



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

WITH YOU, WE WILL *open doors.*

November 2021

Dear [NAME:],

Who has positively influenced your life? Could someone you've never met be included on the list? As mother and daughter First Generation scholarship recipients to Colorado State University, we know there is an exceptional community of people who have impacted our lives in the best way possible. Folks who said, "Yes! I want to open doors," without even knowing whose lives they were changing through their generosity. But we can tell you – it was us – as well as thousands of other students grateful for access to the world-class education and professional opportunities that CSU provides.

Here's our story:



I'm Aurora and, despite the monumental challenges my mother faced while I was growing up, I never felt her worry or anxiety – only her strength and bravery. From very early on, she was adamant that I go to college, even though she had no idea how to start preparing me since she had not gone herself. Learning that I was eligible for, and subsequently was a recipient of, a First Generation Award was such a huge relief. It made me feel like I had a fighting chance to achieve the things my mom wanted for me. It was like being given permission to attend a university; an affirmation that I did belong.

Someone decided that I was worth the investment.

I'm Judy, Aurora's mother. I've worked so hard all my life; I always had at least two jobs, sometimes three. I remember this profound moment at work where, after listening to the same music on repeat yet again, I stopped and thought, "there has to be more to life than this." While it was overwhelming to think about going to college as a single parent with two kids, Aurora was my inspiration. I'll never forget when I found out that I, too, could apply for a First Generation scholarship, and in May of 2000, I graduated with honors, proudly walking alongside my daughter. Shortly after, I took a job I was offered through interviewing at CSU. I was filled with such pride and joy when I no longer had to hoard food to feed my family.

I have gained so much confidence in my life due to this scholarship.

Our success was made possible with the help of your generosity. Our story, while unique to us, is not new. There's a version of our journey happening for students in communities across the world. You can influence their trajectory. You can change their lives. You can open doors.

When you make a gift today, you are affecting a student's tomorrow.

Give and watch extraordinary things happen.

With gratitude,
Judy Baffico and Aurora Sisneros

P.S. Watch a short video and learn more about our story by visiting giving.colostate.edu/opendoors.



Make your gift today!

My gift to Colorado State University makes a difference!

Please apply this gift to:

\$ _____ Other _____
(Please specify college, department, or fund name.)

I/We would like to support CSU with:

- \$10 per month (ongoing) \$25 per month (ongoing)
- \$ _____ per month for _____ months (total \$ _____) *Minimum \$10 per month*

Signature (to authorize your monthly pledge)

A ONE-TIME GIFT OF: \$1,870 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$ _____

Method of Payment

CHARGE MY: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Card number

Exp. date

Name as it appears on card

Card Security Code

Signature

- Check is enclosed, payable to CSU Foundation.
- My/our matching gift form is enclosed.

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE



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Hi, Mackenzie,

I am so proud of my time at Colorado State University. I gained a world-class education, critical thinking skills, and lifelong friends. And because it can be a challenge to balance school and additional educational opportunities such as internships and extracurricular activities with work, I'm grateful for you - alumni and friends - who give back and help make a CSU education more accessible.

Gifts of all sizes make an incredible difference to student success. And the best part - when you give through CSU, you can truly impact the things you are passionate about. Support what you love - and watch amazing things happen! You can easily make your gift online today!

MAKE A GIFT

[By clicking the button](#), you'll hear from two scholarship recipients who happen to be mother and daughter! Their story is a wonderful example of what can happen when hard work and passion meet a supportive community.

With gratitude,

Trevor Stephens, '07



MAKE A GIFT

Thank you!

When you give through Colorado State University, you change lives, you accelerate research, you make tomorrow better. Give and watch extraordinary things happen.

Thank you for letting us share our journey with you.

Together, we will open doors.

MAKE A GIFT



Aurora Sisneros & Judy Baffico – mother and daughter First Generation Scholarship recipients