SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Advisor Weekly Update

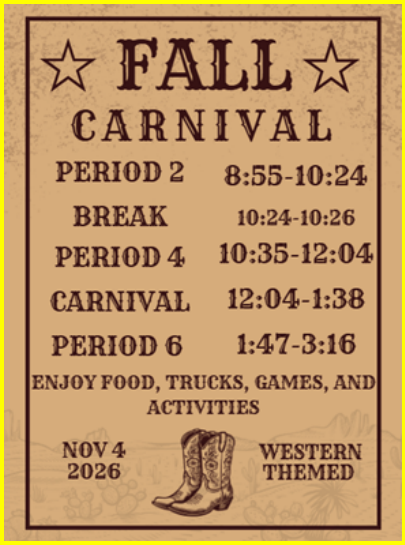
Week of November 3, 2026

This weekly newsletter is here to help students, parents, and staff stay aware of what is happening at Samohi! The advisors hope you take the time to look this over. There is a lot of helpful information as well as great opportunities to look forward to.

Additional information about what is happening day to day at Santa Monica High School can be found through the Blue Bulletin: https://www.smmusd.org/BB.
We will also post information on our Advisor Instagram page. Follow us @Samo_Advisors.

Samohi Schedule for 2026-2027

Monday, Tuesday, Friday		Wednesdays EVEN Flex *No AM classes on these days*		Thursdays ODD Flex	
Period A	7:20 – 8:22 AM	*Staff Meeting*	*7:40 – 8:40 AM*	Period A	7:20 – 8:22 AM
Period 1	8:30 – 9:25 AM	Period 2	8:55 – 10:24 AM	Period 1	8:30 – 9:59 AM
Homeroom	9:34 – 9:43 AM	Break	10:24 – 10:26 AM	Break	9:59 – 10:01 AM
Period 2	9:43 – 10:38 AM	Period 4	10:35 – 12:04 PM	Period 3	10:10 – 11:39 AM
Break	10:38 – 10:40 AM	Flex-Time	12:13 – 1:03 PM	Flex-Time	11:48 – 12:39 AM
Period 3	10:49 – 11:44 AM	LUNCH	1:03 – 1:38 PM	LUNCH	12:39 – 1:14 PM
Period 4	11:53 – 12:48 PM	Period 6	1:47 – 3:16 PM	Period 5	1:23 – 2:52 PM
LUNCH	12:48 – 1:23 PM			*Staff Meeting*	*3:10 – 3:40 PM*
Period 5	1:32 – 2:27 PM				
Period 6	2:36 – 3:31 PM				



Popular Links

Attendance	Work Permits	College & Career Center
AP Registration	Super Saturday Signup	Wellness Services Center

Attendance

To report a student's absence, please send an email to your student's appropriate House.

AttendanceSHouse@smmusd.org ext. 71139

AttendanceAHouse@smmusd.org ext. 71208

AttendanceMHouse@smmusd.org ext.71281

AttendanceOHouse@smmusd.org ext. 71381

AttendancePBL@smmusd.org ext. 71177

DO NOT EMAIL ADVISORS AS THEY CAN NOT EXCUSE ATTENDANCE

Attendance/Tardy Recovery

Academic Planning Meeting 11/10 at 6pm on Zoom



SAVE THE DATE
Advisor's Academic Planning Presentation
November 10th
@ 6:00pm

Please join the Advisors as they present information to prepare you for your student's academic planning for next year. The Zoom link will be sent out for this presentation the week before. We look forward to seeing you on November 10th!

SchooLinks

Our district's college and career readiness platform! SchooLinks is designed with students in mind to help them become career, college, and life-ready. As a guardian, you will have the opportunity to join your student in their career and college exploration process and have conversations with them about their future.

Check out these resources to learn more about your SchooLinks account:

- How to Access Your Guardian Account
- Guardian Account Overview

Margaret's Place

Margaret's Place is returning for the 2026-27 school year, continuing our vital work to break the cycle of violence! Our counselor, Lara DeSanto, LMFT, ATR, is available daily in room E117 to support our students. Services provided include complimentary counseling for those impacted by or at risk of trauma, violence, and toxic relationships, as well as art therapy groups and therapeutic recreation during Wednesday Flex-Time. For further details, please review the fall Margaret's Place newsletter (parent/guardian edition and student edition). You can also reach out to Lara directly with any questions at LDeSanto@smmusd.org!

Tutoring Matrix 2026-2027

Samohi Tutoring Matrix

Program		Description	Location	Time
On Campus				
SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL 1891	**Teacher Office Hours**	Approaching your teacher should always be the first step when seeking extra help. All Samohi teachers offer individualized tutoring for their current students. You can sign up to see them during Flex-Time, or ask them what other times they are available.	Varies	Wed & Thu Flex-Time Check with your teacher for other times
	Tutoring at Samohi Library	Peer tutors are available every day at lunch and after school. IG: @samohipeertutoring Teachers are available for questions in the Library after school on these days: --Mon: Spanish --Tues: Research --Wed: English --Thu: Chemistry & Math	Library, Language 210	Mon-Fri at lunch Mon-Thu after school until 5:00pm
	AP Writing Center	The Writing Center is staffed by 2 retired AP English teachers and focuses on 11th/12th graders who needhelp in English or with college applications	Discovery-205A	Wed & Thu Flex-Time (sign up on Enriching Students)
Off-Campus				
City of Santa Monica	**Virginia Park Teen Center**	A quiet place for working on assignments & receiving help. There is a library of school textbooks available in the homework room, computer lab & homework help. There is no fee but youth must enroll to participate.	2200 Virginia Ave. (Pico & 23rd)	Mon-Fri, 2:45pm – 7:00p
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE	**Santa Monica College Tutoring Centers**	For students taking courses at SMC, Tutoring Centers are offered for free for most courses. There are Tutoring Centers in 8 locations throughout campus and also available online. To make an appointment, go to https://www.smc.edu/student-support/academic-support/tutoring-centers	Various locations on campus & online	Various times
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA MONICA	**Boys & Girls Club College Bound**	Individual & group tutoring, individual & family counseling, dinner, and college counseling. Requires $20/year Membership	1220 Lincoln Blvd (Lincoln & Wilshire)	Mon-Thu, 4:15pm - 7:00pm
PAL SANTA MONICA	**Police Activities League**	Homework assistance. The site includes computer access. For members only.	1401 Olympic Blvd. (Olympic & 14th)	Mon-Fri, 2:30pm-7:30pm
PICO YOUTH & FAMILY CENTER	**Pico Youth & Family Center**	Academic tutoring for all subjects is available, starting Nov 2025	1460 4th Street, Suite 302 (4th & Broadway, above Burton Store)	Varies, call ahead for times at (310) 396-7101
Online				
brainfuse	**Santa Monica Library Brainfuse HelpNow**	Online live tutoring, homework help, standardized test prep, writing feedback, and job/resume/interview coaching for Gr3-College,in math, science, English, & social studies. Spanish- and Chinese-speaking tutors are available. Access using your LA County Library card and PIN number (free).	SMPL Brainfuse	Sun-Sat, 1:00pm – 10:00pm
LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY	**LA Public Library Tutor.com**	Live, one-to-one tutoring every day, in English or Spanish. K-12 and adult learners in all subjects, including AP-level classes, test prep from The Princeton Review, career tutoring, and parent coaching. Access with a library card (free). Professionally trained tutors communicate in a virtual classroom with chat and two-way white boards.	LAPL Tutor.com	Sun-Sat, 11:00am – 11:00pm

Live doc

Ryman Arts

Are you – or someone you know – passionate about drawing or painting? Curious about Ryman Arts and what our free Studio Art Program has to offer? We're welcoming applications for Spring 2027 and inviting

young artists to discover how Ryman Arts can help them strengthen their skills, explore their creativity, and grow as artists.

Join us for a virtual information session!

Prospective students, families, and educators can learn about our program, meet our team, explore the application process, and get tips on preparing a portfolio.

Upcoming Virtual Information Sessions

- Wednesday, October 28 | 7–8 PM
- Saturday, November 14 | 11 AM–12 PM (Español)
- Saturday, November 21 | 11 AM–12 PM
- Wednesday, December 9 | 7–8 PM

https://www.rymanarts.org/apply-to-ryman-arts

Health Office Announcement: Medication Administration at School

This year, our district does not have a physician available to authorize over-the-counter (OTC) medications for students, as we have in the past. If you'd like your child to be able to receive a one-time dose of Tylenol (acetaminophen), Advil (ibuprofen), and/or TUMS (calcium carbonate) during the school day, please complete the Over-The-Counter Medication at School Authorization Form. Just a reminder—this form needs to be signed by both a parent/guardian **AND** your child's healthcare provider to be valid. That form may be found here: RFM

If your child needs other medications while at school, you can find the right Medication at School Authorization form here: Medication Authorization Forms.

Also, if you know a physician who might be interested in supporting our district with this service, please connect them with our coordinating nurse, Priscilla Guzman, at pguzman@smmusd.org.

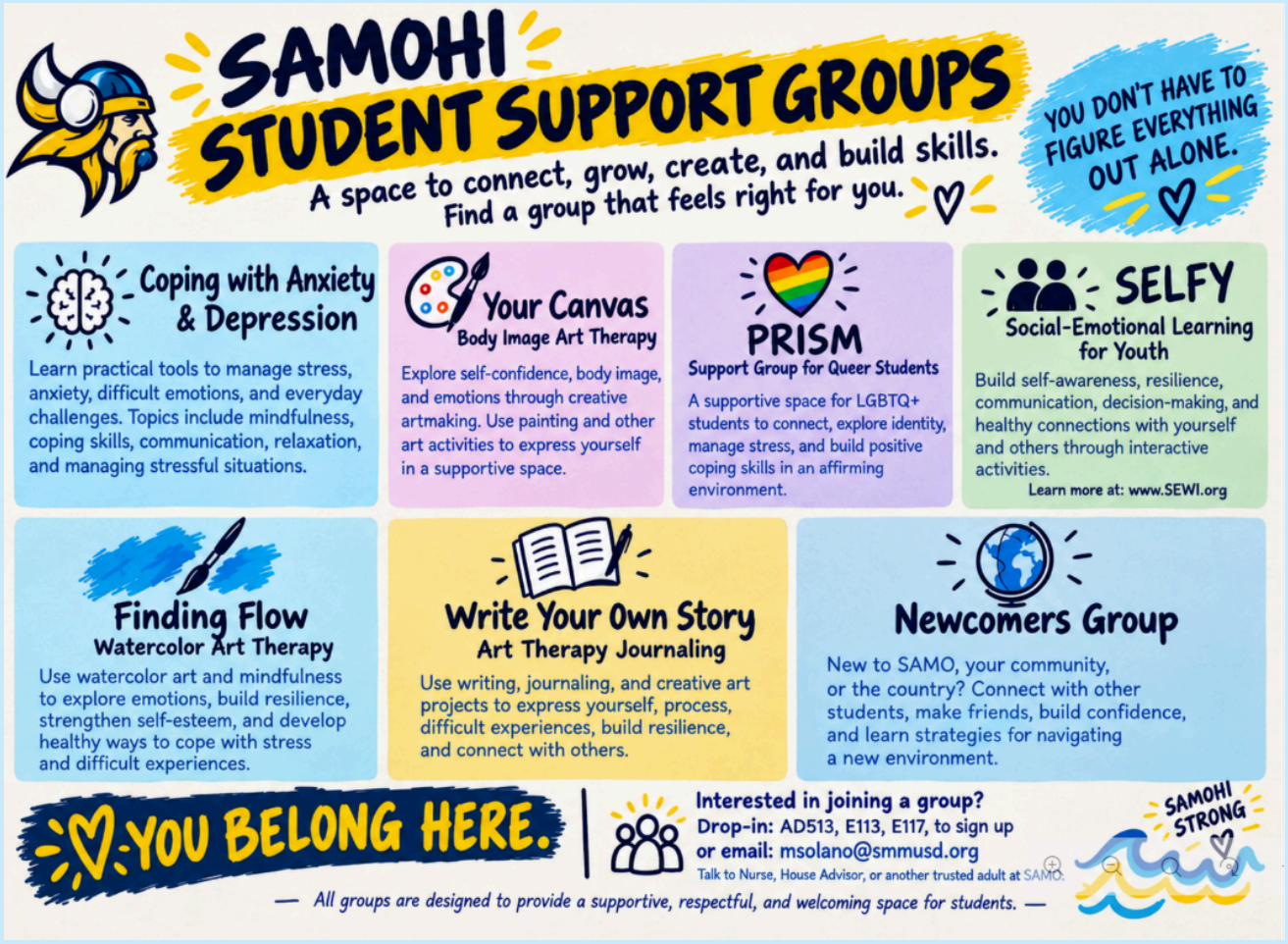
Thank you for helping us keep our students healthy and ready to learn!

Este año, nuestro distrito no cuenta con un médico disponible para autorizar medicamentos sin receta para los estudiantes, como se ha hecho en el pasado. Si desea que su hijo(a) pueda recibir una dosis única de **Tylenol (acetaminofén), Advil (ibuprofeno) y/o TUMS (carbonato de calcio)** durante el día escolar, por favor complete el **Formulario de Autorización de Medicamentos Sin Receta en la Escuela** – disponible aquí: RFM. Solo un recordatorio: este formulario debe estar firmado tanto por el padre/madre/tutor **como** por el proveedor de salud de su hijo(a) para que sea válido.

Si su hijo(a) necesita otros medicamentos durante el horario escolar, puede encontrar el **Formulario de Autorización de Medicamentos en la Escuela** correspondiente aquí: Formularios de Autorización de Medicamentos.

-Samo Health Office

SAMOHI STUDENT SUPPORT GROUPS



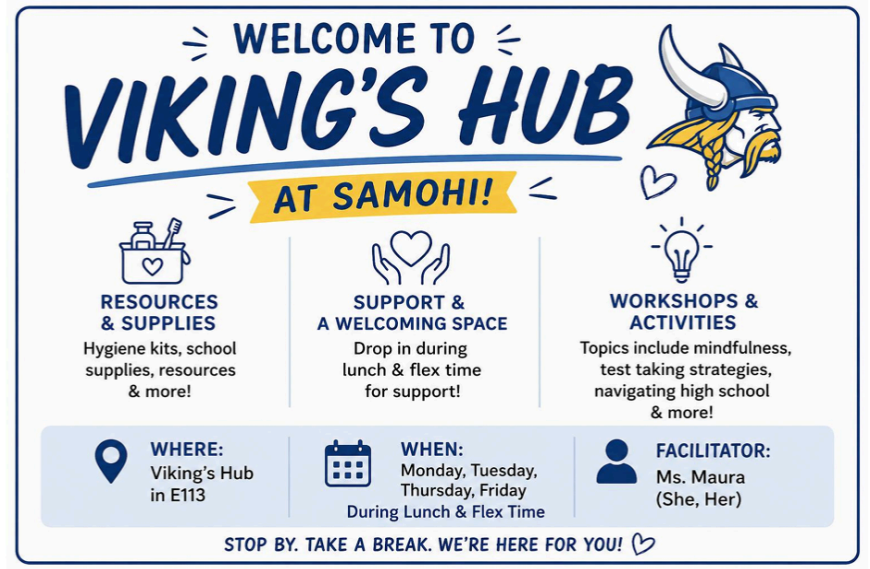
Mental Health Services

Santa Monica High School is thrilled to introduce Ms. Maura Solano, MSW, who joins our team as the new bilingual Wellness Counselor! Ms. Maura will oversee the coordination of mental health services across campus, providing vital assistance with attendance interventions and crisis response. Students can find her in room E113 at the Vikes Hub—a supportive environment where anyone can access necessary school supplies and hygiene products.

For those seeking consistent mental health counseling, we encourage you to reach out to your house advisor, Ms. Maura, our school nurse, or Ms. Lotan, the coordinating mental health counselor located in AD502. Please stay tuned as drop-in counseling services will be fully operational in room AD513 within the administration building in the coming weeks. Additionally, counseling groups are scheduled to begin this October, with further details arriving shortly!

The Samohi Teen Clinic remains available to our students every Thursday morning in room Ad103c, conveniently situated across from the nurse's office. This clinic provides essential services including immunizations, sports physicals, general health care, and private support for reproductive health.





Student Scholarship Opportunity: Infinite Scholarship Fair, 2/27/27

Collins & Katz Family YMCA will be hosting a scholarship fair on 2/27/2027. This fair will have 30-35 colleges and universities represented from all across the country who will be on site ready to grant on the spot scholarships!

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FAIR

THE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY WELL-BEING.



Students Are Encouraged To Bring Several Copies Of The Following Documents:

- Unofficial transcript (3.0 G.P.A. or better is ideal, however, some colleges and universities will accept lower GPA's)
- ACT/SAT scores or documentation showing that students are registered to take either exam
- Résumé

- **Meet Colleges**
- **Explore Scholarships**
- **Get College Ready**
- **Access Resources**
- **Learn About Career Paths**

SCAN ME

Register Today!

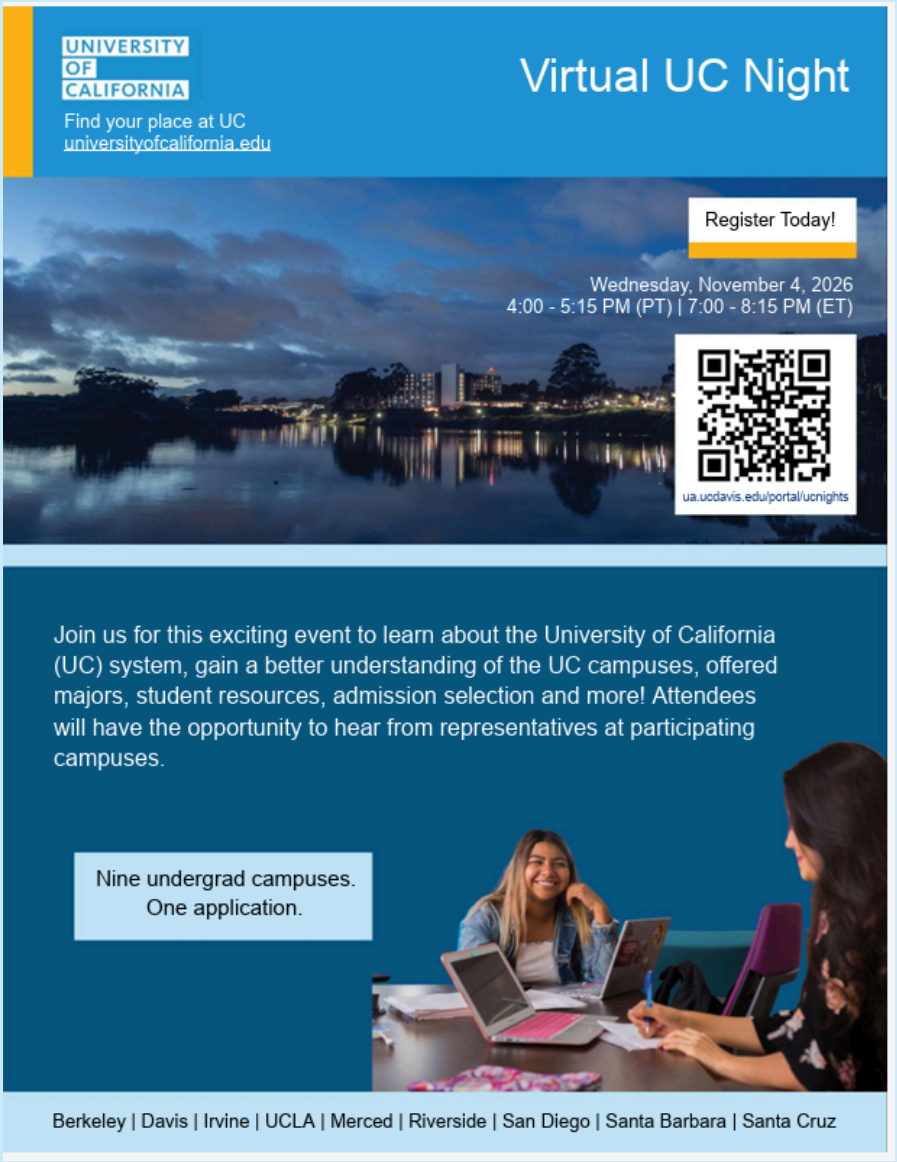
SPONSORED BY

YMCA Job Opportunities





Virtual UC Night!



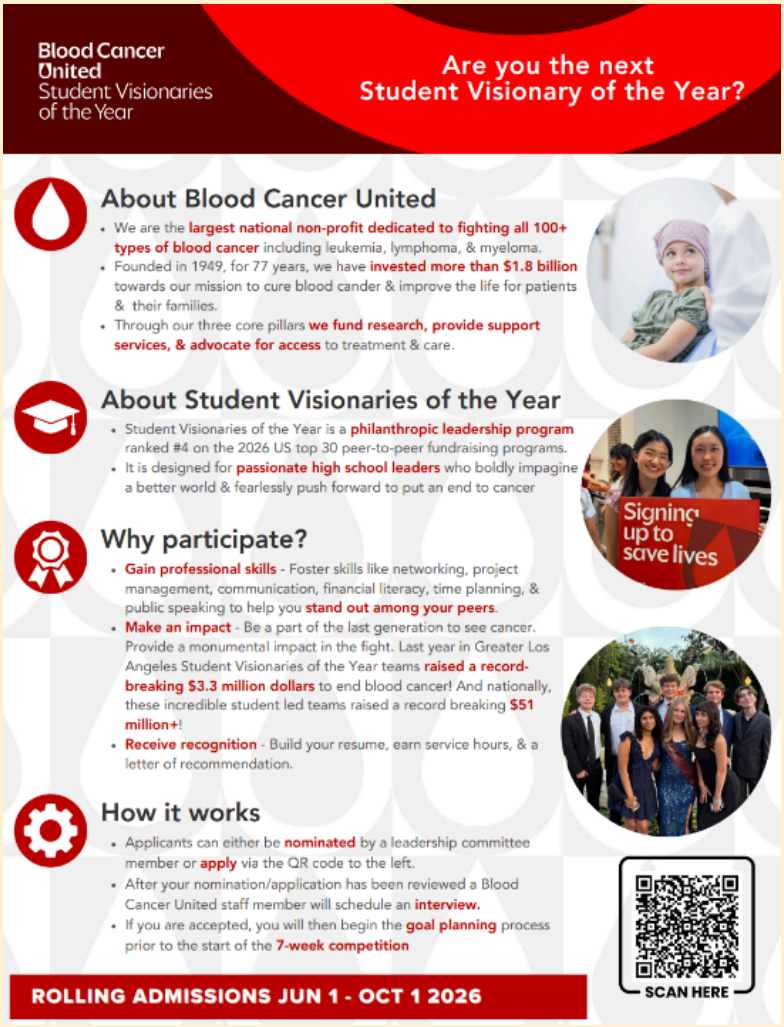
Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica



Lost and Found

Did your student lose something, or find something? Send them to the Lost & Found, located in the Textbook Room in the Discovery Building. Lost items should be reported immediately to the student's House Office.

Volunteer Opportunity–Blood Cancer United





Samohi Baseball Annual Christmas Tree Fundraiser

We hope you will consider purchasing your Christmas Tree this year from us. You can purchase your tree via our online store using the link provided below. The last day to purchase a tree is November 15th. Trees will be available for pickup at the Samohi baseball field on December 5th. We do offer delivery for $25 for anyone in Santa Monica. Please share our fundraiser with anyone you think may be interested in supporting our program.

Online store: https://fundraiser4us.com/shop/SMHSbaseball/

Student Sustainability Workshop

STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

Reduce Your Environmental Impact & Potentially Earn Extra Credit!

Fall 2026

6-Week Program | 90 min per week | Limited Space



SCAN HERE



Held weekly on Thursdays at Santa Monica High School
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (Discovery Building 309)

Schedule

Meeting Topic	Date
Mtg 1. Water	Oct. 29
Mtg 2. Energy	Nov. 05
Mtg 3. Chemicals	Nov. 12
Mtg 4. Food	Nov. 19
No Workshops	*Nov. 26*
Mtg 5. Waste	Dec. 03
Mtg 6. Shopping	Dec. 10

Program Benefits:

- Boost your college resume
- Learn practical solutions
- Earn a certificate of completion
- Conserve resources & make a difference

Program Requirements:

- Attend all 6 meetings
- Weekly Action Items
- Complete 2 sustainability surveys

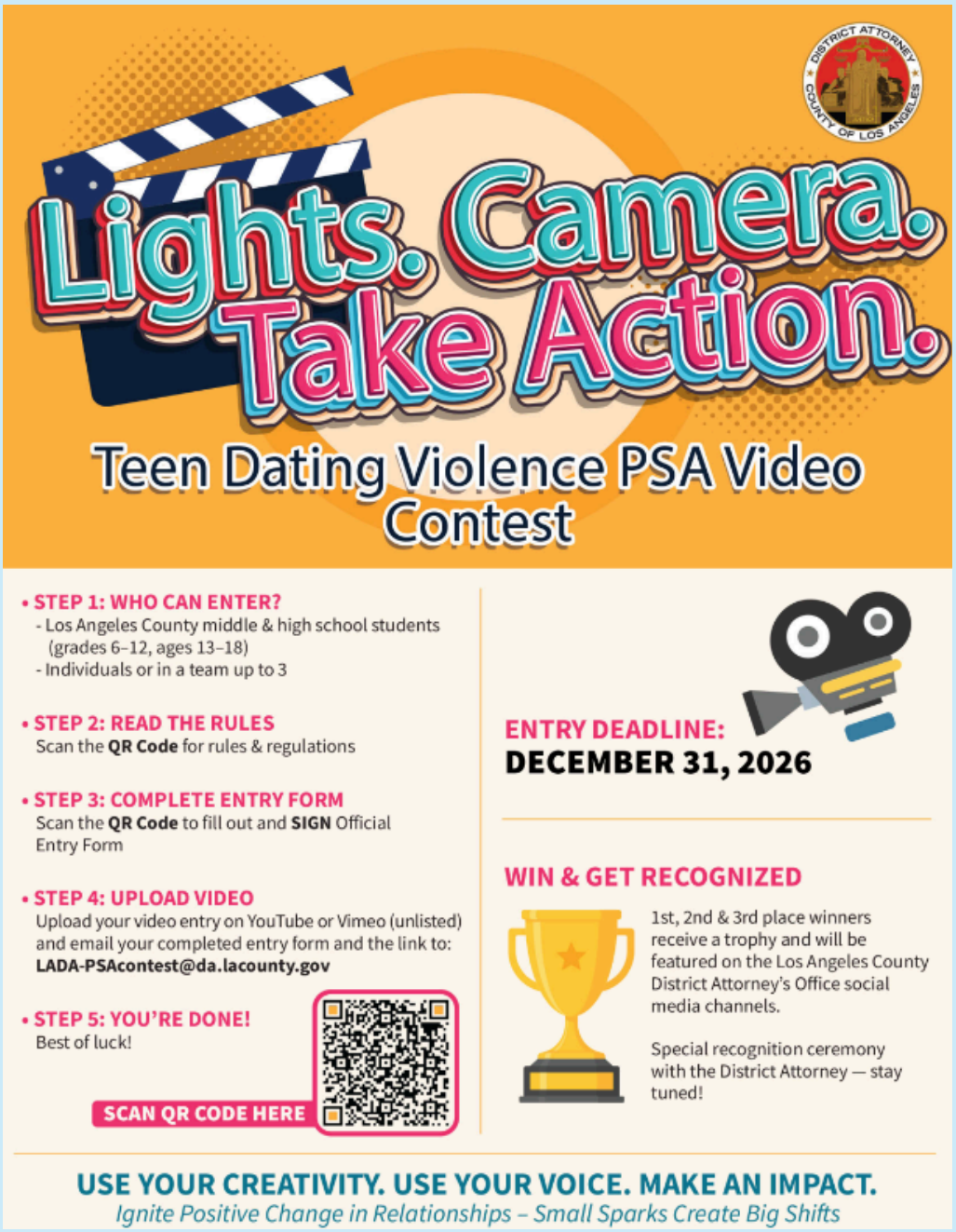
There is an optional opportunity to complete 3 hours of community service

Having trouble signing up or have questions? Please email SGP@sustainableworks.org

Workshops funded by Santa Monica College

The workshop is FREE, there is no cost to attend

Teen Dating Violence PSA Video Contest



Super Saturday

Super Saturday is an opportunity for students to sign up and attend school Saturday mornings to help recover their absences. Students are expected to bring homework and Chromebook to complete their necessary assignments and/or study for classes. Students can sign up via QR code in the house office.

ASB CARD

Want to save money this year? **Buy an ASB Card at the Vikes Inn for $75!** Your card includes **admission to all regular-season home games**, plus a **discounted Homecoming ticket,** along with many other discounts throughout the year. It pays for itself pretty quickly! **See ASB Discounts here**

An ASB card is...

this symbol on your student ID will give you benefits including discounts to local businesses, free entry to our football games, and so much more! It costs $75 and lasts the entire school year.

INCLUDED DISCOUNTS

Free entry to SAMO football games
$20 off Prom
$15 off Homecoming
$15 discount on yearbook
$5 discount to school plays and concerts
Up to 3 free ID replacements

Handel's	10% off
Donut King	10% off
Sylvan Learning	$29 subject evaluation for tutoring (reg $99) 0$ enrollment fee (reg $99) (Total saving of $168)
Pita House	10% off
Samo Oaxaca	10% off
Junior Cookies	15% off Merchandise 20% off 1 free chocolate chip cookie with any coffee or matcha drink (Must join the loyalty program) Buy one box of 8 cookies and get the 2nd box 50% off



SoCal ROC





FLEX Time

Samohi Flex-Time provides targeted educational opportunities during the school day for intervention and enrichment to best meet student individual needs. It is our goal that Flex-Time will help all students to be more successful. Students will engage in their own learning by building metacognitive and advocacy skills to promote emotional health, explore passions and grow in a focused, academic, and productive environment.

	Office Hours	Library/Writing Center	College Center	Testing Center	Featured Flex-Time
What?	Teacher provides topic, structure, and focus for the room. The following are words that can frame a Flex-Time session: - Review - Refine - Re-explore - Reteach - Reconnect - Rehearse - Research	Student-driven, independent work: - Research - Computer work - Writing help	Location to work on college applications, scholarship applications, and financial aid forms. Additional workshops will be available to discuss how to get prepared for college.	A quiet location for a student to take a test or quiz. This must be pre-arranged with the teacher.	Enrichment opportunities for students involving presentations, assemblies, town hall meetings, and workshops focused on current events, hot topics, and other areas of interest.
Who?	Students sign up and/or teacher can request based on grade.	Students sign up	Students sign up (priority given to Seniors during certain times)	Teacher assigns. Pre-arranged between student and teacher	Students sign up

Annual HBCU Festival

Alfred Street Baptist Church presents its 24th Annual Historically Black College & University (HBCU) Festival, a hybrid event being held November 13-14, 2026. The festival is dedicated to connecting high school students and their families to HBCUs, and scholarship opportunities.

Over 70 colleges and universities will be represented during the two-day event. Many will provide on-the-spot admission decisions, conduct music auditions, waive application fees, offer scholarships, etc.. Additionally, seminars and exhibitor presentations will be held to help students navigate the college application process, seek financial aid opportunities and acclimate them to campus life.

Since 2003, this one-of-a-kind college fair has connected more than 60,000 attendees to academic institutions.

At the Fall 2025 festival, ASBC hosted over 12,000 attendees, 1,913 onsite admission decisions were distributed and over $8.1 million in scholarships and waived fees were awarded to thousands of students. Additionally in 2025, Google partnered with The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) to establish approximately $200,000 in scholarships. Seniors in attendance had an opportunity to apply for these scholarships which were awarded in May 2026!

https://hbcufest.alfredstreet.org/e/24th-annual-alfred-street-baptist-church-hbcu-fest#Overview

Clare Matrix Youth Drop in Center

CLARE | MATRIX
ClareMatrix.org

Youth Drop-in Center

Clare|Matrix is a substance use disorder prevention, rehabilitation, training and research center that incorporates it's worldwide recognized evidence-based Matrix Model to prevent addiction and support recovery. Spanish speaking services available.

@ClareMatrix_Jr

ClareMatrix Junior

OFFICE LOCATION
1002 Pico Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA
90405

Services

- **Free Individual and group counseling**: in-person and/or virtually with a peer support specialist or substance use counselor.
- **Free Resource linkage**:
  + Mental health services + Physical health services
  + Food + Housing + Work
  + Education + Clothes + Financial aid
- **Free acces to prevention tools**:
  + Overdose reversal nasal spray
  + Fentanyl test strips + Hygiene kits
  + Condoms/Plan B
- Free **Substance use disorder prevention and education:** individual, group and in school/public assembly presentation formats.
- Free **Medication assisted treatment** (MAT) education and services. (16+)
- Free **AA/NA** Teen group resources.
- Collaborations and membership with **youth advocacy and advisory panels**

For more information contact:

Peer Support Specialist
Morgan Want
MWant@clarematrix.org
(424)-519-0143

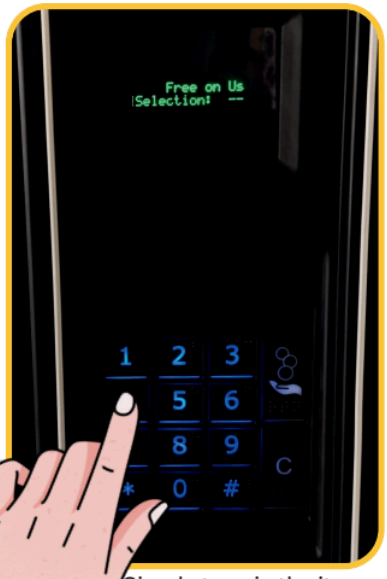
Outreach Specialist
Anthony Nguyen
ANguyen@clarematrix.org
(323)-523-3409

FREE Anonymous Prevention Vending

- **Overdose reversing naloxone nasal spray**
- **Fentanyl testing strips**
- **Hygiene kits**
- **Condoms/Plan B**







CLARE | MATRIX
Saving Lives Through Recovery

1002 Pico Blvd.
Santa Monica,
CA 90405

Simply type in the item number and it will dispense below.

