



The Escondido History Center

With the Generous Sponsorship of

Jack Raymond

2022 ESCONDIDO LEGENDS AWARDS



APPLICATION

MAX AND VIOLA ATILANO AWARD MUSICIAN AND COMMUNITY LEADER

Explanation of award: The honorarium will be given to a senior attending a high school in Escondido who has participated in a variety of school activities and has demonstrated leadership throughout his or her high school years. Consideration will be given for a pronounced interest in pursuing music. Also, additional consideration will be given for participation in organizations pursuing human dignity. Volunteering in the community is also important.

Commitment to attend the Honorarium presentation on January 26, 2022 is required.

Applications are also available from your high school counselor.

Please complete: The 2022 Escondido Legends application information below and submit your typed responses to the Escondido History Center along with a copy of your current high school transcript no later than **4 P.M. on Friday, December 8, 2021.**

Please include your full name on all pages and deliver finished application:

- In person to the Escondido History Center, 321 N. Broadway or by U.S. mail, P.O. Box 263, Escondido, CA 92033 OR
- As an email PDF attachment to fox@escondidohistory.org.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

1. YOUR NAME AND YOUR COUNSELOR'S NAME.
2. THE HIGH SCHOOL YOU ATTEND.
3. SUBMIT A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT.
4. TELL US ABOUT YOUR MUSIC EXPERIENCE AT SCHOOL.
5. DESCRIBE YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROMOTE HUMAN UNDERSTANDING AND DIGNITY.
6. DESCRIBE YOUR ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITY WORK AND SERVICE.
7. DESCRIBE YOUR ASPIRATIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

Maximino “Max” Limon and Viola Atilano

From the time “Max” Atilano arrived in Escondido as an immigrant to the United States in the early twentieth century, he and Viola worked toward forging bonds in the community and are now recognized as 2022 ESCONDIDO FOREVER LEGENDS.

Born in 1900 in Jalisco, Mexico, Max came to Escondido at the age of 16. He had worked in Texas before coming to this area, making a living picking oranges and lemons. Eventually, Max became a field foreman for the Sunkist Lemon Association where he worked and was respected as a liaison between management and field workers. On March 17, 1926, Max married Viola Pachecon of Oceanside, a native of Anaheim. Viola worked at the lemon packing house for 38 years. They had four children, three sons and one daughter—Pete, Robert, Raulie and Rosalia.

Through the Mexican American Association of Escondido, Max and Viola were pivotal in bringing the Mexican-American community together by celebrating both countries’ independence days. For several decades, Max was also instrumental in organizing events at the Eagle’s Hall and Grape Day Park, as well as parades on Grand Avenue.

Music was a passion in Max’s life. His love for playing an instrument was part of the family legacy, as each of his children became a life-long musician, either at home or in the public sector. In addition, he was the band leader of two well-known music groups in North County—the “Nighthawks” and the “Troubadours”. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus for more than 70 years.

After Max’s death, Viola was the matriarch of the family, which included 14 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great grandchildren. Viola was very active at St. Mary’s Church, the Ladies of Resurrection, Grandmother’s Club, Escondido Blind Club, senior volunteer with North County Centro and VFW Women’s Auxiliary.

Max and Viola encouraged members of their church to volunteer to make Escondido a better place to live. Volunteering was one of Max and Viola’s enduring efforts as an ideal way of giving back to the community. Through their deeds, words, and music, Maximino Limon and Viola Atilano led their family and community to build inclusiveness and well-being in Escondido for the better part of a century. Now they are honored as 2022 ESCONDIDO FOREVER LEGENDS.