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## "I am a survivor, I am not a victim"

### TOP STORIES



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### CLASS NOTES

**Gary L. Washburn (1966)** has been elected president elect of Van Nuys, California based Southland Regional Association of Realtors (SRAR) for 2017 and SRAR president for 2018. The Southland Regional Association of Realtors, with nearly 10,000 members, is one of the largest Realtor associations in California. Washburn is also a member of the California Association of Realtors Board of Directors. After graduating from Fresno State, Washburn served during the Vietnam War as an Army first lieutenant and earned a graduate degree in Urban Affairs from Boston University in 1975. Washburn resides in Chatsworth with Judy, his wife, has three adult children and seven grandchildren.

**Alex Lawrence (2005)** competed in and won "The Turkey Day Heroes" episode of the popular [Food Network](#) show "Chopped." He is an administrator of a New York soup kitchen.

**Cary Catalano (1999)**, founder and chief executive officer at Catalano Fenske and Associates, was presented the Serve Award by Fresno Young Leading Professionals on December 2. He also serves on the board of directors of the Fresno State Alumni Association.

**Leslie Richelle Scott (1985)** has written her memoir - "Outside In, Inside Out: A Transgender Journey." It is copiously-illustrated account of a transgender journey from man to woman, and of the life that led inevitably to that change, along with information and commentary about gender transition in general and the gender-related issues and controversies facing our contemporary society. The tone of the book is at once serious and droll, with every effort made to convey to the reader the fears and the suffering, as well as the humor and the joys that accompany such a monumental undertaking.

**Kevin Goessling (2011)** has been named the director of development for the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. He was the Bulldogs' standout kicker from 2008 to 2011; and played for the Oakland Raiders for one season.

**Salvador "Sal" Silva (2010)** serves as the president and CEO of Imfeld & Imfeld Property Management, based in Fresno, California. Prior to purchasing the company last year, he had been an employee for eight years. Silva holds a certified manager of community association designation.

**Nicole (DiBuduo) Linder (1998)** has been named the new executive director of the Marjaree Mason Center. She has worked for the Valley Children's Community Foundation and Fresno Pacific University.

**Durk Hubel (1991)** has been promoted to senior manager of Corporate Affairs with Amgen's Full Potential Program. His new responsibilities include developing and implementing program level engagement strategies that move staff to understanding and acceptance of the company-wide transformation to build a better Amgen. Hubel has worked at Amgen for more than two decades.

**Jim Boren (1972)** served as a juror for the 2016 Pulitzer Prizes in the editorial writing category. He has been inducted into Fresno State's MCJ Hall of Fame, and is the executive editor and senior vice president at "The Fresno Bee."

**Marvin Mijangos (2014)** has recently completed a 28-week training course at the CHP Academy in Sacramento. He has been assigned to the Monterey Area office, which oversees all of Monterey County.

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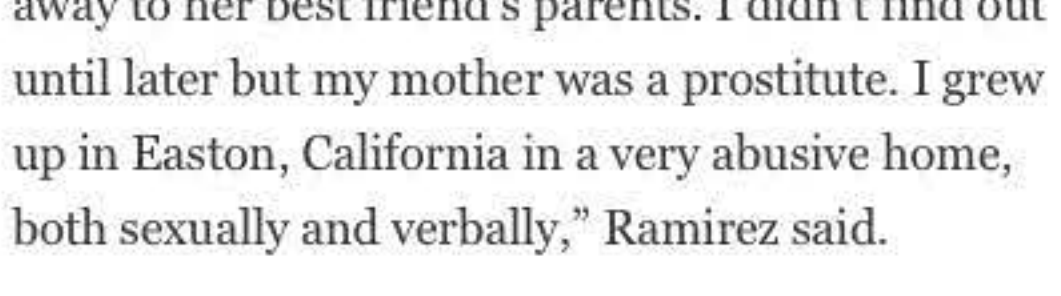
# "I am a survivor, I am not a victim"

By ELISA NAVARRO, Student Writer

Imagine living in pain, fear, abuse, and loneliness. Where people around you aren't listening to you or noticing your suffering. Not just for a few days or months...but for ten years.

Then think about trying to navigate through your teenage years alone.

Roseanna Ramirez (2013) did both.



