

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE'S INAUGURAL

# *Latinx/e*

**GRADUATION CELEBRATION**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024**

5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.



# Latinx/e

## GRADUATION CELEBRATION

### AGENDA

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024 | 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

**SALUTATION AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**  
***RECONOCIMIENTO DE TIERRA***

Dr. Erika Knox, Transfer Counselor  
Dr. Lourdes Arévalo, Modern Languages Faculty

**WELCOME | *LA BIENVENIDA***

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, Superintendent/President  
Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez, Board of Trustees Chair

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER | *ORADOR PRINCIPAL***

Mayola Delgado, SMC alum/Senior Director of  
Community Empowerment & Communications for TelevisaUnivision

**STUDENT SPEAKER | *ORADOR ESTUDIANTIL***

Ana Mora (Future Bruin)

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATING STUDENTS**  
***RECONOCIMIENTO DE GRADUADOS***

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, Superintendent/President  
Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez, Board of Trustees Chair

**SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CLOSING REMARKS**  
***AGRADECIMIENTOS ESPECIALES Y REMARQUES DE CIERRE***

Dr. Erika Knox, Transfer Counselor  
Dr. Lourdes Arévalo, Modern Languages Faculty

**RECEPTION | *RECEPCIÓN***

SMC Main Campus Quad



**HELLO FROM**  
Superintendent/President  
Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery

You came with a dream and each semester you persevered with courage. With graduation, you have a major victory in hand.

The world needs your talent and will benefit from your intellect, creativity, vision, your lived experiences, commitment to culture and community, and your desire to not just grow but to thrive.

Shout it loud and say it proud, "I did it!" We at SMC are proud with you and celebrate your success.



**HELLO FROM**  
Board of Trustees  
Dr. Margaret Quiñones-Perez

Wow what an incredible day, the first ever SMC Latino/Latinx graduation ceremony! You should all be very proud of yourself as we are! And I welcome and embrace your hard work and the sacrifices of your loved ones to achieve this milestone.

We are confident you will go and make this world brighter and stronger. As a Chicana graduate of SMC, I lived for this moment of your greatness.



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

### Sr. Director, Community Empowerment

### Mayola Delgado

Ms. Delgado is a highly accomplished media executive with a rich background in the media entertainment industry. She is the Senior Director of Community Empowerment & Communications for TelevisaUnivision Los Angeles, the leading media company serving Hispanic America.

Her role underscores her commitment to leveraging media platforms for social good. Through her leadership, she spearheads initiatives that raise awareness and actively engage and empower the Hispanic community.

With over 25 years of experience, she brings a wealth of expertise in community relations, talent management, cause marketing, and strategic planning. Her track record includes two Emmy® awards, showcasing her excellence in the field. Passionate about mission-driven work, she thrives on creating cross-platform campaigns and fostering meaningful partnerships.

Ms. Delgado's commitment to mission-driven work shines through in her ability to craft impactful cross-platform campaigns and foster partnerships that make a real difference in society. With a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and a Minor in English Writing from Cal State University, Northridge, she has a strong academic foundation that complements her professional accomplishments. Her expertise in leveraging media for corporate social responsibility efforts positions her as a valuable asset, where she undoubtedly contributes to the company's efforts to create positive change.

**LANGUAGE:** Bilingual –English and Spanish.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:** Multi-media Executive, Public Relations, CSR, DEI, SI.

**TOP INTERESTS:** Alzheimer's Advocacy, Education and Veterans

**AWARDS:** 2 Emmy® awarded by ATAS





## **THE MEANING OF HISPANIC-SERVICE INSTITUTIONS (HSI)**

The U.S. Department of Education, a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) is defined as an institution of higher education with an enrollment of undergraduate students that is at least 25% Hispanic students. Santa Monica College is recognized nationally as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) with close to 40% of our enrolled students identifying as Hispanic or Latinx/e, representing the largest ethnic group at SMC.

As an HSI, SMC is a community strengthened by the tapestry of cultures, experiences, and histories of our Latinx/e students. This inaugural 2024 Latinx/e graduation celebration is a testament to SMC's commitment to our Latinx/e students and a special time dedicated to recognize our gente's academic excellence, resilience, and persistence to meet their self-defined goals. This event not only marks a significant milestone in our students' academic journeys but also commemorates the deep cultural heritage that they bring to our institution. SMC is proud to honor their achievements and their families, mentors, and friends who have been pillars of support.



## GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024

ADA DURAN	DIANA GOMEZ
ALDO BARRERA	EDWIN DOMINGUEZ
ALEJANDRA LOPEZ GUADARRAMA	ELIAN TAMAYO-CAAMAL
ALEX MARIA BONIN	EMILIO MENDOZA-BARDALES
ALYSSA ARREOLA	EMILY RAMIREZ
AME ABLE	ERIK FLORES
ANA MORA	ESMERALDA HERNANDEZ
ANA ROCHA	FERGIE ALVARADO SUAZO
ANA SOLIS	FREDERICK CHANGO CELEMIN
ANGELINA SANDIFORD	GABRIELA AVILA RODRIGUEZ
ANGIE VILLAO	GABRIELA JIMENEZ OPORTO
ASHLIE CACELIN	GENESIS MATIAS
AYLIN RAMIREZ	GISELLE MARTINEZ
BEATRIZ DIAZ	HANS NEUMANN
BLANCA ORTEGA CHEVEZ	HAYLIE HUERTA
BRENDA HERNANDEZ	HEIDI MENDEZ
BRIAN HERNANDEZ	ISABEL SIERRAS
BRIANNA MAGANA	ISABELLA MUNRO
BRIGETTE AMAYA	IVETTE FLORES
CAMILLE MEDINA	JACQUELINE CORTEZ
CATHY PEREZ	JAHIR PABLO-SALAS
CECILIA CUA GODOY	JANELI CRUZ
CHELSEY VALLES	JASMINE MARTINEZ
CHRISTOPHER HERNANDEZ-GONZALEZ	JASON ALAS
CLAUDIA TELLO PEREZ	JENNIFER PERAZA
COSETTE RAMIREZ	JENNIFER SALCIDO
CRISTINA ARAGON MARTINEZ	JESSICA MORALES
CRYSTELA HERRERA	JO-ANN ANDRADE
DAMARIS MOLINA	JOANNA HERNANDEZ
DANIEL MEJIA	JOLIE RAMOS
DANIEL SILVA	JOSELIN SANCHEZ
DANIELA HERNANDEZ	JOSEPH SANCHEZ
DAPHNE MARCIAL SANTIAGO	JOSIE RAMOS
DENISE DE LEON	JOSUE GAMEZ

## GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024

JOSUE RUVALCABA  
JOVANNA DE LA TRINIDAD  
JULIAN RIOS  
KAREN LOPEZ  
KARINA MELCHOR  
KASSANDRA MIRELES  
KATE SANCHEZ  
KATHELEEN LOPEZ  
KAYLEE GOMEZ  
KENDRA LUIS  
KENNETH HERNANDEZ  
KEVIN HERNANDEZ  
KIMBERLY CIFUENTES  
KIMBERLY FLORES  
KIMBERLY GOMEZ  
LAURA GUTIERREZ-MATEO  
LESLIE DOMINGUEZ  
LIZBETH PINZON  
LIZBETH SANCHEZ  
LIZETH ALONZO  
LUIS GARZON  
MANUELA CONCHA  
MARIA ALECIO  
MARIA HERNANDEZ  
MARICRUZ PALACIOS CEBADA  
MARISOL HERNANDEZ  
MELENY ORNELAS  
MELISSA HERNANDEZ  
MELISSA IXEN  
MICHELLE GONZALEZ  
MILAGRO MARTINEZ  
MILAGROS VALDEZ AIJENBON  
MILLY BALTAZAR  
NATALIE ALVAREZ

NATALIE LOPEZ LOPEZ  
NATHALIE HERRERA  
NELLY MARROQUIN  
NIDIA NOLASCO  
NIZABETH GUDINO JIMENEZ  
OSCAR FLORES DOMINGUEZ  
PAOLA RODRIGUEZ  
RAFAEL LAINEZ  
ROBERT LUCERO  
ROCIO CASTRO  
ROXANA CASTRO  
SAMANTHA TZEC  
SANDY SANTOS CHIA  
SARAH CHITA  
SOLANGIE SUAREZ  
SONYA CUIEL  
STEPHANIE MORALES  
STEPHANIE SOLIS  
STEVE GALINDO  
TIFFANY KEELING  
TRISTAN DURON  
TZARINA SOPHIA RAMOS ZAPATA  
VALERIA LOPEZ DE LA CERDA  
VANESSA HERNANDEZ  
VANESSA RODARTE  
VERONICA MORAN ELIZONDO  
VIVIANE PORTILLO  
XITLALLY GARCIA  
YANDERY FLORES  
YEIMI QUINTANILLA CARBALLO  
YULIBETH LOPEZ BRAVO  
ZITLALLI RODRIGUEZ  
ZULMA EK



