These students represent the face of California public higher education. Each student comes with a unique history and when they reach the doors of the California Community Colleges, the California State University and the University of California, they begin a path to transform their lives through learning. They are the future of California’s remarkable landscape—its scientists and engineers, its health care and hospitality professionals, its artists and agriculturists, its teachers and technology leaders. The people of California built a robust system of public higher education. Now, together, we need to protect it, build it and grow it.

www.cccco.edu
www.calstate.edu/takeaction
www.uc4ca.org
With purpose, progress is possible. I have had the opportunity to turn my life around. Victor Valley College made it hard to fail and easy to succeed.”
My college experience has instilled a burning desire to continue my journey of personal growth and self-improvement; to compete with myself on a daily basis to be better than I was the day before.”
I have always loved learning, and the chance to be immersed in such an intellectually rich environment is absolutely invigorating. I am extremely grateful for professors who have welcomed me with open arms.”
Thanks to Pierce College and my hands-on experience in the Pre-Veterinary program, I’m on track to a successful career as a veterinarian in the Army Veterinary Corps overseeing the health and well-being of our nation’s military working dogs.”
Evergreen Valley College has given me the tools necessary to overcome the challenges I face each day, and the encouragement to continue my goal of becoming an attorney.”
I have learned to see beyond the horizon, have developed my leadership skills and have been encouraged to engage and interact with my professors, for which I am very grateful.”

ALIX ALCAZAR
CSU LOS ANGELES
Hard work and determination pay off in higher education. If you are willing to devote yourself to your education and pursue the opportunities you really want, you can go anywhere and become anything.”
Attending college to me means hope. It means that I will be paving the way for my family and all young people of color to know that higher education is possible, no matter what barriers they face.”
Without higher education and the educators that have helped me along my journey, I wouldn’t be the student, advocate, community member and leader that I pride myself to be today.”