



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ALLIANCE COLLEGE-READY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES “LEADERS OF CHANGE” SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GRADUATING YOUTH**

*\$1 million raised by Alliance Young Professionals to support  
first generation college bound students.*

**May 22, 2018 (LOS ANGELES)** – Alliance College-Ready Public Schools, a non-profit network of high-performing public charter schools in Los Angeles, announced today that its Young Professional Network (YPN) board has raised \$1 million in scholarship funding for first generation college students from Alliance schools. The scholarship program, now in its fifth year, will award six \$25,000 and \$5,000 Gayle Miller Leaders of Change Scholarships to 2018 graduating seniors. The YPN is made up of philanthropic-minded young civic leaders, including one who is an Alliance alumnus. The scholarships allow Alliance college-bound graduates to spend more time focusing on their academic achievement, and less time burdened by financial concerns.

“Most of our scholars will be the first in their families to go to college,” said **Dan Katzir, President and CEO of Alliance College-Ready Public Schools**. “While these scholarships are helpful from a financial perspective, they also signal to our seniors that young professionals in Los Angeles believe that they, too, have what it takes to succeed in college. That vote of confidence is incredibly motivating for our seniors. ”

“I also received an Alliance scholarship, enabling me to earn my engineering degree from my dream school, Dartmouth, ” said **Moises Silva, the Alliance alumnus involved in the YPN**. “After my college graduation, I joined the Alliance Young Professionals Board so I could give my fellow alumni the opportunity to also dedicate their time and energy to their studies without worrying about finances.”

2018 Gayle Miller Leaders of Change \$25,000 Scholarships Recipients:



*"I want to provide more opportunities for underserved students like myself by starting a non-profit organization in Los Angeles."*

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Brian Seo  
Alliance Marc and Eva Stern  
Math and Science School  
Harvard University, Class of 2022



*"Majoring in Biological Sciences in college will prepare me for the rigors of medical school and set me up for a path of success in the medical field."*

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Blanca Cervantes  
Alliance Ted K. Tajima High School,  
UCLA, Class of 2022



*"My aspiration in life is to become a lawyer. I want to be able to fight and become the voice for the voiceless."*

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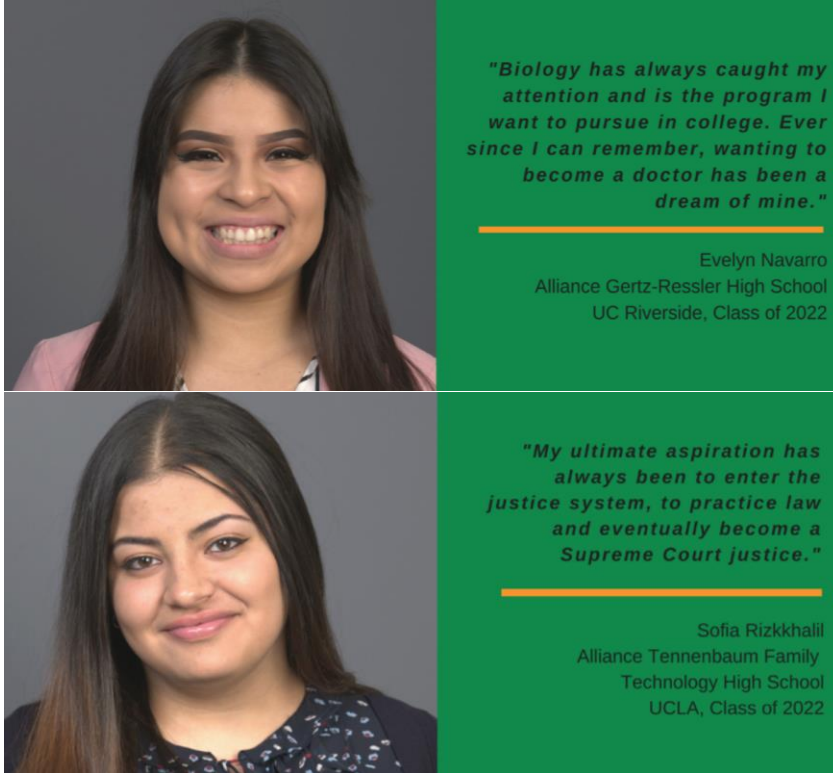
Brianna Marquez  
Alliance Susan and Eric Smidt  
Technology High School  
UCLA, Class of 2022



*"My personal struggles have inspired me to advocate for those who face bullying and judgment."*

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Clyde Cruz  
Alliance Leichtman-Levine Family Foundation  
Environmental Science High School  
UC Davis, Class of 2022



As part of its commitment to helping its scholars not only get into, but complete college, Alliance recently completed a report on its Alliance Mentorship Program (AMP), an innovative peer-to-peer initiative that's leading the way on moving beyond college readiness and supporting scholars to college completion. That report can be [downloaded](#).

**About Alliance College-Ready Public Schools:** Alliance College-Ready Public Schools is one of the largest and most successful nonprofit charter school networks in the nation, operating 25 high-performing, public charter middle and high schools that educate nearly 13,000 students from Los Angeles' most underserved communities. Alliance schools have been recognized as among the best in the nation by US News & World Report, Newsweek, the U.S. Department of Education and the California Department of Education. Since opening its first school in 2004, 95% of Alliance students have graduated from high school and been accepted to college.