

May 11, 2023



# La Rueda

SERVICE ABOVE SELF  
THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTEREY, RI DISTRICT 5230  
[www.montereyrotary.org](http://www.montereyrotary.org)



## Annual Outstanding Student Scholarships And Teacher Recognition Awards

There is no greater calling than that of educators shaping and transforming the lives of the next generation. We can all remember our favorite teacher who made us what we are. Today, the Rotary Club of Monterey celebrates and proudly recognizes three great educators in Monterey County and twenty-seven outstanding students – our future leaders – who stand out from their peers.

These worthy recipients embody the of value of "Service Above Self", which Rotarians hold dear. They rise above their peers to excel and do good for others, and shape the world around them. These teachers and students have been selected as the best and brightest, for going above and beyond, for caring, and for pursuing excellence. They share common values such as dedication, hard work, passion, and humility. They make our community, our country and our world stronger and better.

## Outstanding Student Scholarship Awards

Our Rotary Club is awarding scholarships to twenty-seven students this year in recognition of their outstanding academic success, their leadership skills, and their commitment to giving back to the community. Each year our club collaborates with California State University Monterey Bay, Monterey Peninsula College and Monterey High School to select outstanding and motivated students to award "Academic Scholarships" and "Vocational Scholarships". We support these rising stars to pursue their educational goals and achieve their dreams.

This year's recipients are:

### CSUMB:

#### \$1000.00 Academic Scholarships:

- Ricky Michael Alvarez
  - Nevan Bell
- Jessica Dunbar
  - Vasiliki Iden
- Anisha Jadhav
- Berenice Lemus
- Sebastian Vera

### MPC:

#### \$1000.00 Academic Scholarships:

- Valerie Madriaga Elder
  - Juniper Newhouse
  - Alejandra Tejeda
  - Destiny Torres

#### \$500.00 Vocational Scholarships:

- Farzaneh Aghaei
  - Vanessa Diaz
- Iryna Gellman
- Suheil Ibrahim
  - Saeid Merati
  - Fnu Saba

### MHS:

#### \$1000.00 Academic Scholarships:

- Graciela Diffenbaugh
  - Christina Moon
  - Charlize Santos
  - Justin Wang

#### \$500.00 Vocational Scholarships:

- Jasmine Antonio
- Kayla Silva Audelo
- Maram Gasmelseed
  - Melina Mendoza
- Natalia Perez Rodriguez
  - River Valdivia

## **Outstanding Teacher**

Our Club began recognizing and presenting the outstanding teacher awards in 1989. We have done so every year with the exception of 2021 during COVID. Over the last 34 years, we have honored 60 public school teachers and 21 private school teachers from 15 different schools in and around Monterey educating students from K to 12. These educators consistently go above and beyond. Student success is of paramount importance to them. They transform the lives of their students. Our three awardees this year receiving \$3,000 each are Jacqueline Lautzenhiser from Las Mesa School, Megan Ryan from Trinity Christian High School, and Amy Spencer from Stevenson Middle/Lower School.

### **Jacqueline Lautzenhiser** **Las Mesa School**

Jackie Lautzenhiser has been an educator for 28 years, worked in 3 different school districts in 2 states, and spent the majority of her career teaching third and fourth grades.

Jackie's career as an educator has been fulfilling because of the myriad of activities that

are embedded in her role of classroom teacher. Just a few examples include directing musicals performed by students, encouraging and developing new writers with Writer's Workshop, and getting creative with new instructional technology during the pandemic.

As Jackie's knowledge and expertise as an educator has grown and developed over time, she has contributed in a meaningful way to educational leadership and the professional development of her colleagues. Jackie has served on leadership teams, district-wide committees, and has led staff development initiatives.

During her career, she raised two daughters with her husband, Bruce, and enjoys spending time with their families including their wonderful grandchildren.

### **Megan Ryan** **Trinity Christian** **High School**

Megan Ryan is a long time Peninsula resident, born in Carmel Valley. She attended Tularcitos Elementary School and Carmel Middle School before transferring to Calvary

Chapel High School (the previous name of Trinity Christian High School). Megan was in the 6th graduating class of our school! She attended the Master's

University in Santa Clarita, CA earning her B.A. in Biblical Counseling with a minor in Theology and was granted a Certificate of Women's Ministries. Megan is completing her last semester of Seminary and will earn her Master of Arts Degree in Theology and Ministry Leadership from Western Seminary in San Jose.

After earning her B.A., Megan returned to her alma mater in 2011 as the Yearbook, P.E. and Bible teacher. While she also taught English at the school, she has settled into her current role as the TCHS Student Life Director, teaching Junior and Senior Girls Contemporary Issues classes, serving as the Student Government and Yearbook Club advisor and as our Director of Counseling.

From Megan's most recent evaluation, our Head of School said of her "I am thankful for the way you pour into our students – it is such a blessing to our school."



Megan develops a strong rapport with her students, and supports their exploration into their own beliefs. Megan has a high level of energy, enthusiasm and positivity that she puts into planning and preparation of her classes, school events, chapel, etc. She is always willing to help out when help is needed in any area of the school.

As Megan wrote, "Trinity Christian High School has empowered me to use my gifts to invest in the next generation through leadership training, counseling, teaching in the classroom, student events, and much more."

Megan lives in Seaside with her husband, Thomas. We have had the privilege of seeing Megan grow from a young freshman to a confident, competent and extraordinary teacher and are thrilled to see her honored by the Rotary Club this year.

### **Amy Spencer** ***Stevenson Middle/Lower*** ***School***

Amy Spencer is like a hummingbird, moving quickly with great intent, and with a mission. She zips around, with a gleaming smile across her face, and the most earnest of efforts, intent on

completing one important task or another.

Amy is deeply devoted to the culture of our middle school and to the experience of the students and the greater Stevenson community and Monterey peninsula. She's the first to volunteer to be the cheerleader for morning plunges into the Pacific on science camp trips to Catalina Island. She will do the worm across the dance floor for students to be inspired by her radical 80s dance moves. And she conveys deep compassion to and for others with exuberant consistency.

Her classroom is literally piled high with donated food from local resources for Amy to donate to the food pantry in Seaside – started by Amy and a student in the spring of 2020. Any given afternoon, one will suddenly hear a trumpet of chatter echoing down the breezeway at school, and there is Amy, leading the charge with bags of food in her arms, and whomever she can

find to follow her teachers, students, staff, and parents schlepping food into a school van for distribution to families in need throughout Seaside and the greater Monterey area. Every weekend, every single Sunday, there's Amy, sometimes with a volunteer or two in tow to drive the food to the various locations, unload it, and make a small gesture toward caring for the greater good of others who need our help in our very own community.

She does not seek accolades or public validation. She models service before self to all our students, faculty, staff, and families. Amy remains one of the most steadfast, devoted, and effective teachers in the entire middle school.

Thank you for your commitment to the children, to this community, and the community beyond, and mostly, for modeling how to live a life with purpose and joy and an unwavering commitment to the greater good of all of humanity.

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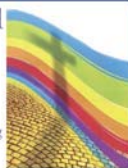
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Birthday**

Jay Zimmer - May 5

Rich Deal - May 12

Rob Klevan - May 12

Michael Mosebach - May 15

Rusty Ward - May 15

## May Membership Anniversaries

Rob Pappani	05/05/88	35 Years
Alex Hubbard	05/01/97	26 Years
Gregg Wutke	05/26/05	18 Years
Cris Cabanillas	05/07/09	14 Years
Rich Deal	05/04/17	6 Years
J Fagan	05/04/17	6 Years
Jay Zimmer	05/06/21	2 Years