



Dream Big Project
Norwalk, California
Info@dreambigproject.org

INFORMATION AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET

RAMIRO AND LUCY GALLEGOS 2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Website: www.dreambigproject.org

Prospective applicants with inquiries about the organization may contact the President of Dream Big Project, Miguel Wong-Rivera:

Miguel@dreambigproject.org

Prospective applicants with inquires about the application may contact the Vice President of Dream Big Project, Yessika Garcia:

Yessika.Garcia@dreambigproject.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE

May 19, 2023

The scholarship application and all required materials must be received by deadline. Application materials will not be accepted after deadline.

RAMIRO AND LUCY GALLEGOS

Honoring the lifetime work of Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos, two selfless community leaders in the city of Norwalk and husband and wife for 61 years who have demonstrated commitment to volunteering and advocating for youth in their community, the Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos Scholarship is awarded to Norwalk High School graduates who resemble the giving spirit of Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos. Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos Scholars demonstrate the compassionate mission of the Dream Big Project and the values of Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos.

ABOUT RAMIRO AND LUCY GALLEGOS

Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos have become reputable members of the community of Norwalk and are known for their ongoing services. They not only have made a great team as husband and wife for 61 years but established a selfless partnership when it came to volunteering and advocating for the youth in their community. Mr. and Mrs. Gallegos moved to Norwalk in 1968 with their two sons Ramiro and David. As it got tough in the neighborhood, many residents left but both Ramiro and Lucy used that to aspire for a better community.

The couple began their involvement with the Norwalk Little League. Ramiro became a coach and Lucy was the team mom for their son's baseball team. He and his wife exceeded their role as coach and team mom by providing some of their players with a warm meal, taking them to their first Major League Baseball game, and trips to Disneyland. Players looked to the couple for more than baseball and this was just the beginning of their journey. They became active board members for the league and strived to improve the quality of the league. After many fundraisers and years of coaching, Ramiro took his responsibilities in the league one step further by becoming president. His sons and grandkids were already grown out of the league but Ramiro and his wife continued their involvement. During this time the couple was able to make an impactful change in the League restoring its core values and learning outcomes for the youth.

Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos continued their journey with the school's PTA. Their PTA involvement began in 1975 when their sons entered elementary school and continued to pay for PTA membership until the year 2020 at their great granddaughters' elementary school. They had an immense involvement during their son's school years and dedicated their time to be proactive in creating positive change. This earned them the PTA Honorary Service Award in 1979.

Their endless giving did not stop there. Mr. and Mrs. Gallegos also became involved with their church, St. John of God. Both helped with fundraising for church updates and also volunteered at the church's annual fiesta. They provided temporary shelter for children in need as well as provided prayer service and communion to those at a local hospice facility. This was just a glimpse of the significant amount of kindness and generosity the couple provided. They have been model citizens and continued to serve their community, touching many lives and helping Norwalk become a great community.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

The Dream Big Project (DBP) is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization that is operated by a community of individuals who are passionate about educating, inspiring, and providing for underserved youth. The Dream Big Project scholarship is designed to financially assist graduating high school seniors as they begin their journey in higher education. We believe in a world in which youth of all backgrounds, ethnicities, and abilities have an equal chance to make their dreams come true through higher education.

OUR STORY

Dream Big Project was founded by Miguel Wong-Rivera in December of 2014 in the city of Norwalk. The inspiration behind DBP is rooted from Miguel's personal testimony. A few nights before Miguel's first day of college, and a little over two months after graduating from Norwalk High, a night of drinking and having fun with his friends led him to make an unconscious decision. Miguel attempted to drive himself home, but before he could reach his destination, he was in a car accident that left him with the inability to walk. He was only 18 years old.

OUR MISSION AND VISION

The mission of Dream Big Project is to provide underserved youth with academic support, financial assistance, and leadership training. Embracing the power of community and compassion, Dream Big Project leverages community partnerships to administer programs that serve youth in Norwalk and surrounding communities. Ultimately, Dream Big Project envisions a day where a Dream Big Project Wellness Center exists to serve people of all ages and stages of life, with emphasis in education, youth development, and wellness.

OUR PROMISE

- To educate youth on the importance of attaining a higher education.
- To inspire youth to pursue their dreams through higher education.
- To provide educational resources to youth most in need.

APPLICATION PROCESS

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

The following is required for consideration of the 2023 Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos Scholarship:

- Must graduate with Class of 2023
 - Must be active community service volunteer
 - Must graduate with a minimum of a 2.0 G.P.A. overall
 - Must be Class of 2023 graduate from Norwalk High School
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APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Scholarship applicants must apply by the deadline, May 19, 2023.

Scholarship decisions are made by the scholarship committee of Dream Big Project.

The scholarship application can be found on pages 5-6. It is essential to include all materials listed on the scholarship application when application is submitted.

Failure to do so, and to do so in a timely manner, may result in not being considered for the Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos Scholarship.

All applications can be mailed to:

Attn: Scholarship Committee

Dream Big Project

12203 Curtis and King Rd

Norwalk, CA 90650

Please do not submit scholarship application items separately. A representative of the scholarship committee will send you an email once they have processed your application. If you have any questions, please contact the Vice President of Dream Big Project at 562-682-5196 or yessika.garcia@dreambigproject.org.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Questions? Reach out via email at info@dreambigproject.org and a team member will get you in 48 hours.

