

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
BUI SIMON THAI ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Established 2008



Bui Simon, a 1996 graduate of Pepperdine University, founded the Angel Wings Foundation International, which builds and supports schools and orphanages and supplies healthcare for underprivileged children in Thailand. She also established the Angels Wings Rural Teaching Scholarship to assist Thai college students who commit to teaching in Thailand's rural areas after completing their education.

In recognition of her work, King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand awarded her the Thai Royal Medal of Honor in 1988. During the same year, Bui was crowned Miss Thailand, won the Miss Universe title, and was named United Nations Goodwill Ambassador of Thailand. She has served as an anchor for CBS-TV's *60 Minutes 2/Thailand*; a spokesperson for UNICEF, UNFPA, Revlon, Colgate, and Pepsi; and was a committee member of the Thai Tourism Authority.

Fondly called a "benevolent celebrity," Bui believes that every child is an angel and deserves wings to fly to his or her potential. Following the devastating Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, Bui committed to finding families for 42 orphaned children, and raised over \$500,000 to aid rebuilding efforts along Thailand's coast.

Angels Wings has undertaken an initiative to award 60 scholarships to deserving students committed to teaching in rural areas, with the goal that every penny spent will have a "snowball effect, touching the lives of future generations." The pilot project, launched in the region of Phuket, will identify highly qualified students who aspire to earn their degrees and become classroom teachers. These students will be mentored to ensure that they return to teach children in their home municipalities. It is the goal of Angels Wings that this unique scholarship program will serve each year in a different province, guaranteeing that the benefits of excellent teaching will spread throughout southern Thailand, "transforming and inspiring a new generation of leaders."

In 2008, Bui established the Bui Simon Thai Endowed Scholarship Fund to help Thai students who wish to come to the United States and study at Pepperdine. Bui was elected to the University's Board of Regents in 2010.

A longtime resident of Malibu, Bui is the wife of Herbert Simon, owner of the Indiana Pacers and founder of Simon Property Group, the largest shopping mall owner in the United States. The Simons have three children.

The surest path out of poverty passes through education. ~ Bui Simon



SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

The Bui Simon Thai Endowed Scholarship is given annually to a citizen of Thailand with financial need who is pursuing a degree at Seaver College.