



Meet our 2025 Scholarship Winners

Did you know that your Society has awarded more than \$50,000 in academic scholarships since 2014? With our 2025 awards, we will have helped 31 students further their college or graduate school studies. Over the years, our awards have increased from \$1,000 to \$3,000 each. Funds are paid directly to the educational institution our awardees attend. In addition, the Society donates \$1,000 to the Mexican American Educational Guidance Association scholarship program each year. I hope you take as much pride

as I do in this signature initiative by your society. Society funding for our Scholarship Program, led by Education Chair Pat Coad, comes primarily from sales during our annual Holiday Boutique -- and from member donations over the years.

And our new Hospitality Chair . . .

I'm also proud and delighted to introduce our new Hospitality Chair, Karen Dorney! Karen is an avid area volunteer who regularly pulls weeds with the SeaWeeders at the Coastal Rail Trail and P.O. gardens, and also serves on the Board of the Sandpipers Square Dance Club, which has been teaching and hosting dances in Solana Beach for more than 50 years. She and her husband are both square and ballroom dancers. If you came to our May meeting, you saw the beautiful hospitality table Karen set. Thank you, Karen, for joining our Board in a much appreciated role.



Jolene Dodson Bogard



Allisa Berber will attend California State University Northridge after earning a 3.7 grade point average at Torrey Pines High School, where she took several Advanced Placement classes as well as Japanese. Allisa also played on the school's Junior Varsity basketball team, where she earned the Falcon Award for sportsmanship and a Most Valuable Player distinction. Earlier this year, she traveled to Sacramento to see our State Legislature in action and received a California Legislature Assembly Certificate of Recognition.

In 2024 and 2025, Allisa was named a "Youth of the Year" at the Boys & Girls Club, which she attended from kindergarten through her freshman year. The Club was a safe haven for her and her three younger siblings, whom she cared for while her mother -- a single parent of five -- worked day and night jobs. "I had to mature very quickly," she wrote in her application essay. "I had to . . . focus on feeding my siblings and making sure they were safe at home."

For a time, while her brother was struggling with drug addiction and her mother was working overtime to help cover treatment costs, home was a car, a hotel, or "wherever we could find a bed." After the family got back into their own apartment, "the love and support I received from the Boys & Girls Club helped me regain my confidence," Allisa wrote. She became an employee of the Club in 2022. "I realized that with perseverance, no goal is too big or too far out of reach. . . I now know that, with time, effort and determination, I can achieve anything I set my mind on."

Celebrating 100 Years of Service



**SOLANA BEACH
LIBRARY**

1925 - 2025



Tuesday, June 10, 2:30 p.m.

Solana Beach Library Celebrates a Century of Service

Join the party planned by the Friends of the Solana Beach Library on June 10, 2:30 p.m. as our community celebrates "A Century of Books, A Future of Possibilities" with live music, crafts, face painting and an art installation featuring photos by the Public Arts Commissioner and Society/SeaWeeder member Mark Meenie.

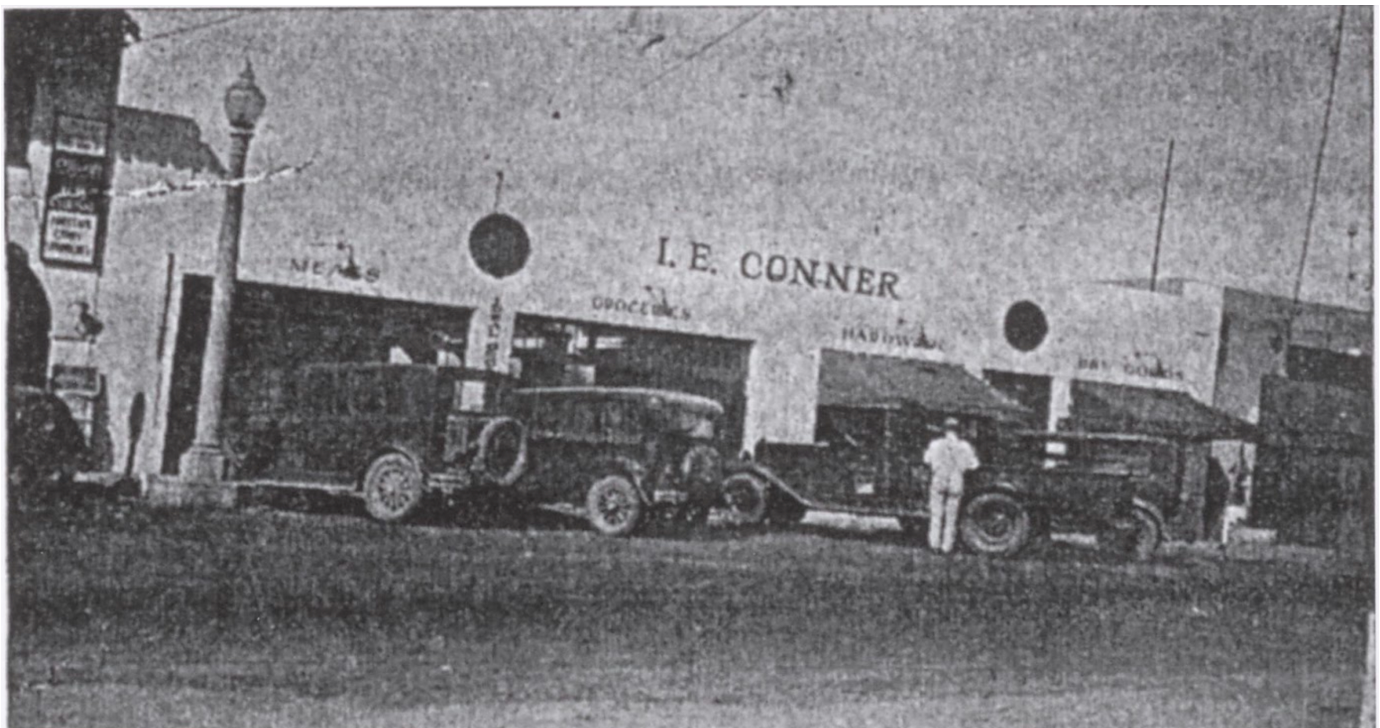
A grand opening of the Solana Beach branch of the San Diego County Library at Earl Warren Middle School

