

Department of Biology

Honors Reception

Friday, May 17, 2024

12:00 p.m.

Chaparral Hall CR5122



California State University
Northridge



University Awards

2024 Outstanding Graduating Senior Award

Nicole Ayala

College of Science and Mathematics Awards

Dean's Scholarship

Hanna Bellafard and Amir Filabs

Hugo and Irma Oppenheimer Student Award

Hanna Bellafard and Tena Dhayalan

Leslie and Terry Cutler Scholarship

Rafael Estrada

Mack I. Johnson Research Award for Outstanding Graduate Student

Alitzel Villanueva

Robert Nolan Scholarship

Nikita Opel

The Robert R. Sprague Foundation Scholarship

Ranel Tuplano

Wujack Harrison Pre-Med Scholarship

Jigar Patel

Graduate Fellowships for Outstanding Research Promise

Tena Dhayalan, Laurel Diaz, and Max Sprute

Department of Biology Awards

Graduate Awards

Donald E. Bianchi Outstanding Biology Graduate Student Award

Hanna Bellafard

Donald Bianchi Outstanding Graduate Research Award

Rafael Estrada

Donald Bianchi Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award

Tena Dhayalan

Julie Gorchynski, M.D. Research Graduate Student Scholarship

Rafael Estrada, Rachel Gutner, and Nicholas Wertz

*Scholarship in Ecology, Behavior, and Natural History
Honoring Jim Dole and Betty Rose*

Jack Dirck

Bob and Doris Tracy Memorial Graduate Fellowship Award

Angelina Piette

Hugo and Irma Oppenheimer Biology Department Award

Kristen Howard, Angelina Piette, and Nicholas Wertz

The Richard Duenc̄kel Garden Club Scholarship

Lipi Kalpesh Patel

*Newhall Land and Farming
Southern California Ecology Scholarship*

Rachel Gutner

Biology Outstanding Student Award

Jack Dirck

William H. Krohmer Biology Student Scholarship

Leta Dawson

Undergraduate Awards

*Alumni Prize for Undergraduate Research in Biology, Areas of Cellular,
Molecular, Physiological, or Developmental Biology*

Diana Ibrahim

*Alumni Prize for Undergraduate Research in Biology, Areas of Ecology,
Evolution, Ethology, or Systematics*

Katie Huguet Tuck

*Judge Julian Beck Outstanding Graduating Senior
Biology Department Award*

Ranel Tuplano

Ian & Kathy Leslie Scholarship in Biology

Pionik Shahgholian

*Lieberman Family Foundation Biology Scholarship
For Outstanding Undergraduates*

Evan Jabbaz

*Bob and Doris Tracy Memorial
Undergraduate Scholarship Award*

Katie Huguet Tuck

Prakriti Suri Memorial Award

Elizabeth Matz

Additional Student Awards

Cameron Atighetchi

- *All of US Community Award*
Advisor: Dr. Eduardo Amorim

Marine Barsegyan

- *Undergraduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation:*
Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student
Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Cheryl Van Buskirk

Ashley Calderon

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Nicki Calvert

- *State of California Life Sciences and*
Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Laura Carmona

- *Undergraduate, 1st Place, Poster Presentation:*
Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student
Research and Creative Works Symposium
- *State of California Life Sciences and*
Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Gabriella Cox

- *Undergraduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation:*
Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student
Research and Creative Works Symposium
- *Poster Presentation Winner: 47th Annual West*
Coast Biological Sciences Undergraduate
Research Conference
- *State of California Life Sciences and*
Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Adelaide Dahl

- *Honorable Mention: NSF Graduate Research*
Fellowship Program
Advisor: Dr. Pete Edmunds

Dain Dayo

- *Poster Presentation Winner: 47th Annual West*
Coast Biological Sciences Undergraduate
Research Conference
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Laurel Diaz

- *COAST Student Award*
- *NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program*
Advisor: Dr. Nyssa Silbiger

Tena Dhayalan

- *Honorable Mention: NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program*
Advisor: Dr. Nyssa Silbiger

Jack Dirk

- *Graduate, 2nd Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
Advisor: Dr. Robert Espinoza and Dr. Jeanne Robertson

Andrea Duran

- *Undergraduate, 1st Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Sean Farmer

- *Graduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
- *Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles Carl Gans Travelling Fellowship*
- *The Wildlife Society Western Section Student Travel Grant*
Advisor: Dr. Robert Espinoza

Cindy Fajardo

- *COAST Student Award*
Advisor: Dr. Nyssa Silbiger

Jasmin Florencio

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Samantha Garcia

- *Undergraduate, 2nd Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Aysan Goodarzi

