

SANTA ANA COLLEGE

CLASSIFIED

Awards for Excellence

2020



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Annual Classified Awards for Excellence

Chancellor's Message

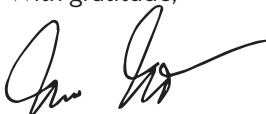
Dear Colleagues,

As is often said, "It takes a village" to educate a student. SAC's dedicated classified employees, the backbone of Santa Ana College, comprise a vibrant and vital part of our village. These employees work with SAC's students, faculty, family members, business partners and community members every day to perform the vital activities – clerical, technical, maintenance, and instructional support – to ultimately create an environment that fosters SAC's students' successful learning and completion.

While 2020 has presented unique and seemingly insurmountable challenges for all of us, I am proud to say that SAC's classified employees have truly stepped up to the challenges in a big way and have helped to enable our students continue on their educational paths.

The SAC 2020 Annual Classified Awards for Excellence honors Santa Ana College's finest! Your hard work and dedication, especially now, have not gone unnoticed. Thank you for creating the path to enable the success of our students and the betterment of our communities.

With gratitude,



Marvin Martinez

President's Message

Our Classified staff members provide the necessary support, in a myriad of ways to keep Santa Ana College moving forward every day. I am grateful for your commitment to provide customer service that is second to none to our new and continuing students. As we continue with Guided Pathways, your efforts and engagement in our campus-wide activities related to this project are valued and appreciated. Your dedication to make our campus a welcoming place and your unconditional support of our students do not go unnoticed, especially so in the midst of these unprecedented times. I am honored to celebrate the excellent work that you do, every day.



Linda D. Rose, Ed.D.

President, Santa Ana College

The Classified Employee of the year honor recognizes the contributions made by our excellent classified staff at Rancho Santiago Community College District in providing support service to our students and the institution. All college personnel are invited to submit nominations for consideration by the Classified Awards Committee. Selection for this honor is determined on the basis of a vote count, assessment of individual recommendations and involvement in district activities.

Classified Employee of the Year



John Nguyen
Student Services Coordinator

Congratulations to John Nguyen as this year's recipient of the Classified Employee of the Year 2020 Award!

John is a Student Services Coordinator working in the Department of Student Life and serving in his new full-time position for almost a year. As the lead advisor for Santa Ana College, Associate Student Government, John goes out of his way to ensure students have the support and resources that are needed to succeed. He is also known as a very dedicated employee who strives to do great work. John's leadership skills and positive attitude are evident in how he leads the team for success. He also loves learning with students outside of the classroom and engages with them through their personal journey as leaders in their community.

John has an innate ability to connect with students and truly understands how to best support them. He truly goes above and beyond to ensure the success of his students.

A special salute to John on his acknowledgment as the 2020 Classified Employee of the Year!

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H.O.T.T. (Half-of-the-Time) Award



Michelle Ayala
Student Service Specialist

A special recognition to Michelle Ayala, recipient of the 2020 Half-of-the-Time Award!

Michelle is the Job Developer for the CalWorks Work-Study Program at Santa Ana College. She assists students to locate jobs campus-wide. In addition, she helps students to develop their work resume and interview preparations.

Michelle has developed a strong relationship with staff and faculty to procure new jobs and screens potential candidates looking for a good match between students and department needs. She is a role model using natural personal qualities and attitudes that are influential in bringing the best out in students.

Michelle provides individualized and group support. She guides students towards personal, educational and workplace success. Michelle is a very positive, diligent, organized and proactive classified employee.

Congratulations to Michelle for her dedication and exemplary full-time support as a part-time employee!

This award recognizes an individual who is “nearly indispensable” and who demonstrates sensitivity, dedication, resourcefulness, positive attitude and enthusiasm.

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Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award



Tanisha Burrus
Student Service Coordinator

Our warmest congratulations to Tanisha Burrus on her special acknowledgment as this year’s recipient of the Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award!

Tanisha has worked at Santa Ana College for more than four years. She provides support beyond the classroom that encourages and equips students to navigate the educational system. You will often find her working positively and calmly to make sure all reports are turned in on time and that deadlines are met.

Tanisha is an extremely positive and enthusiastic person. Her infectious attitude draws others to her, while her sensitivity and compassion allows her to form great relationships with colleagues and students. Tanisha represents this award in her dedication, diligence, and positive attitude.

Congratulations to Tanisha for her exceptional job, dedication, resourcefulness, and pride in serving Santa Ana College!

This award is given to an employee for demonstrating outstanding job performance and professional growth through education, positive impact and creativity, or experience and dedication to learning to promotion.

