

2018 Scholarship Recipients

Twenty very qualified Ephrata High School seniors filed applications in anticipation of being awarded the alumni association's 2018 scholarships. After much consideration the committee made the decision to award the \$1,000.00 scholarship for a senior planning on attending a two or four-year college or university for the purpose of obtaining a bachelor or advanced degree to Rachel Boruff, the daughter of Jill and Patrick Boruff. The second \$1,000.00 scholarship for a senior planning on attending a two or more-year vocational, technical or trade school for the purpose of obtaining a degree or equivalent of a degree to Maricela Sanchez, the daughter of Imelda and Ramon Sanchez.

Rachel Boruff "Because of the impact my counselors have made on my life, I am pursuing a career in school counseling with the motive to help and serve others," Rachel Boruff wrote in her application for one of the alumni association's scholarships. "As far back as I can remember I have thought of every possible way to help fund and further my education; it has become a passion."



To reach her goal, Rachel excelled academically at Ephrata High School as well as a student in the Running Start program at Big Bend Community College. On June 1st she graduated with the EHS Class of 2018 and received an Associate's degree from Big Bend. Her plan for furthering her education is to attend Eastern WA University.

Since age fourteen Rachel has worked at Splash Zone, the Ephrata community pool, working her way up to the lifeguard position and obtaining all of the skills and knowledge necessary to complete her job. Wes Crago, City Administrator, describes Rachel as an outstanding person for three reasons; "maturity, kindness, and bravery." She was a competitive swimmer for nine years and earned a varsity letter at EHS.

Volunteering for activities around EHS, Big Bend and in the community of Ephrata is a very important part of Rachel's life. School activities included the Key Club, encouraging students to volunteer in the community, and the Future Business Leaders of America where she served as its local president and participated in regional activities. At Big Bend she served as President of the Rho Zeta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and participated in numerous activities.

It is Rachel Boruff's intent to work as an advisor at the high school or college level, helping students to discover the paths they were intend for. The alumni association scholarship will aid her with her plans.



Maricela Sanchez "Maricela has not only been a pillar of responsibility throughout her time at EHS, but also demonstrated dedication, hard-work, and a clear passion for learning," according to Samantha Byam, EHS teacher. "She often exceeds due to her work ethic."

As a four-year participant of the EHS Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program, Maricela clearly displayed an excellent ability to better herself and her education while being a leader of her peers.

Maricela served as a team player on the EHS Unified Special Need soccer team, assisting students to reach their individual skill level. She has donated countless hours of her time working with students with learning disabilities and has worked hard working with the elderly and children with special needs. “I love helping others”, said Maricela, as reason for her volunteering.

“My plans for college are going to Big Bend Community College. In mind I have that I will study hard and give it all I’ve got to have good grades and be able to be a registered nurse.”, said Maricela Sanchez in describing her future plans and how she will make good use of her alumni association scholarship.