UC SANTA BARBARA

THE Current

April 4, 2019 Andrea Estrada

College Material

— The <u>Early Academic Outreach Program</u> (EAOP) at UC Santa Barbara will hold a series of UC Success Night events April 10 through May 3 to celebrate the academic success of high school seniors from the university's EAOP partnership schools who have been admitted to the UC system.

UC-admitted seniors and their families from high schools in Santa Barbara, Ventura and Kern counties are invited to attend their respective school's event.

The program includes a presentation of awards and of State Proclamations from local Senate and Assembly members in recognition of students' academic achievement, and student keynote speeches will be delivered in both English and Spanish. Attendees also will have the opportunity to meet UC Santa Barbara faculty and staff members, administrators, alumni and undergraduate students, as well as network with other students and families from their hometown who may be attending the same universities in the fall.

"'Where Preparation Meets Opportunity' — that's our slogan," said Britt Ortiz, EAOP director. "UC Success Night represents every aspect of our students' preparation for meeting opportunity when it knocks. We celebrate the success of so many first-generation students and their families for being admitted to the UC system, one of the most competitive public institutions in the country. Our EAOP students put in the time, they did the work, they made the sacrifices and we were able to help them make their educational dreams come true."

The EAOP college site coordinators and academic services team have, according to Ortiz, "poured their hearts and souls" into helping the 2019 senior class. "They started in the summer before their senior year with the College Readiness Academy, then college applications, personal inquiry questions for the UC system, scholarship letters, FAFSA-CADA applications, extending hours for advisement or holding test preparation workshops on the weekend," he said. "Most of our EAOP staff are first-generation college grads themselves, so helping students in our program is their passion."

The first of seven UC Success Night events will honor Carpinteria High School students Wednesday, April 10, at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria, 4810 Foothill Rd. The Santa Paula High School event will follow Thursday, April 11 at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria, 404 N. 6^{th} St.

The UC Success Night for Santa Maria Joint Union High School District will take place at 6 p.m. Monday, April 15, in Veterans Memorial Hall, 313 W. Tunnell St. Fillmore High School students will be recognized at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, in that school's cafeteria, 555 Central Ave. Channel Islands and Hueneme high school students and their families are invited to attend an event at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 25, at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way.

The Pacifica High School event will take place at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 1, in the school cafeteria, 600 E. Gonzales Rd., with the Rio Mesa High School event following at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 2, in that school's cafeteria, 545 Central Ave.

The series will conclude in Bakersfield with students from South High School honored at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 3, in the school's cafeteria, 1101 Planz Rd.

About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.