

2024 Annual Report

Celebrating five years of scholarships,
community and impact



Sabinal Alumni

EIN 85-1160030

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Thank You

SABINAL ALUMNI

Letter from our President

Friends of Sabinal Alumni,

In celebration of our 5th anniversary as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we are delighted to share this Annual Report from Sabinal Alumni. Our mission statement is **“To support Sabinal Independent School District through scholarships that enable graduates to pursue a post-secondary education.”**

OUR TEAM

Our volunteer leaders at Sabinal Alumni include three dedicated board members and the manager of the Sabinal Alumni Directory. We are proud to represent Sabinal High School (SHS) graduates from the classes of 1960, 1965, and 2002. Additionally, we are supported by an incredible network of over 2,000 SHS alumni. Together, we celebrate the spirit of the SHS Yellow Jackets.

OUR TOWN

Sabinal’s roots trace back to 1856 when Camp Sabinal was established to protect settlers and the San Antonio–El Paso Road. The name “Sabinal” derives from the Spanish word for “cypress,” inspired by the majestic cypress trees lining the Sabinal River. Located in Uvalde County, 60 miles west of San Antonio, our town thrives as a close-knit farming and ranching community.

OUR STUDENTS

Founded in 1895, Sabinal High School now serves a student body of more than 500, from preschool through 12th grade, within a town of approximately 1,700 residents. According to the April 2024 U.S. News High School Demographics Report, SHS is 83% minority (82% Hispanic) and 54% economically disadvantaged. Despite these challenges, SHS maintains a remarkable 95% graduation rate.

OUR HISTORY

The Class of 1960 initiated this scholarship program in 2008 with the first \$500 award for SHS graduates. In 2020 we became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. To expand participation, a comprehensive alumni database was developed using high school yearbooks, now encompassing over 3,500 alumni spanning from 1895 to 2025. This copyrighted, password-protected database is hosted on the Sabinal Independent School District and Sabinal Alumni websites.

We invite you to join us in this effort in achieving Sabinal Alumni’s vision of the bright promise of brilliant Sabinal High School graduates.

With kind regards,



Mary J Martell, President

AUSTIN

555 E. Fifth Street #3007
Austin, Texas 78701-4152

EIN-851160030

www.SabinalAlumni.org
info@SabinalAlumni.org

SABINAL

PO Box 1018
Sabinal, TX 78881-1018



Office of Steve Alvarado, Secondary Principal
P.O. Box 338
409 West Cullins Ave
Sabinal, Texas 78881
PHONE: (830) 988-2475
FAX: (830) 988-7170

SABINAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Making Excellence an Everyday Event

January 13, 2025

To Whom it May Concern

Please accept this notice as a letter of support that will ensure the continuance of the benefits afforded to our students through the Sabinal Alumni Scholarship program. As I have completed my ninth year as campus principal at Sabinal High School, I have had the opportunity and honor to work with the members of the Sabinal Alumni Association who have made efforts to provide scholarships for our students as monetary contributions for their success after graduation. Graduates have shared their gratitude for their generosity as they begin their path in life.

The availability of this type of monetary support has provided some of our needy students with a great opportunity to focus on their next step in life as a respectful young adult with a positive trajectory and humility that comes from being grateful for the generosity of all involved in this process. To my knowledge, all the funds provided through this process have been used prudently and joyfully in a time in our country when family budgets are stretched thin in all regards.

After 29 years in education, I feel very compelled to support such a noble cause of serving families in the manner of financial support. It is an honor to see my students experience this act of kindness with the hope that their accomplishments and milestones may one day allow them to give back and share in the experience of receiving support from such a noble effort. I anticipate and support the benefits of this generosity that will continue to serve our students for years to come.

With gratitude,

Steve Alvarado
Principal
Sabinal High School



TARLETON
STATE UNIVERSITY®

Member of The Texas A&M University System

December 13, 2024

Sabinal Alumni
PO Box 1018
Sabinal TX 78881

RE: Lucy Davis

This letter serves as formal notification that we have received scholarship funds in the amount of **\$2,500** for the above named student. We are pleased that you have chosen to support Lucy Davis in pursuit of academic excellence. In the face of steadily increasing tuition, students often need the financial assistance of organizations such as yours. Thank you for your interest in and support of higher education.