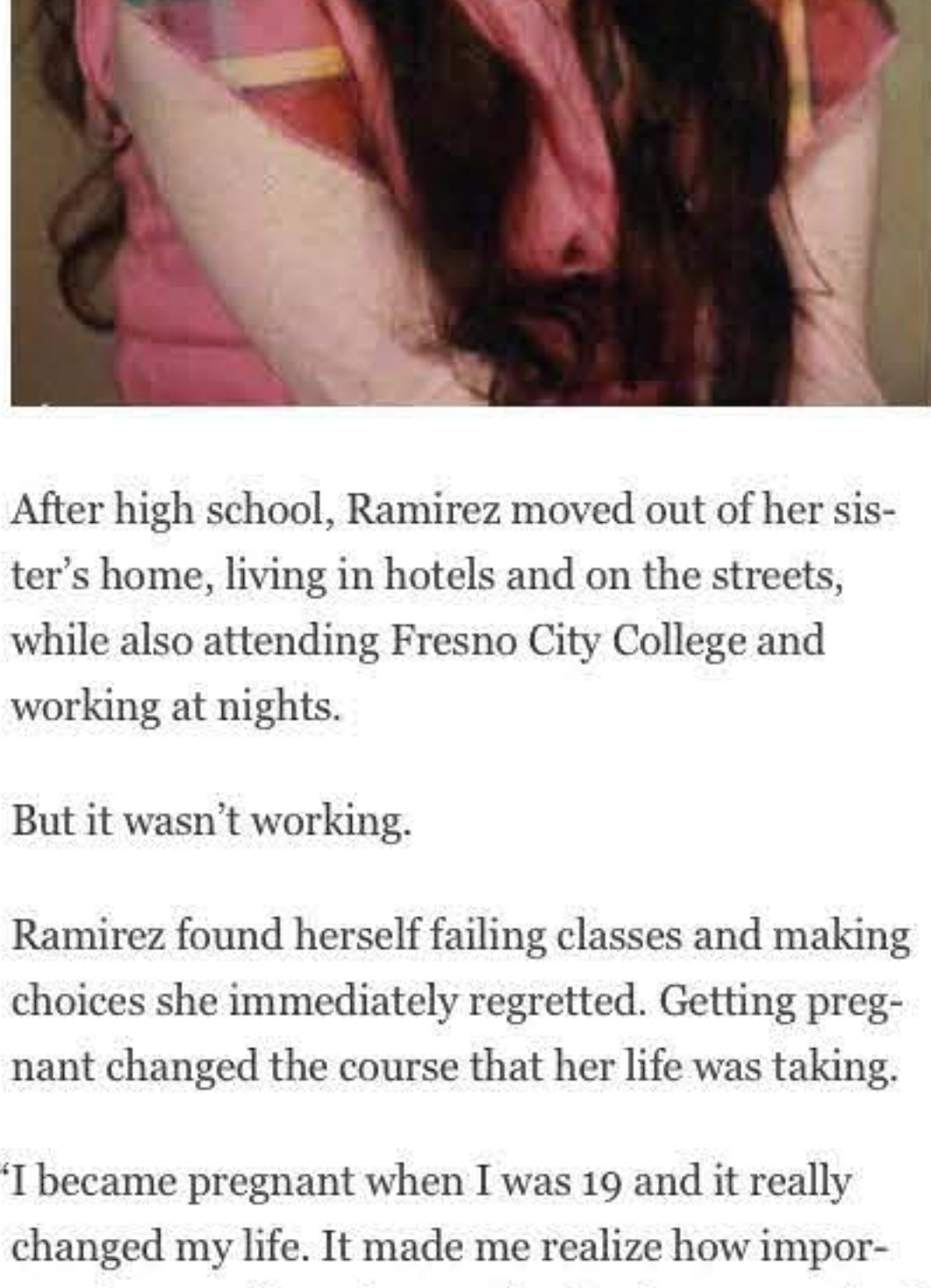
"I was two years old when my mother gave me away to her best friend's parents. I didn't find out until later but my mother was a prostitute. I grew up in Easton, California in a very abusive home, both sexually and verbally," Ramirez said.

As a child, Ramirez was often depressed but always knew that there had to be a better way. Remaining positive and feeling a sense of God in her life helped her through her struggles.

"I told a family member what was going on and she immediately took precautions to take me out of that home and it was my sister Virginia De la Fuente, those were her parents so it was really big of her to do that."

Being at school enabled Ramirez to forget her reality.

"It was somewhere where I could be free and be myself. I liked to write and read and I think that was my way to escape and forget everything."



After high school, Ramirez moved out of her sister's home, living in hotels and on the streets, while also attending Fresno City College and working at nights.

But it wasn't working.

Ramirez found herself failing classes and making choices she immediately regretted. Getting pregnant changed the course that her life was taking.

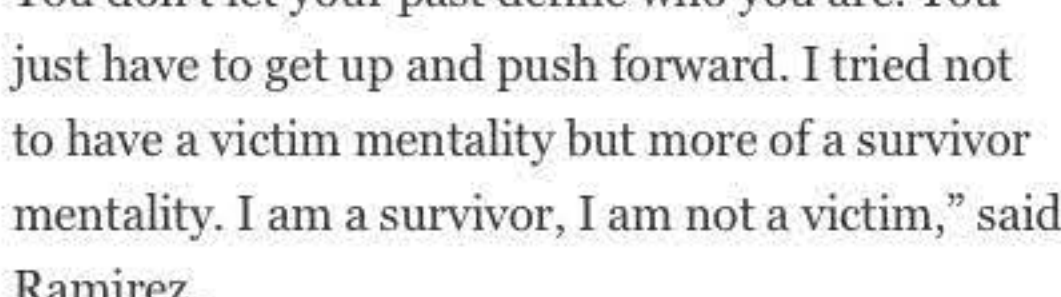
"I became pregnant when I was 19 and it really changed my life. It made me realize how important I am and how I wanted to be the parent that I never had," said Ramirez. "I went back to school when my son was six months...I just knew that I could do it. I loved school and around the same time I got hired as a janitor for the County of Fresno. So I was working nights, went to school all day, didn't have my license to drive myself, and was a mom."

In May of 2013 Ramirez graduated from Fresno State with her degree in Health Care Administration, got her drivers license, a new car and has finally been able to take a step back and see the impact of all her hard work.

Four months after graduating her job with the County of Fresno changed. After 14 years of working as a janitor, Ramirez accepted a promotion, becoming an Eligibility Worker.

What she loves about her work is that it enables her to help others who have a similar life story, and are working to change the course of their life.

"My son, Demaree Jones, is 18 years old and is now working for a marketing company. My daughter, Vira Jones, is a freshman and she is very active in school activities, and I'm really happy to see her get so involved with her school."



