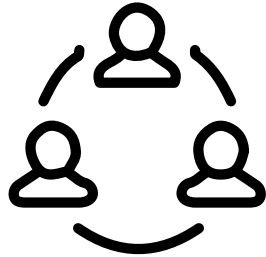


2025

COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM



BY THE NUMBERS



600

**YOUTH & 223 PARENTS
SERVED IN 2025**



6,076

TOTAL INTERACTIONS



41

EVENTS PROVIDED



- ACADEMIC ADVISING
- COLLEGE TOURS
- CULTURAL EVENTS
- A-G REQUIREMENTS
- 4 SYSTEMS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION
- CAREER WORKSHOPS
- FINANCIAL LITERACY
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- FAFSA
- PARENT INVOLVEMENT
- INTERNSHIPS

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

86%
LATINO

6% ASIAN
1% WHITE
5% MULTIRACIAL
1% BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN
1% PACIFIC ISLANDER

91%
FIRST GENERATION
LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

98%
STUDENTS OF EXTREMELY
LOW AND LOW INCOME
FAMILIES

CLASS OF 2025 STATS



100%

**HIGH SCHOOL
SENIORS GRADUATED**



96%

**GRADUATED WITH UC/CSU
ELIGIBILITY COMPARED TO
57.3% IN OC**



\$1.6M

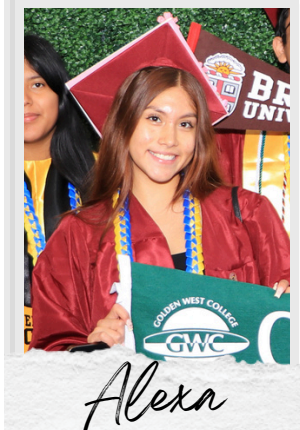
**RECEIVED IN GRANTS &
SCHOLARSHIPS**



100%

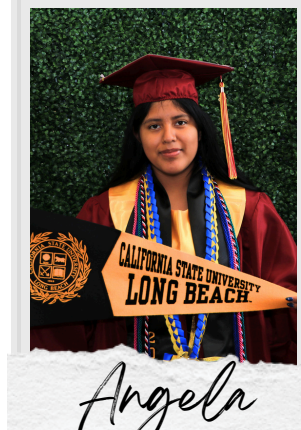
**STEPPING UP TO COLLEGE
WITH 83% ATTENDING A
4-YEAR UNIVERSITY &
17% ATTENDING A
2-YEAR COLLEGE.**





