

 **FOOTHILL COLLEGE**

Extended Opportunity Programs & Services



55th Anniversary

RECOGNITION CEREMONY

**June 12, 2025
6 p.m.- 8 p.m.
Foothill College Dining Room**

**To establish “Over and Above” student
support services and programs...**

Congratulations

Class of 2025



Dear EOPS Honorees,

Congratulations! Today, we celebrate your achievements and recognize you as a living legacy of Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS). Now in its 55th year, EOPS was born out of the Civil Rights and Poor People's Movements of the 1960s and remains rooted in equity, access, and advocacy.

For over five decades, EOPS has leveled the educational playing field within the California Community Colleges system, supporting students whose paths have been shaped by social and economic adversity. With dedicated counseling, support services and a committed team to help along the way. EOPS has empowered first-generation, low-income, and historically marginalized students to not just attend college—but to thrive.

Your journey reflects extraordinary perseverance. You did not just complete courses—you redefined what is possible with support. Your resilience is a powerful statement of generational change and a tribute to every barrier you have overcome.

As you take your next steps, carry with you the spirit of 55 years of EOPS—the courage to advocate, the vision to lead, and the compassion to uplift others, attributes that are needed in today's uncertain times. Whatever career path you pursue, you are living proof that equity in education transforms lives. We celebrate not only your achievements, but who you have become along the way.

We also wish to acknowledge and celebrate the people who have been a refuge in your life—your friends, family, and acquaintances—as well as those who came before you and laid the foundation for your academic success.

On behalf of the EOPS family, we give you a heartfelt hug!
Congratulations to the Class of 2025! We see you!

In Service & Love,
April C. Henderson, Ed.M.
EOPS/CARE & NextUp, Director

Program



Prelude

EOPS Slide Show Presentation & Dinner by Chef Gilly's

Welcome

April C. Henderson

EOPS/CARE & NextUp, Director

President's Greeting

Dr. Kristina Whalen

Foothill College President

Artistic Selection

Usni

EOPS Participant

Guest Speaker

Akesa Uili

EOPS Alumna

Scholarship Certificates

Tilly Wu

EOPS Counselor

Tobias Nava

EOPS Counselor

Tutor Acknowledgement

Andrea Lara Galvan

EOPS Program Coordinator

Presentation of Certificates & Stoles

Tilly Wu, Tobias Nava

Lily Luu, Michelle Tham

Closing Remarks & Toast

Isaac Escoto

Dean, Counseling Division

Group Photo

Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Isabella Acevedo	AST in Public Health Science	
Yamilex Aguirre Duarte	AST in Business Administration	San Jose State University
Jeovanca Aguiar-Valentin	CA in Early Childhood Education Fundamentals	
Danna Almaral		Transferring
Andrew Anaya Diaz		UC San Diego
Jehilen Ayala Caballero	AST in Business Administration	San Jose State University
Moyo Ayo-Ogunyemi	AA in Communication Studies; AAT in Communication Studies	CSU San Marcos
Abbygail L. Babauta	AAT in Child and Adolescent Development	
Meryjean Banos Tellez	AAT in Psychology	
Emily Carbajal Aguilar	AAT in Psychology; AAT in Child and Adolescent Development; AAT in Anthropology	UC Davis

Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Crysta M. Castillo	AA in Communication Studies; AAT in Communication Studies	
Shawn K. Cathey	CA in Software Development in Python	Southern New Hampshire University
Laurie Chaskin	AAT in Child and Adolescent Development; AAT in Psychology	San Jose State University
Allen Chi	AST in Business Administration	
Riko R. Corzo	AST in Public Health Science; CA in Community Health Worker	Transferring
Gloria Dalton-Flores	AAT in Psychology	San Jose State University
Denzel Davis		San Francisco State University
Shanna Nineth Decena	AST in Pharmacy Technician	
Emery D'Mello	AST in Physics; AST in Mathematics	UC Berkeley
La'Tasia Feagin	AST in Public Health Science; AAT in Psychology	

Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Nazly Gama Lagunas Transferring

Diana Gamez AST in Child and Adolescent Development

Destiney Y. Garcia CA in Bio-Health Diversity and Inclusion Leadership

Jose Godinez AAT in Economics UC Santa Cruz

Christopher E. Gutierrez-Mendoza AST in Business Administration San Jose State University

Jewel Hanson AA in Music Technology

Zeeshan M. Haque UC Riverside

Nathalie Jeaneth Hernandez AST in Public Health Science

Daisy Huchim Flores AST in Public Health Science

Mai Huynh AST in Computer Science;
AST in Mathematics;
AST in Physics UC Berkeley