Both of Ramirez's children have seen everything she has had to overcome and the strong, independent woman she is. Her motivation and drive has taught them the importance of following their own dreams.

"You don't let your past define who you are. You just have to get up and push forward. I tried not to have a victim mentality but more of a survivor mentality. I am a survivor, I am not a victim," said Ramirez.

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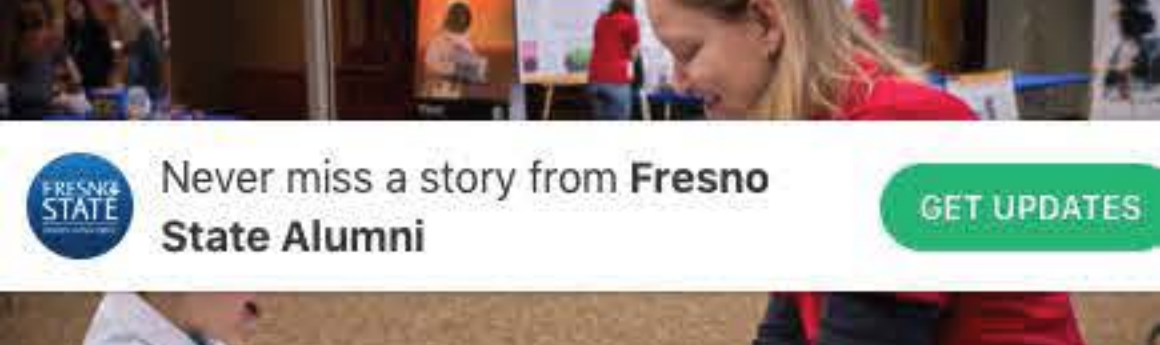
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Photo by Ryan Jeske

# Alum partners with Dow AgroSciences, develops international STEM program

By MARISA MATA, Student Writer

Ronda Hamm (2000) experienced some shock when she moved to New York for graduate school after living in the Central Valley her entire life.

Hamm persevered through bouts of homesickness, and after staying in New York for seven years moved to Indiana, where she has been for the last eight years because of her love for her work—connecting science and the community.

And despite negative perceptions that people have about her line of work, Hamm has continued to and plans on always being involved in scientific outreach efforts.

Hamm grew up interested in animals, dreaming that she would one day be a veterinarian. But her involvement in Future Farmers of America and internship at the Kearney Ag. Center during high school led her to Fresno State, where she would get a “well-rounded degree” in agricultural education, which not only focused on animals but plants and agricultural mechanics as well.

“After completing my degree, I continued my education as a student teacher at Clovis East and Sierra High Schools. Teaching has always been, and still remains, a passion of mine. It was during this time that I made the decision to attend graduate school with the intention of completing a master’s degree and returning to the classroom,”

Hamm said.



Hamm working with flies in a growth chamber during graduate school

“I began graduate school at Cornell University in the department of entomology during the spring of 2002. Upon completion of my M.S. I remained at Cornell completing my Ph.D. in entomology in 2008.”

While at Cornell, Hamm worked as a teaching assistant and partnered with a faculty member to develop Insectapalooza—an interactive open-house hosted by the entomology department.

*“The first year we got hundreds of people, and we were shocked by the demand that there was in the community for something like this. That momentum carried it on, and it’s been going on as an annual event for the department, drawing more than 1,000 people each year.”*

“Additionally, I co-developed the Naturalist Outreach in Biology course, which inspires students to develop a hands-on interactive talk about a biology subject.”

*“The students present their talk at ten outreach events throughout the semester, which trains them how to become science communicators, builds their confidence and presence, while providing role model scientists to the community.”*

The same year Hamm completed her doctorate, she started working at Dow AgroSciences as a field scientist in research and development.

“I managed the urban pest management laboratory and worked with termites, cockroaches and bed bugs. My responsibilities included field research and technical support for the sales organization, covering a territory from Maine to the Carolinas, across to Tennessee and up to Wisconsin.”

“Currently, I am a patent liaison for biological solutions. When research and development has a new invention, I work with them to gather the information and data that has been generated, then write the patent application and work with the patent attorney to protect our intellectual property. In this role I support a wide variety of groups and new technologies, which has me learning something new every day.”



Photo by Jenna Marston

The work that Hamm has done with Dow AgroSciences that she is proudest of is the formation of the Science Ambassadors Program, which aims to get kids interested enough in STEM to want to study it and eventually work in a STEM industry.

Hamm helped to form the program five years ago in Indianapolis, and it now has locations in Michigan, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Canada, the United Kingdom and India and has reached over half a million children.

*“I see myself always being involved in outreach...it’s something that I am passionate about, I care about and I think has high value to our community and to society as a whole...what’s next is hard to say because there’s so many opportunities, but I look forward to seeing what those opportunities are.”*

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Photos courtesy of University Archives

