



PALOMAR COLLEGE®
Learning for Success

2025

RAZA SCHOLARS

ACHIEVEMENT

CELEBRATION

Friday, May 16, 2025

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

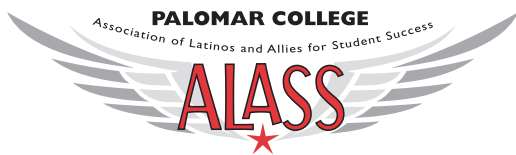
Student Union





Palomar College is a proud Hispanic Serving Institution

Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) are colleges and universities that are formally recognized for their commitment to serving the Hispanic population. Currently with 51% of our student population identifying as Hispanic, Palomar College is designated a HSI by the United States Department of Education. And thus we aim to surround our Hispanic/Latinx students with peers and support them with quality resources so they can succeed in their pursuit of a higher education.



The Association of Latinos and Allies for Student Success (ALASS)

strives to celebrate and promote Latino academic success on our campus and throughout our communities. Our mission is to bring together faculty, staff, students, and administrators to raise awareness of and advocate for the needs of our Latino student population. ALASS engages the Latino Community by providing access to higher education through activities and events that have a positive impact on student access, persistence, and academic success. Our programs seek to create an atmosphere where community members are embraced and feel welcomed. As a volunteer organization, we are committed to fulfilling the mission of Palomar College by opening new doors to opportunity and fully engaging our community in a supportive learning environment rich in diversity.

2025 RAZA SCHOLARS ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION

May 16, 2025

PROGRAM

Check-in & Dinner

Music by Baruc Castillo

Welcome Remarks

Star Rivera-Lacey, Ph.D.

Superintendent/President

Madrina y Padrino

Jennifer Herrera

Professor of History

Gary Sosa

Professor of ESL

Raza Recognition & Sarape Bestowing

Group Picture

Closing Remarks

Carmelino Cruz

ESL Matriculation Coordinator

Madrina 2025

Jennifer Herrera

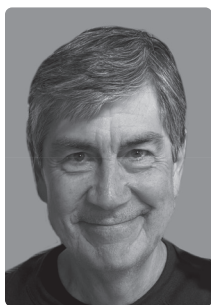


Jennifer Herrera is a Professor of the History of the Americas, U.S. History, and Latin American History at Palomar College. As a proud former Puente student and first-generation college graduate, she knows firsthand the challenges many students face. After starting her educational journey at Imperial Valley College, she transferred to California State University San Marcos, where she earned her graduate and postgraduate degrees in History. Jennifer's personal experiences inspire

her commitment to education and empowerment. With a focus on media, social, digital, and cultural history, she shares insights from various disciplines, particularly highlighting the history of women, race, and social and inter-ethnic relations.

Padrino 2025

Gary Sosa



Gary Sosa grew up in Pico Rivera, a suburb of Los Angeles, who along with his sister was raised primarily by his mother. He is a first-generation college student who managed to graduate from Cal State Long Beach after 7 years with a degree in English Literature and French. He received his M.A in TESOL (Teaching Speakers of Other Languages) at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in Monterey, CA. where his practice teaching included working with refugees

and farm laborers in Salinas. Gary has taught English in Asia (Taiwan and Hong Kong) and at Austin Community College in Texas. Gary came to Palomar College in 2004 where he now teaches noncredit ESL classes and participates in campus groups like ALASS and APAHE and the Dreamer Success Advisory group.

2025 RAZA SCHOLARS

Libni Aguilar

Ashley Alba

Sofia Alvarez

Maria Andrade

Jazmine Araujo Delgado

Clarissa Arcos

Giselle Arias Vivas

Pamela Arroyo Muñoz

Estefany Avonce

Briana Balderas

Gissel Balderas

Savannah Bernal

Brenda Camacho

Jessica Cardenas

Monica Castaneda Sanchez

Genesis Castro

Alberto Cervantes

Iris A. Chavez

Azul Coronado

Sarai Coronado

Jose Carlos Cortes Solis

Mario Cruz

Cynthia Cunningham

Vivianna De Leon

Jesenia Estrada

Pascual Flores

Melissa Fonseca

Crystal Fox

Anthony Garcia

Isabel Garcia

Monica Garcia

Crystal A. Gonzalez

Eric Gonzalez

Anahi Melissa Gonzalez

Geannie Griswold

Maricruz Gutierrez

Arlin Hernandez

Andrew Hernandez

Jaime Hernandez

Roger Ignacio

Kayla Jaime

Jenny Jiménez

Eliana Jimenez-Franklin

Anthony Lezama

Jarisbel Lobato

Karina Lopez

Priscilla Lopez

Ailynn Paulina Lopez

Monica Lopez Alvarado

Robert Mansfield

Linda Martinez

Jesse Mazariegos

2025 RAZA SCHOLARS

Esmeralda Medrano

Carlos Mendoza

Aurora Mentzer

Vanessa Montes

Stephen Montgomery

Maria Morales

Dolores Murillo

Cynthia Murillo

Emily Nava

Annette Nieto

Nallely Olivario

Angelica Ortega

Miriam Zoe Ortiz

Adilene Ortiz

Jacqueline Pablo

Karla Pacheco

Misty Padilla

Isabel Pedro

Alexis Perez

Jennifer Perez-Colbert

Kimberly Prado

Cynthia Ramirez

Jessica Rivera

Ricardo Rodriguez

Persephonie Rodriguez

Kimberly Rodriguez Bautista

Lucia Romero

Janette Romero Vallego

Gabriella Ruiz

Cynthia Ruiz

Orlando Ruiz

Karley Salas

Lisbeth Julissa Samano

Ellie Sanchez

Noel Sanchez

Gabriel Sanchez

Arlene Sanchez Gomez

Jason Solano

Arturo Soltero

Alondra Soltero

Michelle Steimle

Arien Taduran

Trenton Tam

Emma Tam

Leatumalama Unutoa

Ruben Vazquez

Odette Velasco

Gabriela Velducea

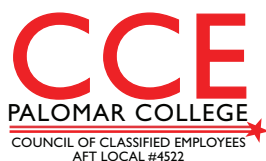
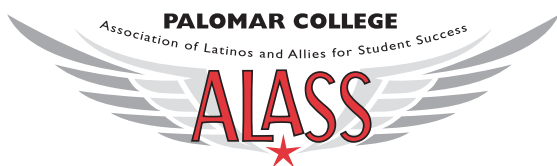
Arlette Vidaca

Kassandra Yanez

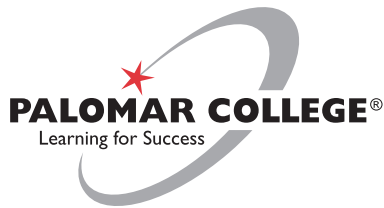
Sarahi Zavala

Arleth Zuniga

¡GRACIAS! SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS



PALOMAR COLLEGE



2025 COMMENCEMENT IS MAY 23, 2025

Commencement Ceremony
May 23, 2025

Graduate Check-in & Line-up
at the Dome
1:00 p.m.– 5:00 p.m.

Ceremony
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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