

AAUW Scholarships for SRJC Re-entry Women

Below is a brief introduction to each of our 2020 awardees.

Judith Ngoma

Judith moved to the US from Zambia in 2012. She received her CNA license in early 2013 and then worked 3 jobs for several years. It was during this time that she realized her calling was in Nursing, so she went full throttle into the nursing program at SRJC. She will attend Sonoma State to work on her BSN. She then would like to continue her education to get a Masters Degree and Nurse Practitioner License. She is grateful for our financial support to help make her dreams come true.

Hali Brenner

Hali overcame a very difficult and unimaginable past. She rose above and not only is a full time student but is a Student Success Coach and volunteers for many community services. She will attend Sonoma State to get her Bachelor degree in English. She then plans to transfer to UC Berkeley to obtain her Masters and Doctorate in Rhetoric and would like to be an English Professor. She is very thankful for our support and this opportunity to continue her education.

Jasmin Zazaboi

Jasmin has traveled a non-traditional pathway to higher education. Due to her religious upbringing, she was educated outside of standard institutions; in her early twenties, she wanted to further her formal education, but realized she had no accredited academic records that would allow her to apply to university. She began the process of building an academic "paper trail" by enrolling in community college. Over the past few years, she has worked a number of jobs while also steadily collecting college credits and deeply exploring her passions. Jasmin is interested in political science and sociology and is considering the possibility of a biology minor. She is fascinated by social and political systems and the ways in which human actions and attitudes either support or subvert those systems. She is attending Stanford University and hopes that through exploration, hands-on practice, and collaboration with amazing people, her time there will lead her to the niche where she can be most effective in producing both scholarship and practical action that contributes to society.

Marisol Gonzalez

Marisol moved to the US in 2012. She became a teen mom and dropped out of high school never having any guidance as to the importance of education. She began taking classes at SRJC to improve her English and get her GED. Her goal became to be a registered nurse. After receiving her ADN from SRJC she will continue her education at Sonoma State to become a registered nurse/mid-wife. School has not been easy for her with a vision disability, but she has worked extra hard and continues to amaze herself at what she can accomplish. She is so thankful for this great gift.

Lisa Parreira

While recovering from a broken back, Lisa realized that her education was the most important part of who she wanted to be and decided to go back to school to realize her dream of becoming a teacher. Having raised 4 children of her own it was time to chase her own dreams. With her Associate degree in Child Development she will continue her studies at Sonoma State in the Integral education/liberal studies bachelor degree program. She will earn her teaching credential and hope to teach kindergarten or first grade. She sincerely appreciates being recognized to receive our scholarship.

Jessica Serna

Jessica attended 3 semesters of community college right after high school but was struggling. She enrolled in a technical school and got certified as a medical assistant and phlebotomist. After 5 years working as a medical assistant she realized it was time to return to school and earn a degree. During her second semester at SRJC she realized that she wanted to become a Spanish teacher. She will attend Oregon State University with a double degree major in Spanish and education and would like to continue on in the Masters Program. She is most appreciative of our scholarship.