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**THE BARONA TRIBE UNVEILS NEW SCHOLARSHIP  
FOR STUDENTS STUDYING THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY**

(SAN DIEGO) – April X, 2009 – In an effort to encourage local students to create a sustainable future in San Diego, the [Barona Band of Mission Indians](#) has introduced the **Barona Sustainable Environment Scholarship**. The scholarship is the latest initiative as part of the [Barona Valley Environmental Sustainability Program](#) on the reservation and at Barona Resort & Casino. The program includes a state-of-the-art water reclamation plant, water recovery program, landscaping and wildlife preservation, golf course turf reduction, resort conservation programs – carpooling, recycling and energy efficient practices – and community outreach to increase awareness of eco-friendly events and awards.

The scholarship is available to college students with a passion for the environment who are pursuing careers in horticulture, turf grass management, natural resources, or environmental sciences industries. The Tribe will award four finalists \$1,000 and one of the four finalists will receive an additional \$1,000, based on a personal interview. The scholarship funds can be used to supplement costs incurred through tuition, books and living expenses. The application deadline is July 15 and the winners will be announced on August 1.

“Our respect for the environment is an important part of our Tribe’s heritage,” said Edwin “Thorpe” Romero, chairman of the Barona Band of Mission Indians. “This scholarship was created to inspire future generations of San Diegans to help protect our region’s precious resources.”

In order to be eligible to apply for the scholarship, applicants must be studying a field related to horticulture studies, turf grass management, natural resources management or environmental sciences at a two or more year accredited college and university. In addition, applicants must have successfully completed a minimum of 30 semester units, with a minimum of 15 semester units of coursework from a field of study related to the environment. Applicants must be a full-time student with a minimum of 12 credits per semester and an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.

For additional information and to download the application, please visit [communityrelations.barona.com](http://communityrelations.barona.com). Applications must be postmarked by July 15 and mailed to:

Barona Resort & Casino  
c/o Barona Sustainable Environment Scholarship Program  
Scholarship Selection Committee  
1932 Wildcat Canyon Road  
Lakeside, CA 92040

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The scholarships will be awarded based on the student's application, references and recommendations. All applications will be reviewed by the Barona Scholarship Selection Committee consisting of representatives from the Barona Band of Mission Indians and Barona Resort & Casino.

The Barona Band of Mission Indians, recognized by the United States government as a sovereign nation, has lived on the Barona Indian Reservation in rural eastern San Diego County since 1932. Prior to that, the Tribe lived on the Capitan Grande Reservation, established in 1875 by the federal government. Long before, the Tribe traveled across Southern California in tune with the seasons and what nature provided. Today, the sovereign government is serving its Tribal members, their families, and sharing with the San Diego region. For more information, visit [www.barona-nsn.gov](http://www.barona-nsn.gov).

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