Sincerely,

Shawndi Wilson
Office of Scholarships

2024 Alumni Spotlights

This section highlights the responses from the Sabinal Alumni Scholarship recipients. Some of the students are in their third year of post-education in a college, university, or vocational school. Many students hope to contribute to a better world and, in turn, support future students aspiring to pursue a post-secondary education.

First-Generation College Students

“My goal is to attain a career where I can use my skills to be able to help other people. I hope that I can graduate from SWTJC with an AA with a concentration in Vocational Nursing. I am also a first-generation college student, and I really want to make my parents proud by doing my best and being able to graduate. This scholarship will certainly help me reach that goal in the future. It will assist me with covering the cost of my classes in the upcoming fall semester, allowing me to spend more time studying and continuing my academic success.”

Brenda M Aguilar, CLASS OF 2021

“This Scholarship would be very important to me, because I would be the very first in my family to move into college. This would mean a lot for me to strive and pursue to become a welder. I also plan on attending the HVAC program after the welding program. College is super pricey and could prevent lots of students (including me) from succeeding in getting further education. I also think it could be an amazing source of motivation, inspiration and pride.”

Brian A Alejandro, CLASS OF 2024

Scholarship Recipients

“Thank you so much for selecting me as one of the Sabinal Alumni Scholarship recipients. The funds will help support my attendance at Baylor University. I hope to make Sabinal proud as I begin my journey to become a pediatrician. This second scholarship would be very helpful in funding my sophomore year at Baylor University. Due to my rigorous class schedule and two volunteer positions, I am unable to work for supplemental income. The financial assistance of the Sabinal Alumni is integral to my continued success. Thank you for your consideration.”

Austyn Schulte, Class of 2021



“Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.”

Diego Cardenas, CLASS OF 2021

“I plan to make the world a better place by helping to develop geothermal energy. Receiving this scholarship also reinforces the belief that people have in me. My education will not be by chance but my choice. These are my dreams. Again, thank you, for believing in me and selecting me for this scholarship.”

Ethan Cavasos, CLASS OF 2021

“The Sabinal Alumni Scholarship has allowed me to pay my fees to attend both my architecture classes and basic classes at the University of Texas at San Antonio. I am forever grateful for the SA organization for helping me start off a new chapter of higher education.”

Elijah Garcia, CLASS OF 2021

“Receiving this renewable scholarship would help cover one of my loans I had to accept to attend Texas Lutheran University for a second year. My parents and I are so grateful for any kind of help financially as this scholarship will take much stress off me and my parents. Thank you to all the great people in the Sabinal Alumni who have made this possible.”

Cesar Reyes, CLASS OF 2021

“My plans for college are to go into the lineman program at Southwest Texas Junior College where I plan to earn my certification. I hope to make my family proud by following in their footsteps. I’m happy to say that all my family has graduated from Sabinal High School, and I am proud to join them as Sabinal Alumni.”

Abel Rodriquez, CLASS OF 2022

“This scholarship would help because growing up I didn’t have much, but enough to get me through the countless days. I was always moving from trailer house to trailer house. Receiving this scholarship would really help a lot, especially with my parents. I want to open my own business one day and become successful.”

Vivianna Gonzales, CLASS OF 2022

“It has been stressful facing up to the realities of paying for college. Receiving this scholarship will help with the amount of money that will go for tuition, room, and board. My goal is minimizing the amount of school loan debt that I accumulate after I graduate. After I receive my degree, I will enter the United States Border Patrol.”

Eddy Pete Beza, Jr, CLASS OF 2022

“This scholarship is important to me because growing up I lived with two older brothers with a single income. This scholarship would help me start my education, give my last name good meaning and help me repay my loved ones for helping us. My choice in my career as a RN is to eventually give back to my community in the future.”

Iliana Musquez, CLASS OF 2022

“While education can open many doors, success relies on initiative. I have the desire and determination but lack financial backing. This scholarship would award me the opportunity to pursue the career of my dreams without the burden of student loans.”