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Professional Achievement Award



Nandini Puri
Scholarships Coordinator

A special recognition to Nandini Puri, recipient of the 2020 Professional Achievement Award!

Nandini has been working for Santa Ana College for almost two years serving as the Scholarship Coordinator in the College Advancement and Foundation Department. Nandini received her Bachelors in Liberal Arts at Soka University. During the time that Nandini as worked at SAC, she has shown tremendous growth in partnering alongside staff, faculty, and students.

Her on-going professional development and worldly/ cultural knowledge is an absolutely asset for the Office of College Advancement and the Scholarship Program. Nandini has also increased scholarships workshops overall and has added many workshops that speak directly to specific groups of students that are engage in different learning communities across the campus. Her education in and outside the classroom has changed the culture of the scholarship program for the better; not just for students but for the colleagues she works with.

Nandini is an example of perseverance and innovation. Congratulations to Nandini on her acknowledgement with the Professional Achievement Award!

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2020 Classified Awards Finalists

Classified Employee of the Year

Irene Chua

Susana Cardenas

2020 Classified Awards Committee

Teresa Mercado-Cota, Co-Chair

Assistant Dean, Student Services

Lithia Williams, Co-Chair

Community Services Coordinator II

Christopher Wild

Classified Employee of the Year Award Recipient, 2018

Operations Specialists / Bookstore

Sandra Aguilar

Bill Brush Colleague Appreciation Award Recipient, 2019

Administrative Clerk / Employee Services, CEC

Thi Nguyen

Professional Achievement Award Recipient, 2019

Library Technician II / Fine & Performing Arts

Sophia Le

H-O-T-T (Half-of-the-Time) Award Recipient, 2018

Student Service Specialist / CalWorks

Amanda Farah

Public Affairs & Governmental Relations

Rancho Santiago Community College District

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Chancellor

Marvin Martinez

Santa Ana College President

Linda D. Rose, Ed.D.

Classified Service Pin Awards 2020

10 Years

Lawrence Abrahams

Kyle Bradly

Deborah Hollister

Louise Jones

Selina Lievanos

Sonia Lopez

Moises Medina

Cara Pierce

Beatrice Trujillo Zuniga

15 Years

Gloria Arvizu

David Breig

Juan Delgado

Rose Harrizon

Jorge Lopez-Galicia

Andrew Gonis Jr.

Martha Guerrero-Phlaum

Bart Hoffman

Lance Lockwood

Maria Palomares

Jose Palomares

Rey Robledo

Fidel Rodriguez

Kathy Takahashi

Marielena Zamudio

Monica Zarske

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Classified Service Pin Awards 2020 (Continued)

20 Years

Jennie Adams
Jose Amaton
Huong Banh
Monika Barberg
Steven Batista
Yasmina Briceno
Arthur Cheung
Jodi Coffman
Kamaljeet Dhaliwal
Dalva Dwyer
Irene Glomba
Cynthia Gonzalez
Tammy Hong
Kenny Hua
Elliott Jones
Trevor Kay
Paula Kusenda
Xuan Lan Ly
Sharon Leung
Elva Negrete
Johnny Nguyen
Steven Nguyen
Tung Nguyen
Maria Saldana
Karen Scott
Rosalind Smith
Christina Solheid
Michelle Vu

25 Years

Anthony Garcia
Jimmy Garza
Freddie Gonzales
Denise Hatakegama
Kristy Leung
Yvonne Maestas
Joseph Pacino
Randall Simons
Thu Van
Miriam Velarde

30 Years

Paula Canzona
Gregory Chamness
Marisela Godinez
Kenneth Gouldsmith
Brian Kehlenbach
Rich Manzano
Becky Miller
Michael Nguyen
John Quimzon
Brian Schroeder
Maria Torres-Carranza
Tonimarie Witheg

35 Years

Anh Ly
Maria Taylor
Terri Wann

Thank you

We would like to extend our gratitude to the following colleagues for their professional contributions: our valued partners, the Joint Faculty Co-Chairs and the Committee; Nancy Smith and Mary Law, Graphic Design; Joe Pacino and Brian Yoder, Media Productions; Sean Small and the Technical Theater team; John Tran and the Information Technology Team; Maria Taylor, Facilities Coordination; Maintenance & Operations; and Dean Hopkins, RSCCD Public Affairs. A special thank you to Christopher Wild and Sophia Le for serving on the Awards for Excellence Committee for the second consecutive year in order to fill vacancies. A very special appreciation to the Santa Ana College Foundation Board of Directors for their financial support of our Classified & Faculty Awards Program.

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