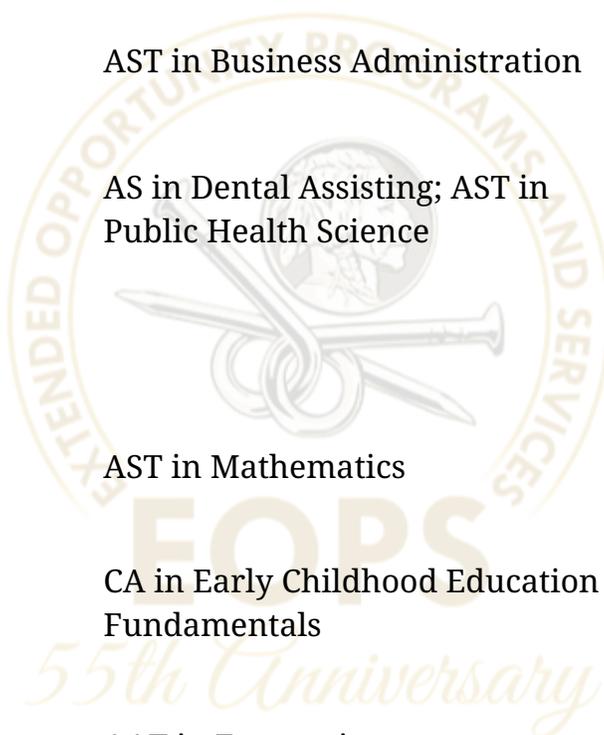


Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Tuba S. Irshad		Transferring
Natalia Jaramillo	AST in Public Health Science	Transferring
Joshua Y. Kang	AST in Business Administration	San Jose State University
Anita Lama	AS in Dental Assisting; AST in Public Health Science	
Genesis Lizardo		UC Davis
Sandra Y. Lopez	AST in Mathematics	UC Berkeley
Mani Love	CA in Early Childhood Education Fundamentals	
Jon Michael Macam	AAT in Economics	UC Santa Barbara
Yassary T. Machore	AA in Art; AAT in Art History	San Jose State University
Emily Martinez	AA in General Studies: Social Science	UC Berkeley



Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Malachi McKnight	AA in General Studies: Social Science; AST in Business Administration	San Francisco State University
Ryann Mejia-Gonzales	AAT in Communication Studies; AAT in Psychology; AAT in Sociology; CA in Music History & Literature	UC Los Angeles
Nancy J. Menchaca Alvarado	AST in Public Health Science	
Johanna Meneses Mansilla	CA in Payroll Preparation; CA in Financial Accounting; CA in Bookkeeping; AA in Accounting; AA in Business Administration	
Krizza Shae Millare	AST in Biology	Santa Clara University
Esmeralda Molina Guzman	AAT in Child and Adolescent Development; CA in Full GE Breadth Certification	
Vince David Muego	AST in Mathematics; AAT in Economics	UC Berkeley
Maria Nguyen	AA in Humanities	

Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Yvonne Nguyen	AST in Biology; AST in Business Administration	UC Davis
Daron Popov	AAT in Economics	
Esther Prado	AST in Public Health Science; AAT in Psychology	San Jose State University
Juan Pulido	AST in Business Administration	San Jose State University
Mana Qalambor	AAT in Art History	
Jael Ramirez	AAT in Communication Studies	Transferring
Jackeline Ramirez Lopez	AAT in Psychology; AAT in Sociology	San Jose State University
Juliana Rodriguez	CA in Humanities; AST in Public Health Science	University of San Francisco
Roberto Rojas	AST in Business Administration; AAT in Economics	San Jose State University
Anayelly Rosales	AAT in Child and Adolescent Development	San Francisco State University
Samuel Salgado	AAT in Psychology	

Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Amaris Sanchez	AST in Public Health Science	San Jose State University
Yerai Sandoval	AS in Biological Sciences	UC Davis
Shahana Shaik	AAT in Kinesiology; AS in Sports Medicine	San Diego State University
Dionne Shepard	AA in General Studies: Social Science	San Diego State University
Amrit Singh	AST in Computer Science; AST in Mathematics	UC Davis
Keagan Stewart	AAT in Film, Television and Electronic Media	
Gauransh Thapar		Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Stephany Urbina-Diaz	AAT in Psychology; AAT in Sociology; AST in Public Health Science	UC Santa Cruz
Brenda Valdes	AAT in English; AA in General Studies: Social Science	
Nikolai Vinogradov	AST in Computer Science; AS in Computer Science	Transferring

Honorees



University Transfers, Degrees, and Certificates

Xenia Watt	AA in Anthropology; AAT in Anthropology	San Jose State University
Lauren N. Wienenga	AAT in Sociology	UC Berkeley
Ophelia Willis	AST in Public Health Science; CA in Veterinary Assisting; CA in Humanities	Chico State
Alisia J. Woodard	AAT in Political Science	San Jose State University
Marina Zelechowski	AAT in Communication Studies; AAT in Sociology; AA in General Studies: Social Science; CA in Infant and Toddler Development and Care; AAT in Psychology; CA in Nanny, Child & Family Studies; CA in Early Child Special Education; CA in Early Childhood Education Fundamentals; AAT in Child and Adolescent Development	

