 2003 Rebecca Birkholz (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)
- Jane Bulk (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)
- 2004 Krista Smith (New York University)
- Corrine Seals (UC Santa Barbara)
- 2005 Jacob Barber (University of the Pacific)
- 2006 Karen Warner (Stanford University)
- Nicole Benbow (California State University Chico)
- 2007 Hans Boggs (UCLA)
- 2008 Mega Mahida (UCLA)
- Elizabeth Martinez (Biola University)
- 2009 Evan Boggs (University of Pennsylvania)
- 2010 Todd Medema (Carnegie Mellon University)
- 2011 Daniel Dunning (UCLA)
- 2012 Paul Perrone (Claremont McKenna)
- 2013 Mason Schmidt (UC Davis)
- 2014 Tanner Morgan (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)
- 2015 Rachelle Pabalan (Stanford University)
- 2016 Lauren Watson (UC Davis)
- 2017 Anne Homer (UC Davis)
- 2018 Jude Markel (University of the Pacific)
- 2019 Jean Paula Pagaduan (UC Davis)
- 2020 Madelyn Stueve (Point Loma Nazarene)
- 2021 Madison Hoffman (UC Irvine)
- 2022 Savannah Borba (San Jose State University)
- 2023 Kennedy Jones (UC Davis)
- 2024 Kate Brown (Columbia University)

The Leo Volz Scholarship Committee recommends that Madison Mattos be awarded the Leo Volz Scholarship Award for the 2025 school year.

RECOMMENDATION


It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Leo Volz Scholarship Award.

Recommended by:

Approved for Recommendation
to the Governing Board by:



Mike Moore
Principal, Oakdale High School



Larry Mendonca
Superintendent