



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Orange County, California

OCWS Announces Its Scholarship Donation of \$49,507 for 2025-26

Orange County Wine Society (OCWS) is proud to announce its scholarship program donations for the 2025-2026 academic year in the amount of \$49,507. The donations will help to support enology and viticulture, wine business, and culinary arts programs in California. Since 1981, OCWS has donated over \$946,000 in scholarships to eight (8) California institutions with wine-related educational programs. Next year, OCWS will celebrate its 50th Anniversary and is set to exceed the \$1M mark in scholarship donations as part of its 50th Anniversary celebration. “OCWS strives to support the next generation of winemakers and grape growers with its long-standing scholarship program,” says current OCWS scholarship chair Dr. Damian Christian.

OCWS is a 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is to support wine education. In addition to providing scholarship funds, OCWS has met its educational mission by hosting the OC Fair Commercial and Home Wine competitions for the last 49 years. OCWS volunteers run the Wine Courtyard during the OC Fair, which features award-winning California wines, wine seminars, and featured wineries for the public to experience. OCWS also provides educational programming for its members to learn about various aspects of wine tasting, wine evaluation, commercial wine production, and home winemaking. The organization includes over 1,000 wine enthusiast members who volunteer their time to support the organization’s educational mission throughout the year.

2025-2026 Scholarship Donation Breakdown

Institution	Program	2025-2026 Scholarship Donation
Allan Hancock College	Enology and Viticulture	\$5,777
Cal Poly Pomona	Enology and Viticulture	\$5,725
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	Enology and Viticulture	\$6,225
Cal State University - Fresno	Enology and Viticulture	\$5,725
Cal State University - Sonoma	Wine Business	\$5,755
Napa Valley College	Enology and Viticulture	\$5,725
Orange Coast College	Culinary Arts	\$5,825
University of California - Davis	Enology and Viticulture	\$8,750



About OCWS

Orange County Wine Society, Inc., founded in 1976, is a non-profit educational corporation whose purpose is to promote the knowledge and understanding of wine. To this end, the Society functions to enhance the knowledge of enology (winemaking), viticulture and the appreciation of wine for its members and the general public. For the last 49 years, the Society has served as the co-sponsor and nonprofit partner for the OC Fair's Commercial Wine Competition and Home Wine Competition. During the Fair, the Orange County Wine Society proudly features the award-winning wines for tasting to the public at the Wine Courtyard.

Learn more at ocws.org.