

High-Flying Aviation Students Awarded 2017 \$1200 Scholarships

Contributed by Mark van Wyk
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Two Gilroy aviation students and an aviation student from San Jose each received a \$1200 scholarship sponsored by the the South County Airport Pilots Association (SCAPA), a non-profit San Martin organization dedicated to preserving the San Martin Airport.

Emmett Marshal Jackson and Noel Perez, both of Gilroy, and Michelle Tripp of San Jose were selected to receive the scholarships.

Emmett Marshal Jackson works as a line technician for Signature Flight Support at Mineta San Jose International Airport; is working toward earning his private pilot certificate at Magnum Aviation flight training in San Martin, CA; and is striving to become a professional pilot.

Noel Perez is enrolled in the Gavilan College Aviation Maintenance Technology Program, where he is pursuing a career as a maintenance technician, and wants to work as an airline mechanic.

Michelle Tripp works as a program manager at Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos; is enrolled in the Aviation Operations program at San Jose State University; and seeks a career as a medivac and rescue pilot. She is also interested in serving as a missionary pilot.

The three winners were selected by the SCAPA Board of Directors who based their selection on the applicants who demonstrated motivation, achievement, and financial need toward their future in aviation. Candidates currently enrolled in a flight training program or an aviation maintenance program in the Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey county areas were encouraged to apply.

The scholarship program is an annual event sponsored by the members of SCAPA.

SCAPA is a non-profit organization involving pilots and aviation enthusiasts with the mission to preserve the San Martin Airport, improve community relations, and enhance flying safety. SCAPA has an active Disaster Airlift Response Team (DART) also based at the San Martin Airport.