## **SPECIAL APPRECIATION**

### **Advisory Committee Members**

Carla Alvarado  
Maria Bonin  
Emily Chavez  
Aaron De La Torre  
Valeria Garcia  
Christina Marcial  
John Quevedo  
Martha Romano  
Estela Ruezga

### **Committee at Large**

Thomas Bui  
Silvana Carrion  
Dr. Kiersten Elliott  
Paige Graves  
Dr. Paul Jimenez  
Jose Hernandez  
Eartha Johnson  
Hannah Mock  
Maria Martinez  
Dr. Marisol Moreno  
Dr. Maria Muñoz  
Dr. Sara Nieves-Lucas  
Cindy Ordaz  
Stuart Ortiz  
Diana Pennington  
Rebecca Romo  
Janet Tercero  
Dr. Esau Tovar

### **Deepest gratitude to the following departments for their invaluable support and contributions:**

Auxiliary Services: David Dever, Director  
Community & Academic Relations  
Events Department: Rob Rudolph, Adrian Thomas, Michael Gunderson  
Maintenance and Operations Department  
Marketing Department  
Procurement, Contracts, and Logistics Department  
Reprographics Department  
Student Equity Center  
Warehouse, Receiving, and Mailroom

## **SPECIAL APPRECIATION**

### **Special Acknowledgement to our Distinguished Speakers**

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery, Superintendent/President, Santa Monica College  
Dr. Margaret Quinonez-Perez, Santa Monica College Board of Trustee Chair  
Mayola Delgado, Senior Director, Community Empowerment from  
TelevisaUnivision, Inc Ana Mora, Student Speaker

### **Special Thanks for Efforts & Contributions**

Dr. Erika Knox, Transfer Counselor  
Dr. Lourdes Arévalo, Modern Languages Faculty  
Alpha Gamma Sigma Student Volunteers  
Athletics Program: Reggie Ellis, Director  
Oaxacans at SMC Club  
Phi Theta Kappa Student Volunteers  
SMC Mariachi

### **Madrinas y Padrinos de Grupo Folklórico Guish-Bac y Banda de Música Guil Latz**

Christina Marcial  
Diana Pennington  
Latinx Collective

### **Madrina de Flores**

Renay Garcia

## **VENDORS**

A3 Visuals  
Amazing Balloons  
Casa Blanca Restaurant  
De La Calle's Tepache  
Del Rey Party Rentals  
Food Fiesta Carts  
Manhattan Stitching  
Power 106  
Venice Paparazzi  
Amy Williams Photography  
TelevisaUnivision

## AUTOGRAPHS

# MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

**Saludos, queridx/e estudiantes,**

On behalf of your SMC familia, the committee wishes to extend a heartfelt congratulations to each one of you on this monumental occasion. Today marks a significant milestone in your academic journey, and we are honored to celebrate this achievement with you.

Your decision to embark on your academic journey at SMC fills us with immense pride. We know that this accomplishment is just the beginning of the many remarkable milestones that lie ahead for each of you. As you reflect on your time here, may you cherish the memories created, the knowledge gained, and the friendships forged.

We are especially grateful and excited to witness your participation in the first-ever Latinx/e graduation celebration at SMC. Your presence enriches our community, and your accomplishments inspire us all.

To the family and friends who have supported you throughout your academic endeavors, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. Your unwavering encouragement and love have played an integral role in the success of our graduating students.

As you embark on the next chapter of your journey, we encourage you to continue striving for excellence and to embrace the opportunities that come your way. Your stories are a testament to the resilience and determination of the Latinx/e community.

Congratulations to all of the students participating in today's celebration! Your hard work and dedication have brought you to this moment, and we couldn't be prouder. Adelante, with pride and determination, as you continue to make your mark on the world.

**Orgullosamente,  
The Latinx/e Graduation Celebration Committee**

