

## Orange County Bar Foundation

# Higher Education Mentoring Program

Monthly Newsletter

May/June 2011



ORANGE COUNTY  
BAR FOUNDATION

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Attention: Students



#### Summer Reunion

July 22, 2011

9:30am-4:30pm

#### Contact Info.:

Susana Espinoza,  
Program Coordinator  
[sespinoza@ocbarfoundation.org](mailto:sespinoza@ocbarfoundation.org)

Martha Madrid,  
Program Director  
[mmadrid@ocbarfoundation.org](mailto:mmadrid@ocbarfoundation.org)

714-480-1925x100

## Higher Ed. Graduation



On Wednesday, May 26, 2011 the Orange County Bar Foundation Higher Education Mentoring Program celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduation. Seniors were honored for their 18-month commitment to the Program. All eighteen graduating seniors will be attending a four-year university or two-year college in the fall. The campuses our seniors will attend include: Stanford, California Lutheran, Chapman University, Amherst College, Hampshire College, UCI, CSUF, UCLA, UCD, Sonoma State, San Francisco State, UCSC, GWCC and OCC. The ceremony honoring the Class of 2011 was held at the Rancho Santiago Community Room.

Carolyn McKitterick, OCBF Board of Directors and HEM Committee Chair, was the Mistress of Ceremonies. This successful event was attended by family, friends, OCBF Board Members, and Community Representatives. Each graduate received certificates from the City of Santa Ana, OC Board of Supervisors, Congresswoman, Loretta Sanchez, Senator, Lou Correa and OCBF Board President, John B. Hurlbut, Jr Esq.

Seniors, Claudia Rendon (GWCC) and Yashira Avendano (Chapman) received the Super Antojitos Scholarships. Senior, Veronica Herrera (UCD) received the Maria Solis-Martinez Scholarship. Isabel Cardenas (Stanford) received the Carolyn C. McKitterick, Esq. Scholarship. The following sixteen seniors received 4-year renewable Scholarships from College Access Foundation of CA: Yashira Avendano (Chapman), Karla Cabanas (San Francisco State), Isabel Cardenas (Stanford), Violeta Garcia (California Lutheran University), Maribel

Gonzalez (UCLA), Veronica Herrera (UCD), Karla Mendez (CSUF), Maribel Morales (Hampshire College), Linnette Ramirez (UCSC), Claudia Rendon (GWCC), Karolina Vasquez (UCD), Maria Zamora (OCC), Eric Hernandez (CSUF), Juan Meza (UCI), Nico Ruan (Sonoma State), and Christian Vasquez (UCLA).

This year's graduating class was honored with an inspirational address by Guest Speakers Salvador and Socorro Sarmiento. Socorro Torres Sarmiento studied French Civilization at the Sorbonne Universite, Paris, France; she earned her B.A. in Social Anthropology from la Escuela Nacional de Antropologia e Historia, Mexico City; a Teaching Credential from Escuela Nacional de Maestros and a Masters in Social Anthropology as well as her Ph.D. in Social Science from the University of California, Irvine.

Salvador studied at the Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia, Mexico City, Mexico before earning his BA in History from University of California, Irvine in 1973. He attended UCLA School of Law earning his Juris Doctorate in 1976. Judge Sarmiento is a Guest Lecturer at Santa Ana College, Cal State Fullerton, UC Irvine, UC Davis, and Chapman University. He is a member of the Judicial Grand Jury selection committee and is the current President of the UCI Alumni Association. Salvador has received numerous awards and recognitions by his peers and community organizations.

Graduating seniors received "College Readiness Kits," made possible by the generous donations of OCBF Board Members. Congratulations Class of 2011!!!

## HEM Spotlight



Jeanette Vega, HEM Class of 2007, graduated from UC Irvine with a Bachelors in Criminology, Law and Society and a minor in Education. She will attend Cal State Fullerton to pursue her Masters in Social Work. After that she hopes to work with youth in the justice system.



Gina Leon-Rodriguez, HEM Class of 2007, graduated from UC Irvine with a Bachelors in Chicano/Latino Studies and an Education Minor. She is in the process of applying to USC's online Masters in Social Work program and considering programs in Education. Another option is to start building work experience.

*Congratulations!*

## Graduation Memories

### Class of 2011



**Support is the key to success!**



## Movie Night



On Thursday, June 23, 2011 the Higher Education Mentoring Program hosted Movie Night at OCBF. Senior students had the opportunity to network, share their senior year concerns and enjoy snacks and pizza. HEM 2011 Graduates, Karla Cabanas (San Francisco State), Maribel Morales (Hampshire College), Yashira Avendano (Chapman) and Veronica Herrera (UCD) shared their senior year experience and provided students with useful tips. For example, to start college applications early, use summer as an opportunity to research schools/majors and practice time management skills.

Students watched the movie *College Road Trip* with Martin Lawrence and Raven Symore. It was a comic eye opener for students to see how difficult it can be for a parent to see their child go away to college. The movie gave students the chance to think about sharing their colleges of interest early with their parents.