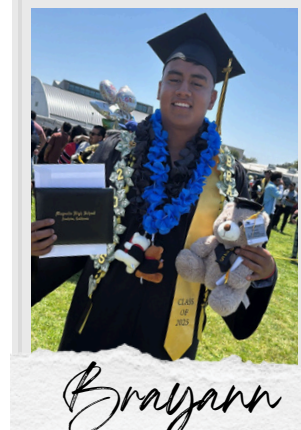
Alexa

Golden West College
Nursing



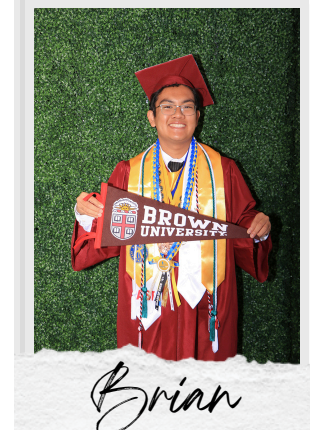
Angela

CSU Long Beach
Interior Design



Grayann

Golden West College
Criminal Justice



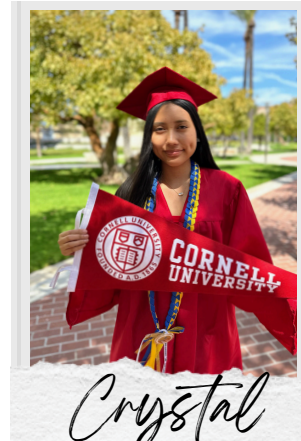
Brian

Brown University
Mathematics



Carmen

CSU Fullerton
Biology



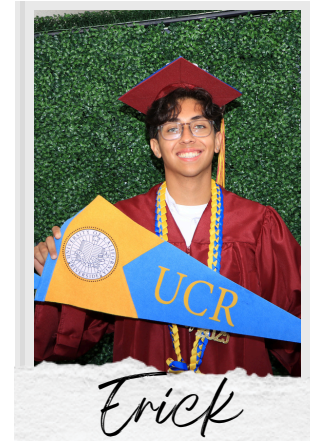
Crystal

Cornell University
Hotel Administration



David

Fullerton College
Microbiology



Erick

UC Riverside
Actuarial Science

MEET LIZETH

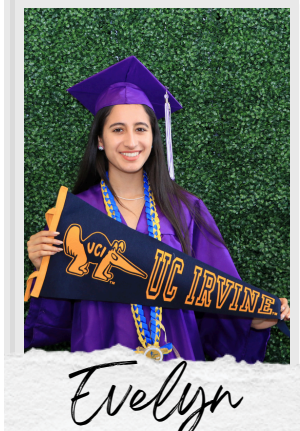
STEPPINGUP, CLASS OF 2025



Lizeth joined *SteppingUP*'s College Access Program in 10th grade. As a first-generation student from a low-income family of five, affordability posed a significant barrier to her academic future. With the support of her *SteppingUP* advisor and through her own hard work and determination, Lizeth secured more than \$300,000 in scholarships, allowing her to attend the University of Southern California at no cost. Lizeth expressed her appreciation for *SteppingUP*, sharing *"I received a lot of help and support with my financial aid as it was a confusing and long process."* Through *SteppingUP* events with various financial institutions, Lizeth was able to gain exposure to different careers within the banking industry, which helped shape her academic and professional goals.

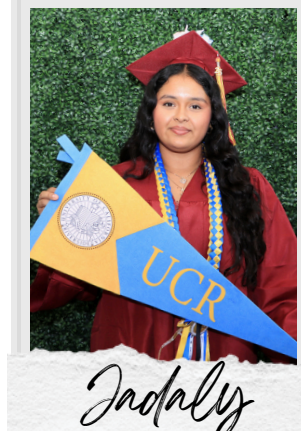


In 2025, Lizeth stepped up to USC where she is majoring in Business Administration and aspires to become a Director of Corporate Social Responsibility.



