

# **2022 Ironstone Concours Foundation/ Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Recipient Kevin Cooper**

The Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Program is a collaborative project of the California State Fair, the California Agricultural Advisory Council, the State Fair Gala Committee, and the Friends of the California State Fair. This year, twenty-one students have been awarded \$44,000 for scholarships for the 2022-23 academic year. These students represent nineteen California cities.

The Ironstone Concours Foundation/Friends of the California State Fair provides \$5,000 to be awarded to one outstanding candidate. In 2022, we recognize the recipient of the Ironstone Concours Foundation/ Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Kevin Cooper.

In Fall 2022, Kevin will be a senior at California State University, Long Beach, in the Hospitality Management program. His journey began as a senior in high school and after 12 years in the hospitality industry, he entered the Hospitality Management program at CSULB with the belief that his field experiences paired with education will help him achieve his goal of becoming a great leader in the hospitality industry.

Kevin has a passion for supporting his community through volunteer work as well as working with local nonprofits serving unhoused members of the community, where he provided gourmet meals. He is also involved in the culinary arts department of his church, providing meals for staff, volunteers, and underserved communities.

Kevin says, "It has been my experience that continuously seeking knowledge is the driving force to me succeeding in college. I believe that it is my time to contribute to the industry by solving current issues and integrating new innovative ideas to sustain within its constant growth."

Congratulations, Kevin!

