HRCA Awards 2026 Community Scholarships to Local Students

The Highlands Ranch Community Association (HRCA) recently announced the recipients of its 2026 Community Scholarship Fund awards, recognizing local students for their academic goals, volunteerism and commitment to community involvement. The 2026 scholarship cycle saw the greatest number of applicants to date, with more than 160 local students applying and 33 total scholarships awarded.

This year's scholarship program was expanded through a $32,000 grant from the Douglas County Community Foundation (DCCF) "The Douglas County Community Foundation is proud to partner with HRCA in expanding scholarship opportunities for students across the community," said Monica Wasden, Director of Operations for the Douglas County Community Foundation and HRCA Board President. "By helping fund 13 additional scholarships this year, we are investing directly in the future of our community and honoring the meaningful impact Joe Roos and Hide in Plain Sight had on local students."

The grant originated from Highlands Ranch-based nonprofit Hide in Plain Sight, founded by Joe Roos and later renamed the Joe Roos Legacy Fund. Following the dissolution of the fund, the remaining scholarship dollars were donated through DCCF to support HRCA's Community Scholarship Fund and create additional opportunities for students across the community.

The awards ceremony was held May 19 in the Wildcat Auditorium at Southridge Recreation Center during HRCA's monthly Delegate and Board meeting.

"For more than 20 years, the Highlands Ranch Community Scholarship Fund has helped open doors for students pursuing their educational goals, and this year's record number of applicants and awards speaks volumes about both the talent in our community and the generosity of those who support this program," said Mike Bailey, HRCA CEO/General Manager. "We are proud to continue investing in the next generation of leaders, innovators and community members."

Established in 2003, the Highlands Ranch Community Scholarship Fund (HRCSF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, plays a key role in helping students, especially those with financial need, achieve their educational goals. The fund supports students pursuing college, trade school and other post-secondary educational opportunities.

Funding comes primarily from HRCA's annual signature event, the Highlands Ranch Beer Festival, held each spring at Civic Green Park. "One of the most meaningful parts of organizing the Highlands Ranch Beer Festival is knowing the event helps students take the next step toward their future. It's inspiring to know that an event centered around community connection and fun can also help our local students pursue their educational dreams," said Sarah Corboy, HRCA Community Events Manager. HRCSF does not receive any member assessment dollars. Since its inception, the fund has awarded 486 scholarships totaling $857,000.

In addition to educational scholarships, HRCSF also supports participants in HRCA's Therapeutic Recreation Department, helping individuals with special needs access programs and activities through financial assistance and adaptive support services.

Through the continued support of community partners, donors and local organizations, HRCA's scholarship program continues to make a lasting impact on students and families across Highlands Ranch. As this year's recipients prepare to begin their next chapter, the program

remains a reflection of the community's ongoing investment in education, opportunity and the future of Highlands Ranch.

Congratulations to this year's HRCSF recipients:

Cooper Allen
Stem School Highlands Ranch
Intended Study: Architecture

* Corrin Baker
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Finance

* Daphne Baumgartner
Skyview Academy
Intended Study: Biochemistry

* Gavin Bryant
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Biology/Neuroscience

* Marin Camaglia
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Computer Science

* Keegan Carnesi
Highlands Ranch High School
Intended Study: Engineering

Abigail Cochrane
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Environmental Studies

* Addison Coleman
ThunderRidge High School
Intended Study: Special Education

Camdyn Condreay
ThunderRidge High School
Intended Study: Psychology

* Mia Cottrell
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Worship Ministry

Melissa Daley
Highlands Ranch High School
Intended Study: Nursing

Sophia Dorr
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Criminal Justice

Evan Flexter
Highlands Ranch High School
Intended Study: Finance

Alexander Hanson
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Marketing

* Roey Hastings
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Biological Sciences

Adelyn Hirsch
Highlands Ranch High School
Intended Study: Psychology

Sara Jackson
ThunderRidge High School
Intended Study: Aerospace Engineering

Tabor Jensen
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Integrative Physiology

Bella Loner
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Neuroscience & Biology

* Garrett Matuszewski
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Marketing & Finance

* Ruby McBride
Highlands Ranch High School
Intended Study: History & Criminal Justice

Aiden McCullum
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Aeronautical Science

Chase McKee
ThunderRidge High School
Intended Study: Policial Sciences

Makenna Mudd
Lutheran High School
Intended Study: Chemistry & Math

Samantha Oliver
ThunderRidge High School
Intended Study: Pre Law/Political Science

* Mia Petrovic
ThunderRidge High School
Intended Study: Healthcare Administration

* Keren Randolph
Valor Christian High School
Intended Study: Cell & Molecular Biology

* Evelyn Razem
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Film & Media Production

Cohen Sitzmann
Regis Jesuit High School
Intended Study: Finance & Economics

Sydney Stanton
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Biology

Valerie Walton
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Aerospace Engineering

Miles White-LaComb
Mountain Vista High School
Intended Study: Architectural Design

Hannah Zhang
Rock Canyon High School
Intended Study: Chemical Engineering

** Scholarship provided through the DCCF*

To learn more about the HRCSF or donate to the fund, please visit:
https://hrcaonline.org/About/Community-Scholarship-Fund