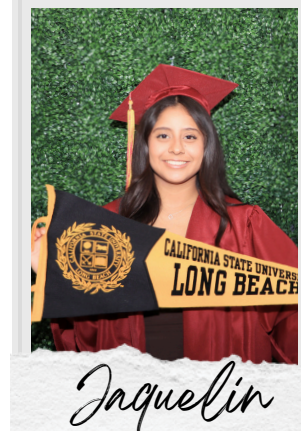
Evelyn

UC Irvine
Biological Science



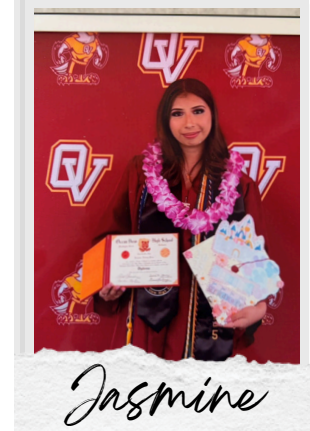
Jadalyn

UC Riverside
Biology



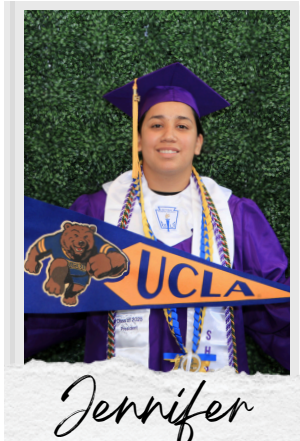
Jaquelin

CSU Long Beach
Social Work



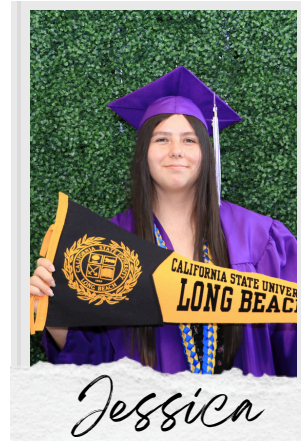
Jasmine

CSU Fullerton
Pre-Business



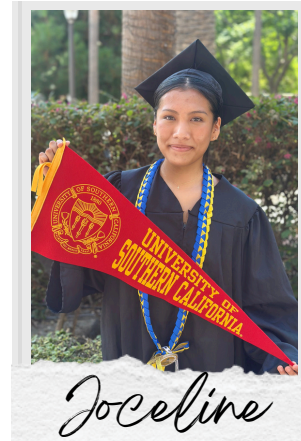
Jennifer

UC Los Angeles
Physiological Sciences



Jessica

CSU Long Beach
Hospitality Management



Joceline

USC
Accounting



Jocelyn

Santa Ana College
Undeclared

MEET BRIAN

STEPPINGUP, CLASS OF 2025



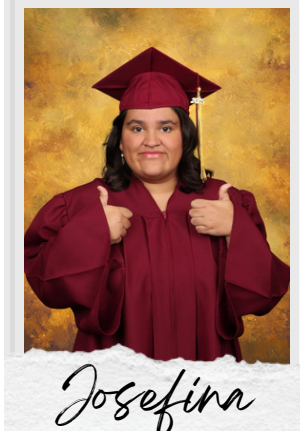
As a first-generation student, Brian entered the college application process without the family support and guidance many students rely on. Through *SteppingUP*, he received individualized advising, application support, and a clearer understanding of the college admissions landscape.

With *SteppingUP*'s support, Brian successfully navigated highly competitive applications and was selected as a QuestBridge Scholar.

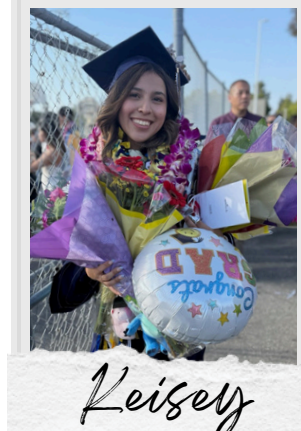
In 2025, Brian stepped up to Brown University with a full-ride scholarship, where he is exploring his passions in math and computer science.

"Being a first-generation college student, my family had no experience with college applications, and I had no siblings to help me. SteppingUP was crucial and incredibly helpful throughout my college application process."





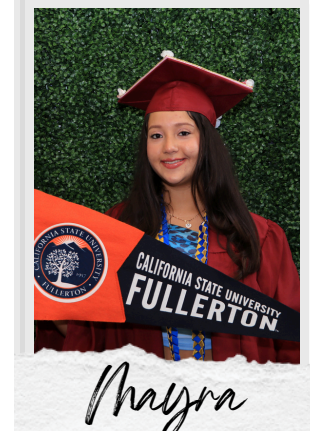
UC Santa Cruz
Film & Digital Media



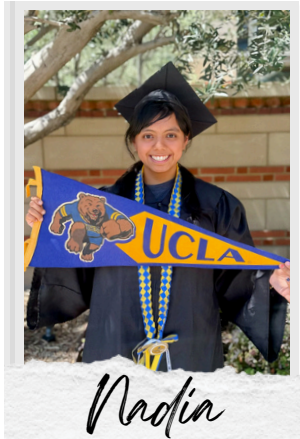
CSU Fullerton
Kinesiology



USC
Business Administration



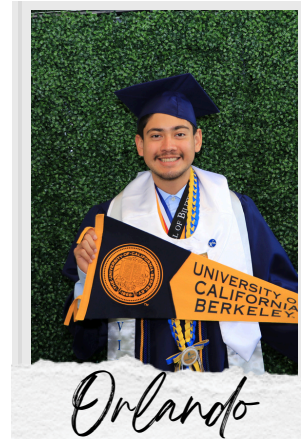
CSU Fullerton
Pre-Business



UC Los Angeles
Sociology



Santa Monica College
Nursing



UC Berkeley
Mechanical Engineering



CSU Fullerton
Psychology

MEET MAYRA

STEPPINGUP, CLASS OF 2025

Mayra learned about *SteppingUP* through *SteppingUP*'s partnership with Ocean View High School's Business Academy.

