

# SPARTAN SCRIBE

*SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL PTA  
A CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

South High Students & Families,

Writing this, the final President's Message of my 2-year tenure, is certainly bittersweet. Like students and staff, I too felt disheartened during this year of distant learning, for it meant a year of distant volunteering as well. Events had to be cancelled, awards were presented via Zoom, and interactions with our amazing Spartans were limited. It was not the year we hoped for. However, rather than dwell on the things we were unable to accomplish, I would like to focus on the many wonderful things that we did.

Some PTA highlights for the year include our "grab 'n go" **Welcome Back Lunch** for teachers and staff, online **practice SAT & ACT tests** for our Spartans, a successful **Reflections** art contest, a virtual **Parent Education Night** on "College During COVID", the extensive compilation of universities, vocational schools, military options, and more for our SHS website, and a productive **Campus Beautification**. Additionally, we are excited to announce that our **2021 gift to school** is the funding of additional picnic tables for the South High mall. Not too bad for a year spent almost entirely off-campus.

None of this would have been possible without some amazing volunteers. A big **THANK YOU** goes out to the talented and dedicated group that make up our **South High PTA**! Despite the ever-changing rules and guidelines of the last year, they were able to roll with the punches and make the best of challenging situations.

Our upcoming **GRAD Night** is a perfect example. Chair Jennifer Fisher and her committee have been working tirelessly for months, adhering to state, county, and district policies, while planning a fabulous final event for our seniors. This is the very essence of what a Grad Night should be – a shared celebration between classmates before they head off in different directions. Our Spartans are sure to have a great time.

It has been an honor to serve as your South High PTA President and I wish next year's leader, Michelle Briggs, the best of luck.

Have a safe, healthy, and restful summer!  
Congratulations to the Class of 2021!

Deanna Diederich  
South High PTA President (2019-2021)

**STAY CONNECTED:**

**FACEBOOK**

"South High School PTA"

**INSTAGRAM & TWITTER**

coming next year

## SHS PTA SCHOLARSHIPS...

The South High PTA is pleased to announce the five graduating seniors being awarded this year's PTA Scholarships. These individuals all excelled at South High, both academically and through extracurricular activities, as well as in the community. We wish them much luck in the next chapters of their lives.



### ALEXA VIDAL

Extracurriculars: Yearbook Editor; Police Explorer; volleyball, music, & hiking

GPA: 3.9

Clubs: CSF, Apollo Athena, FCA, National Honors Society

Plans for the fall: Loyola Marymount University (*Psychology*)

Favorite memories of high school: Class Comps and Yearbook Committee

### JENNIFER LAU

Extracurriculars: art (Reflections winner); volunteering at TMMC & at spelling bees; Bread of Life Church youth group leader

GPA: 4.9 (1<sup>st</sup> in class)

Clubs: Math Club, National Honors Society, Connect Club, CSF, Science Club

Plans for the fall: USC (*Business*)

Favorite memory of high school: art class with Ms. Perez



### RYAN KANG

Extracurriculars: Marching Band; volunteering with PressFriends; ATTIC Advisory Committee

GPA: 4.6

Clubs: Students' League, Connect Club, National Honors Society, CSF

Plans for the fall: Vanderbilt University (*Public Policy & Law*)

Favorite part of high school: Marching Band



**CINDY ZHANG**

**Extracurriculars:** volunteering at RMS Math Club, WALTERIA Library, & Malaga Cove chess club; crafting, chess, & dance

**GPA:** 4.7

**Clubs:** Math Club, CyberPatriots, Academic Decathlon

**Plans for the fall:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
(*Mathematics or Computer Science*)

**Favorite part of high school:** hanging out with friends

**DARIN MATERMAN**

**Extracurriculars:** student activism with GenUp, Mayors National Youth Summit, & Torrance Youth Council; Boys State delegate; Sac Safari; volunteering with SHINE; soccer & photography

**GPA:** 4.5

**Clubs:** Connect Club, Speech & Debate, Members at Large

**Plans for the fall:** Northeastern (*Political Science*)

**Favorite memory of high school:** soccer CIF semi-finals

Our South High PTA Scholarship Committee read through dozens of amazing applications before selecting the above five recipients. We thank them for their time and commitment.

Committee members: Gina Magee, Kathy Patterson, Rob Patterson, Dan Suh, Salette Amador, Ako Pizer, Margie Scarpignato, and Tyea Louriano.

**REFLECTIONS...**

Congratulations to freshman KOTARO FUJITA on winning the Award of Excellence from National PTA for his photograph, "Because I am a Japanese American".

Want to get a jump start on next year? The theme for Reflections 2021-2022 is,

**"I Will Change the World by..."**

For information and rules, visit  
<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>





## STAFF & TEACHER APPRECIATION...

Although we were physically separated from our amazing teachers and staff for most of the school year, we still felt it was important to acknowledge their hard work and dedication. In addition to Teacher Appreciation Week, we chose to celebrate some very special days during the past few months.

School Security Day – September 13<sup>th</sup>

Custodian Day – October 2<sup>nd</sup>

School Counselor Day – February 1<sup>st</sup>

School Librarian Day – April 4<sup>th</sup>

Administrative Professionals Day – April 21<sup>st</sup>

Principals Day – May 1<sup>st</sup>

Teacher Appreciation – May 4<sup>th</sup>

Lunch Heroes Day – May 7<sup>th</sup>

School Nurse Day – May 12<sup>th</sup>



Each member of the SHS staff received a keepsake and special treat, compliments of the South High PTA, showing that “Nothing Can Mask Our Spartan Pride”!

Thank you to PTA’s Michelle Briggs & Theresa Mummery for organizing this endeavor, as well as senior Katy Nakai for her artwork, and sophomore Rhian Acosta for the beautiful cookies!



## CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION...



A big THANK YOU to the SHS students that joined in our Campus Beautification in April. We were able to clean out and replant three areas in front of the school office...improving South's overall curb appeal.



A second clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 9-11:30am.

We will be cleaning out the planters along the office building walls – just in time for SHS prom, GRAD Night, and graduation.

Please join us and help make a difference. Supplies are always appreciated – gloves, rakes, trash bags, and shovels.

For information, contact Darby Magnus at [darbyshouse2@gmail.com](mailto:darbyshouse2@gmail.com)



## UPCOMING EVENTS...

### June

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2 <sup>nd</sup>	PTA Board Meeting*
5 <sup>th</sup>	Campus Clean Up, 9-11:30am*
5 <sup>th</sup>	Prom; 6:30-10:00pm
7 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Finals
8 <sup>th</sup>	GRAD Night; 7-10pm*
9 <sup>th</sup>	Class of 2021 Graduation, 6pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of school

### August

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16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	Registration
24 <sup>th</sup>	Teachers report to South High
25 <sup>th</sup>	Welcome Back Lunch for Teachers & Staff*
26 <sup>th</sup>	First Day of School

### September

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1 <sup>st</sup>	SHS PTA Board Meeting, 7pm*
6 <sup>th</sup>	Labor Day – no school
8 <sup>th</sup>	Study Skills Seminar*
15 <sup>th</sup>	Back to School Night/PTA Association Meeting*
16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	No school
25 <sup>th</sup>	SAT Practice Test*
28 <sup>th</sup>	National Voter Registration Day*

\*denotes PTA-sponsored event