

Dr. TJ Owens
GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY



Be Someone. Go Somewhere. Seek Excellence.

Class of 2021
Commencement Celebration

Thursday, May 27, 2021
6:00 P.M.

BE SOMEONE. GO SOMEWHERE. SEEK EXCELLENCE.

CLASS OF
2021
COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATION

ORDER OF EVENTS (IN-PERSON)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.....	HASSTI TIRGARDOON
WELCOME ON BEHALF OF GUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION.....	GABRIEL KONG
OPENING REMARKS	SONIA FLORES
HISTORIAN ADDRESS.....	CLARISSA LARA
SALUTATORY ADDRESS.....	INES BOUISSOU
VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.....	CLAIRE HUANG
SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS.....	SONIA FLORES
KEYNOTE ADDRESS.....	CHARLA MITTMAN
PROCESSIONAL OF GRADUATES	SONIA FLORES
PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS OF 2021.....	DR. DEBORAH FLORES

BE SOMEONE. GO SOMEWHERE. SEEK EXCELLENCE.

CLASS OF
2021
VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATION

ORDER OF EVENTS (VIRTUAL)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE..... HASSTI TIRGARDOON
OPENING REMARKS SONIA FLORES

HISTORIAN ADDRESS..... CLARISSA LARA
SALUTATORY ADDRESS..... INES BOUISSOU
VALEDICTORY ADDRESS..... CLAIRE HUANG

INTRODUCTION OF ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY.....KAMALA WOOD
CHARACTER COUNTS AWARDS.....KAMALA WOOD

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS.....MARK CERNY
.....ERIC ADAMS
.....AMBER BRUCE

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS.....ALEX CHIN
NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR RECOGNITION.....ALEX CHIN
SEAL OF BILITERACY..... BRENDA GARIBAY
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS..... BRENDA GARIBAY

SPECIAL COMMENDATION AWARD..... SONIA FLORES

KEYNOTE ADDRESS..... CHARLA MITTMAN

PROCESSIONAL OF GRADUATES SONIA FLORES

PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS OF 2021.....DR. DEBORAH FLORES

DR. TJ OWENS GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY

GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Deborah Flores, Superintendent
Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Paul Winslow, Assistant Superintendent
Kathleen Biermann, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Deborah Padilla, Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction
Anna Pulido, Director of Student Services & Health Services

**GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Mark Good, President
Linda Piceno, Vice President
Melissa Aguirre
Enrique Diaz
Tuyen Fiack
Michelle Nelson
James Pace

GAVILAN COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kathleen Rose, Superintendent
Denee Pescarmona, Vice President of Academic Affairs

GAVILAN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Edwin Diaz, President
Jeanie Wallace, Vice President
Jonathan Brusco
Irma C. González
Patricia Mondragón
Rachel Perez
Laura Perry

ADMINISTRATION

Sonia Flores, Principal
Brenda Garibay, Matriculation Coordinator
Heather DeRosa, Administrative Assistant
Rebecca Plaza, School Secretary

TEACHERS

Eric Adams
Ana Benich
Amber Bruce
Elaine Carne
Mark Cerny
Alex Chin
William Fox
Ishrat Khan Khatoon
Meg Omainsky
Sarah Todd
Kamala Wood

AUXILIARY STAFF

Carina Kampf-Brandon, Food Services Provider
Maria Loza, School Custodian
Janell Wolfe, Campus Supervisor

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION: CLASS OF 2021

- +*^~Famitsai Aceves - CSU Fullerton
- +^Andrea Nicole P. Agpuon - UC Merced
- +^~Lauren Joy Anderson - UC Irvine
- +^~Jasmine Dasia Antrim - UC Davis
- +*^~☆Cesar Carlos Arias - UC Irvine
- +^☆Ephraim Aung - Cal Maritime Academy
- +*^Jennifer Avendano Lustre - Sacramento State University
- +^Cole Nathan Barker
- +^Octavio G. Barron - UC Merced
- +^Samantha Maria Barros - San Francisco State University
- Ryan J. Barton
- +^Sean W. Berg - UC Davis
- +^Ines Lisa Bouissou
- *Anisa Isabel Castañeda-Gaeta - Gavilan College
- +^Pedro Jahir Castro Herrejòn - UC Merced
- +*^~Jason Chung - San Jose State University
- +*^Patrick Josh Y. De Castro - Texas A&M University
- +^~Honora Eje - CSU Long Beach
- +*^Jack Fan - Pepperdine University
- +~Dacien Dominic Felice - Cogswell Polytechnic University
- +*Andres Garcia - Sacramento State University
- +*^Jacqueline Garcia Perez
- +*^~Anahi Guerra - UC Davis
- +^~Aaron J. Hageman - Cal Poly Pomona
- +^~Nicolas Hak - University of California, Santa Cruz
- +^Silas Gene Highland - UC Santa Cruz
- +^~☆Claire Peijia Huang - UCLA
- +^Luuk J. Janssen - UC Davis
- +*^Alexander D. Johnson - Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
- +^~Aayushma Kayastha - UC Irvine
- +^☆Gabriel Kai-Ming Kong - Pepperdine University
- +^~Cullen Kurzenknabe - UC Irvine
- +^~Clarissa Michelle Lara De Leon - Columbia University
- +^Jenna Lemon - UC Irvine
- +*^Jacquelyn Letona - Gavilan College
- +*^Carlos Lopez - UC Riverside
- +^~Kasandra Damara Maita - UC Santa Cruz
- +^Emily Rose Mallough - Oregon State University
- Anthony Martinez - Gavilan College
- +^☆Alexander Phineas Maschino - CSU Long Beach

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION: CLASS OF 2021

- +^☆Abigail E. Melton - UC Irvine
- +*~Mollie Moniz - San Jose State University
- +^~Clement Isaiah Montes
- +^Liam Morgan
- +*^~Hugo Gabriel Muro Avila - Santa Clara University
- +^~🔨Keertana Rajesh Nambiar - UC Irvine
- +^Natalie Raeann Ohlson - Johnson and Wales University
- +^~🔨Eduardo Padilla Hermosillo - UC Berkeley
- +^Robert J. Parker - Air Force
- +^☆Edison F. Perrier - CSU Long Beach
- +^☆Kelley S. Ramirez Hernandez - University of San Francisco
- +*^Lindsey E. Rodriguez Gonzalez - Sacramento State University
- +^Erick Ruiz Gil - UC Davis
- +^~Athena Elizabeth Rutman
- +^~Vikash Kumar Sabharwal - Cornell University
- +*^Elizabeth Sanchez - San Jose State University
- +Marco A. Sanchez II
- +^Christian Maxwell Santoyo - Hartnell College
- +*^Armann S. Sohi - UC Santa Cruz
- +^Farah Suleiman
- +^Rachel Syanne Tas - UC Davis
- +^~🔨Jewel Treasa Thomas - Dominican University of California
- +^~Jonah Manjankal Thomas - University of San Francisco
- +^~☆Hassti Kassidy Tirgardoan - Pepperdine University
- +^Blanca Sianna Torres
- +^~Daniel Nguyen Tran - UC San Diego
- +*^~🔨Ciomara Lee Urias
- +^☆Natalie M. Vasconcelos - CSU Monterey Bay
- +^~Daniella Isabel Vega - UC Santa Cruz
- +*^~Sandra L. Villarreal - UC Riverside
- +^Christopher J. Webb - CSU Monterey Bay
- +^☆Kate Emi Wilbur - UCLA
- +^☆Melissa R. Wood - UC Santa Cruz
- + Associate Degree (AA/AS)
- * Seal of Biliteracy
- + Golden State Merit Seal Diploma
- ~ Community Service of 160+ Hours
- 🔨 Honors Tribunal Members, 2018-2021
- ☆ Associated Student Body Student Leader, 2020-2021

DR. TJ OWENS GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY

SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION

GILROY FOUNDATION

Ines Bouissou, Uvas Creek Scholarship, \$20,000
Ines Bouissou, “We Are All Connected” Scholarship, \$1,000
Elizabeth Sanchez, Uvas Creek Scholarship, \$20,000
Elizabeth Sanchez, SakaBozzo Scholarship, \$750

ROTARY GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Jason Chung, \$1,000
Clarissa Lara, \$750
Erick Ruiz Gil, \$300

SUNRISE ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Carlos Lopez, \$1,000

GILROY GARLIC FESTIVAL

Erick Ruiz Gil, Rudy Melone Scholarship, \$500

GILROY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Abigail Melton, Tom Bundros Scholarship, \$1,000
Cesar Arias, Dennis DeBell Scholarship, \$500
Anahi Guerra, California School Employee Association, \$500

CHARTER SCHOOL OF MORGAN HILL FOUNDATION

Hassti Tirgardoona, \$1,000

US NAVY ROTC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Ephraim Aung, \$180,000

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR RECOGNITION

Claire Huang, Finalist and Scholarship Recipient, \$2,500
Daniel Tran, Finalist
Kasandra Maita, Semifinalist
Jasmine Antrim, Commended Scholar
Jack Fan, Commended Scholar

DR. TJ OWENS GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY

SCHOOL AWARDS

GAVILAN COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE YEAR (GECA)

Daniel Tran

OVERALL CHARACTER COUNTS! AWARD

Clarissa Lara

OVERALL STUDENT OF THE YEAR - GRADE 12

Gabriel Kong

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN
SENIOR PROJECT**

Hassti Tirgardoona
Claire Huang

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN
ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. GOVERNMENT**

Athena Rutman
Robert J. Parker

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN
ADVANCED PLACEMENT MACROECONOMICS**

Athena Rutman
Gabriel Kong

SPECIAL COMMENDATION AWARD

Ms. Charla Mittman, Assistant Principal, Ascencion Solorsano Middle School

DR. TJ OWENS GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY

WHO DO YOU CONSIDER A LEADER?



DR. TJ OWENS GILROY EARLY COLLEGE ACADEMY

WHAT QUALITIES DO GOOD LEADERS POSSESS?



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

Family of Dr. TJ Owens
Gavilan College Instructors
Christopher High School Staff and Administration
Jeremy Dirks
Julie Berggren
Eric Kuwada
Herff Jones StageClip
Gavilan College MIS Department
Gavilan College Counseling Department
Gavilan College Registration Department
Gavilan College Book Store
Gavilan College Security
Gilroy Police Department
Gilroy Unified School District Business Services Department
Gilroy Unified School District Educational Services Department
Gilroy Unified School District Maintenance Department
Marcela Zamora
Cristina Reyes
Melanie Corona
Natalie Martinez
Leeanna Hammer
Gilroy Foundation
Gilroy Rotary
Gilroy Sunrise Rotary
GECA PTSA
Senior Graduation Committee

PHOTOGRAPHY INFORMATION:

To access all photos taken by *Angela Sue Photography* at the ceremony, please visit

<https://angelasue.pixieset.com/gecagraduation2021/>

Password: classof2021

*****Website expires on 6/23/2021!!!*****

*"All your dreams can come true
if you have the courage to pursue them."*

- Walt Disney

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