



PSP LA Graduation  
June 1, 2019

# DEAR CLASS OF 2019,

Congratulations on your high school graduation!

Six years ago, you embarked on this journey as Partnership Scholars. You were selected because we saw you possessed the motivation to get the most out of this program and succeed in achieving your goals. During your time as Partnership Scholars, you learned much and had many new eye-opening experiences with your mentors. Activities ranging from ballets, sporting events, museum tours and college visits, to the test prep, college and financial aid applications that are necessary to secure your academic future - These experiences helped shape who you are today.

Over these six years, we have seen you grow tremendously and we are confident that you are ready for your next challenge in life: college!

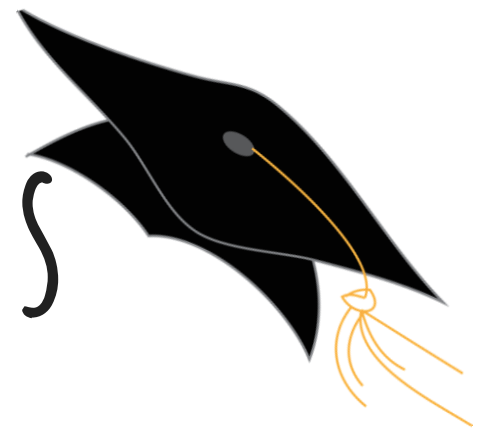
College will be another new, exciting and challenging experience. This will be yet another period of discovery, as you hone your interests and prepare for your future. We know that you will succeed in college because you have been taught to believe in yourself by your parents, mentors, teachers and sponsors. Graduation is the time to celebrate your educational success. Take some time to ponder on how far you've come and know that the best is yet to be seen.

“Let us make our future now, and let us make our dreams tomorrow's reality.”

- *Malala Yousafzai, world's youngest Nobel Prize winner*

Sincerely,  
The Partnership Scholars Board of Trustees and Staff

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019



**Sincerely,  
Your Mentors**

HERE

ARE

SOME

THINGS

MENTORS

SHARED



DEMIS  
&  
CRISTINA

Alma Fernandez, Mentor

Instruction ends in the  
schoolroom, but education  
ends only with life.

–Frederick W. Robertson

PABLO

“What lies behind us and what lies  
before us are small matters compared  
to what lies within us.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, American  
essayist

Mentor: Edwin Maldonado



EDUARDO

“To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream, not only plan, but also believe.”

—Anatole France, French poet

Mentor: Edwin Maldonado





To: Alexis, Stephanie, & Monserad  
From: Mary Little, Mentor



# ALEXIS

Your smile and passion for life is contagious, and you always make our adventures so much fun! Keep that passion in all you do, it has helped you accomplish so much already. You are at the threshold of many new challenges, and I know you will be a success in all you do. I am so proud of you! Best of luck always.

Much love,  
Mrs. Mary Little, Mentor





# STEPHANIE

Our first adventure was to the Grand Canyon. You have accomplished so much in the years since then. With your sense of humor and passion, as well as your hard work, focus, and never give-up attitude, you have created the pathway to your new adventures in college. I couldn't be prouder of you and know you will be a success! Best of luck always.

Love you,  
Mrs. Mary Little, Mentor

# MONSERAD

That shy, quiet girl who visited Catalina has grown into a poised, confident young woman, with a great sense of humor. You have worked hard and achieved so much, and I am so proud of all you have accomplished. I believe in you and know that you will have great success in college. Best of luck always!

Much love,  
Mrs. Mary Little, Mentor





# MICHAEL

“Take pride in how far you’ve come.  
Have faith in how far you can go. But  
don’t forget to enjoy the journey.”

—Michael Josephson, American  
lawyer

**Ruben Bojorquez, Mentor**



TO : KIMBERLY, GISSELLE, & JULISSA  
FROM: ALICE SHUM, MENTOR

626.861.2772

EXIT GAME

THEEXITGAME.COM

# KIMBERLY

Take this time to reflect on the past six years. You've made great decisions and have grown to a mature young adult. You are not afraid to speak up for yourself. You have done a great job in school, worked at a bank, took care of you siblings and danced for your church. Working, going to school, balancing your life, and being a part of this program is not easy, but you knew what your priorities were and did them well. I know you will continue to work hard at the things you want. Don't take the easy road because you have to get something done, but do things that will help you in the long run. I'm so proud of you and your accomplishments.

