



PSU
Foundation
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23 UPDATE

PATRICIA RESER SUMMER BRIDGE SCHOLARS HOUSING AWARD





BIANCA KENNEDY (SHE/HER)

SOPHOMORE
CHILD, YOUTH AND FAMILY STUDIES

Tell us your PSU story.

I chose PSU mainly because it was close to home. I am very close with my family and being near to them was something that I've always known I wanted — even in college. I have wanted to work with kids as long as I can remember. In 6th grade, I helped tutor my peers who have learning disabilities or who just needed a little extra help. After that, I knew I wanted to be a teacher specifically. I feel as though children's minds are so open to the world. I think that's a beautiful thing and I want to help shape them into people they are proud to be.

What does this housing award mean to you?

I am beyond thankful for this housing award. I work a full-time job as a nanny during the school year as well as being a full-time student. Although I love it, it is very hard especially since I'm paying for everything by myself. I was fully prepared to cover my housing this year but I was stressed about how I would find money for food, gas, etc. Getting this award means that I can spend as much time on school as possible without the added stress of making sure I have enough money each month to live and eat.

If you could tell the donor who created this award one thing, what would it be?

I am truthfully beyond grateful for this award. It's helping me be the best student I can be.



KATHERINE MARRUFO-ROSARIO (SHE/HER)

SOPHOMORE

FILM

Tell us your PSU story.

My dream is to be working in the film industry. It has been an aspiration for me for as long as I can remember. I am trying to become someone in the sound department on a film set.

What does this housing award mean to you?

It was an honor receiving this scholarship. It was financially hard for me and my mom to make ends meet for my school and this scholarship helped the worries go away. I cannot stress how much this award is helping me, when I needed it the most.

If you could tell the donor who created this award one thing, what would it be?

Ms. Reser, thank you for helping a single mother and me, her daughter, a first-generation college student. This award means a lot to my mother who works paycheck to paycheck to help me out with any school related expenses. This scholarship is the most helpful reminder that there is help out there to be given. It has relieved financial stress from our minds and I now can finally focus in my area of study without worrying if I will be able to make ends meet.

CASSIDY "CASS" KOPROWSKI (SHE/HER)

**SOPHOMORE
FILM**

Tell us your PSU story.

I was a poor kid whose only hope of getting out of an abusive home was going to college. COVID happened and I thought I lost all hope of higher education. I applied to PSU and due to the generous aid of this housing award, I am finally able to live my own adult life pursuing film. Film had always been my escape, and as an autistic person it became my biggest hyperfixation. It's my greatest passion and I couldn't be more grateful to be here.

What does this housing award mean to you?

Without this housing grant, I would be sharing a room with my little sister, working 40 hours a week and trying to learn totally remotely. With this grant I am able to live a full life with access to care and community in a capacity I've never experienced before.

If you could tell the donor who created this award one thing, what would it be?

That I couldn't be here without her generosity, and I won't waste this opportunity.

PATRICIA OROZCO (SHE/HER)

**SOPHOMORE
GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Tell us your PSU story.

I chose graphic design because I want to be able to utilize, expand and improve my art skills knowing I can use them to work in different areas. I have interest in becoming an art director or being a part of something in the entertainment industry. But for now I'll see where the road takes me.

What does this housing award mean to you?

It meant a lot to me knowing I had an opportunity to gain this scholarship again. My housing is covered and with what I have, I am able to focus on my school work more without having to worry if I'll get by or how much money I'll have. This award has really lifted a burden for me—tears of joy!

If you could tell the donor who created this award one thing, what would it be?

Thank you for creating this award! You have helped me get by for this year and I'm grateful to you.

ADRIANA VILLA PALOMAR (SHE/HER)

SOPHOMORE

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Tell us your PSU story.

When I first entered PSU my major was pre-nursing and I soon realized that it wasn't for me. I then changed my major to CCJ in the winter and instantly loved it.

What does this housing award mean to you?

Opportunity, that's what this award means to me. Without this award I would not be able to live on campus. Receiving this housing award twice in a row has really opened a gateway of opportunities for me. I'm able to connect with campus more and create amazing friendships with people in my residence halls. I'm really thankful for that.

If you could tell the donor who created this award one thing, what would it be?

I am very truly grateful to have been selected for this award. I am a first-generation Latina that comes from a low income family. This award has really helped out not just myself, but also my family.

AHMED AL-BADRI (HE/HIM)

SOPHOMORE

COMPUTER SCIENCE

What does this housing award mean to you?

It means having the opportunity to worry less, and spend more time on work that wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for this support. If not for this award, I would be very worried about how to pay for transportation, expenses, school events and food.

If you could tell the donor who created this award one thing, what would it be?

Thank you for allowing me to study more. You helped a student that had to go through entire days without having a rest (while trying to study).



PSU
Foundation
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY