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Student Voice

“CSM is a place where we can find those friends who we can also choose to call family”

- Sami, CSM Student

Statistically speaking, Rosa Mendez faced an uncertain future.
Growing up in an abusive home, Rosa found herself in with the wrong crowd. By 13, she had become involved in drugs, joined a gang, and run away from home. She was a regular at Juvenile Hall. At 16, Rosa left home for good and, soon after, dropped out of high school so she could work enough hours to pay her rent.

However, by the time Rosa was 21, she realized there would be a benefit to finishing high school. She decided to give school another chance, enrolling at Sequoia Adult School. She earned her high school diploma in just five months.

Then Rosa’s life turned around when a counselor noticed Rosa’s passion for fashion and style. The counselor suggested she enroll in the cosmetology program at the College of San Mateo. “I knew that studying cosmetology would give me the knowledge to become an independent and successful woman,” says Rosa.

But cosmetology has significant costs for books, uniform, shoes, and materials. The 15-month program can come to about $2,000 in addition to tuition, which was far more than Rosa could afford. That is where Upward Scholars stepped in, providing financial support for Rosa to turn her life around.

Upward Scholars, formerly known as Sequoia District Adult School Learners (SASS), helps low-income adults, mostly immigrants, overcome financial and academic barriers. The Palo Alto-based nonprofit provides community college scholarships that cover students' textbooks and transportation to college, laptops, tutors, mentors, and other support services.

“Through the CSM cosmetology program and the scholarship provided by Upward Scholars to cover Rosa's textbooks, transportation and cosmetology kit,” says Upward Scholars Executive Director Linda Prieto, “Our combined impact is helping Rosa achieve her dreams.”
Initially focused on sending students to Cañada College, Upward Scholars also now assists 103 students at CSM, 73 students at Skyline College, and 272 at Cañada College.

“Upward Scholars made a good future possible for me,” Rosa says. “And for that I will always be grateful.”

Career and Workforce Hub Holds Hospitality Careers Fair for CSM Students

CSM’s Career and Workforce Hub team hosted a Hospitality Career Fair on February 26 in the Bayview Dining Room, showcasing some of the region’s top employers in the travel and hospitality industry. Held in partnership with the San Mateo County/Silicon Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, the event gave students an opportunity to meet with employers to learn about the industry, career potential, available job opportunities, and how to prepare to apply.

Prominent regional employers participated, such as the Ritz Carlton Half Moon Bay, Four
Seasons Hotel, Pullman Hotel Redwood City and Domenico Winery. More than 100 students attended.

Next, the Career and Workforce Hub team will host its CSM Spring Career Fair on April 30.

Honors Project Students to Participate in Symposium at Stanford

College of San Mateo will be sending four Honors Project students to present at the 12th Annual Honors Research Symposium Stanford University in May. Presented by the Bay Area Honors Consortium, a group of 16 Northern California community college honors programs, the symposium selects about 100 students from more than 200 applicants across California to present research papers each year.

CSM’s four student representatives will present a range of research papers:

- **Antoneil Carter**: “Epigenetics: Intergenerational Trauma in African Americans”
- **Andreas Langenbacher**: “The Art of Creating a Piano Fantasy: Montage, Notation, Performance”
- **Alyssa Montserrat**: “To Drink or Not to Drink, There Was No Question: A Feminist/Historical Critique of Jonestown”
- **Su Latt Phone**: “Double-Consciousness in Contemporary Literature”
Honors Project coordinator and Professor of Film David Laderman will be coordinating the students presenting at the symposium, which takes place May 4 at the History Corner (Building 200) at Stanford University.

The symposium is a stimulating day of research presentations, food and music. Registration is $35 and open until April 15. Please visit http://www.bayhonors.org/symposium.

**Big Four Firms Come to CSM for Accounting Careers Workshop**

CSM Accounting faculty members teamed up with the Center for Audit Quality to bring the “Big Four” accounting firms to camps. A rare event for any campus, the event was called “Navigating Your Way to the Future” and featured talks by Big Four auditors about life as an auditor, career and earning potential, how to get an internship, and how to get a job.

