

ITEM SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: May 19, 2025

FROM: Cassius Johnson, Education Advisory Committee Chair

THROUGH: Deputy Mayor Susy Diaz, Education Advisory Committee Representative

SUBJECT: 2025 Educational Scholarship Award Recipients

BACKGROUND

This year the city's Educational Scholarship Program provides for eleven (11) \$1,500 scholarships, with one awarded to an outstanding athlete in honor of former city employee Denise Padgett, one awarded in memory of former Councilmember Norman Rose for civic and community service, a new STEM Scholarship award, and one scholarship awarded to a Youth Programs participant.

ANALYSIS

The Community & Recreation Services Department received 35 applications and 33 were qualified for interviews. The interviews were conducted in the City Council Chambers on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 by members of the Education Advisory Committee. The Committee interviewed 32 students. The committee ranked the following students as recipients for the top eleven (11) 2025 Educational Scholarship awards:

2025 Scholarship Awards	Applicant	School/College Affiliation
Denise Padgett Memorial Scholarship Award \$1,500 Scholarship Award	Jahmyah Gayle	John I. Leonard
Norman Rose Memorial Scholarship Award \$1,500 Scholarship Award	Brianda Olguin-Salas	John I. Leonard
New STEM Recipient \$1,500 Scholarship Award	Carolyn Lucky	North Broward Preparatory
Youth Programs Recipient \$1,500 Scholarship Award	Samuel Rojas Molano	Suncoast High School
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Harea Arapi	John I. Leonard
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Yocelin Santiso	John I. Leonard
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Brandon Butzburger	Palm Beach Atlantic
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Jenea Dieujuste	John I. Leonard
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Elaine Rodriquez	Florida Atlantic University
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Jose Escalante Diaz	Palm Beach State
\$1,500 Scholarship Award	Perla Tavira-Cruz	University of Florida

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Funding for the eleven (11) FY2025 scholarships totaling \$16,500 was approved by City Council with six (6) scholarships totaling \$9,000 budgeted in the Community & Recreation Services Department, four (4) scholarships totaling \$6,000 budgeted in the Other Grant & Aids account, and the new STEM scholarship totaling \$1,500 (received by private donation) is being funded out of the Escrow account.

LEGAL

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the ratification of the Scholarship Committee's selected 11 educational scholarship recipients selected on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, as presented. Furthermore, the Award Certificates shall be presented to the recipients when they are recognized during the June 16th City Council meeting.