- Alice Shum, Mentor





# GISSELLE

Take this moment in time to reflect on the past six years. You've made good choices and I have seen you become a mature young adult. You have done a wonderful job in school and you even completed a marathon as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Training for a marathon and going to school is not an easy task, but you did it. You know if you work at something you really want, it will happen. Take advantage of the many opportunities that come your way. I know you won't let them escape you. Don't take the shortcuts. They are only temporary solutions to life. Keep your eyes on your future. I'm so proud of you and your accomplishments.

- Alice Shum, Mentor

# JULISSA

This is a great time to reflect on the past six years. You've made great choices and I have seen you become a mature young adult. You have done a fantastic job in school, taking care of your family, and you even completed a marathon as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Training for a marathon, going to school and helping out at home is not an easy task, but you did it. You know if you work at something you really want, it will happen. Take advantage of opportunities and don't take the easy route when the hard route will help you more in your future. Discover your path and keep doing well. I'm so proud of you and your accomplishments.

- Alice Shum, Mentor







To: Enrique & Eduardo From: Jeff Morris, Mentor



# ENRIQUE

Athletic, intelligent, and gracious. You have matured and developed mentally and physically over the last four years. I am proud that I have helped to shape the person that you have become. May the future hold great promise for you.

- Jeff Morris, Mentor

# EDDIE

Humorous, respectful, athletic, and smart. You had a difficult road to get where you are. You got off track, but regained your discipline and passion, which has led you to a good, solid place in your life. Now you are ready to take the next step. I wish you much success. I am glad to have made a positive difference in your life.

- Jeff Morris, Mentor





TO: MILCA AND KEVIN

FROM: VIVIANA IACIOFANI, MENTOR

# KEVIN

Since you were in seventh grade you stood out above others as a truly wonderful person. Your kind heart and common sense is second to none. Your sense of fairness and willingness to do good in life is beyond your years. The world is fortunate to have you in it! It's been a wonderful experience being your mentor. Follow your dreams. Congratulations!

- Viviana Iaciovani, Mentor

# MILCA

With your brilliant mind and enormous good heart, you will undoubtedly accomplish many wonderful things in life. You have been and continue to be a true example of what it means to be a true scholar and an outstanding person. All of your hard work and dedication has paid off. I will always cherish all of the memorable experiences and adventures that we have had together.

Congratulations!

- Viviana Iaciovani, Mentor



TO : PATRICIA & EMILY

FROM: JOANNA MARRUFO, MENTOR

# EMILY

Way to go on getting into a fantastic university! You are the most resilient person I know and I am honored to have been your mentor. You have grown so much through the transitions of high school and I recognize all the waves of challenges and successes you have had on building your self-confidence and your personal development.

Your excitement in trying in foods, experiencing new things, and will always be remembered. Don't be a stranger and always know you have me to turn to in case you need support throughout your journey. You have so much passion for writing and telling your story, I have no doubt you will excel as a writer professionally. Trust yourself and your intuition as you are navigating school the next four years and you will be set for life. Congrats on your journey!