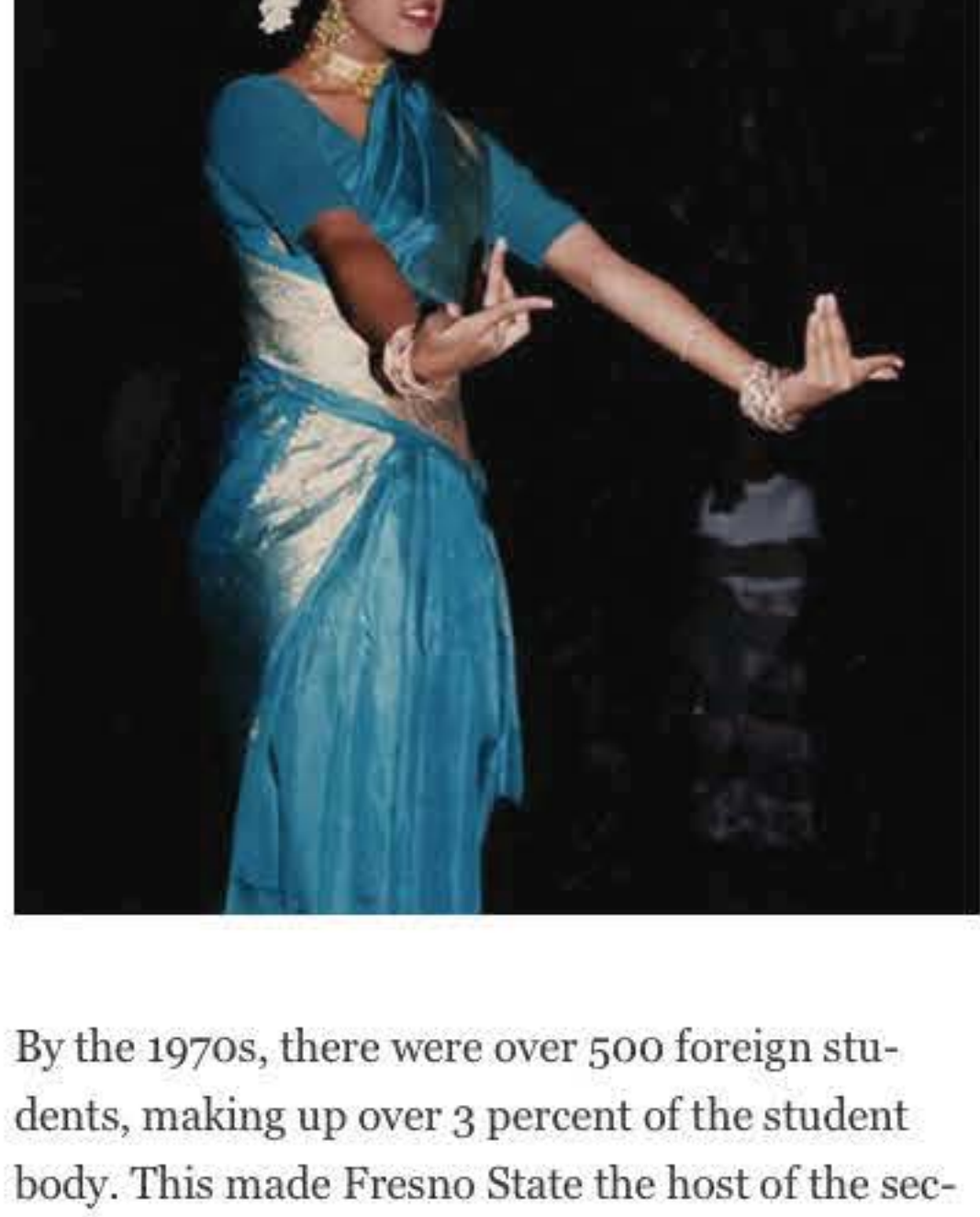
## The international student community at Fresno State

By [Savannah Nakamura](#), [Henry Madden Library](#)

For well over 50 years, Fresno State has welcomed international students to its campus. These students from all over the globe have shared their culture with the Fresno State student body and returned home with fond memories of Fresno and their time spent on campus.

As early as 1960, the Service for International Students Committee was dedicated to assisting foreign students adjust to campus life and lend support to the overseas drive to recruit students from abroad. This committee sponsored social activities, such as an international dinner and World Show, to welcome students from as far away as Germany, Turkey and Norway.

*For more information about the Henry Madden Library click [here](#).*



By the 1970s, there were over 500 foreign students, making up over 3 percent of the student body. This made Fresno State the host of the second largest international population in the CSU system. To celebrate the diversity of the campus, students held an International Week. Each day of the week was dedicated to a different continent, with students from that continent celebrating and sharing about their country. The week included films, raising of foreign flags in the free speech area, music, fashion shows, lectures, dancing and an arts and crafts exhibit. The highlight of the week was the international dinner which featured Ethiopian chicken, Chinese rice and Swiss Black Forest Cake. To wrap up the week, the students held sports competitions, passed out snacks from their home countries and hosted a variety show on Saturday evening.

Over 70 countries were represented by over 1,000 students by the mid-1980s. With the growing international student population came increased opportunities for intercultural engagement. The International Student Services and Programs office established a speakers' bureau to allow foreign students to share their cultures with their American classmates while the Career Development and Employment Services center coordinated workshops to assist foreign students with their job searches and interview techniques. On the field, Fresno State teams began to recruit athletes from Nigeria, England, Canada, Belgium, Sweden and France to participate in track and field, soccer and tennis.



A decade later, the Fresno State campus was host to nearly 2,000 foreign students. These students were instrumental in creating the International Coffee Hour in 1993, which gave foreign students and professors the opportunity to give an informal presentation about their culture and allowed the student body to experience other parts of the world without leaving Fresno. Student organizations also coordinated social events for international students including Halloween and holiday parties, ice skating, skiing and a trip to San Francisco.

In addition to the numerous student-led clubs and activities, today's Fresno State international community continues to share their culture at the International Coffee Hour. The students also actively participate in an International Culture Night, and an International Commencement celebration.

