



Helping Students Dreams Come True

Vanessa Suarez- 2021 Awardee



High School: West Salem High School

College and Year: Willamette University – Sophomore/Junior

What have you learned about yourself at college?

I have learned that I truly enjoy being alone and being with my family. I have had to work to help pay my way so have not had the opportunity to participate in many activities at Willamette but am exploring opportunities for the future. With the small amount of free time I have, I love to go to the gym and work out or hang out with my friends from Willamette Academy times.

What is your major? What courses are you taking? Plans after graduation.

I am majoring in Business. I am taking a variety of business classes that promote entrepreneurship. I plan to graduate with a Master's degree in business.

How did the Thompson-Patch Scholarship help you?

Thompson Patch Scholarship helped me to stay on campus while I adjusted to campus life. Right now, I am working as a paid intern at the Thompson Patch Scholarship Fund to reach out to prospective students to let them know about the program.

What are your plans when you graduate?

I would like to work with a non-profit or start a non-profit that helps others. I am interested in helping homeless people or abandoned animals. I love to help others.

What would you like people to know about you and your family?

My mother has helped and encouraged me and my brother and sister to get an education. My sister has graduated from Western Oregon State University and my brother is attending Oregon State University. I am working at the Boys and Girls Club to help pay for college and enjoy the kids even when they drive me crazy.



Helping Dreams Come True
Scholarship Fund
Thompson-Patch



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Dear:

The many students that you have helped through the Nellie Thompson-Dorothy Patch Scholarship Fund have shone in ways that they could have only dreamed of. The students' thriving lives are the return on your investment.

Vanessa Suarez exemplifies our Thompson-Patch Scholarship award-winners. She is resilient. She is passionate. She is driven to serve others.

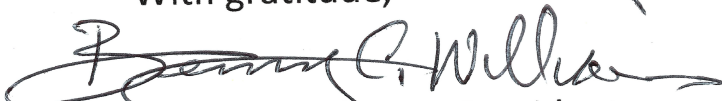
Her hard work and active desire to help others is characteristic of many of the scholarship winners and one of the criteria for future scholarship applicants.

Over the last 30 years, the Nellie Thompson-Dorothy Patch Scholarship Fund has helped students of color like Vanessa achieve their dreams to go to college or trade school. More than 370 students have received Thompson-Patch scholarships, many of whom have gone on to get degrees or trade school certification. Many of the students helped by our scholarships have returned to their communities as advocates to strengthen the lives of others. Vanessa is helping to recruit applicants for the future.

As we go forward, help us make more students' dreams come true. Donate today to help a student like Vanessa. Every dollar you give will go to a scholarship for a deserving Salem and Keizer student.

Thank you for making a difference in so many lives. Thank you for supporting our youth.

With gratitude,



Benny C. Williams, President

*Helping Students of Color from Salem
for 30 years*