was held on June 22, 2001, exactly one year from construction groundbreaking. The event represented a groundbreaking partnership between the County, the San Dieguito Union High School District and the Friends of the Library, which raised more than \$836,000 for the project.

Former Society member and historian Richard A. Schwartzlose penned this history of the library in 2002 and was instrumental in fund-raising for the permanent branch location.

In June 1925, Ira Earl Conner opened the first Solana Beach County library in his grocery store. For twenty and a half years the library remained in his store until he sold the store in January 1946. It was located about 100 feet south of Plaza St. on Highway 101, the building is still in use.

Continued on next page



I.E. Conner's Grocery Store, built in 1925. Photo is from approximately 1930. (Photo from the San Dieguito Citizen, March 20, 1952 in the Solana Beach Heritage Museum Collection)

Library Had Many Addresses Before 2001 Permanent Branch Opening

The library was moved to the Colony Shop on Highway 101 for about one year and then to a variety store, where it was located until September 1948. From early County Library correspondence, it appears to have moved into the Jack and Jill Shop, presumably on Highway 101, but was only there until July 1949, when the owner of the store asked that the library be removed. It reopened in June 1950 at the Weaving Studio of Mrs. May Shelton St. John. She sold the store in July 1952. There was difficulty finding a new place for the library. None of the businesses would take it. Finally Mrs. Joseph C. Scialdo took it into her home at the north end of Solana Beach in August 1952, where it remained for almost a year.

At this time, various groups were trying to obtain a more permanent location in Solana Beach. They wrote to the County Library and the County Supervisors. Finally through the efforts of the Solana Beach Women's Civic Club and the County librarian, a lease was obtained at 145 S. Highway 101. The library was a little over 1,000 sq. ft. and opened in October 1953.

Due to increased circulation the library became inadequate. A group of citizens formed an ad hoc committee to ask for a new larger building. A new building, with several places for small shops, was built at 155 S. Highway 101. The library moved into one shop area in August 1968. During the first month there were no shelves, the books were in boxes in the center of the library and they had a circulation of 1,200 books.

As the population in Solana Beach increased, the circulation increased and the library became inadequate. The adjoining shop became available and the library expanded into this area for the children's collection.

In March 1983 the Friends of the Solana Beach Library was formed. The group became very active in trying to increase the library size and to find a new location. New space was found in the Lomas Santa Fe Shopping center . . . The library moved into 3,800 square feet of space there in October 1983.

In 1995 the Solana Beach City Council appointed Council members Joe Kellejian and Marion Dodson as a sub-committee to work toward a new location for the Solana Beach Library. Many meetings were held to organize the community towards this goal and work on funding. Ultimately, funding was obtained from the State of California, City of Solana Beach, County of San Diego, San Dieguito Union High School District, and Friends of the Solana Beach Library. In June



June 22, 2000 groundbreaking for our current library

2000, a contract was awarded for a 10,500 square foot library to be located at Earl Warren Middle School, 157 Stevens Ave. It is a shared-use library between the San Diego County Library and the San Dieguito Union High School District. The library was dedicated June 22, 2001 and opened its doors for use July 5, 2001.

