



Luisana Mendoza: First-Ever Community College Recipient of a World Trade Week Scholarship

One of the most exciting opportunities for our ProvenReady team is sharing success stories. Here, we get to share that Luisana Mendoza of Glendale Community College has been selected as one of the recipients of the World Trade Week 2021 College/University Scholarship. She is the first community college student to win this award.



The LA Area Chamber of Commerce World Trade Week Committee offers scholarships to aspiring students in international trade fields. Scholarships are awarded to outstanding students entering an accredited college or university with the goal of a career in international trade. World Trade Week has been celebrated for more than 94 years in the LA region.

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce CEO and President Maria S. Salinas said, “The L.A. Area Chamber is pleased to celebrate Luisana Mendoza, the first World Trade Week Scholarship recipient from a Southern California community college. In a globally competitive region like Los Angeles, we know the importance for young people, our future leaders, to explore careers in international trade and business here in Los Angeles. The L.A. Area Chamber is proud to provide resources for students like Luisana to have the opportunity to showcase their potential, ability, and leadership in a global region.”

Not only do selected students receive scholarships to continue their education, they also gain the opportunity to attend an invite-only, global-focused workshop hosted

by Microsoft. With the power of Bing and PowerPoint, this workshop will take students on a virtual backpacking journey across the different concepts of business etiquette around the world.

A TRUE GO-GETTER

Luisana first heard about this scholarship through Ruth Amanuel of the ProvenReady team and Professor Rafael Cardona, one of her college advisors at Glendale Community College. She jumped at the chance to apply and is thrilled to have been selected as one of the recipients.

When Professor Cardona first heard Luisana was selected, he wasn't at all surprised.

He said, “Despite the obstacles, she always rises to the challenge. She is very deserving of this award.” He gushed about the time when she was president of the Glendale Community College Business Club and she learned about an opportunity for funding for a business pitch competition. Professor Cardona said she filled out the paperwork while it was still being presented, and her efforts landed a significant sponsorship for the college which will be used to host a business pitch competition with former Shark Tank winners in May 2021.



Pictured from the left:

Robert Newman
(former business club advisor)

Luisana Mendoza
(scholarship recipient)

Yolanda Gaines
(Luisana's partner in the NACCE competition project)

Professor Rafael Cardona
(advisor of the Business Club)

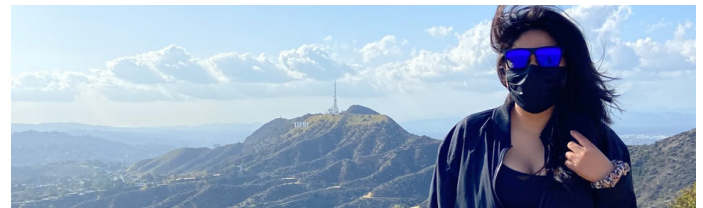
“Every Business Club president leaves a legacy behind and by far, this one is most memorable,” Professor Cardona stated. He went on to say, “I always make it a point to facilitate information to my students...I’m not surprised at all to hear Luisana went after this one and was selected. She’s a very special student.”

Luisana aspires to graduate from Glendale with accounting and international business associate’s degrees, then move on to a Los Angeles university to continue education in these courses of study. When asked what the scholarship means to her she said, “For me, it means three things: hope, aspiration, and confidence. Hope because it gives me the opportunity to keep looking towards the future. Aspiration because it means having the ability to conquer more than I previously thought I could... and, it gives me confidence that I can do it with all of the people supporting me, I believe I can achieve my dreams.”

FUTURE GOALS AND BEST PIECE OF ADVICE

Luisana dreams of running an accounting firm in the Los Angeles area with a specialization in international business and international tax laws. Luisana also hopes to continue working on a passion project of hers; a bracelet that calls emergency services when you’re in dangerous situations. She said if she was going to give advice to others, it would be “to not be afraid to

stand out, ask for help, and search for more.” Luisana said that her parents, her boss, and her advisors Rafael Cardona, Robert Newman, and Marisa Zakaria are the people who inspire her the most. She is grateful for every person that has helped her along in her path.



When not working hard on her studies, Luisana loves hiking, and spending time with family and loved ones.

PROVENREADY PRIDE

The ProvenReady team is proud to be a resource hub for high school and college students continuing their studies. It is the partnerships and network we have built that make what we do possible. We are grateful for partners like the LA Area Chamber who are working to help students like Luisana strive towards achieving their career goals. To learn more about ProvenReady, and the scholarship, internship, job, and other opportunities available through our program, visit [our website](https://www.provenready.org).

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