*To view more images from University Archives click [here](#).*

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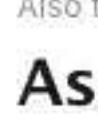
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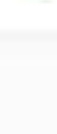
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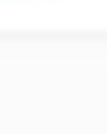
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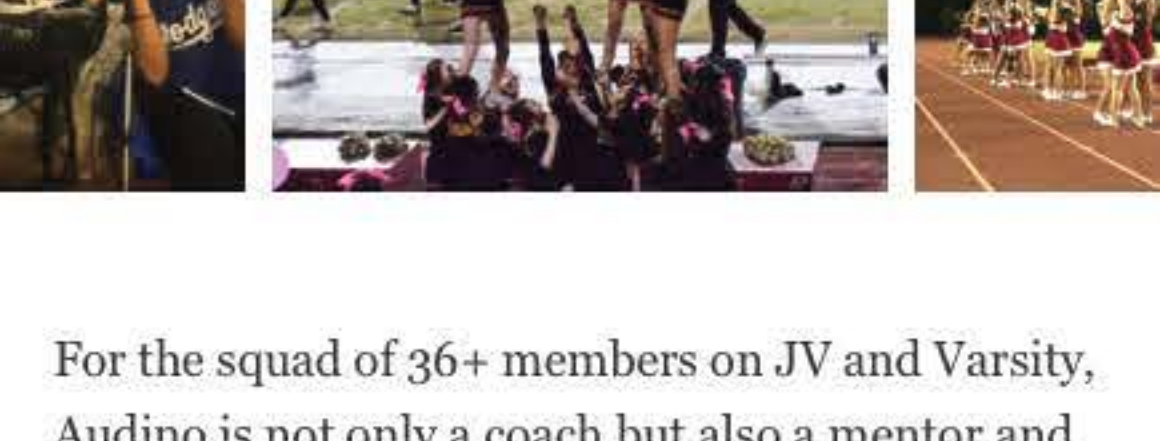
Sitting on the ground: (left to right) Head Coach Britney Audino, Assistant Coach Jennifer Melban

# Coach sees a greater good through cheer

By ELISA NAVARRO, Student Writer

For Britney Audino being the Advisor of the Tulare Union High School Cheerleading Squad since Summer 2014 is about more than cheering.

“One of my gifts I feel is being able to reach younger individuals and pushing them to be better people so that gave me the intent where I knew I could make the most impact in my community. And that’s by using my gift and knowledge of cheer so I can help them be better people and then better athletes,” Audino said.



For the squad of 36+ members on JV and Varsity, Audino is not only a coach but also a mentor and a friend to every single one of them. Her passion and work ethic never fails at being resembled through the energy of the squad. Her kids.

“We have a football, a basketball and a competition squad and its kind of allowed more kids more opportunities to try out for both JV and Varsity and also to allow them to have the option of competing.”

*“They are the kindest, most loving, hard working kids that I have ever worked with and every year they surprise me even more with how amazing they can be.”*



The competition team arose after Audino began coaching and they have competed in the Northern CA Regional Championship, Southern CA Championship, USA Regionals, and even flew out to Florida for the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship last year and they qualified to compete again in 2017.

The squad is family. As family they not only cheer together, they serve together. Last year they volunteered more than 2,700 hours in their community at events like the 9/11 A Walk to Remember, Honor Flight welcoming, Words Hurt campaign, Color Runs and many more.

“The community service component of our squad is super important. I feel like the kids really get a sense of community and they get to see outside of themselves and outside of cheerleading.”



Through the sweat and tears of their hard work they also have a little fun to bond and look back their memories at their yearly retreat and trips to places like Universal Studios and Hobbes Groves!

Audino has set the tone and foundation for the cheerleading squad along with her assistant coach Jennifer, and it has become a rich culture and family where kids are becoming better people through cheerleading.

“I just know, in working with kids, they have different lives, experiences and things that make them happy or sad. I feel like if I can bring this group of different individuals together and do something for the common good of each other then I am already successful and that gives me motivation everyday.”



To stay posted with the Tulare Union Cheerleading Squad follow them on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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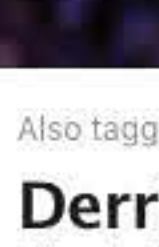
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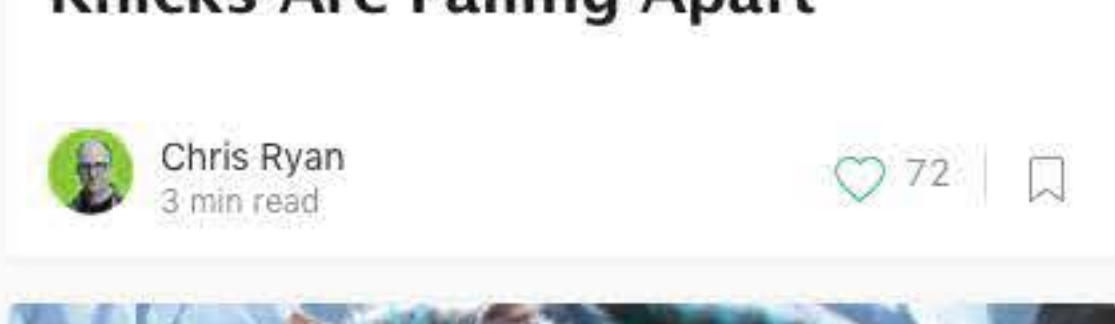


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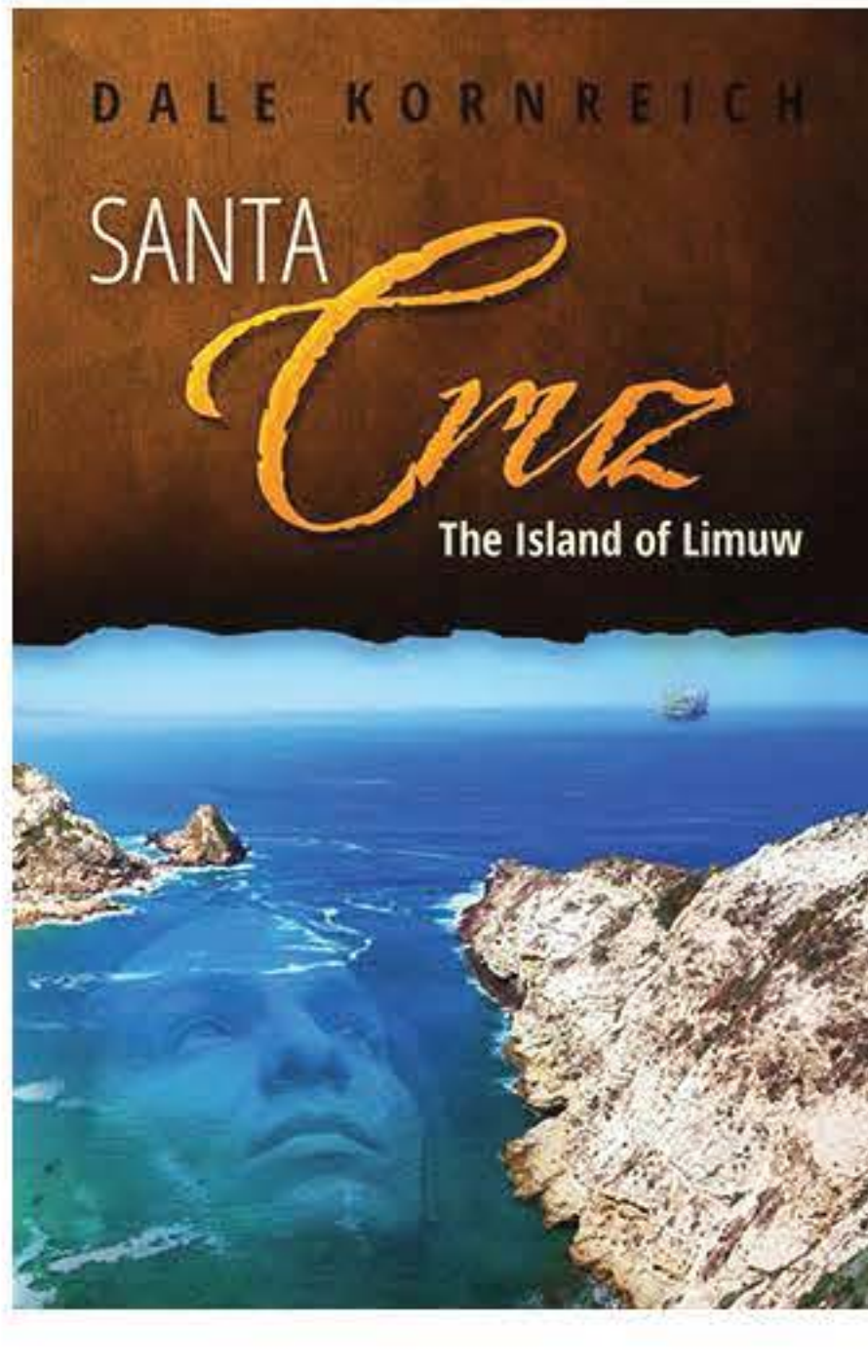
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## A “novel” idea

By MARISA MATA, Student Writer

In his recently published novel, Dale Kornreich (1976) does what hasn't been done in almost 60 years.

*“The last time someone had written a fiction novel about the Channel Islands was The Island of the Blue Dolphins, and that was [56] years ago,” Kornreich said.*



In *Santa Cruz, The Island of Limuw*, Kornreich blurs the lines between fact and fiction by intertwining historical and geographic truths and made-up adventures involving characters based on his family members.

Completing the novel was a difficult five-year process for Kornreich, who wrote part-time while also continuing his career in law.

“I’ve been a lawyer for 34 years and I’ve always wanted to write a novel. Finally, my practice had been successful enough that I had time to focus on writing. I would try to schedule to do legal for two days and writing for three. That’s what I did for a number of years, and that’s eventually how I got it done.”

*“As I worked on my book, there were days when I could barely write a small paragraph. Fortunately, there were other days when the creative juices just flowed, and it was magical. The greatest moment, however, is looking at a completed chapter and thinking to yourself, ‘I actually wrote that!’ It occasionally brought tears to my eyes.”*



In addition to finding joy in writing and being creative, writing his novel allowed Kornreich to reconnect with his long-time love of the ocean.

“I’m originally from the San Diego area. Throughout high school I was a scuba diver, fisherman, spearman and I surfed. I’ve always had a love for the ocean. So when I decided to write this novel, I thought I would write about something I knew about.”

*“I’ve been on Santa Cruz Island. And I like going to the Channel Islands... our islands are so rich in history, they’re like the Galapagos of California.”*

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## Campus Archives Commemorate Incarceration of Japanese Americans

By: Elizabeth Chapin

11/14/2016

Archives at several California State University campuses will be hosting exhibits to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which led to the incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Participating campus archives will be sharing documents, photos and oral histories that have been digitized as an outcome of the CSU Japanese

American Digitization Project, a collaboration of 15 CSU campuses that are digitizing nearly 15,000 documents and more than 100 oral histories related to the confinement of Japanese Americans during World War II.

