



*Gram.21/22*

*June 2022*

## SCHOLARSHIP ISSUE

*Thanks to all of you for  
submitting your applications.  
We are thankful to the Altrusa  
International Foundation for  
providing these scholarships for  
such amazing students!*

### 2022 ASTRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP JUDGING TEAMS

The International ASTRA Committee thanks the two judging panels, for high school and for college/university scholarships. Each panel consisted of three non-Altrusa and two Altrusa judges.

Altrusans did not serve as judges if they had an association with an ASTRA Club with a potential applicant.

Thank you to our judging panels for their commitment to ASTRA members and their time evaluating the applications.



*Is your club doing any special  
projects to help the victims of  
Ukraine? Please let us know  
so we can highlight them in  
our next issue.*

*Thanks.*



**Email to Editor Jan Storrs,  
Altrusa Int'l Club of  
Branch County, MI  
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# ASTRA

## Scholarships

ASTRA High School Scholarships are given by the Altrusa International Foundation as a way to recognize high school senior ASTRA members who have grown through service in ASTRA. A winning applicant will have demonstrated exemplary Altruism within their community and must have applied to an institution of higher learning (college, university, tech school, etc.)

The relatively new ASTRA College/University Scholarship recognizes university ASTRA members who are actively participating in an ASTRA club, have exemplified a genuine concern for the welfare of others in their community, and have grown through service in ASTRA. Applicants must be an active ASTRA member and must be enrolled in and currently attending an institution of higher learning.

When applying, each ASTRA member exhibits their growth in Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility and Achievement through service to their community and sponsoring Altrusa Club.

*2022 International ASTRA Scholarships  
Funded by Altrusa International Foundation*

*Scholarships of \$2,000 and \$1,000  
have been awarded to:*

### *High School Scholarship Recipients:*

*Lucy Oyama  
ASTRA Club of Pendleton*

*James Karidis-Schneider  
ASTRA Southlake Carroll Service Club*

*Kendall Moore  
ASTRA Club of Pendleton*

*Mitibella LeNguyen  
ASTRA Southlake Carroll Service Club*

### *College/University Scholarship Recipients:*

*Chloe Connelly  
University of Arkansas ASTRA Club*

*Bobbi NeJedly  
Moberly Area Community College ASTRA Club*



## High School

### **Mitibella LeNguyen**

***“I am part of ASTRA at Carroll ISD in Southlake, TX. I currently serve as vice president and social media manager. Next fall I plan to study Biology at Nova Southeastern University.”***

Mitibella has served in ASTRA throughout all four years of high school. She has contributed to her local community through volunteering for district events, acting as a mentor to younger students, connecting with the local elderly, and spreading positivity throughout the high school campuses. She has helped the less fortunate by doing donation drives and charity events. She helps to organize club meetings and the service projects for each month. Additionally, she runs the ASTRA club's Twitter and Instagram accounts. In addition to ASTRA, she volunteers through several other organizations, including Student Athletes Serving Others.



She has received the awards of National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, and Athlete Scholar. She is a member of the Southlake Carroll High School Medical Academy, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society and Math Honor Society.

Mitibella will be attending Nova Southeastern U Student University NSU, in Davie, Florida. She plans to major in Biology and is pursuing a dental degree.



***“I believe you should always share what you have – whether a smile, a hug, or our money.”***

### **James Karidis-Schneider**

James is a versatile, well-rounded student with interests in entrepreneurship, technology, and fine arts. While attending a Christian summer camp, James learned to love serving others, starting a quest for leadership education that would serve him well in the future. Balancing a heavy academic load, James could be found volunteering around the community through various organizations, acting in a play, auditioning for roles, or taking film classes. He

has worked as a head chef, a Youth Counselor at Camp, and as an Actor/Model. He has studied Acting for Film Training was involved in a PBS special (American Portrait – “At This Time of My Life.”

His determination to look out for the well-being of others resulted in James taking the leadership of ASTRA as a Secretary in 2019, President in 2020, and DFW Regional Student Representative from 2021 to 2023.

A member of the National Honor Society, and a National Hispanic Merit Scholar, James is expected to graduate in May 2022 and is planning to attend the University of Alabama Honors College to pursue a business degree. ***James is the first ASTRA student to serve on the District Nine ASTRA Committee.***



**Tell me  
more!**

## ***Kendall Moore***

***“I have been involved in the Pendleton High School ASTRA Club for the past 3 years. During this last year I held the office of VP and the Service Committee Co-Chair. Next year I plan to attend the University of Idaho to study business.”***

Kendall particularly enjoyed the Adopt-A-Family project for foster children as well as a Uganda shoe project, and volunteering at an animal shelter. She instituted the “Sign Up Genius” for members and was instrumental in the writing of the ASTRA Service Award application. She balances a heavy class load with multiple sports, a part-time job, church youth group activities and other community service activities. She has been a leader at school charitable drives, school spirit activities, her school’s link crew freshman transition, and student government program, to name a few, all while maintaining a very high GPA. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has earned other awards, including the Outstanding Success 101 and 201 student, Outstanding History student, Outstanding Leadership student and the Citizenship Cup award.



