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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Unitus Community Credit Union Awards \$27,000 in Scholarships to Students

Tigard, Ore., July 27, 2026 — Unitus Community Credit Union has awarded \$27,000 in scholarships to nine outstanding students pursuing higher education goals. Each recipient will receive a \$3,000 scholarship to support tuition, textbooks, and other academic expenses.

“These students are doing more than preparing for their futures; they’re preparing to shape ours,” said Steven Stapp, CEO of Unitus Community Credit Union. “We’re proud to invest in their dreams and inspired by the impact they’re already making in their communities.”

2026 Scholarship Recipients:

- **Kyra A.** – Happy Valley, OR - DePaul University – Economics
- **Leilanie B.** – Fairview, OR - Western Oregon University - Sociology
- **Anna B.** – Tigard, OR - Fordham University - Humanitarian Studies
- **Mekhi G.** – Gresham, OR - Yale University - English & Biology
- **Malia J.** – Beaverton, Or - Oregon State University - Kinesiology
- **Delaney L.** – Eagle Creek, OR - Oregon State University – Biology
- **Maisie M.** – Beaverton, OR - Montana State University - Nursing
- **Henry R.** – Estacada, OR - University of North Texas - Music
- **Brandon S.** – Happy Valley, OR - University of Oregon - Architecture

Since launching the program in 2004, Unitus has awarded \$341,000 in scholarships to support students as they pursue academic and professional goals. Among this year’s recipients is Mekhi Gardner, recipient of the Barbara Leonard Memorial Scholarship, funded by Unitus Community Credit Union and administered in partnership with The Portland (OR) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and the White Rose Educational Fund.

Leonard is a former Unitus Board Chair whose legacy of equity and inclusion and philanthropic efforts left a lasting impact on our community. In her lifetime, she raised more than \$150,000 for scholarships for The Portland (OR) Chapter of the Links, Inc.

To learn more about the Unitus Scholarship Program and other benefits please visit the [Scholarships Page](#).

About Unitus Community Credit Union

Unitus Community Credit Union is a member-owned financial institution serving more than 106,000 members. Guided by its commitment to community development, Unitus works to remove barriers to financial access and help people navigate life’s defining moments with empathy, expertise and support. The credit union supports the communities it serves through volunteerism, nonprofit partnerships and financial contributions, and has more than 300 employees committed to helping members and local communities thrive. Learn more at unitusccu.com.



Kyra A.



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