Friends of the Library raised close to \$1 million to help get the project built, furnished and stocked with books; the SBC&HS donated \$10,000 to the efforts, according to reports at the time.

Meet our Scholarship Winners, continued



Ava Hsueh was a straight A student at Canyon Crest Academy, graduating with a 4.46 grade point average. She plans to attend the University of California (UCSD) to study neuroscience with the aim of finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

"I am very interested in studying and researching Alzheimer's disease because my grandma has been diagnosed with it. Witnessing the disease's tragic impacts firsthand [is] driving my desire to understand and combat this devastating disease," she wrote in her application essay.

In addition to playing on her high school badminton team, Ava's extracurricular activities have included an Alzheimer's fundraising club at Canyon Crest and founding a student chapter of the Alzheimer's Association of San Diego. She has volunteered and tutored with CASA de Amistad, as

well as two church groups. As a participant in the Outreach Program for Advanced Learning in STEM at UCSD she explored Alzheimer's disease in the hippocampal cells in mice and presented her findings at the Biomedical Engineering Society Conference. The College Board recognized Ava as an AP Scholar with Distinction and she is a National Merit Commended finalist.

Julia Snider remembers that her middle school friends "dragged me to the first meeting of my high school's competitive robotics club," where she was "intimidated by the club's sea of scary senior boys. . ."

She got over it. "Having other women there gave me the motivation to participate," Julia wrote in her application essay. More than just participate. As a senior at San Dieguito Academy, she is a "drive coach" and head designer for the robotics team, with leadership roles in both strategy and engineering. "I never would have become this involved in the team if not for the women who welcomed me, mentored me and taught me to be a leader."

Julia has participated in several robotics competitions and also judges a Lego League Qualifying Tournament for elementary school robotics teams. She earned straight As and a 4.40 grade point average, while also swimming for the Academy's junior varsity team and tutoring at Kumon. She founded and is co-president of the Footloose Fridays Line Dancing Club and also served as a group leader with the San Dieguito Academy committee for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). In this role, she helped lead a group of students and staff in developing a six-year action plan for the school.

A life-long resident of Solana Beach, Julia remembers learning about our history when she visited our Heritage Museum and found her neighbor, Kathalijn Nelson, churning ice cream for the student visitors!

Julia will attend the University of California, Santa Barbara.





Meet our Scholarship Winners and Enjoy Dinner at Tony's Jacal on Thursday, June 12

Our final event of the 2024-25 Society season is on Thursday, June 12, starting at 5 p.m. at Tony's Jacal Restaurant, 621 Valley Ave. We will introduce our 2025 scholarship winners -- each awarded \$3,000 to continue their educations -- and install our 2025-26 Executive Board. The cost is \$30/plate, including tax, tip and iced tea or soda. Other beverages sold separately. Use this form to reserve your seat(s)

Reserve my seat! Thursday, June 12 from 5 to 7 p.m. Society Scholars Celebration and Board Installation Dinner

\$30 for two items from the "A Su Gusto" menu (includes rice, beans, iced tea or soda and tax)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number in my party: _____ x \$30 = _____

Make your check payable to SBC&HS. Please write "Dinner" in the memo line.

Mail to P.O. Box 504, Solana Beach, CA 92075



SeaWeeders Happenings

Friday, June 6, 4 to 5:30 p.m. For our final gathering of the spring season, join a tour of the Dickerson garden, 1455 Santa Marta Court. Their landscaping was featured in the

recent San Dieguito Art Guild "Art, Garden & Studio Tour." To RSVP, please email sbseaweeder@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 7, 9-11 a.m.: Pick up and pay \$13 each (cash or checks preferred) for 2-gallon native narrow-leaf milkweed plants at Solana Beach City Hall. Place your order by emailing SBSeaweeder@gmail.com. Order deadline: Noon June 2.

Solana Beach Civic & Historical Society a 501(c)(3) organization

2024-25 Executive Board

President.....Jolene Dodson Bogard
Vice President.....Michele Stribling
Treasurer.....Holly Smith Jones
Recording Secretary.....Karen Grossman
Corresponding Secretary.....Cindi Clemons

Committee Chairs

Civic Affairs.....Cindi Clemons
Communication, Education.....Pat Coad
Crafts.....Kathryn Schmiedeberg, Stephanie Wilde
Hospitality.....Karen Dorney
Membership.....Lori Wolf
Historian, Museum Curator.....Lisa Montes
Newsletter, Website.....Kathleen Drummond
Nominations.....**Vacant**
Parliamentarian, Programs.....Carol Childs
SeaWeeders.....Kathleen Drummond

Research HistorianRichard Moore Ph.D