



Our mission is to strengthen our community by investing in student success.

For Immediate Release

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April 1, 2026

**PHOENIX UNION FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION
AWARDS \$146,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS**

Phoenix, AZ – The Phoenix Union Foundation for Education is excited to award \$146,000 in scholarships to members of the Class 2026 to assist Phoenix Union High School District (PXU) seniors in furthering their education at colleges, universities, and accredited trade schools. On Thursday, April 23, 2026, all awardees will be recognized at the Foundation’s annual scholarship reception, which will take place this year at Trevor G. Browne High School.

The Phoenix Union Foundation for Education is a 501(c)(3) that supports pathways to success in college, career, and life through student scholarships and educator mini-grants. Scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$15,000 and are distributed from funds provided by individual and organizational donors as well as employee contributions and community fundraising events. The Foundation is proud to announce that 45 students were awarded 48 scholarships.

This year’s Phoenix Union Foundation for Education Scholarship recipient is Champions Circle (ARCH) High School’s, Moises Medina. This scholar will receive a \$2,000 annual scholarship which is renewable for up to four years. Additional renewable scholarships have been added this year. The Achieving the Dream Scholarships, generously funded by an anonymous donor, have been awarded to Yaire Valdez from Trevor G. Browne High School for a \$15,000 renewable scholarship attending a four-year university, Mia Escalante from Franklin High School and Yuliana Rios from Trevor G. Browne High School have been awarded \$5,000 renewable scholarships each attending two-year community colleges.

Scholarship applications are available annually to all PXU District seniors, opening in September and closing in early January. The Foundation receives support from volunteers throughout the community and education professionals to read and score the applications.

Individuals or businesses interested in volunteering or making scholarship donations to the Foundation for Education can visit www.foundation4education.org.

Recipients, scholarship names, and financial totals are listed on the following pages.

Award Recipients for 2026-2027 (TOTAL=\$146,000.00)

Foundation Awards:

Phoenix Union Foundation for Education Scholarship (\$8,000 over 4 years)

Moises Medina Champions Circle (ARCH)

Invest in the Best Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time awards)

Daisey Garcia Champions Circle (ARCH)

Martin Nevarez Browne

Viola Reimers Bioscience

Milagros Velazquez Browne

Foundation Sponsor Awards:

McCarthy Scholarship (\$4,000 one-time award)

Lesly Cortes Gutierrez Metro

Chasse Building Team Scholarship (\$3,000 one-time award)

Brigett Lopez Franklin

EDGE Construction Scholarship (\$3,000 one-time award)

Mia Medina Franklin

CORE Construction Scholarship (\$2,000 one-time award)

Izaiha Espericueta Champions Circle

DLR Group Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Valeria Valtierra PXU City

Honeywell Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Khloe Peralta Browne

Progressive Roofing Scholarship (\$1000 one-time award)

Aylin Adams Camelback Montessori

PXU Classroom Teachers' Association Scholarship (\$1000 one-time award)

David Franco Browne

Willmeng Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Briana Hernandez Cruz Franklin

PXU Staff-Founded Awards:

Black Alliance Scholarship (\$1,500 one-time award)

Meklite Tades Fairfax

Black Alliance Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Abdirezak Abdi Wilson
Josephine Hayden Browne

Black Alliance Scholarship (\$500 one-time award)

Brianna Brown The Academies

The Academies at South Mountain "Your Future Starts Here" Scholarship

(\$500 one-time award)

Mariana Castrejon The Academies
Brieyah Johnson The Academies

Sports Hall of Fame (\$500 one-time award)

Mustapha Bangura Browne
Carlos Bermudez Alhambra
Genesis Marshall The Academies
Mishka Sharma Metro
Marleny Vargas Browne
Manuel Alex Velazquez The Academies

Community Scholarship Awards:

Achieving the Dream University Scholarship (\$60,000 over 4 years)

Yaire Valdez Browne

Achieving the Dream Community College Scholarship (\$10,000 over 2 Years)

Mia Escalante Franklin
Yuliana Rios Browne

Achieving the Dream Trade School Scholarship (\$5,000 one-time award)

Daniel Guzman Browne
Manuel Quiroz Mendoza Wilson

Wilson Legacy Scholarship (\$5000 one-time award)

Abdirezak Abdi Wilson

AIM Recycling (\$500 one-time award)

Briana Hernandez Cruz Franklin
José Valencia Felix Franklin

American Red Cross Scholarship (\$500 one-time award)

Christian Aguilar Franklin

Mia Medina Franklin

In Honor or Memory of Awards:

Andrew Aranda No Place for Hate Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Anna Reilly North

Billy Jerome Starr Jr. – Franklin Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Alexa Sanchez Ramos Franklin

Billy Jerome Starr Jr. – South Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Taylor Goode The Academies

John Fung Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Geraldine Hernandez Maryvale Gifted & Talented

Sheccid Palacios Browne

The Maria Gomez Dream Scholarship (\$1,000 one-time award)

Jonathan Mendoza Browne

Mishka Sharma Metro

The Maria Gomez Dream Scholarship (\$500 one-time award)

Sofia German The Academies

Porter Womack Scholarship (\$1,500 one-time award)

Bethsi Arellano-Melendez The Academies

Luis Garcia Gastelum Wilson

Roberta Goldberg Scholarship (\$500 one-time award)

Kaitlin Serrano North