- JOANNA MARRUFO, MENTOR



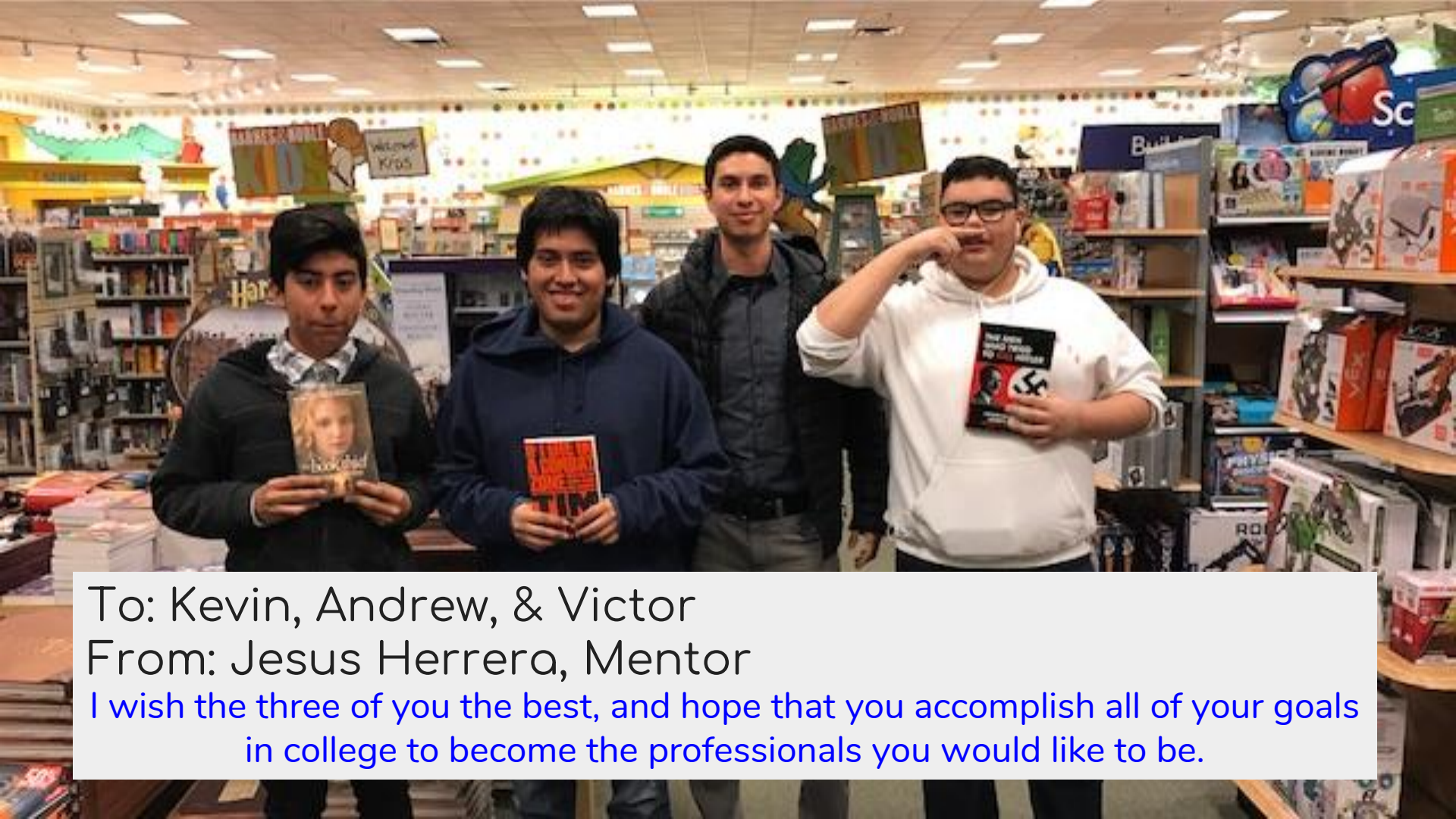


# PATTY

I am beyond proud of your accomplishments! Congrats on getting into a wonderful university. I know you are going to make all of us proud as you enter into the next stage of your life. Take risks and fail forward because college is all about challenging your inner core.

You have always been a leader in my eyes and ever since the beginning of applications, you have never doubted your passion for serving others when they need you the most. You are making a huge impact on your community! Whether it's medical school, or any other goal, I know you will accomplish anything you set your mind to. Always remember you can turn to me when you need anything!

