

# 2025 RISING STAR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

TOWN COUNCIL  
APRIL 15, 2025



# YOUTH COMMISSION

The Town of Castle Rock Rising Star Scholarship is presented by the Youth Commission

- Newly established Commission for students in grade nine through 12 who will serve in an advisory role to Town Council
- Provides a means for youth in the Town of Castle Rock to learn more about their local government, participate in the process and represent and articulate the needs of our community's youth
- Nine members, initially appointed with staggered terms
- Applications open at [CRgov.com/YouthCommission](https://CRgov.com/YouthCommission)
- Contact Becca Schnorr [bschnorr@CRgov.com](mailto:bschnorr@CRgov.com)

**Be a voice for the next generation**

**Join the Castle Rock Youth Commission!**

Are you a high school student who's passionate about making a difference in your community? Here's your chance to get involved, be heard and shape the future of Castle Rock.

The Youth Commission, established by Town Council in 2025, empowers students in grades 9 to 12 to:

- ✓ Learn how government works
- ✓ Participate in the civic process
- ✓ Advocate for issues that matter to youth in the community



**Why join?**

This brand-new Youth Commission will consist of nine student members serving staggered two-year terms. Initially, five members will serve two-year terms and four members will serve a one-year term.

An advisory group to Town Council, the Youth Commission will meet monthly during the school year at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Town Hall, 100 N. Wilcox St.

**Apply now!**

Applications are open now through July 31. Learn more and apply today at [CRgov.com/YouthCommission](https://CRgov.com/YouthCommission). There is no cost for children to attend or participate.

# RISING STAR SCHOLARSHIP

- The scholarship supports the power of **Recognition** for the Castle Rock Youth Commission
- Four Castle Rock seniors will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship
- This program fosters civic engagement, celebrates local youth leadership and strengthens ties between the Town and its youth residents
- Rising Star honors local high school seniors who have made significant positive contributions in the Castle Rock community
  - Must be a senior in high school, graduating this spring
  - Either live in or attend a high school in Castle Rock and
  - Share their future aspirations and explain their positive involvement in the community
- A panel representing the Youth Commission met March 18 and 26 to review submissions, evaluate, rank and select the final four recipients
  - Members from established Castle Rock youth programs
  - Teen Advisory Group (TAG), Teen Court, Fire Explorers and Youth Police Academy



# 2025 RISING STAR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



MAYA AYRES



MARIAJOSE MIRANDA



KAELANI SALINAS



REN ROSENBERG

# MAYA AYRES

Douglas County High School

Colorado School of Mines  
Quantitative Biosciences and Engineering

**Extracurriculars:** Douglas County School District Sustainability Intern, weekly volunteer at Douglas County Libraries, President of Garden Club, Varsity Tennis, local speaker on recycling, National Honor Society

Person of Support: Lauren Ramirez





# MARIAJOSE MIRANDA

Colorado Early Colleges

Colorado University Boulder

Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology

**Extracurriculars:** Co-president of the Young Rotary Club, member of HOSA, peer tutors in English, math and biology, Reading Buddies at the Douglas County Libraries and volunteered over 100 hours at AdventHealth. Team member at Playa Bowls and works as a center assistant at Kumon.

Person of Support: Steve Baroch



# KAELANI SALINAS

## Colorado Early Colleges

### New Mexico State University

Studying Actuarial Sciences and Insurance  
Graduate Program in Data Analytics or Statistics

**Extracurriculars:** Young Rotary Club, Student Council,  
Peer Tutor, Teen Court, POST trail cleanup and  
Douglas County Youth Commission

Person of Support: Karla McCrimmon





# REN ROSENBERG

Ponderosa High School

Mission Trip with Church  
Brigham Young University

Mechanical Engineering and Business Strategy

**Extracurriculars:** TSA, Link Crew, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honor Society, Ponderosa Activities Council, Ponderosa Athletic Council, Link Crew, Student Council, Varsity Soccer, Varsity Volleyball, Regional Youth Committee, Summer Bible Camp, Stone Canyon Edventures, Best Buddies

Person of Support: Ryan Hollingshead





# REN ROSENBERG



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MARIAJOSE MIRANDA



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# THANK YOU