Adriana N Musquiz, CLASS OF 2023



“The Sabinal Alumni Scholarship is essential to me because the scholarship will help with financial barriers. I set a goal to earn an associate’s degree through dual credit classes. As I attend Angelo State University as a Junior in the Fall, I look forward to making my community proud that students from Sabinal can be successful and prove that communities like SHS can have a positive impact. The Sabinal Alumni Scholarship is essential to me because it will help with financial barriers.”

Morgan B Jackson, CLASS OF 2024

“I aspire to a career in the field of criminal justice. I would like to focus my future on homeland security. This scholarship would be of great significance for myself and my family. It would mean I would not have to take out several loans and come out of college in debt before I ever start my career. This scholarship would be another step towards accomplishing my goal of earning a degree and helping others in my community.”

Diego M Valdez, CLASS OF 2024

“This scholarship is important to me because it is from Sabinal Alumni, and I take great pride that I am graduating from Sabinal High School. Receiving this scholarship will be helpful to me so that I can afford to accomplish my goals. I am applying for scholarships with the hope that I will be able to help ease some of the financial burdens for my parents.”

Ryleigh M Fulcher, CLASS OF 2024

“As an immigrant who just recently became a US citizen, receiving this scholarship would mean the world to me. This scholarship would provide me with the opportunity to pursue my education SWTJC for the cosmetology program. It would be a steppingstone towards making a better life for myself.”

Anett M Chapa Gallegos, CLASS OF 2024

“Having the opportunity to renew my Sabinal Alumni Scholarship for the Class of 2021 would be extremely helpful in my pursuit of post-secondary education. With the renewable, I would once again be able to pay a partial amount of my tuition for the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters. That is how the first scholarship was spent, and I was able to study stress-free because of it. This also helped lift some of the financial burden my tuition had on my mom, and she was able to help me in other ways without struggle.”

Penny Davis, CLASS OF 2021

“With great honor to be the recipient of the Sabinal Alumni award for a second year has been a prayer answered. My mom and I had a conversation this summer about financial status in scholarship assistance. I would be applying for or possibly renewing for the upcoming year. Receiving a phone call and email was one of the greatest news that the financial support to continue my studies at UTSA was an opportunity of blessing from my Sabinal Alumni community. Receiving this scholarship motivates me to maintain my GPA (3.54) and complete my degree. I hope in turn one day I’ll be able to give back and help other students achieve their goals.”

Diego A Cardenas, CLASS OF 2021

“The Sabinal Alumni Scholarship which I have had the honor of receiving for the past two years has helped me tremendously with the funding of courses I have taken at UTSA and with the help of buying study materials. Knowing I have my hometown help supporting me through my college makes and pushes me to continue my major in nursing, so that one day I can return to Sabinal and show my town how their support towards scholarship helped me move forward in my education.”

Ilina A. Musquez, CLASS OF 2022

“Renewing this scholarship would allow me to continue my college education without financial stress. The opportunity to renew the Alumni scholarship has made me grateful for Sabinal’s caring community. Thank you, Sabinal Alumni, for supporting my college education.”

Jackelynn L Vickers, CLASS OF 2022

“This scholarship has been a saving grace these past two years at Texas Lutheran University. The first year it helped me pay for expensive textbooks that I needed for core classes. The second year helped more than just me; my little sister was a freshman this year and with two kids in college it put stress on my parents. The money helped alleviate some of that stress and we both attended school that year. Having this scholarship for a third year would help my family tremendously with the expenses of this upcoming year. As I go through more years here my cost of attendance increases every year. It was an unexpected expense, but this scholarship would help pay for the cost of attendance. I am forever grateful to have been a recipient of this scholarship and am even more proud to be from the town of Sabinal, because without the support from our town, this would not be possible.”

Katelyn N Sandoval, CLASS OF 2022

"I am 3 semesters from completing my bachelor's degree. I have worked hard with the help from scholarships paying for my classes and not accepting any loans. This renewed scholarship will help me continue my education and help me pursue my goals of becoming a CPA. Thank you again for having this available to help students like me continue our education."

Genesis M Pilkington, CLASS OF 2023

"As of last semester my business administration core classes required very heavy reading material that cost over \$500. This semester I plan to take four business core classes, increasing the cost of my books. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to receive this scholarship."

