

May 9, 2024



La Rueda

SERVICE ABOVE SELF
THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTEREY, RI DISTRICT 5230
www.montereyrotary.org



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

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:

- Nayeli Padilla Madrigal
- Jamie Booth
- Anastacia Alba
- Marina Carmen Edeza
- Abraham Porras-Vargas
- Chase Castillo-Fousek
- Jasmine Emma Hawkins

MPC:

\$1000.00 Academic Scholarships:

- Elicia Arredondo
- Rayo Garcia
- Erin Thieke
- Araceli Perez

\$500.00 Vocational Scholarships:

- Ashlyn Saldana
- Elizabeth Hernandez Garcia
- Mira Tagay
- Sheila Maclin
- Samantha Medina
- Jose Ibarra

MHS:

\$1000.00 Academic Scholarships:

- Ansh Shah
- Sindhu Gokaraju
- Dante Zanger
- Sneha Gokaraju

\$500.00 Vocational Scholarships:

- River Deschenes
- Elizabeth Jimenez
- Vedder Rivard
- Mariana Collazo
- Alex Ortiz
- Chenelle Paul

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 35 years, we have honored 63 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 Michelle Pierce from Monte Vista Elementary School, Natalie Croft from Monterey Bay Charter School, and Tim Bartholomew from Bay View Academy School.

Michelle Pierce

Monte Vista Elementary

Lifetime Stats: wife to the smartest and coolest guy I know, Jim! Mom to three amazing humans, James, Max, and Luke and Pippi the parrot (as in Longstocking, dating myself here!), first generation Italian-American daughter to

my amazing parents, Tony and Rosalia, sister, both big and little to my siblings, and best friend of 35 years to Lauren.

As with all journeys, my path to teaching was not a straight one. I attended UC Irvine with the intent on being a dentist.... silly fact, I have always loved going to the dentist! Some life experience helped morph that goal into becoming an Occupational Therapist and I attended USC. A little more life happened and I discovered my love for teaching after working in a Children's Hospital. I completed my education at California State Dominguez Hills and then received a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Walden University. I spent 16 years teaching in Southern California in the same neighborhood where I grew up. Monterey was a holiday destination for many years. Five years ago, my husband and I took a chance. We followed the dream and

moved our family to this beautiful peninsula. I am filled with gratitude daily for our life here and my school family at Monte Vista.

I have a few recurring mantras in my classroom. "We are a team" which always morphs into "We are a family." Also on repeat is "I love mistakes!" It is my goal to show my students that it is those very mistakes where our greatest learning occurs. By celebrating and sharing those mistakes freely, we can all glean our own deeper learning. In that vulnerable place, we foster a deep respect and responsibility to one another through the learning process. I want my students to feel safe and celebrated in their classroom and in their learning. Each year, I get the amazing opportunity to be part of the 180 days of school to witness this magical growth. I am deeply honored and grateful for the opportunity to be in service to my students and their families.

Natalie Croft **Monterey Bay Charter** **School**

Natalie Croft graduated from Santa Catalina School in Monterey, earned a BFA in Fine Art from the San Francisco Art Institute, and holds a California Multiple Subjects teaching credential. Additional education includes studying Shakespeare at Oxford, attending classes at the San Francisco Art Academy and Hangzhou Art Academy, Waldorf grades training, seminars on Writers Workshop, and early childhood development classes.

She chooses to teach at a public Waldorf school because Waldorf Education focuses on the whole child; mind, body, and soul. Waldorf education builds endurance. Students have the capacity to take in the lessons and utilize what they have learned in an encouraging environment that promotes creativity, academic focus, and above all, bravery. A child's life journey needs a foundation rooted in kindness, compassion, and deep understanding of the world around them, so that they

respect not only themselves, but their environment and all those around them.

Monterey Bay Charter School nominates Ms Natalie Croft as Outstanding Educator of the Year because she goes above and beyond in for her students and the school. She embodies outstanding excellence in education. Natalie's background in art serves her students well and the creative output from the class is incredible. Her student's describe her as amazing, creative, artistic, knowledgeable, supportive, crazy in a good way, and she reminds them of Ms Frizzle from the Magic School Bus series.

Tim Bartholomew **Bay View Academy**

I'm Tim Bartholomew, a dedicated educator with a passion for psychology and education, born and raised in Corvallis, Oregon.

Coming from a family of preachers and teachers, I've always had a deep respect for learning and nurturing others.

During my high school years, I was fortunate to have inspiring mentors, Ms. Knaupp and Mr. Bittner. Their caring and engaging teaching styles had a profound impact on me, inspiring me to pursue a career in education.

In my personal life, I found my soulmate in Jessica, the love of my life. We're thrilled to be expecting Baby Bartholomew this summer, marking a new chapter of love and responsibility. I'm lucky to have the support of my wonderful family, including my mom Tracy, dad Darren, sisters Molly and Haley, as well as my aunt, uncle, and beloved Mama and Papa. I also want to thank the Sokol clan for their constant support.

Currently, I'm leading the 5th grade at Bay View, and I'm grateful to Emma Hunt and the administration for trusting me with this important role. I'm excited about the future and look forward to making a positive impact on the lives of my students.

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Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis – May 10
Rich Deal – May 12
Rob Klevan – May 12
Clay Larson – May 15
Michael Mosebach – May 15
Rusty Ward May 15

Rob Pappani	05/05/88	36 Years
Alex Hubbard	05/01/97	27 Years
Gregg Wutke	05/26/05	19 Years
Cris Cabanillas	05/07/09	15 Years
Rich Deal	05/04/17	7 Years
Alan Fagen	05/04/17	7 Years
Jay Zimmer	05/06/21	3 Years

Rotary
District 5230



2023-24 District Conference
May 10, 11, & 12



Come Play by the Bay!



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Adults (18): \$150.00

Youth (8-19): \$40.00

Children (0-8): FREE



Adult registration
fee will increase to
\$175 after April 1st

Registration closes
Wednesday, May 1st

Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/index.cfm?
EventID=77675075&NoCaptcha

CLUB EVENTS

Rotary

Club of Monterey



May 10, 11, & 12

Come Play By The Bay
Monterey Marriott

Thursday, May 16

Board Meeting
10:30 am
Hilton Garden Inn

Tuesday, May 21

COG Meeting
5:30 pm
TBD

MAY 2024

Thursday	– 05/16	Board Meeting – 10:30 AM – Hilton Garden Inn
Thursday	– 05/16	Shyam & Kiran Kamath – Quo Vadis India: The Good, The Bad And The Ugly
Tuesday	– 05/21	COG Meeting – 5:30 PM – TBD
Thursday	– 05/23	Robin Coyne (Teacher, Monterey High) & Students – Whiz Kids: The Robotics Program at Monterey High School
Thursday	– 05/30	Colonel Shaw Pick, US Army – Potholes, Pirates, And Pandemics: Leadership Lessons From A Career In Special Operations

