



STRIVE Prep

Alumni Newsletter October 2022

Hello STRIVE Prep Alumni,

Welcome to the first-ever STRIVE Prep Alumni Newsletter! These newsletters are a way for us to stay in contact with you, let you know about upcoming events, share helpful tips, post job and internship opportunities, and lots more. Please reach out if there are any specific topics you would like to see included in future newsletters. Some areas we can specifically support you with are:

- Career and College Advising
- Navigating financial aid and scholarship applications
- Understanding your credits/major, and high school transcript requests
- Support services on your campus
- Applying or transferring to postsecondary education
- Connecting you with internships, apprenticeships, and other workforce opportunities

All the best,
Your Alumni Support Team

Meet Your Alumni Support Team

Carmelita Galicia-Munoz

(she/her/hers)

Alumni Support Manager - RISE and EXCEL Scholars with last names A-M



Schools Attended: University of Colorado Denver

Undergrad Major: Business Administration
Masters: Master of Public Administration
Contact Info: c.galicia-munoz@striveprep.org / 720-336-0105 (cell)

Dr. Jay Samant
(he/him/his)

*Director of Academic Readiness and College Success
Interim Alumni Support Manager - SMART and EXCEL Scholars with last names N-Z*



Schools Attended: William and Mary, Binghamton University, Oneonta State
Undergrad Major: History and Government-Adolescence Education and Political Science
Masters: Master of Science in Special Education-Adolescent Education
Doctorate: Ph.D in Educational Policy, Planning, and Leadership
Contact Info: jsamant@striveprep.org / 845-701-6432 (cell)

Jaquelin Hernandez Ortega
(she/her/hers)

Former Alumni Support Manager - SMART and EXCEL Scholars with last names N-Z



We would like to give a BIG shoutout to Jaquelin! She recently accepted her dream job position at STRIVE Prep SMART as an English Language Arts Teacher. Jaquelin is a 2018 graduate of SMART and she started her professional career with STRIVE this summer as an Alumni Support Manager. We can't thank Jaquelin enough for all she did while on our team. We will miss her greatly but are very excited about the knowledge she will bring to her scholars within the SMART community.

For those who have worked with Jaquelin, we're in the process of hiring a new Alumni

Support Manager. Until this happens, please contact Dr. Jay Samant for support at jsamant@striveprep.org, or text (845) 701-6432.

Join STRIVE Prep's Alumni Facebook Group

Based on your survey feedback in staying connected, we now have a STRIVE Prep Alumni Facebook Group and we would love for you to join! This page was created to keep STRIVE Prep alumni connected with classmates and share job announcements, career advising/leadership opportunities, community events, and other resources.

This is a private Facebook group page and is only for STRIVE Prep alumni. To join, follow the link below and make sure to click the blue "Join Group" button.

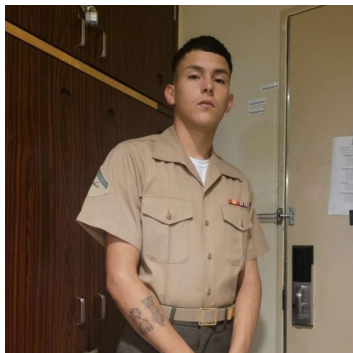
STRIVE Prep Alumni Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1060197251325327>

STRIVE Prep Alumni Spotlight

Jesus Hernandez Ortega

STRIVE Prep SMART
Class of 2020



Jesus graduated from SMART in 2020. He now serves in the Marines and is stationed in Japan. He will be deployed to Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand. We are so proud of his accomplishments as Lance Corporal Hernandez Ortega.

First Semester College Tips

Know where the following are on campus:

- Financial Aid Office
- Registrar/Admissions Office
- Library
- Student Services Center
- Counseling/Wellness Center
- Dining Hall
- Writing/Tutoring Center

- Multicultural Centers

Things to do:

- Review syllabi and plan out your due dates
- Look up important dates such as [upcoming withdrawal dates](#)
- Meet with your professors/TA during office hours
- Meet with your advisor
- Attend study groups
- Attend extracurricular events/meetings
- Take care of your mental and physical health
- Reach out to your STRIVE Alumni Support Manager
 - **Upcoming Alumni Support Manager College Campus Visits:**
 - Mon, 10/17 - Community College of Aurora CentreTech Campus
 - Fri, 10/28 - Community College of Aurora Lowry Campus
 - Mon, 11/7 - Regis University
 - Mon, 11/14 - Colorado State University

Interested In Going Back To School Or Starting School?