As a first-generation student and the oldest of her siblings, Mayra had no one to help her navigate the complex college admissions process. Through *SteppingUP*, she received comprehensive support from identifying colleges that aligned with her goals to understanding and comparing financial aid packages. She also participated in college tours that allowed her to explore her options and begin envisioning herself on a university campus. Today, Mayra is a proud Titan attending California State University, Fullerton, where she is majoring in business with a focus on marketing. As she began her college experience, Mayra also joined *SteppingUP* as an intern.

Have you checked out our latest Instagram posts and reels? They're all thanks to Mayra! Through her internships with our program, Mayra gained valuable experience in the marketing field. This opportunity not only allowed her to explore her passion for marketing but also helped her build early career readiness. By supporting other first-generation students, Mayra's journey has truly come full circle.



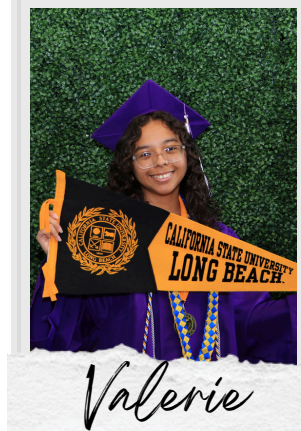
“All through high school I had to guide myself because my parents couldn’t, not because they didn’t want to, but because they didn’t know how. I wasn’t sure which colleges I could apply to, or how to even apply. I love this program. Please help more students like me!”





Tanaya

Golden West College
Cosmetology



Valerie

CSU Long Beach
Graphic Design



Veronika

CSU Fullerton
Theatre



MEET JENNIFER

STEPPINGUP, CLASS OF 2025

“The comfort and support of *SteppingUP* has been like no other. I initially joined the program because my older brother had been in it, it turned into one of the best decisions of my high school years. This program fueled my passion to study competitively. It educated me by having each advising session tailored to my needs. It created the ideal soil for the seed of my future to be planted. I am now going into my first year at UCLA to study physiology and owe a great part of it to the resources, comfort, and community that OCCHC provided.”

MEET OMAR

STEPPINGUP, CLASS OF 2021

In 2025, Omar graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering, becoming the first in his family to earn a college degree.

Omar's path to college was shaped by significant responsibility at a young age. During his senior year of high school, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, his mother suffered an injury that prevented her from working. Living in a single-parent, low-income household, Omar made the difficult decision to step away from football during his fourth year on the team so he could work at McDonald's to help support his family. While balancing work, school, and the college application process, Omar also encountered a financial aid issue that threatened his ability to afford college. Through *SteppingUP*, Omar received both technical guidance and consistent emotional support. His advisor helped him navigate college applications, resolve financial aid challenges, and successfully transition to college.

After enrolling at CSULB, *SteppingUP* continued to support Omar throughout his college journey, assisting with annual financial aid renewals and connecting him to a paid internship opportunity. With *SteppingUP*'s guidance, Omar was able to persevere through college while continuing to work and support his household, ultimately earning his degree debt-free and opening new opportunities for himself and his family.



"If I were to state everything my advisor has done for me I would be here all night, so I'll keep it short. My academic advisor paved the way for me to get financial aid, helped me apply to universities and helped my educational development. Thank you for all the help you have given me throughout the years."





CONGRATULATIONS!

