



MARIBEL FRANCO MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

"She believed she could, so she did."



Maribel Franco
1994-2016

"It's hard to forget someone who gave us so much to remember"

This scholarship is funded in large part by the Berti Family.

Maribel Franco was a daughter, sister, friend, and mentor. As a UCSB graduate and a graduate student at Cal State Long Beach, Maribel's dream was to attend college and find a way to give back to those who were disadvantaged due to socioeconomic factors. In the spring of 2014, the Santa Barbara Police Activities League first met Maribel as a tutor with Cal-SOAP. Maribel quickly distinguished herself as a person students could turn to for academic help, advice, and for a positive outlook on life. Education, school, and community involvement were essential to Maribel and she encouraged everyone she met to strive for the best. In the two and a half years Maribel was with SBPAL, her positive impact on the lives of Santa Barbara teens was immeasurable. Unfortunately, Maribel's life was tragically cut short by a drunk driver in October 2016. Her passion for life and commitment to serving others continues to live on in those whose paths she crossed.

This memorial scholarship reflects the traits Maribel exhibited. Maribel was committed and attentive to all she knew. All that knew her felt her positive influence. Her smile was infectious and remains with all of us today. Maribel's life is a reminder that no matter what the circumstances or obstacles, one person can make a positive impact and difference.

Maribel Franco Memorial Scholarship Application

“She believed she could, so she did.”

2025-2026 Academic Year • Submit **by February 21, 2025** • Awards will range in amount

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be a high school graduating SBPAL participant (c/o 2025).
- Applicants must be planning to attend a state or nationally-accredited two or four-year college/university (undergraduate studies) or trade/vocational school. Online-only programs from accredited institutions are acceptable
- Applicants must submit one letter of recommendation: from a teacher, mentor, supervisor, or community leader. *SBPAL staff and the SBPAL Board of Directors may not submit a letter of recommendation.*
- Applicants must provide a copy of an unofficial high school transcript – *GPA will not be a determining factor, transcripts will be used to identify academic trends throughout your high school career.*

APPLICATION INFORMATION

1. **SELECTION PROCESS** - Applications will be reviewed by the Maribel Franco Scholarship committee, including members of the Franco family. Recipients will be awarded based on the following criteria:
 - Demonstration of commitment and desire to have a positive influence in their school and/or community.
 - Demonstration of leadership skills in school and/or community.
2. **THE ESSAY** – The essay must be typed in MLA format and have a minimum of **500-1,000** words. All pages must include your name, address, word count, and telephone number in the header. Please answer all of the following questions:
 1. Tell us about yourself. Feel free to include hobbies, interests, strengths, and accomplishments. Use this prompt if you feel the need to clarify your transcript.
 2. What obstacle(s) in school or life have you had to overcome? Did PAL programs help you through the process? If yes, how?
 3. What are your college/career goals? What has influenced or inspired these goals?
3. **SCHEDULE** - Applications and all supporting materials must be completed and postmarked by **February 21, 2025 at 6 pm**. Any incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Scholarship recipients will be notified by **March 11, 2025 via email or phone call**. An Award Ceremony will be held on **April 5th, 2025**. Upon selection you are required to submit a photo of yourself and a “Thank You” video/letter by **April 7th, 2025**.
4. **PUBLICITY** - By applying, recipients agree to have their name and photo published on SBPAL platforms such as newsletters, signs, websites, affiliated websites, social media, and news releases announcing the results at SBPAL’s discretion.

Applications may be:

Mailed: Santa Barbara Police Activities League
Maribel Franco College Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 91121
Santa Barbara, CA 93190

Dropped off: The PAL Twelve35 Teen Center

Emailed: info@sbpal.org with the subject line " Maribel Franco Memorial College Scholarship"

Questions or concerns? Call or email SBPAL at(805) 962-5560 | info@sbpal.org

MARIBEL FRANCO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please follow the directions throughout the application carefully. Type or print clearly. Only use this form and the space provided. As indicated for several questions, you may include additional sheets if required. Be sure to complete all sections of the application, incomplete applications will not be accepted.

High School Applicants

Applicant Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Institution Currently Attending _____ Anticipated Graduation Date (mo)____/(yr)_____

Student ID: _____

Student email: _____

Institution mailing address: _____

Number of years you participated in PAL? _____

List your intended area of study/major

Are you a First-Generation College student?

- Yes
 No

List your top 3 school choices:

List all PAL activities you've been involved in and for how long:

1.

2.

3.

4.

Please Fill

Community Activities and Volunteer Work (2021 being the earliest year)

Please list community activities and volunteer work and year(s) of participation; please include an estimate of how many hours worked for each activity. One additional sheet may be used for this information if needed. *Examples: scouting, community service projects, community volunteerism, and religious youth groups.*

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Honors and Awards (2021 being the earliest year)

Please list honors and awards and year(s). One additional sheet may be used for this information if needed. *Examples: honor roll, National Honor Society, science fair awards, student/athlete awards*

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

School Activities (2021 being the earliest year)

Please list high school and or college activities and year(s) of participation. One additional sheet may be used for this information if needed. *Examples: sports teams, clubs, band, choral, orchestra, yearbook, school paper, tutoring.*

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Leadership Positions Held (elected or appointed with 2021 being the earliest year)

Please list leadership positions held and the year(s) of participation. One additional page may be used for this information if needed. *Examples: class officer, club officer, sports team leader, scouting leader, student government officer, music/orchestra 1st chair.*

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Application Checklist:

- Scholarship Application
- Letter of recommendation
- Essay
- Copy of unofficial high school transcript
- I understand that I am required to submit a photo of myself and a “Thank You” video/letter by **April 7 th, 2025**. If I fail to follow this due date, I understand my scholarship award may be revoked.

I certify this information is true, complete, and accurate. I authorize the release of this information to confirm and/or verify this application. I also authorize the Santa Barbara Police Activities League and its affiliates to use my name, picture, and application for marketing purposes.

Applicant Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

If under the age of 18, a parent or guardian signature is required

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

- *Scholarship awards made by the Scholarship Committee and Franco family are final.*
- **Scholarship Awards will be made directly to the College/University once proof of enrollment is provided.*
- ***Scholarship funds will be distributed during the 2024-2025 academic school year through your institution.*
- ****Failure to comply with additional requests regarding information will result in forfeiting the scholarship award.*

Maribel Franco 
1994-2016

“It’s hard to forget someone who gave us so much to remember”