For Immediate Release
Contact:  Craig Pletenik (602) 764-1530
Michelle Halama-Alcantar, michelle@foundation4education.org

PHOENIX UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWS RELEASE

PHOENIX--The Phoenix Union Foundation for Education awarded scholarships this year totaling $102,400 assisting 77 District seniors in furthering their education at Arizona colleges and universities next year. It is the second consecutive year that the awards have eclipsed $100,000.

The Phoenix Union Foundation for Education, a 501 (c) (3) that supports pathways to success in college, career and life, and provides support for District-wide, college-going student programs and college scholarships, began in 1985 as the Phoenix Union Partnership of Business and Education. In recent years, it has concentrated on generating need-based scholarships for PUHSD students.

Scholarships ranged from $100 annually to $8,000 over a four-year academic career, distributed from a pool of scholarship resources from individual and organization donors to employee contributions and fundraising events.

Five seniors received four-year scholarships of $8,000 each—Catherine Cole, Alhambra; Liliana Bejar, Bioscience; Ernesto Robles Miranda, Betty Fairfax; Jenifer Deante Morales; Camelback and Mariana Mendoza Parra, Carl Hayden.

Named scholarships to 21 students totaling $31,000 were supported by various community, business and PUHSD staff, family and friends to recognize loved ones, support students, or as part of a fundraising sponsorship.

Twenty-two students benefited from the generosity of Phoenix Union employees whose contributions were used for “Invest in the Best” Scholarships of $1,000 each. The Phoenix Union Black Alliance Scholarship awarded $5,000 to four students, and 23 Betty Fairfax students earned $100 each through proceeds from its golf tournament.

Proceeds from the 2017 Phoenix Union Scholarship Dinner and the Foundation Scholarship Open Golf Tournament were used to find this year’s Foundation Scholarships. Proceeds from this year’s Dinner in February and Golf Tournament in May will be used for next year’s scholarships. These two Foundation fundraisers are also building an endowment fund that is over $550,000, with a goal of $1 million.

Scholarship applications are distributed to all District employees and are due in April. This year, 164 applications were completed. Volunteer business, community and education members read and score the applications which are awarded in May. A Scholarship Reception will be held for this year’s recipients, May 31. Individuals or businesses interested in volunteering or making a scholarship donation can visit www.foundation4education.org.
Phoenix Union Foundation For Education 2018-19 Scholarships

Foundation Scholarships 5 x $8,000 = $40,000, $2,000 per student renewable up to 4 years
1. Catherine Cole Alhambra
2. Liliana Bejar Bioscience
3. Ernesto Robles Miranda Betty Fairfax
4. Jenifer Degante Morales Camelback
5. Mariana Mendoza Parra Carl Hayden

Invest In the Best (PUHSD Employee Donations) 22 x $1,000 = $22,000
1. Anthony Alvarez Metro Tech
2. Mariana Wann Cesar Chavez
3. Itzel Valenzuela Metro Tech
4. Huong Dang Central
5. Sydney Bradley Metro Tech
6. Raymundo Galindo Garlardo South Mountain
7. Lilibeth Garcia South Mountain
8. Cecy Mendoza Metro Tech
9. David Montero Cesar Chavez
10. William O’Neil Camelback
11. Johnathan Smith Franklin
12. Rosa Ortega Metro Tech
13. Valeria Salcido Maryvale
14. Mariela Muniz Murillo Trevor Browne
15. Lauren Morris Fairfax
16. Milena Stambolic North
17. Manual Espinoza Metro Tech
18. Cynthia Garcia Molina Cesar Chavez
19. Nataley Martinez Central
20. Irvin Vasquez-Alvarado Alhambra
21. Julissa Young North
22. Mary Jane Aviles Camelback

Giving Back Pays Forward Scholarships $40,400

Gabriel Villa Memorial Scholarship 2 x $1,000 = $2,000
1. Luis Pena Espinosa Metro Tech
2. Hector Palazuelos Metro Tech

SunTec Concrete 7 x $2,000 = $14,000
1. Gisselle Beltran Valdez Alhambra
2. Seraphin Byiringiro Central
3. Maria De la Luz Cesar Chavez
4. Kassandra Sanchez Montano Fairfax
5. Ahtziri Acero Cesar Chavez
6. Michael Serna North
7. Alma Betancourt Alhambra

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Arizona $1,000
1. Daniel Arias Bioscience

Giving Back Pays Forward $1,000 (anonymous)
1. Shams Ghaleb Camelback
### Paul Lowes Pathmaker Scholarship 2 x $1,000 = $2,000

1. Angel Baltazar  Cesar Chavez  
2. Anthony Esquivas  Cesar Chavez  

### Dr. Deedee Falls Bioscience Dragons Scholarship 4 x $2,000 = $8,000

1. Samantha Alvarez-Gil
2. Sharyn Ulaszek
3. Dulce Gariepy
4. Paola Palomino

### Phoenix Union Sports Hall of Fame Athletic Awards 2 x $1,000 = $2,000

1. Raelynn Fair  South Mountain  
2. Fidel Del Los Rios  Carl Hayden  

### Julie Pallisard Pay it Forward Scholarship 4 x $750 = $3,000

1. Isabelle Lukau  North  
2. Sonja Savic  North  
3. Karen Monrreal Perez  North  
4. Ayla Zustra  North  

### Phoenix Union Black Alliance Scholarships 2 x $2,000; 2 x $500

1. Sarah Bisimwa  Carl Hayden  $2,000  
2. Destinee Stillwell  Metro Tech  $2000  
3. Eden Jenkins  Fairfax  $500  
4. Alberto Munoz  Metro Tech  $500  

### Betty Fairfax Awards 24 x $100, $2,400

1. Soleil Barron
2. Sierra Alcantar
3. Manuel Rivera
4. Kimberly Ledezma Bugarin
5. Jaden Callahan
6. Lauren Morris
7. Alycianna Pogue
8. Eric Schnebly
9. Deahvea Donston
10. Taylor Estrella
11. Leobardo Lopez Galvez
12. Dani Satala
13. Natalia Vallarta
14. Andrez Alcazar
15. Kassandra Sanchez Montano
16. Iridian Serrato
17. Leobardo Lopez Galvez (2)
18. Yalison Wakayo
19. Edna Robles
20. Jada Gibson
21. Jason Cao
22. Shevonia Mwale
23. Yonas Berhe

### Questions- Contact Phoenix Union Foundation:

[info@foundation4education.org](mailto:info@foundation4education.org) cell: 480-289-5761