The project was launched in 2015 thanks to a \$320,000 grant awarded by the National Park Service to help preserve and interpret World War II confinement of Japanese Americans.

Many campuses throughout the CSU system were located near California's incarceration camps and Japanese American communities. Throughout the last half century, their archives, libraries, oral history projects and history departments have collected archival and





manuscript materials, objects, and media relating to Japanese internment.

"CSU campuses have a wealth of information on this significant part of our history," said CSU Dominguez Hills Director of Archives and Special Collections Greg Williams, who is coordinating the statewide project. "By digitizing it, we're ensuring that it can be studied for generations to come."

The project has made these materials available on a CSU-sponsored website. Williams also recently received a grant from National Endowment for the Humanities to continue the effort and create a teaching guide and traveling exhibit for schools and the public.

The CSU Japanese American Digitization Project includes archives at Bakersfield, Channel Islands, Dominguez Hills, East Bay, Fresno, Fullerton, Long Beach, Northridge, Sacramento, San Jose, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, San Francisco, and Sonoma.

*Learn more about the CSU Japanese American History Digitization Project at [www.csujad.com](http://www.csujad.com) (<http://www.csujad.com/>)*

*Download educational posters (</csu-system/media-center/Documents/csujad-posters.pdf>) created for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Executive Order 9066.*

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### INTERNATIONAL TEST FINDS UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AMONG BEST IN WORLD

University High School was recently notified its students outperformed students across the globe in the 2015 Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Test for Schools. The results show that no country in the world outperformed University High School students in reading, and only China and Singapore reported higher scores in math and science.

The test, which assesses 15-year-olds' performance in math, science, reading, critical thinking and problem-solving, is administered to students in more than 50 nations. Based on the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) exam, the test allows schools to compare themselves to schools in other countries. New PISA results ranking countries' education systems will be release next month for the first time in three years. Both PISA and OECD help determine how well schools are preparing students to compete internationally.

*"What sometimes gets lost in the discussions about our school is just how rigorous our diploma requirements are, perhaps the most demanding in the nation," said Dr. James Bushman, University High School's head of school. "When students were told about the testing opportunity they rose to the challenge, because they wanted to be measured against the best in the world."*

"In today's global economy, educational success must be measured against the best-performing other countries," said Peter Kannam, managing partner of America Achieves, an education nonprofit that collaborated with the OECD to pilot the OECD Test for Schools in 2012. "This test allows schools to see how they compare to other countries and to learn how to improve their educational outcomes. We have a crucial need for better education for students across the socioeconomic spectrum and can learn how to achieve that from high performing schools and systems nationally and globally."

The test also compares how local students are doing compared to other U.S. high school students. It found University High School is one of the top 25 U.S. schools of the approximately 450 that participated from coast to coast, scoring high above the national average in math, science and reading.

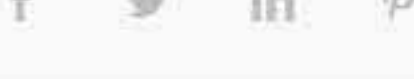
*"Since taking the test and reviewing the results, our school has moved forward with enhanced confidence that we are asking our students to do the right things that will prepare them to compete with the best in the world," Bushman said.*

University High School, a public charter school located on the campus of Fresno State, is a college preparatory school with a focus on music and arts for youth in grades 9-12. Since opening in 2000, the school has received numerous accolades. In recent years it has ranked among the top high schools in California by both U.S. News and World Report and the USC School Performance Dashboard. Students interested in attending can apply in January for admission in fall 2017.

For more information contact Bushman at 559.278.7207 or [jbushman@csufresno.edu](mailto:jbushman@csufresno.edu).

By Kathleen Schock | November 15th, 2016 | Categories: ACADEMICS | Tags: english, Fresno State, high school, International, math, ranking, science | 0 Comments

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## AUTHOR RECEIVES INAUGURAL ARNE NIXON CENTER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE FELLOWSHIP

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## AUTHOR RECEIVES INAUGURAL ARNE NIXON CENTER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE FELLOWSHIP

The Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature and its Artist-in-Residence Fellowship Program Committee announced that award-winning, young adult author Guadalupe Garcia McCall will be the first Arne Nixon Center Artist-in-Residence Fellow.

McCall will spend one week on the Fresno State campus in spring 2017 working with students in English, education and additional courses. During McCall's stay, she will offer instruction on writing, provide presentations to education students on how to use fiction in the classroom and she'll visit two local high schools to talk about her work. An opening public reception will be hosted by the Arne Nixon Center Advocates and a culminating program will showcase the students' achievements.

McCall is the author of three highly-acclaimed titles, including her first novel, the Pura Belpré Award-winning book "Under the Mesquite." For this book, she also won the 2013 Tomás Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award and an Américas Award honorable mention. Her second book, "Summer of the Mariposas," was a finalist for the Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy and was named on School Library Journal's best books of the year list. "Shame the Stars," her newest book published this year, has been awarded a Kirkus starred review. A rich reimagining of "Romeo and Juliet," set in the explosive years of the Mexican Revolution, Kirkus called it "a must-read, complex twist on a political Shakespearean tragedy."

As a recipient of the fellowship, McCall will receive a \$10,000 stipend. The Arne Nixon Center Artist-in-Residence Fellowship was made possible by the generosity of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. The awarding committee consists of professors from the Fresno State English Department; the Early, Literacy, Bilingual and Special Education Department; the Chicano and Latin American Studies Department; the Women's Studies Program and the Arne Nixon Center's curator, Jennifer Crow.

