

PRESS RELEASE

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society Awards its 2026 College Scholarship

VGMS President John Cook and Scholarship Chair Nancy Brace-Thompson honor Noah White.



The Ventura Gem & Mineral Society (VGMS) is pleased to announce its 2026 Scholarship Honoree: Noah White.

Noah is a Moorpark High School senior whose passion for geology was fostered by a childhood exploring nature and collecting rocks, gems, fossils, meteorites, and gold along the way. Already a member of the Geological Society of America, he plans to major in geology at a California four-year university to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree and is anxiously awaiting replies to his many applications. He would then like to go on to graduate school and eventually enter a career as a licensed geologist in California.

Noah was honored based on his academic record, an essay describing his educational goals, and letters-of-recommendation, including one from the Moorpark Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Kelli Hays, who has worked with Noah the past two years as part of the Superintendent's Student Leadership Forum. She praised not only his academic success as a member of the National Honor Society and a Scholar Athlete in track and field but also his commitment to his school community and to broader community service projects as Vice President of the Moorpark High School Change for Charity Club. Noah received a \$1,000 unrestricted grant, a certificate-of-acknowledgement, and honorary VGMS membership.

This annual scholarship grant may be used in whatever ways best meet the recipient's needs, be it tuition, books, housing, transportation, etc. Potential recipients may be a graduating high school senior accepted to a college program, a 2- or 4-year college student, or a graduate student. Applicants must be majoring in one of the earth sciences or in another field directly relevant to the mission of VGMS (for instance, science education or gemology and jewelry arts). If interested in further details, contact VGMS at info@vgms.org. Visit our website at www.vgms.org.

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society, Inc., is an all-volunteer nonprofit educational organization.