- **One letter of recommendation** from an individual who is familiar with your academic work and community involvement , i.e., teachers, counselors, administrative staff, supervisors, or mentors with sufficient experience to offer an informed and compelling statement of your skills, qualifications, and passion for education and community service (recommendation form on page 8-9).
- **Personal statement** must reflect your community service and outreach experiences in your community, and how said experiences have played a role in the development of your professional and personal growth. (guidelines on page 7).

Official transcripts from all high schools attended. If you attended the same high school for grades 9-12, then you will only need to submit a transcript from the one high school. If you attended more than one high school, then you must submit transcripts from each.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will be asked to provide additional items:

- Proof of Volunteer Service Hours
 - Proof of Enrollment to Accredited College or University for Fall 2023
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SELECTION PROCESS

Phase 1: APPLICATION PAPER REVIEW

You must submit all of the items listed on the program application. The scholarship committee will review the program application materials approximately 1-2 weeks after the deadline. You will be notified by email regarding the status of your application. All applicants will be contacted once the review process is completed by June 2, 2023.

Phase 2: ORIENTATION

Applicants who are selected for the scholarship will be invited for a mandatory meet and greet with the scholarship committee. This will be scheduled as a meet over Zoom. This serves as an opportunity for both scholarship recipients and representatives of the committee to get to know one another and to talk more about upcoming event and scholarship award distribution.

Note: Students who are granted the scholarship must be present at our Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony in the city of Norwalk. Accommodations and changes can be made due to COVID-19. Scholarship award will not be disbursed until proof of enrollment is presented to the committee, even if this moves forward of awards ceremony.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Dream Big Project
Norwalk, California
info@dreambigproject.org

Applicants may type or hand write the information requested on pages 5-6 .

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

Preferred Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Language Spoken Other Than Language (optional): _____

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

You must provide all of the items below. Please do not submit packet without

1. Application for Scholarship (pages 5-6)
2. Personal Statement (guidelines on page 7)
3. Letter of Recommendation (information on pages 8-9)
4. Transcript (submit 1 official transcript signed by your school counselor)

Applicants will receive an email notification once their application has been processed.

My signature below certifies that I have read the scholarship information packet, and I am familiar with the organization's goals, mission, requirements, and procedures as posted.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____



ACADEMIC AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Dream Big Project
Norwalk, California
info@dreambigproject.org

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

High School	Dates Attended	Overall GPA	Pathway
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VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Organization	Nature of Experience	Location	Dates/Hours
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COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY

I Applied To	I Plan To Apply To	Anticipated Major	Semester/Year
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AWARDS / HONORS / SKILLS

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

Dream Big Project
Norwalk, California
info@dreambigproject.org

In 2-4 pages, double-spaced, address the following prompt:

In your essay, explain and describe your involvement with your community. Be sure to address your active participation in volunteering in your community and how the giving spirit of Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos aligns with your values and practices. How has such involvement helped you to develop on a professional level? What leadership skills have you acquired as a result of being involved in community service or community outreach?

Please describe any personal experiences or circumstances in which helping others have heavily encouraged you to pursue higher education. Please specify how the Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos Scholarship will benefit you. How do you plan to use the scholarship?



LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION INFORMATION

Dream Big Project
Norwalk, California
info@dreambigproject.org

APPLICANT

Applicant Instructions: Make a copy of this recommendation form. Give copy to a recommender who is familiar with your academic and community work, i.e., teacher, counselor, administrative staff or mentor with sufficient experience to offer an informed and compelling statement of your skills and qualifications. Your recommender should return the completed form and narrative letter to you with their signature.

RECOMMENDER

Thank you for agreeing to provide a letter of recommendation for the applicant. Your candid comments will enhance our ability to more effectively evaluate the applicant's file and are greatly appreciated. Please complete the information requested below in regards to the applicant who is seeking the Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos 2023 Scholarship to assist them as they begin their journey in higher education. When you have completed this form and letter of recommendation, please place them together in an envelope, seal, sign over the seal, and return to the applicant. The applicant is required to submit the letter along with a complete set of application materials by the deadline.

Recommender Name: _____

Institution: _____ Position: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

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THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE RECOMMENDER:

Please indicate under what circumstances and for how long you have known applicant:

Please indicate your evaluation of the applicant by placing a check mark where appropriate:

	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Outstanding	Cannot Comment
Potential for Undergraduate Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability with Diverse Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volunteer Experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic Achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please indicate your overall recommendation for the applicant to be the Ramiro and Lucy Gallegos 2023 Scholarship Recipient with a check mark:

- Do not Recommend
- Recommend with Reservations
- Recommend
- Strongly Recommend

LETTER

Please also attach a letter making specific comment about this applicant. Please cover topics such as the applicant's academic abilities and intellectual capacity, personal qualities, maturity, ability to work with diverse groups of people, volunteer experience, and obstacles overcome. It is not necessary to address each of the topics noted above, especially if you do not have a basis for commenting on the applicant's abilities in a certain area.

Recommenders Signature: _____ Date: _____