CLASS OF 2025 COLLEGE GRADUATES

CAP ALUMNI	H.S. GRAD YEAR	ALMA MATER	DEGREE (S)
OSCAR R.	2012	CSU LONG BEACH	MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY
SHEILA S.	2012	UC DAVIS	MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
KARLANY M.	2013	CSU LOS ANGELES	MASTER OF COUNSELING
FANNY D.	2015	NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	MS IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
CELINE R.	2016	UC IRVINE	MASTER OF INNOV. & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
KELLY L.	2019	HOPE INTERNATIONAL	MASTER OF MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY
RUBY G.	2021	CSU LONG BEACH	MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK
FERNANDO P.	2020	CSU FULLERTON	SINGLE SUBJECT TEACHING CREDENTIAL
DAISY R.	2014	CSU LONG BEACH	BA: CHILD DEVELOPMENT
CLAUDIA M.	2018	CSU LONG BEACH	BA: AMERICAN STUDIES
ARITZA P.	2019	CSU FULLERTON	BS: HUMAN SERVICES
CARLOS M.	2020	CSU FULLERTON	BS: CIVIL ENGINEERING
VANESSA L.	2020	UC DAVIS	BS: ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
ARIADNA G.	2021	CSU FULLERTON	BA: BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
DAVID C.	2021	CSU LONG BEACH	BS: CRIMINAL JUSTICE
FERNANDA O.	2021	UC SANTA CRUZ	BA: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
OMAR S.	2021	CSU LONG BEACH	BS: AEROSPACE ENGINEER
RAFAEL B.	2021	UC BERKELEY	BA: POLITICAL ECONOMY
OMAR D.	2017	ORANGE COAST COLLEGE	AS: FASHION
ANNA V.	2018	GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	AA: SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE
DAMARIS M.	2018	GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	AA: ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
EVELYN E.	2019	GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	AA: BUSINESS & ADMINISTRATION
LIZBETH D.	2021	ORANGE COAST COLLEGE	AS: FASHION- DESIGN
MELANIE C.	2023	FULLERTON COLLEGE	AA: ARTS & HUMAN EXPRESSIONS
SAMANTHA S.	2023	GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	AA: LIBERAL ARTS



Together, we transform lives and communities



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THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE & FOUNDATION DONORS

THANK
YOU

THANK YOU TO OUR
2025 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$10,000+

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\$5,000-\$9,999

Doug & Susan Bystry

\$2,500-\$4,999

Clemente Mojica

Janie Marquez

\$1,000-\$2,499

Barbara Baldwin Hook

Carol Wold

Edwards Mora

Joel Newman

Michelle Scott

Saskia Knight

\$500-\$999

Alexa Washburn

Anonymous

Ben G. Baldwin Jr.

Gabriel Gomez

JP Bouchereau

Leticia Andueza

Mary Slagle

Robert Lopez Accountancy

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Velma de la Rosa

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Anabel Santamaria

Benjamin Vasquez

Dan & Alison Kalmick

Elizabeth Macias

Ernesto Miranda

Gary Wilson

\$250-\$499

Jim Shevlin

Jim Yacenda

John Murillo

Joseph Boyle

Miguel Garcia

Nora Perez

Ray Romero

Rusty Kennedy

Sean Petitt

Sergio Contreras

Sergio Quero

Zjamahl Fain

\$249 & under

Alba Rodriguez

Andrew Ollero

Anonymous

Antonio Benitez

Brenda J. Rodriguez

Carlos Leija

Cecilia Rodriguez

Chrys Ruybal

Danielle Sheets

Ellen Feldberg

Gordon Fund

Elsa Monte

Erick Camacho

Erin Gunther

Esther Wright

Gerardo Coello

Gina Clayton-Tarvin

Hayana Guerrero

HOA Community

Reinvestment Fund

Jamie Laderman

Jennifer Zamora

\$249 & under

John Palacio

Jon Timmons

Jose Luis Rodriguez

Julian Jahja

Katie Yarter

Kevin Fuhrmann

Lainie Canfield

Leticia Plascencia

Margarita Muñiz

Martin Cueva

Matthew Wadlinger

Maura Schafer

Mayra Chavez

Mayra Escobar

Miguel Gamboa

Miguel Zamudio

Miwa Tran

Mona Fontela

Monica Cardenas

Nikki Arora

Nora Mendez

Oscar D. Rodriguez

Raj Arora

Robert Fuentes

Roger Keating

Rosa Alaniz

Rossina Gallegos

Sam Romero

Scot Miller

Stephanie Ventura

Tara Thach

Tiffany Schwarzer

Victor Valladares

Waleed Hanna

Wendy Chau

Yenni Diaz