

## Boys & Girls Club scholarship runners-up will also win money for college



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After it was announced one member from the Boys & Girls Club will [receive \\$100,000 for college from a local scholarship](#), two donors have stepped forward to fund some education costs for the runners-up.

Alexis Johnson, Cristhabel Martinez and Cerxio Guerrero are the three finalists in the running to receive the John and Jo Ellen Boys & Girls Club scholarship fund. The winner will be granted \$100,000 to finance their college

education.

John McKenzie got the idea to place a student through college after he watched an episode of "CBS Sunday Morning," where an employer went to a fifth grade class and promised to give each student \$1,000 if they go to college. He then called up Michael Johnson, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club, and told him of his idea.

According to Johnson, the runner-up will be given \$10,000, thanks to Al Toon and Aaron Olson, who recently donated money to send the student to college.

The owners of Olson Toon Landscaping are also contributing \$5,000 to the third place winner.

Applicants were asked to write a 1,000 word essay on why they believed they deserved the scholarship, provide a current high school transcript and two letters of recommendation. To be eligible, students had to be a member of the Boys & Girls Club.

Priority was given to students who demonstrated a financial need, would be a first generation college student, and students with strong academic success, attendance and involvement in school activities. They also had to be a high school junior, senior or incoming college freshman to be considered.

The winner of the scholarship will be announced Thursday at a BG CDC donor appreciation event at the club, 2001 Taft St. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

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