PRISM-Weekly support group for LGBTQ+ students



Santa Monica Christmas Run

🎄 **Santa Monica Christmas Run**
📍 Santa Monica, California
📅 Sunday, December 13, 2026

Celebrate the holiday season at one of Southern California's most festive running events! The Santa Monica Christmas Run brings together runners, walkers, families, and community members for a fun-filled day along the beautiful Santa Monica coastline. Volunteers play a vital role in creating a safe, memorable, and cheerful experience for participants of all ages.

Please complete the Microsoft Form available here: Group Registration

If you have any questions, please email **volunteer@venturesendurance.com** and our team will be happy to help

Women's March Foundation



Venice Family Clinic

Venice Family Clinic

STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

Comprehensive health care right on campus

For SAMOHI and Olympic High School students

LICENSED PHYSICIAN
High quality care you can trust.

CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES
Your privacy is important to us.

SEE US TODAY
Same day appointments may be available.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE SERVICES

PREVENTIVE & WELLNESS CARE

- Annual wellness exams
- Sports and school physicals
- Immunizations
- Health screenings
- Healthy lifestyle counseling

SICK VISITS & MINOR INJURIES

- Colds, flu, sore throat & ear infections
- Allergies
- Headaches & stomach aches
- Minor injuries & first aid
- Skin concerns such as acne & rashes

ONGOING HEALTH CONDITIONS

- Asthma
- Diabetes
- Weight management
- Nutrition concerns
- Eating disorders
- Medication management & prescription refills, when appropriate
- Menstrual health concerns

CONFIDENTIAL ADOLESCENT HEALTH

- Birth control counseling and services
- Pregnancy testing
- STI testing and treatment
- Sexual health education

** Parent consent is not required for confidential services.*

NO COST / LOW COST

We bill insurance, collect co-pays & self-pay fees, as applicable.

NO HEALTH INSURANCE? NO PROBLEM!

Students may receive services regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.

VISIT US

AD-103C
Across from the nurse's office

THURSDAYS
8:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

(310) 392-8636
Skip the scheduling prompt & choose option 4

SCAN THE QR CODE
to complete the patient consent form.

Parent or guardian consent is required for all medical services, except confidential services.

MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED BY
Kimberly Gruenelsen, MD
Licensed physician



Santa Monica High School 1891

Campaign Internship Opportunity for High School Students

BEN ALLEN
FOR INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

JOIN TEAM BEN!

CAMPAIGN INTERNSHIP

VOTER OUTREACH
PHONEBANKING
& MORE!



IN PERSON & VIRTUAL

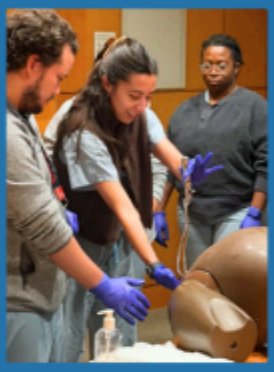
- Gain statewide political experience
- Participate in statewide voter outreach before Election Day on Nov 3rd
- **Join us in person at our campaign headquarters in Venice (on Main Street!)**
- **Weekday evenings from 5-8 PM**

SIGN UP AT:
bit.ly/BenAllenVolunteers

EMAIL ISABELLA@BENALLENCA.COM WITH QUESTIONS

Women’s Health Career Discovery Day









UCLA DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY PRESENTS

Women’s Health Career Discovery Day

Curious about your career?
Apply now and explore your future in women’s health!

Spend a day at UCLA interacting with medical professionals who are experts in their field. Learn about how they got to where they are today and see how you can join them in shaping the future of women’s reproductive health.

Course Objectives

- Explore diverse career options and connect with physicians, nurses, midwives, researchers, and other healthcare professionals.
- Gain valuable insight on how to become successful in the medical field.
- Learn about why women’s health matters.
- Participate in hands-on workshops and team challenges for a chance to win fun prizes!

What’s included?
Light breakfast, lunch, and a networking reception will be offered to attendees.

How do I apply?
Learn more information and submit your application at the link below by **December 18, 2026.**
www.tinyurl.com/UCLAWomensHealth

When is it?
Saturday, April 3, 2027
8:00am-5:30pm, followed by a networking reception

Where is it held?
UCLA Campus

Who should attend?
Students in Grades 10-12
Ideal for those who are interested in a career in women’s reproductive healthcare.
Parents/guardians: please note this is a drop-off event. Space is limited to accepted participants only.

What is the cost of attendance?
Applicants who are selected to attend are required to pay a registration fee of $200.

Have questions?
Reach out to
OBGYNMedEd@mednet.ucla.edu

UCLA Health | David Geffen School of Medicine