Guardian Scholars’ upcoming fundraiser is a gem

This year, instead of limiting your household spring cleaning to closets, drawers and the family garage, students in Sacramento State’s Guardian Scholars Program hope you’ll declutter your jewelry box, as well.

The students, all former foster or homeless youths, are asking for donations of costume and vintage jewelry – necklaces, watches, bracelets and earrings – to sell at their Glitter Again fundraiser, set for 12:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, in front of Lassen Hall on campus. Jewelry items will be priced at $2 to $25. Sales will be cash only. Donors can drop off jewelry donations from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in Lassen Hall 1013.

Proceeds from Glitter Again will be used to keep the Guardian Scholars Program’s food pantry stocked with healthy snacks and dairy products for the students.

The program’s mission is to provide emotional and financial support to Sacramento State students who have identified themselves as former foster youth or previously (or even currently) homeless, says program coordinator Cein Mathisen.

“We provide academic advising. We assist them in filling out financial aid forms. We help them with housing situations. We have a mentorship program. We offer them funding for emergency situations. We have social events throughout the year to bring the students together and create a sense of community,” Mathisen says. “And we have an open-door policy: The students can drop by the Guardian Scholars office and talk about anything they need to.”

Sac State currently has 63 students in the program. Ten Guardian Scholars students graduated last spring; one went on law school. Another five will graduate this spring, Mathisen says.

The Glitter Again fundraiser is presented by the Guardian Scholars Program and its BEATS (Brave Educated Actions Toward Success) Club. – Dixie Reid