Students had the opportunity to meet face to face with people from Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Accounting careers are high-paying, have many interesting pathways, and most important, there are jobs available now. CSM offers its popular
accounting programs for business majors, career changers, working professionals, and those interested in careers as a CPA, tax preparer or auditor – among many other avenues.

Students were incentivized to attend with free lunch and a $5 gift card from the CSM Bookstore.

CSM Photography Exhibit On View Now at San Mateo’s Gallery 25

Avenue 25 Gallery has organized an exhibition of photographs in collaboration with the Photography Department of the College of San Mateo. The exhibit is on view at Avenue 25 Gallery through April 12.

Drawing from CSM classes focused upon digital and film-based photography, the prints in the exhibit reflect numerous processes: black and white and color digital prints, black and white and experimental darkroom prints, hand-colored prints, double exposures, cyanotypes, platinum-toned kallitypes, gold-toned salt.
prints and night photography. Engaging a myriad variety of themes, sensibilities and printing techniques, the images in this exhibit were selected primarily from students enrolled in the CSM photography program between 2015 and 2018. Faculty work is also included in the exhibit.

The exhibit was curated by Charles Anselmo of Avenue 25. For gallery hours and more information, visit avenue25gallery.com.

Students, family members, faculty and community members mingled at an opening reception for the exhibit on March 8.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Recess
Monday, April 1 – Saturday, April 6
Enjoy your spring break!

Free 2018 Income Tax Preparation (VITA)
Saturdays, through March 30 • 9:00 am - 12:30 pm
CSM South Hall Building 14, Room 104
CSM Accounting students will prepare non-complex income tax returns for free for individuals/families with income less than $55,000. No appointment necessary. See requirements at: collegeofsanmateo.edu/freetaxes. Funding for this free service provided by United Way of the Bay Area.

CSM Track & Field – CSM Open
Saturday, April 6, 2019 • All Day Event
CSM Track
Come cheer on the Bulldogs!

CSM Baseball vs. De Anza
Tuesday, April 9 • 3 pm
CSM Softball Field
Come cheer on the Bulldogs!

CSM Beach Volleyball vs. Cabrillo
Friday, April 12, 2019 • 1 pm
Come out and cheer on the Bulldogs!

The Sky Tonight Planetarium Show
Secret Lives of Stars
Friday, April 12 • 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
CSM Science Building 36, Planetarium
Come for a live presentation about what’s visible in the night sky tonight, followed by a full dome immersive movie about fascinating topics in astronomy! The first 50-minute show begins at 7:30pm in the CSM Planetarium, and is repeated again at 8:30pm.

Jazz Under the Stars
Free Stargazing on CSM’s Rooftop Observatory
Saturday, April 13 • 8:30 pm - 10:30 pm
CSM Science Building 36, Planetarium
Come see craters on the first quarter moon, Mars, star clusters, and more through our telescopes while listening to KCSM Jazz 91 FM! Dress warmly and come by anytime between 8:30 pm & 10:30 pm.

CSM Earth Day Job Fair
Promoting Sustainable Careers
Wednesday, April 17 • 10 am - 1 pm
College Heights Building 10, Bayview Dining room
The fifth annual Earth Day Job Fair will focus on helping students get the sustainable jobs of the future. More than 20 exhibitors and student groups will present on biodiversity, water, waste, energy, and social justice issues affecting the CSM community. The Mana student community will be presenting their research projects throughout the event.

Connect to College
A Night of Information for High School Seniors and Parents
Thursday, April 18 • 6 pm - 8 pm
CSM Science Building 36, Planetarium
High school students and families can meet CSM students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni on this special night. Learn how CSM can help you reach your transfer and career goals!

Science, Art, and Emotion - A Personal Journey
32nd Presentation of Art & Science
Friday, April 19 • 7:30 pm - 9 pm
CSM Theatre Building 3
In this talk, Professor Mohsen Janatpour examines the orthodoxy that scientists search for facts dispassionately, and that artistic creation is an emotional endeavor. The evening ends with stargazing in front of the theatre.