

## Tomorrow's Leaders Today: Jonathan Emmanuel Salgado Yáñez

By Nora Weaver



For many of us, the fall begins a season of gratitude and thanksgiving for our abundance of love, of life and of family. Epitomizing this is Jonathan Salgado, a Jóvenes Adelante 2016 university scholarship student studying engineering at the prestigious ITSES locally. Jonathan says that his family is the number one thing in life for which he is grateful. He says enthusiastically, “They hear me!”

From the time Jonathan was small, he has enjoyed the total support of his family. Their confidence in him and his ability to make good choices created in him a confidence and enthusiasm that is charming and contagious. From childhood forward, he earned his parents’ trust with his persistence and determination to master every challenge he faced. If he failed at something, they encouraged him to try again or try a new approach. So, Jonathan became a self-directing, upbeat young man who never, ever gives up on himself and his goals.

After graduating from high school with honors, Jonathan applied for and was granted a Jóvenes Adelante scholarship, which includes financial support, a mentor, life skills training, English tutoring, counseling, a laptop appropriate to his major and a supportive network of Jóvenes graduates.

Jonathan is studying mechanical engineering with his sights set on attaining his masters’ degree and PhD in the US or Germany. Jonathan’s courses include physics, thermodynamics, calculus, computer programming, English and German. During this

past semester, he designed and built a mechanical shelf that automatically adjusts its height to accommodate people with handicaps.

This school session, he is formulating a project that would convert body heat into electrical current. Jonathan said, "Imagine that you have an emergency and your phone has no power. With converted body energy, you could recharge your phone and call for help."

Jonathan's mentor, Jorge Philippe, says, "Jonathan is a bright and hard-working young man who has great decision-making ability. Those characteristics, and his facility in language, will help him reach his goals. I enjoy being a mentor to him because it's a two-way street. I support him and, in return, I learn a great deal from him. It's fun!"

As a way of expressing his gratitude for all the support he's received, Jonathan is giving back by organizing reading and history workshops for children, focusing on the history of San Miguel de Allende. He plans to continue to coach and tutor children in their studies as his social contribution.

Jóvenes Adelante grants college scholarships to local honor graduates who otherwise could not afford to pursue higher education. This educational assistance allows them to break the cycle of historic economic disparity in their families and change their family's lives for generations to come. Eighty-five percent of Jóvenes Adelante students graduate from college, a higher success rate than Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. Want to help? See [www.JovenesAdelante.org](http://www.JovenesAdelante.org) and/or contact President Robin Loving at 415-112-3413, 925-476-8117, and/or [robin@robinloving.com](mailto:robin@robinloving.com).