

## FAU's Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program announces its scholarship recipients, including Satellite High School's Lalonde

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BOCA RATON — The Florida Atlantic University Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program has awarded full scholarships to 15 first-generation, low-income students from across Florida.

Through the program, these Class of 2023 scholars will receive tuition, four years of on-campus housing and additional resources needed to graduate debt-free from FAU.

This year's awardees include:

Alexandra Lalonde, Satellite High School (Satellite Beach); Dinora Gomes, Santaluces Community High School (Lake Worth); Francisco Aguirre, Village Academy (Lantana); Hannah James, Doctors Charter School (Miami); Jermaine Binns, Pompano Beach High School (Oakland Park); Jessica Alvarez, Lake Worth Community High School (Lake Worth); Joseph Alexander, River Ridge High School (New Port Richey); Klark Balay, Berean Christian High School (Greenacres); Lanicia Haynes, Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial High School (Miami); Leightiana Smith, Pedro Menendez High School (Hastings); Rikita Gupta, Piper High School (Lauderhill); Roberto Romoleroux, Jose Marti Mast 6-12 Academy (Hialeah); Seneca Sconiers, Dr. Philips High School (Orlando); Shernira Hurtault, McArthur High School (Hollywood); and Virone Devine, Middleton High School (Tampa).

The Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program was launched in 2017 by Boca Raton philanthropists Aubrey and Sally Strul with FAU President John Kelly and first lady Carolyn Kelly. A former first-generation student, Aubrey Strul felt compelled to lessen the crippling burden of school debt for students by providing an initial investment of \$1 million to launch the program.

Including the recently announced Class of 2023, the Kelly/Strul program now includes 38 scholars.

"As stewards of this great country we have to help these students who are deserving of a great education due to their talent, decency, caring and guts," said Aubrey Strul.

The FAU Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program is dedicated to granting first-generation college students the financial backing and personal support to acclimate them through college and post-graduate life. While some scholarships only cover college expenses, the Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program augments the financial support with a 17-step program, The Path, which includes career planning, mentoring, and financial literacy, among others.

To qualify for the scholarship, students submitted an essay detailing their academic success and future goals, as well as a video outlining how the Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program would help them achieve their goals.

A new initiative within the Kelly/Strul program is its partnership with Take Stock in Children, an organization dedicated to providing opportunities to low-income, academically qualified students.

FAU has accepted three students from Take Stock in Children as part of this year's Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars class: Jessica Alvarez, Francisco Aguirre and Dinora Gomes.

Donations supporting first-generation scholars' success are welcome at [kellystrulscholars.fau.edu/give/](http://kellystrulscholars.fau.edu/give/) or by calling (561) 297-1272.

- About the Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars program  
By addressing systemic barriers and challenges, the Kelly/Strul Emerging Scholars Program provides full grant and scholarship financial aid packages, as well as comprehensive support programs to ensure students thrive at FAU.

- About the FAU Foundation  
The Florida Atlantic University Foundation Inc. unbridles access to excellence for thousands of the University's promising people and programs. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Foundation connects private philanthropy with giving opportunities that advance the university's mission and strategic plan.

## For the second time, Saalex Corp. appears on the 'Inc.' 5000 list; three-year revenue growth of 78 percent for the 10-year-old firm

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ROCKLEDGE — "Inc." magazine has revealed that Saalex Corp. is No. 4191 on its annual 5000 list, the most prestigious ranking of the nation's fastest-growing private companies. The list represents a unique look at the most successful companies within the U.S. economy's most dynamic segment — its independent small businesses.

Microsoft, Dell, Domino's Pizza, Pandora, Timberland, LinkedIn, Yelp, Zillow and many other well-known names gained their first national exposure as honorees on the Inc. 5000.

"I'm so proud that Saalex has made the Inc. 5000 listing again," said Travis Mack, Saalex president and CEO. "This is a true testament to the hard work and commitment that Saalex employees have made for the company's success over the past 20 years."

The 2019 Inc. 5000 achieved an astounding three-year average growth of 454 percent, and a median rate of 157 percent. The Inc. 5000's aggregate revenue was \$237.7 billion in 2018, accounting for 1.2 million jobs over the past

three years. Complete results of the Inc. 5000 are available at [www.inc.com/inc5000](http://www.inc.com/inc5000).

Readers can access company profiles and sort through an interactive database by industry, region and other criteria. The September issue of the print [eric@schmediagroup.com](http://eric@schmediagroup.com) magazine features the top 500 companies, now available on newsstands.

"The companies on this year's Inc. 5000 have followed so many different paths to success," says Inc. editor-in-chief James Ledbetter. "There's no single course you can follow or investment you can take that will guarantee this kind of spectacular growth. But what they have in common is persistence and seizing opportunities."

- About Saalex Corp.

Saalex is an engineering and information technology services company with core competencies in the areas of test range operations and management, engineering and logistics services, data analytics/business intelligence services and IT services.

Founded in 1999 by Travis Mack, Saalex is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and operated business headquartered in Camarillo, Calif., with operations in Rockledge.

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