EOPS Scholarship Recipients



Rando Family Endowed Scholarship

Krizza Shae Millare

Mandy Wan

Angelica Y. Galdamez Gutierrez

Jason Whitten Memorial Scholarship

Ruth Behena

David Muego

Region IV Consortium Campus Specific Scholarship

Yerai Sandoval

55th Anniversary



EOPS Friends and Supporters



Foothill-De Anza Foundation

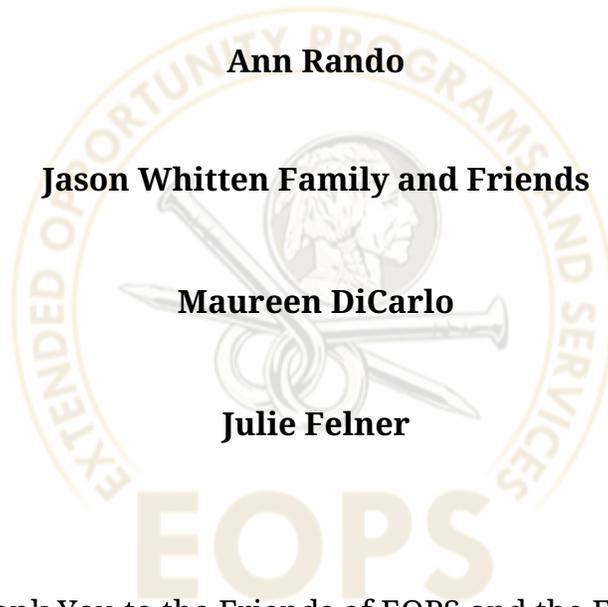
Foothill Commission

Ann Rando

Jason Whitten Family and Friends

Maureen DiCarlo

Julie Felner



A Special Thank You to the Friends of EOPS and the Foothill College Community of Donors who continue to make the annual EOPS/CARE & NextUp Holiday Event a very special occasion for our students and their families.

Special Thanks



Associated Students of Foothill College

Science Learning Institute

STEM Center

Writing and Learning Center

Pass the Torch

Admissions & Records Department

Counseling Department & Transfer Center

Financial Aid Department

Foothill-De Anza Police Department

Marketing and Outreach Department

Puente & Umoja

Disability Resource Center

Veterans Resource Center

Owls Nest

MESA



EOPS Faculty and Staff



April C. Henderson
EOPS/CARE/NextUp Director

Emily Carbajal Aguilar
Student Peer

Tilly Wu
EOPS Counselor

Andrew Anaya
Student Peer

Tobias Nava
EOPS Counselor

Emely Cisneros
Student Peer

Lily Luu
EOPS Admin Assistant, Senior

Zane Plesa
Student Peer

Kai Chang
EOPS Program Coordinator

Michele Nguyen
Student Peer

Andrea Lara Galvan
EOPS Program Coordinator

Stephanie Naranjo
Student Peer

Melvishia Gaines
NextUp Student Success Specialist

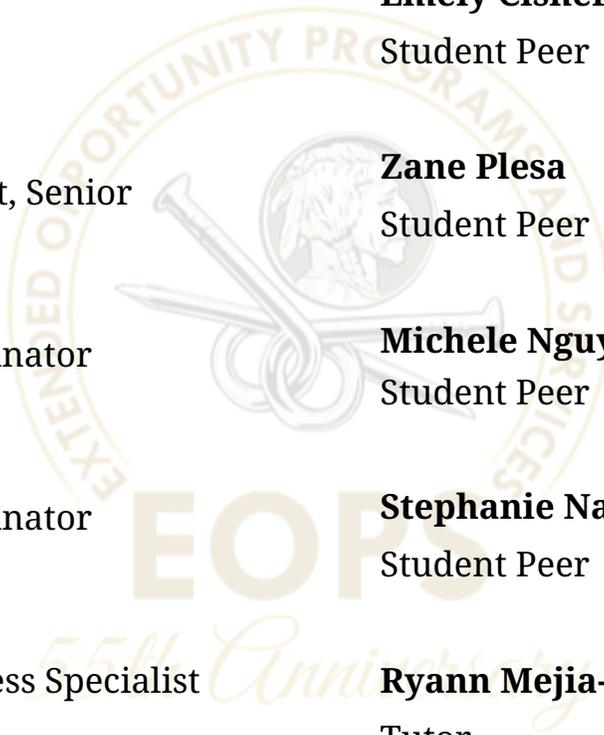
Ryann Mejia-Gonzales
Tutor

Michelle Tham
NextUp Admin Assistant

Hannah Miradi
Tutor

Minsoo Kim
Tutor

Rishi Bhatt
Tutor



The story of the: Nickel and the Nail

Years ago in the deep South, a young man walking down a long, dusty road had only a nickel to his name. Knowing his self-worth might be judged by his meager means, he spotted two gnarled horseshoe nails by the roadside. He picked them up, and as he jingled them with his nickel, he walked taller, his pride and dignity renewed.

The Extended Opportunity Program & Services serves a similar purpose—empowering individuals to build self-esteem, motivation, and the confidence to pursue their goals. Like the young man, they too deserve "something to jingle," a reminder of their potential and worth.

Yet the nails remain twisted, a puzzle still unsolved—symbolizing the ongoing challenge of helping those hindered by societal barriers to overcome educational obstacles. The work continues, urging us to untangle the enigma and unlock opportunity for all.