"We are excited to bring young adult author Guadalupe Garcia McCall to Fresno State to share her passion for writing with our students and our community," Crow said. "Her versatile style plays to the genres of realistic, fantastical and historical fiction, yet is always informed by her sense of social justice and clarity of heart."

With a mission to promote the best books in children's literature through its collection and programs, the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature is a unit within the Special Collections Division of the Madden Library.

For more information, contact Jennifer Crow at 559.278.8116 or [jcrow@csufresno.edu](mailto:jcrow@csufresno.edu).

### Related Links:

- [Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature](#)
- [Madden Library](#)
- [Guadalupe Garcia McCall website](#)
- [Arne Nixon Center Facebook, Twitter and Instagram page: @ArneNixonCenter](#)
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By Cindy Wathen | November 8th, 2016 | Categories: [ACADEMICS](#), [PRESS RELEASES](#) | Tags: [Arne Nixon Center](#), [artist in residence](#), [author](#), [Children's Literature](#), [fellowship](#), [Guadalupe Garcia McCall](#), [young adult](#) | 0 Comments

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## UNIVERSITY TO LAUNCH NEW PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH UNITED WAY

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## UNIVERSITY TO LAUNCH NEW PROGRAM IN COLLABORATION WITH UNITED WAY

Fresno State's Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management is partnering with the United Way Fresno and Madera Counties to launch the Project Health, Opportunity, Prosperity and Education (HOPE) program this fall.

Project HOPE will be a campus resource for Fresno State students to access helpful services on campus, and the program will also give students access to community resources registered in United Way's 2-1-1 database system.

*"We are so pleased to partner with our friends and colleagues at United Way to assist our students and meet critical needs that impact their future success," said Dr. Frank Lamas, vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Fresno State. "Our joint partnership will more completely serve students' needs and help them toward college graduation."*

The Project HOPE staff will work closely with United Way staff to help meet students' needs, which will include services from the following areas:

- Academic resources
- Health and wellness
- Financial management
- Academic difficulty
- Career planning
- Academic advising/graduation planning
- Student support programs
- Getting involved

"This innovative connection between 2-1-1 and Fresno State is a model for deepening impact in the community," said Lindsay Callahan, president and CEO for United Way Fresno and Madera Counties.

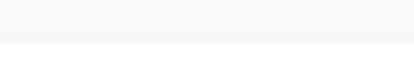
Fresno State students can access Project HOPE resources by dialing 2-1-1 and identifying as a Fresno State student to the operator. For more information, contact Marilyn Monroy at 559.278.6723.

### Related Links:

- [Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management](#)
- [United Way Fresno and Madera Counties](#)

By Margarita Adona | November 3rd, 2016 | Categories: [ACADEMICS](#), [PRESS RELEASES](#) | Tags: [Fresno State](#), [Project HOPE](#), [resources](#), [student affairs](#), [United Way](#) | [0 Comments](#)

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How CSU's Veteran Resource Centers Help Smooth the Transition

# Media Center

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STORY : VETERANS Share:      

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## From Combat to College - How CSU's Veteran Resource Centers Help Smooth the Transition

By:By: Christianne Salvador

11/11/2016





Transitioning from military to college can be overwhelming. Navigating the college campus and becoming part of civilian life can make former service members feel isolated and may require special attention to support their academic success. The CSU is committed to serving the 8,000 veteran and military students, as well as the 11,000 military dependents, enrolled across its 23 campuses. On-campus Veteran Resource Centers (VRC) provide an environment of inclusiveness that supports students through transitional challenges. VRC faculty and staff aim to enrich students' college experience, leading to successful progress towards timely degree completion.



## ***On-going support through graduation***

VRCs are available at most CSU campuses and provide a comprehensive list of support services, programs and certification for student veterans and dependents. These centers are staffed with knowledgeable mentors who can assist students at all stages of their college experience, including completion of the G.I. Bill and academic tutoring. Some campus VRCs also have in-house mental health counselors that offer one-on-one counseling for military students. Technological resources, such as computer labs and printers, are also available inside the centers.

## ***Social Space for Shared Experiences***

Adjusting to campus life can be stressful for all students, including veterans. VRCs provide an interactive space where vets can study, socialize, share stories and network with one another. Inside each VRC is a supportive community of student veterans and dependents who share in the experience of both military and college life. Programs and workshops are offered at VRCs that encourage personal development, such as money management workshops and empowerment discussion groups.

## ***Career preparation***

VRC services extend beyond academics and can also serve as a hub for professional development and employment resources. Career readiness programs are offered to assist students in preparing for their chosen career field. Career mentoring, mock interviews and resume building assistance are also offered. Military-friendly companies and organizations have agreements with some campuses, where internship and employment opportunities are available for students. Some VRCs hold job fairs for military students and dependents. Companies seeking to hire students through VRCs understand the overlap of military students' obligations between their studies and service duties, and therefore are able to work with their schedules.

Throughout the CSU system, campuses are prepared to assist with the unique needs of former service members and dependents. Many veterans face a difficult transition to civilian life, but campus VRCs are openly available to help students adjust into their new environment and provide support until graduation day. Each campus VRC offers specialized programs and services to serve military students. To learn more about each VRC, contact a CSU campus by visiting <http://calstate.edu/veterans/contacts/> (<http://calstate.edu/veterans/contacts/>).



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Connect with alumni and hear about exciting things going on at Fresno State.

**\$25 per person - advanced registration required**  
**Guests welcome!**

## **Contact Information**

Katie Adamo Bewarder  
[katieadamo@csufresno.edu](mailto:katieadamo@csufresno.edu)

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**Time:** 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

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