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: Dr. David Bermudes

Sharlene Guarina

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: Dr. Maria Elena de Bellard

Andrea Gutierrez

- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Victor Gutierrez-Garcia

- *Graduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Ricardo Gibert

- *Animal Behavior Society Student Research Grant*
- *American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Gaige Fund Award*
- *Ernest E. Williams Research Grant Award from the Herpetologist's League*
Advisor: Dr. Robert Espinoza

Sandra Illescas

- *Graduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
Advisor: Dr. Mariano Loza Coll

Oscar Juvera

- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Alique Kurdian

- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Marisa Mackie

- *Graduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
Advisor: Dr. Ray Hong

Melissa Mailhot

- Undergraduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
- Poster Presentation Winner: 47th Annual West Coast Biological Sciences Undergraduate Research Conference
- CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Verena Mansour

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Diana Mena

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Hannah Merges

- Graduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Nyssa Silbiger

Pryce Millikin

- The Joshua Tree National Park Association's Graduate Student Research Grant
- CSU Desert Studies Center's Judith Presch Desert Research Scholarship
- Robert E. Reynolds Desert Symposium Student Research Award
- American Society of Naturalists Graduate Student Travel Award
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Yoder

Aubreanna Moore

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Shirin Noori

- Undergraduate, 1st Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Eduardo Amorim

Tanya Pelayo

- Graduate, 1st Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Yoshie Hanzawa

Raul Pena

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Ivett Perez

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Angelina Piette

- Graduate, 1st Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Jeanne Robertson

Cristian Rodriguez

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Lea Richardson

- Post-Doctoral, 1st Place, Poster Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Yoder

Marco Rodriguez-Aussenac

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Salma Saba

- State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Malone

Amy Sariles

- Undergraduate, 2nd Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium
Advisor: Dr. Melissa Takahashi

William Serrano

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: *Brenda Kanno*

Negien Shalmani

- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: *Dr. Cindy Malone*

Matan Shepes

- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: *Dr. Cindy Malone*

Anastasia Shimek

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: *Dr. Robert Espinoza*

Paola Suarez

- *CSUN's OUR Research Supplies Grant*
Advisor: *Brenda Kanno*

Jazmine Vasquez

- *State of California Life Sciences and Biotechnology Pre-Apprenticeship Award*
Advisor: *Dr. Cindy Malone*

Helia Yaleh

- *Undergraduate, 1st Place, Oral Presentation: Spring 2024 CSUN 28th Annual Student Research and Creative Works Symposium*
Advisor: *Dr. Abdelaziz Boulesbaa*

***Master's Candidates with
Distinguished Academic Records - Biology
(GPA of 3.885 or higher)***

*Adelaide Dahl
Dianna Dzheyranyan
Sean Farmer
Joshua Gamez
Diego Gomez Morales*

*Carolina Gonzalez
Melissa Gutterman
Serena Hernandez
Jonathan Huang
Riley Jones*

*Marisa Mackie
Michelle Raphael
Kiran Reed
Vanessa Tamayo
Nikolas Yousefi*

***Graduating Seniors with Distinguished
Academic Records - Biology
(GPA of 3.50 or higher)***

*Henry Amezquita
Arpy Artine
Nicole Ayala
Ramesh Bahmanian
Peter Bedrossian
Briet Bjornsson
Donnie Ca
Kaily Caputo
Kit Fong Cheung
Julie Cravens
Christina Dakhil
Raman Dhillon
Shanna Ferguson
Arianna Flores
Courtney Frazier*

*Gabriela Gajardo Del
Real
Artur Ghazaryan
Aysan Goodarzi
Sofie Hansen
Nicole Harris
Diana Ibrahim
Karapet Jambazian
Hyekyu Ji
Edward Jung
Oscar Juvera
Daljeet Kaur
Melesys Kozian
Joshua Kwock
Matthew Martinez
Ryan Mashayekhi*

*Carol Moreno Garcia
Shirin Noori
Nikita Opel
Elizaveta Pabon
Jessica Palmer
Eliza Pham
Lucy Pogolian
Karine Prusalyan
Maria Rava
Christy Rodriguez
Christian Romero
Seant Ryan
Ashley Salvador
Amberly Sanden
Elina Sargsyan
Amy Sariles*

*Camryn Schalkx
Pionik Shahgholian
Erika Shirvavian
Lidia Sidarous
Natalie Silberberg
Meline Sukjasyan
Afifeh Tarighat
Michael Valdiviezo
Jennifer Vargas-Pereira
Ryan Victory
Harmony Whiting
Cristina Yanez
Maya Zarafshan
Delaram Zare*