



WELCOME BACK SCHOLARS!

After a long unexpected break, we are thrilled to welcome back our 2021 Summer Cohort! Fifteen of our brightest students will begin their professional journeys interning at noteworthy legislative, communication, and policy organizations across Washington DC. We are more than excited to see what they will accomplish this summer!



MEET HARUT

Harut is a junior, majoring in Communication Studies and Sociology. Ever since Harut can remember, he wanted to work in the nation's capital because of its electric energy and its promise of change. His passion to make progress in our world has led him to the office of Twins PR, a firm focused on changing the way that Latinos and minorities are portrayed in the media, founded by two former Cal State Fullerton alumni (Maritza and Maricela Huerta). Harut is very excited to begin his journey with the DC Scholars Program because of the opportunities it presents as well as the chance to develop meaningful relationships with students who are also passionate about advocacy and political work.



BEST OF DC

Although our **summer cohort** is learning and working remotely this year, there are still plenty of ways to explore DC from afar! Want to take a long walk on the National Mall? No problem! Check out DC's Moment Cam, to enjoy these historic sites from the comfort of your own home. Want to walk the halls of DC's iconic museums? You can! The Smithsonian Institution is offering online exhibits at the following museums: African American History & Culture, Air and Space, American Indian, African Art, Asian Art. You can beat the DC summer heat and still feel a part of this enriching city by taking part in these virtual events.



MEET MARIANA

Mariana is a senior, majoring in Political Science and minoring in Criminal Justice. This summer she will be splitting her time between two internships, working for the U.S House of Representative office of Congressman Lou Correa and HM Consulting. With these internships, Mariana is most looking forward to creating professional relationships and growing her network before she graduates and sets off into the real world. She hopes the DC Scholars Program will launch her career forward and grant opportunities in a variety of settings.

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Join the Cal State DC Scholars
with
**CONGRESSWOMAN
YOUNG
KIM**

MAY 5TH, 2021
6:00PM - 7:00PM (EST)

JOIN THE CAL STATE DC
SCHOLARS MASTER CLASS
featuring
**CSU CHANCELLOR
JOSEPH
I. CASTRO**

REGISTER NOW
CLICK LINK IN BIO!

APRIL 23, 2021
4:00PM - 5:00PM PST

INAUGURAL MASTER CLASS SERIES HITS A HIGH NOTE!

Eliza Ramirez Gamboa, 2012 DC Scholar, kicked off the **Cal State DC Scholars Master Class Series: Leadership Challenges in 21st Century America** by hosting interviews with Congresswoman Young Kim and CSU Chancellor Joseph I. Castro. She posed thoughtful and insightful questions to these two extraordinarily successful leaders from our community. Both Kim and Castro shared their wisdom in a lively discussion about personal successes, failures, and leadership observations from the field.

In Castro's interview, he mentioned that he practices leadership everyday. Castro attributes his success to his grandfather, a migrant railroad worker, who worked hard everyday to make the American dream possible for their family. "I would not be here without his support and strength. My grandfather found that leadership comes from basic values and eulogy virtues." His grandfather's lessons are what has helped Castro tackle the many challenges her faces as Chancellor for the California State University System. When asked what his biggest confrontation this year has been and how he handled it, Castro simply said "COVID 19 brought more than enough issues this year. However, the way to handle any issue is to stay focused on the mission and values. Be flexible about strategies and tactics." He later said that if you want to be a successful leader, you must also be compassionate and listen. Once you have these skills, you will be able to prosper in a high position in any field.

Like Castro, Congresswoman Kim mentioned the importance of family (her husband & four kids - one a DC Scholar alumni) and how they ultimately pushed her to enter the world of politics. She found it encouraging that her husband has always fought for causes he believed in, starting up grassroots and engaging Korean-Americans in the community for leadership development. Like her husband, Kim was passionate about the issues in her community and wanted to take her mission a step further. She soon became one of the first Korean-American women ever to serve in congress. Assuming office in 2021, she has already done so much for her district including supporting homeless youth, infrastructure and so much more. She mentioned that the key to success is "working across the aisle and receiving bipartisan support. I listened to the concerns of people who voted for me and those who did not." Further, Kim mentioned that she wants to be a mentor for young women and people of color who do not think they have a chance in politics. Being a young Asian-american, Kim also thought she didn't have a shot, but taking advice from her role models she understood that everyone has an opportunity if they push themselves to the next level. She concluded her remarks by saying, "Although it might be uncomfortable, when an opportunity comes your way, go for it. Light a path for others to follow."

Be sure to check our calendar for the next DC Scholars Master Class Series!

SUMMER 2021 READS

Whether your summer plans involve relaxing on the beach or staying inside to beat the heat, chances are they include a book. Here are a few great reads to take with you wherever you go this summer!

Dickey, J.D. **Empire of Mud: The Secret History of Washington, DC.** New York: Lyons Press, 2015.

Asch, Chris and George Musgrove. **Chocolate City: A History of Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital.** University of North Carolina Press. 2017.

Jones, Ida E. Mary McLeod **Bethune in Washington, DC Activism and Education in Logan Circle.** The History Press. 2013.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

"My advice for incoming students would be to read the newspaper everyday. Both locally and nationally. Also explore DC by delving into the history of it all. Whether it be watching movies, reading history books, or listening to podcasts, understand the roots and culture of our nation." - **Kathryn Buechel, DC Scholars "Culture in Politics" Professor**

A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR:

"We are really excited about our virtual Summer 2021 program. These students navigated the switch to virtual during the pandemic and took the leap to try to prepare themselves for their next steps by becoming Cal State DC Scholars. We are very appreciative to the supporters of our program who continue to help financially and also as mentors. This support is only possible because of the strong alumni connections we've maintained over the years. As part of that, alumni and friends of the program are encouraged to attend the virtual DC Alumni event on June 17th that will include an update from President Virjee and an update from me on our program. You can RSVP at <https://calstate.eventsair.com/2021-csu-alumni-dc-virtual/2021-csu-alumni-dc-virtual/Site/Register>. Hope to see you there and at our in-person events starting next Spring." - **Director Stephen Stambough**

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