

## Lucia just graduated from med school!

After 5 years of help from the SMA PEN Scholarship Program, Lucia's hard work has earned a general medical degree. She's interning in a local hospital.



These youngsters can succeed as well—  
if we can continue to help them.



**The San Miguel PEN Scholarship Program** focuses on at-risk and emergency situations among local young people—



when families can't afford basic fees, clothing, and supplies, or when students find they can't continue preparatoria or university programs they have already begun. Mexico offers all children six years of primary school and three of secondary school, but even public school students must buy some books, school uniforms, shoes, and other personal items. The higher the educational level, the higher the costs. For preparatoria (senior high) students must pay to take entrance exams, registration and monthly fees, and buy their own books. Far too many drop out of school, often after sixth grade.

We generally have 4 or 5 students in the program at any given time, and several have already completed their studies with this financial aid. When needed, we also help students with such things as library cards, eyeglasses, computer skills, and practice in speaking English. And we keep track of their grades.

**Any size contribution helps**—A few donors support specific students, and many give sums to be used where needed. Each year, we provide between U.S. \$200-\$1000 for each scholarship student through high school. For college or other advanced training, it takes U.S. \$1000-\$2000. These dollars can change a young person's future.

**There are no operating costs**—all contributions go directly to student's school and personal expenses.

**Tax-deductible donations**—Please make out checks to "The Chicago Network for Justice and Peace" and note "San Miguel PEN Scholarships" on them. The Chicago Network is recognized by the IRS as a 501 c (3) not-for-profit tax exempt educational foundation. Their website has all the legal information, including board members and incorporation documents—[www.chicagonetworkjp.org](http://www.chicagonetworkjp.org).

**You will receive an acknowledgment of your donation for tax purposes.**

Mail your check to:

ATTN: Nick Patricca  
Chicago Network for Justice and Peace  
1132 W. Lunt #3B  
Chicago, IL 60626

Or, give your check to:

Wim Coleman & Pat Perrin, in person or at  
BorderCrossings #70B  
and we'll mail it to Chicago for you.

**San Miguel PEN & International PEN**—

The San Miguel de Allende PEN chapter is a positive force in this Mexican community, as well as at the international level. International PEN is a non-governmental organization formed by writers who defend freedom of expression.