Sierra M Sandoval, CLASS OF 2023



"This 3RD scholarship would be helpful to me so that I can afford to accomplish my goals. My sister is starting her college journey as well so anything I can do to help ease some of the financial burden on my parents is greatly appreciated. I look forward to my second year at Texas A & M."

Delaney K Fulcher, CLASS OF 2023

"Receiving this renewed scholarship would enable me to participate in extracurricular activities and inspire those that are crucial for my personal and professional development. The scholarship would not only support my academic journey but also empower me to fully engage in the educational experience, setting the stage for a successful and fulfilling career."

Gavyn G Gonzales, CLASS OF 2023

2024 Scholarships

First Year Scholarships

Sabinal High School seniors were able to apply for a scholarship through a point-based Year One application, that assesses character, school and community participation, and academics. Students could choose to attend an accredited trade school, college, or university. Scholarship recipients were selected by the Sabinal Alumni board and announced on SHS's Awards Day. The students submit a copy of their registration, and the funds are transferred to their chosen school. Renewable scholarships are also available for Years Two and Three and require a 2.0 GPA and a certain number of credit hours completed.

Year One, Year Two, and Year Three Renewable Scholarships

Year One Class of 2024 - 10 \$5,000 Scholarships	\$50,000
Year Two Class of 2023 - 9 \$3,000 Renewable Scholarships	\$27,000
Year Three Class of 2022 - 6 \$2,000 Renewable Scholarships	\$12,000
Total	\$89,000

2025 Year Four Scholarships

Beginning with the Class of 2025, a Year Four scholarship will be introduced. This scholarship program, totaling \$14,000 for Years One to Four, will commemorate the fifth anniversary of Sabinal Alumni.

2024 Grants & Philanthropic Support

Nine Grants - \$45,500

- Ann & John Newman Family Fund
- Dixie Starnes Wenger Foundation
- Earl C. Sams Foundation
- The Geo Group
- Harvey R., Jr. and Patricia W. Houck Foundation
- La Brasada Foundation
- Luke and Merle Soules Foundation
- Sahini Foundation
- Wheeler Foundation (Carroll & Marguerite)

Fifty-four Donations - \$43,971

- Sabinal Alumni (44)
- Private Donors (10)

Sabinal Alumni has funded one hundred eleven scholarships for eighty-two graduates, totaling \$330,000. Each year, thirty students receive scholarships from Year One to Year Three.

In the future, we hope to award four scholarships each for up to four years. We hope you will help make this goal a reality.

To donate online: www.sabinalalumni.org or use the postal form below.

Make check payable to **Sabinal Alumni**.

SA SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

MAIL TO: SABINAL ALUMNI, PO BOX 1018, SABINAL, TX 78881

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Class Year _____

Maiden Name _____ Donation Amount _____ Date _____

Email _____ Address _____

Optional:

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

11:29 AM
01/08/25
Accrual Basis

**Sabinal Alumni
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2024**

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
First State Bank Checking	118,035.30
Total Checking/Savings	118,035.30
Total Current Assets	118,035.30
TOTAL ASSETS	118,035.30
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Members Equity	81,665.61
Opening Balance Equity	28,823.75
Net Income	7,545.94
Total Equity	118,035.30
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	118,035.30

11:28 AM
01/08/25
Accrual Basis

**Sabinal Alumni
Profit & Loss
January through December 2024**

	Jan - Dec 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Support	
Corporate Contributions	28,250.00
Individ, Business Contributions	61,221.18
Total Direct Public Support	89,471.18
Total Income	89,471.18
Expense	
Operations	
Postage, Mailing, Newsletter	3,949.07
Supplies	33.53
Website, Books, Subscriptions	442.64
Total Operations	4,425.24
Scholarships Paid	77,500.00
Total Expense	81,925.24
Net Ordinary Income	7,545.94
Net Income	7,545.94

Thank You

Contributions have made a tangible difference in the lives of many students, opening doors to opportunities that otherwise might have remained closed. Through your generosity, we can provide meaningful support and encouragement to the next generation of leaders and innovators.



Advocating for nonprofit organizations in the Texas State Capitol
(Mary J Martell is the lady with the hat).