## ***Lucy Oyama***

***“This last year I was the president for the ASTRA Club of Pendleton Oregon and enjoyed every minute of it! I will be attending Southern Utah University in the fall and will major in chemistry and secondary education. I plan to become a high school chemistry teacher and hopefully start my own ASTRA club there!”***

Lucy has been in leadership, clubs and student activities throughout her high school career. She has tutored both her peers and her underclassmen. She is a talented pianist. She plays in the high school orchestra and accompanies at her church worship services. She also teaches piano. All of these endeavors have convinced her to want to be a teacher. She says that her years in the ASTRA and NHS clubs and as Student Body Vice-President, she has found her passion for service. Her hobbies include playing varsity tennis and starting her own successful photography business. Her digital design skills are used to produce dozens of fliers and posters for school, ASTRA, community events, and church youth camps and activities. Academically, she is an excellent student in all areas and is one of the top math students in her senior class.



“One of Lucy’s favorite projects is the Adopt-A-Family Project. She also helped create and coordinate a denim shoe project for children in Uganda and recently facilitated in the writing of a \$1700 grant for Foster Children’s Care Boxes. She has won the Super Female volunteer Service Award, Great Communicator Award, Best Sharing My Thoughts and Speaking My Mind Award, and Incredible Idea-Maker Award.



## ***Bobbi NeJedly***

***“Hello my name is Bobbi NeJedly, I belong to the Moberly Area Community College ASTRA where I am the current President. I am currently finishing up my first semester of nursing school (Associate Degree of Nursing), and will finish in December of 2023 as an RN. I plan to continue at a University to obtain my BSN.”***

Bobbi is described as a responsible, determined, focused young lady. As President, she attended every meeting showing excellence and professionalism at all times. Academically she is working to become a Registered Nurse, having maintained a 4.0. and being placed on the President’s List. She is also active in the Student Nurses Association, and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa, National Society of Leadership.



Bobbi took the initiative to set up a community service program with St. Raymond’s, helping to advise women, mothers, and children to gain stability in their everyday life. She herself has three children and runs her own cleaning business, all while attending nursing school.

## ***Chloe Connelly***

***“I belong to the ASTRA Club of the University of Arkansas of which I am the current President. This upcoming semester, I will be entering my Senior year of college as a Biology major and applying to medical school where I hope to become a reconstructive surgeon.”***

Chloe is the President of Rotaract, Ritual Chair of Chi Omega Fraternity. EMPOWER Health mentor for students with Cognitive and Intellectual disabilities, Undergraduate Honor Research Assistant, volunteer Ambassador to Give Pulse, Emerging Leader, New Gen Peacebuilder, and Certified Nursing Assistant. She was also the only ASTRA Student to co-present at the District Nine Spring Conference. She helped to present a session on Service and one on ASTRA.

As an Astran, Chloe provided great leadership through a pandemic, planning service projects for the group that could be completed in one session whether in person or via Zoom. She really enjoyed projects that involved children or those disadvantaged in any way. She excels at involving other groups on campus, including her own sorority. Her participation in the Empower movement, which challenged discriminatory practices on campus against students with cognitive disabilities, opened the door to them to join sororities, etc.



Chloe’s interest in science is obvious. Her undergraduate honor’s thesis is focused on sex dependent immunology and disease susceptibility in an avian wildlife system. She successfully involved her peers in a research study on the hazards of bird deaths due to window strikes. She assisted in coordinating a citizen science initiative to reduce bird mortality caused by window collisions, by creating a system and developing a volunteer network to report collision deaths. She will use the data to make targeted recommendations to the university about which windows needed glass treatments to prevent collisions. Window strike deaths are estimated to kill one billion migratory birds per year in the U.S. alone.



## End of the Year Reminders



### ASTRA Graduation Cord Request

Congratulations to your graduates. Allow them to represent their participation in ASTRA with cords to wear over their gowns as they walk across the stage at graduation. Cords are provided free of charge.

**Please request at least 2 weeks prior to date of graduation.**

Please go to [Altrusa@Altrusa.org](mailto:Altrusa@Altrusa.org) to complete your order.

## Club Annual Report

### MAY :

Altrusa ASTRA Advisor completes and submits the ASTRA Club Annual Report to International by the deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup>. ASTRA Club officers may assist with that report.

Have new ASTRA officers sign the new signature card at the bank, if needed.

### JUNE:

Newly elected ASTRA Officers and Committee Co-Chairs schedule a time to start planning a successful new ASTRA year.

