

Honors Program

Oliver Jallejo

Submitted by Melanie Eckford-Prossor

Honors celebrates Oliver Vallejo, a Santa Barbara native who has excelled as both a student and a leader. Oliver creates community in the PODS he leads and in his role as Honors Program Co-President. Just as he has positively affected students, his questions and intelligence have encouraged faculty to teach more challenging ideas. Professors praise him for his work ethic and drive: he is “hardworking, passionate, and committed to advancing his written and oral communication skills,” qualities that capitalize on his “intellectual curiosity and openness to new ideas.” He has earned an impressive 4.0 in his Honors courses, and his down to earth attitude and collegiality to professors and fellow students attests to Oliver’s bright future and abiding promise.

Oliver’s Words of Gratitude

I would first like to say thank you to both Melanie and last year's Honors Presidents that allowed me to really showcase the dedication and vision I had for the Honors Program this year. I know that COVID restricted us and many around us, but we still persevered through it all. I also want to thank the Enrollment Services Department for giving me an opportunity to work in a professional work environment before having the opportunity to become a Co-President for the Honors Program. I finally want to thank my family for always pushing me and showcasing me the ethics of hard work and determination. Without them as my support system, I can say truly that I would not be the person I am today both in and outside of school. For all of us in my family, me graduating SBCC is the first time we have gone through this ceremony process. I came into the city college upset that I was not able to attend a four year university out of high school and was determined to get in and out as fast as I possibly could have. Now as I am preparing to leave the school, I realize that this decision is the best decision of my young life so far. I am leaving with not only the knowledge gained from all

the amazing professor's but with truly meaningful relationships with everyone that I came into contact with here at the school. The only thing I wish I had before I leave SBCC, is more time so that I can gain more meaningful relationships with those around me.