Have you completed some college, but do not have a degree? Or maybe you applied to attend college in 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 and did not attend. You may be eligible to participate in the statewide [Finish What You Started Program](#). This program is partnering with public colleges and universities across Colorado to provide individuals with support services and financial support to access and complete a certificate or degree. Learn more [here](#).

[Free College App Day](#)- Colorado's 5th Annual Free Applications Day will be held on October 18th - 20th, 2022 for Colorado residents! Begin filling out your applications now! You just need to submit the application from October 18th - 20th to be eligible for the fee waiver. So, begin the online application, save your work, and submit it sometime during the three day period! [Click here to learn more](#).

Opportunities and Resources

Scholarships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationwide Scholarship Directory for College Students, Rising Professionals, and Professionals • DISCOVER Scholarships Directory • The Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship A highly selective scholarship for the nation's top community college students seeking to complete their bachelor's degrees at four-year colleges or universities. Each Cooke Scholar has access to generous financial support for two to three years, college planning support, ongoing advising, and the opportunity to connect with the thriving community of fellow Scholars. The application opens Thursday, October 6, 2022.
Fellowships	<p>CLLARO Capitol Fellowship Program The CLLARO Capitol Fellowship Program is a paid internship that helps</p>

	<p>college students concerned about social justice to develop leadership skills and first-hand knowledge of how proposed legislation can become law. Fellows work part-time throughout the Colorado legislative session, from January until early May. In addition to the monthly stipend, fellows can earn academic, and receive support from CLLARO throughout the entire program to ensure their success.</p> <p>The deadline is QUICKLY approaching. Applications are due Sunday, October 9th at 11:59PM. Questions? Contact alejandra.colmenero@cclaro.org</p> <p>Eligibility Criteria can be found here. Apply for the fellowship here.</p>
<p>Career and Professional Development</p>	<p>Mi Casa Resource Center Mi Casa Resource Center is a Denver organization that provides resources and helps individuals learn about education, employment, and business ownership. View their October, November, and December events here. Some classes and trainings have a fee but if you are a Denver resident, the fee can be waived.</p> <p>Mile High Young Professionals MHYP provides opportunities to develop professionally, cultivate relationships, and have influence in the Denver community through philanthropy, networking, and professional development seminars and workshops. Visit their website to learn more.</p>
<p>Financial Aid Resources</p>	<p>The FAFSA and CASFA opened on October 1, 2022. If you need help filling it out, please see the info below about two upcoming events.</p> <p>RISE Alumni <i>Financial AID Night for RISE scholars and families</i> Thursday, October 13, 2022 5:00 pm - 8:00pm Learn more and register here.</p> <p>All Alumni <i>Community FAFSA/CASFA Workshop</i> Saturday, November 12, 2022 9:30 am – 1:30 pm Location TBD This will be an in-person event for students and families hosted by the Denver Scholarship Foundation and community partners. It will be appointment-based and open to anyone in Denver who needs help with FAFSA or CASFA.</p>
<p>Mental Health Resources</p>	<p>TherapyDirect TherapyDirect allows you to quickly access a counselor for a full 55-minute, online session. No fees, no medical insurance needed. They welcome all metro Denver residents ages 18 years and up, including those new to counseling. TherapyDirect allows you to access up to three sessions each year. They are available Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.</p>

Volunteer Opportunity	Alumni, please join us on October 24, 2022 as a Verbals judge at STRIVE Prep. Verbals is an oral presentation of learning that is presented to volunteer judges, and helps not only strengthen STRIVE prep scholars' leadership skills, but the practice in public speaking strengthens their ideas and confidence. This can't happen without community volunteers like you, though! Learn more and sign up here .
STRIVE Prep Career Opportunities	<p>Have you ever wanted to work at STRIVE? If so, we would be thrilled for our alumni to join the STRIVE Prep Team. Current STRIVE job openings can be found here.</p> <p>Transportation is an important part of a scholar's educational experience. Sadly there is a shortage of school bus drivers. DS Bus Lines is currently hiring school bus drivers to serve Denver charter schools. Learn more about becoming a school bus driver here.</p>
Save the Date	We're starting to plan the first-ever STRIVE Prep Alumni Reunion. Save the date for Summer 2023! We will be in touch as more detailed information becomes available. We can't wait to see you there!