



## Fact Sheet

*Transforming today's outstanding students into tomorrow's leaders.*

A Scholarship Program of  
the San Diego County Fair  
and Del Mar Fairgrounds

<b>MISSION</b>	The Don Diego Scholarship Foundation promotes education in a fair and fiscally sound manner by providing scholarships to deserving San Diego area graduating high school seniors and graduates who are associated with activities at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, including the San Diego County Fair. The Don Diego Scholarship Foundation also provides grants for agricultural education.
<b>ESTABLISHED</b>	1986.
<b>STRUCTURE</b>	501 (c)3 nonprofit organization; EIN 33-0859020.
<b>HISTORY</b>	The Foundation was formed as a lasting tribute to Tom Hernandez, who played the role of the Fair's legendary welcoming host from 1947 until his death in 1984. To date, the Foundation has awarded approximately \$975,000 to 232 students as well as agriculture education grants.
<b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b>	In 2019, the Foundation offers \$66,000 in college scholarships to 28 outstanding students in the San Diego area. It offers one \$5,000, \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$1,000 scholarship in each of four categories: Zable Foundation 4-H, FFA, Employee, Exhibitor/Participant. It offers ten Junior Livestock Auction Scholarships at various levels plus two \$2,500 Vocational Education scholarships. The \$5,000 Spanjian Family Scholarship is bestowed upon the most outstanding recipient.
<b>PROCESS</b>	The application cycle begins in January. The application deadline is in mid-March. After a rigorous review, top candidates in each category are interviewed by an application panel in April. Winners are announced in spring.
<b>FUNDRAISING</b>	Don Diego raises money via several programs. In addition, it welcomes donations at any level at any time.
<b>ANNUAL GALA</b>	An exclusive Dinner and Concert Gala is held on an evening during the San Diego County Fair.
<b>AMIGO CLUB</b>	An Amigo Club membership offers a \$500 retail value of year-round Fairgrounds fun for just \$99. "Dos Amigos" – two memberships – are just \$150.
<b>LEGACY BRICKS</b>	A unique Legacy Brick Program enables people to commemorate a special occasion or person by purchasing a customized brick permanently enshrined on the Del Mar Fairgrounds.
<b>BUS PROGRAM</b>	The bus transportation program enables students from Title One schools to participate in the San Diego County Fair's Plant*Grow*Eat program to learn about farming and nutrition.
<b>BOARD</b>	<p>Roxana Foxx, Chairman; Karen Tanz, Vice Chairman; Tim Fennell, President; Juanita Hayes, Secretary; George Karetas, Treasurer.</p> <p>Members: Lisa Barkett, Leslie Barone, Sandra DiCicco, Alyson Connelly, Glenn Drown, Chair Emeritus Paul Ecke III, Susan Fariior, Jack Ford, Joe Harper, Lee Haydu, John Hoeflich, Chair Emeritus Jon Liss, Kathlyn Mead, Donald Mosier, Russ Penniman, Dee Prestininzi, Chair Emeritus Allan Royster, Frederick Schenk, Steve Shewmaker, Pierre Sleiman, Alysha Stehly, Bob Vice.</p> <p>Executive Director: Chana Mannen.</p>

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