**See [astra.altrusa.org](http://astra.altrusa.org) for further information and a sample copy.**



Be sure to go to: [astra.altrusainternational.com](http://astra.altrusainternational.com) to learn

“WHY YOU SHOULD START A NEW ASTRA CLUB WHEN THERE ARE PLENTY OF CLUBS AT YOUR SCHOOL”.

## One Book at a Time

### International Book Challenge from President Kathy

*Changing one million lives,  
one book at a time.*

See [astra.altrusainternational.org](http://astra.altrusainternational.org)  
for more information.



## Calling all Alumni

Be sure to fill out the ASTRA Alumni Information Sheet on the [astra.altrusainternational.org](http://astra.altrusainternational.org) website before you head off for new and exciting adventures. We want to stay in touch with you and know how you are doing. Please take the time to do this now.





***With the pandemic behind us, a new in-school sponsor, and Altrusans again being allowed in the building... Quincy ASTRA is back!***

This week Quincy ASTRA Club made a few visits to the @Branch ISD Quincy preschoolers! ASTRA Club members read stories and even tried to beat these quick little ones in a few races.

We ended our time together by gifting each preschooler a special March's Reading Month bag. Enclosed with a special book, snacks, a fidget toy, and some extra parent resources from @Calm the Chaos.

It was a great time. Thank you for having us!





ASTRA members and an ASTRA advisor at the District Nine Conference ASTRA Luncheon. Pictured with District Nine Governor Mary Black Pearson, District Nine ASTRA Committee chair Sylvia Zamora, ASTRA members from the San Antonio ASTRA Club in formation, ASTRA Advisor Audry Glick with ASTRA members from the ASTRA Club of Salado High School.

The District Nine ASTRA committee hosted a slide presentation along with a panel discussion at the Saturday luncheon at conference highlighting and recognizing District Nine ASTRA Clubs, their sponsoring Altrusa clubs and the ASTRA advisors.

ASTRA members, a past ASTRA member and an "ASTRA to Altrusa" transition: Altrusa Members, along with International ASTRA committee district liaison, Traci Squarcette, served as panelists for a very informative, interesting and fun panel discussion.

Conference attendees actively participated by asking the panelists questions regarding why and how they became ASTRA members, how ASTRA has impacted their lives and what made them become an Altrusa member. Two panelists were Zoomed in for the panel discussion.

Present were the district ASTRA Service Award winner, ASTRA Club of Austin and two ASTRA scholarships recipients, **James Karidis-Schneider** and **Mitibella LeNguyen** earned scholarships as they begin their university educations.



James Karidis-Schneider

Mitibella LeNguyen



# Altrusa Int'l ASTRA Committee Liaisons and District Chairs.

DISTRICT **ONE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Linda Dysart lindadysart2010@gmail.com  
ASTRA Chair: Trish Maxim campnaples@fairpoint.net

DISTRICT **TWO** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Lorraine Brewer lobrewer@uark.edu ASTRA  
Chair: Dawn Aubrey daubrey@illinois.edu

DISTRICT **THREE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Scott Tice scottaltrusa@gmail.com ASTRA  
Chair: Jeraldyn J. Rivest jeraldyn@hotmail.com

DISTRICT **FOUR** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Ileana Pacheco  
ipacheco2019.2021@gmail.com  
ASTRA Chair: Britley Parker 1-334-897-5143

DISTRICT **FIVE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Janice Storrs jlstorrs47@hotmail.com ASTRA  
Chair: Kathy Carmack kathycarmack52@gmail.com

DISTRICT **SIX** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Vici Giltner jgiltner@netins.net ASTRA Chair:  
Kathy Benz benzkb@comcast.net

DISTRICT **SEVEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison and Chair: Vici Giltner jgiltner@netins.net

DISTRICT **EIGHT** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Lorraine Brewer lobrewer@uark.edu ASTRA  
Chair: Heather Cleavinger h\_cleavinger@yahoo.com

DISTRICT **NINE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Traci Squarcette tsquarcette@umhb.edu  
ASTRA Chair: Sylvia Zamora szamora.altrusa@gmail.com

DISTRICT **TEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison and Chair: Linda Dysart  
lindadysart2010@gmail.com

DISTRICT **ELEVEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Scott Tice scottaltrusa@gmail.com ASTRA  
Chair: April Smith aprilboat@gmail.com

DISTRICT **TWELVE** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Janice Storrs jlstorrs47@hotmail.com  
ASTRA Chair: Terri J. Taber [tjtaber50@gmail.com](mailto:tjtaber50@gmail.com)

DISTRICT **FOURTEEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Ileana Pacheco  
ipacheco2019.2021@gmail.com ASTRA Chair: Britley Parker mikebritkin@hotmail.com

DISTRICT **FIFTEEN** ASTRA Committee Liaison: Traci Squarcette tsquarcette@umhb.edu  
ASTRA Chair: Pam Hayes president.tauranga@altrusa.org.nz