- JOANNA MARRUFO, MENTOR

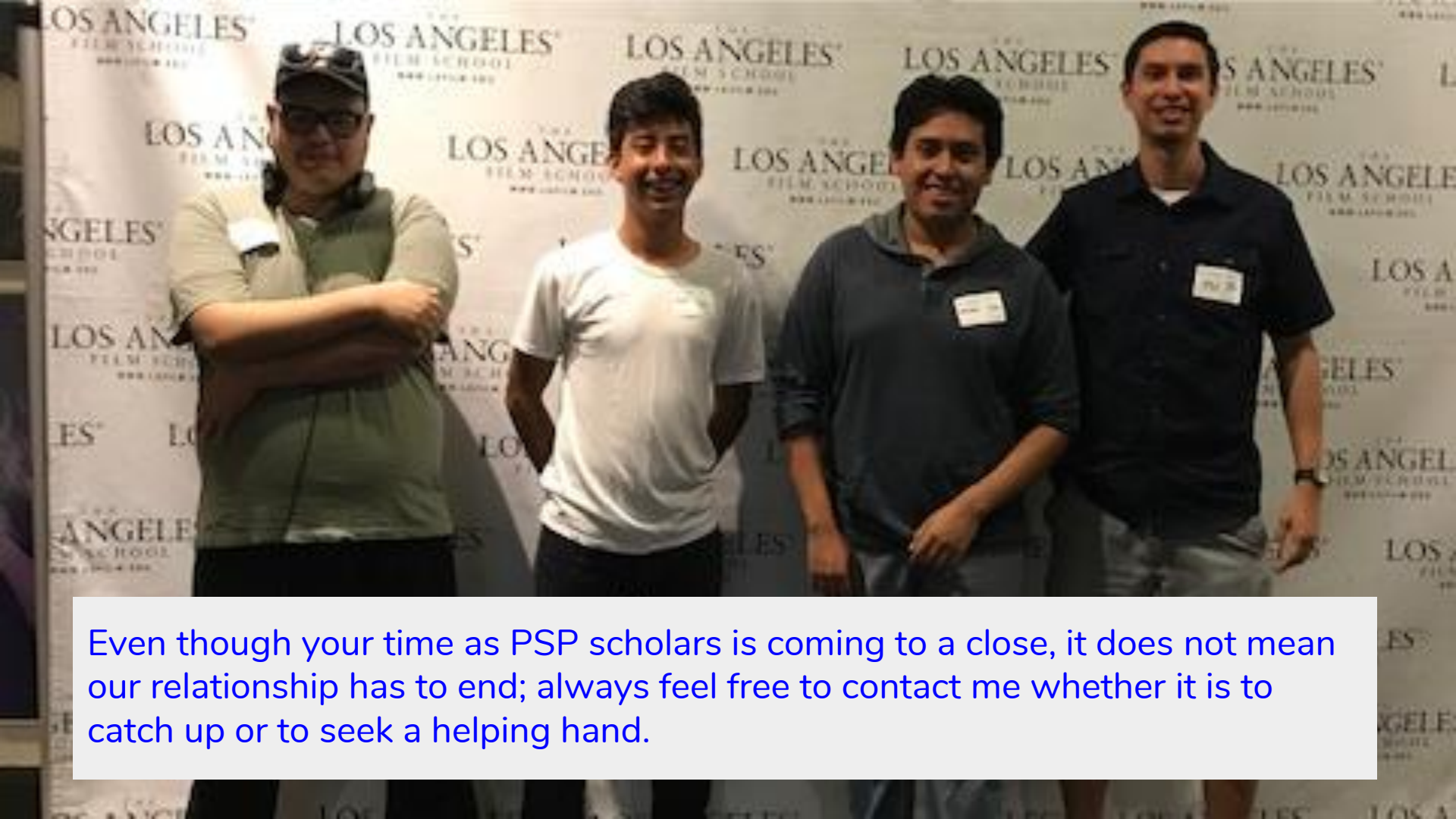


To: Kevin, Andrew, & Victor  
From: Jesus Herrera, Mentor

I wish the three of you the best, and hope that you accomplish all of your goals in college to become the professionals you would like to be.



I appreciate all of the experiences we had together because they gave us opportunities to learn and teach each other new things while having fun.



Even though your time as PSP scholars is coming to a close, it does not mean our relationship has to end; always feel free to contact me whether it is to catch up or to seek a helping hand.

# ZYANYA

“A LEADER, A GO-GETTER, AND AN INDEPENDENT, STRONG WOMAN! YOU HAVE BLOSSOMED INTO A YOUNG ADULT AND CREATED A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOURSELF. ALWAYS TAKE THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED AND YOU WILL FIND YOUR PLACE IN THIS NEW PHASE OF YOUR LIFE. SO PROUD OF YOU!”

- JAMIE TRINH, MENTOR



# JASON

“

YOU HAVE BUILT A SPECIAL COMMUNITY THROUGH YOUR ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT AND COMPASSIONATE HEART, YOU HAVE PROVEN CREATIVE AND ADAPTABLE IN SETTING AND MEETING YOUR GOALS, AND NOW YOU STAND AS A COURAGEOUS

VISIONARY IN YOUR SAN FRANCISCO COLLEGE ENDEAVOR.”

- MIKE BEAR, MENTOR

# ROBERTO

“

YOU REMAIN THE RESPONSIBLE, CONSCIENTIOUS, AND KIND YOUNG MAN WHO HAS GROWN MORE INTELLIGENT, ENGAGING AND CAPABLE. NOW TO OCCIDENTAL, A MOST SPECIAL ACADEMIC AND ENLIGHTENED COMMUNITY, WELL SUITED TO REINFORCE, CHALLENGE AND GROW YOUR SPECIAL SPIRIT.

”

- MIKE BEAR, MENTOR

# SAMANTHA

“

A YOUNG SOCIAL JUSTICE, POLITICAL ACTIVIST IN THE MAKING! YOUR ABILITY TO CHALLENGE SOCIAL NORMS AND RECOGNIZE THE INJUSTICES IS FAR BEYOND MANY, INCLUDING ME WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE. ALWAYS TAKE THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED AND

YOU WILL FIND YOUR PLACE IN THIS NEW PHASE OF YOUR LIFE. SO PROUD OF YOU!”

- JAMIE TRINH, MENTOR





El Monte mentor Alice Shum receives the Cultural and Academic Partner Award, presented by Benji Friedman, Vice Chair of PSP Board











CONGRATULATIONS

SCHOLARS



THANK YOU

MENTORS