



Urban League
San Diego County

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

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NEWS RELEASE

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY POWER PLAYERS HONORED IN SAN DIEGO

The 2024 Urban League of San Diego County's Golden Pyramid Scholars Awards Celebration Distributed Scholarships on Sunday, May 19, 2024, at Grossmont College

San Diego, CA - The Urban League of San Diego County, in partnership with Grossmont College, hosted the 2024 Annual Golden Pyramid Scholars Award Ceremony for 250 students in grades 8th through 12th who have maintained a cumulative 3.5 or higher grade point average. The event occurred on Sunday, May 19, 2024, at Grossmont College. Natay Holmes, the keynote speaker, made special remarks regarding tips for college and encouraging youth to explore the careers of their dreams and consider non-traditional careers in high-growth fields within this region.

Family members, friends, community leaders, and board members participated in a salute of these student power players with high scholastics, while community and academic leaders promoted a college-going culture of academic success. The Urban League designed this program to identify, recruit, cultivate, and support students striving to achieve academic and economic excellence. The college venue exposed students to a college campus and reinforced the perception of college as a viable and achievable option. "The Urban League of San Diego County understands that by openly acknowledging our youth in a public forum, we make it clear to them and the community that we believe in and support their achievements," said Larry Reed, Board Chair. "These young leaders are honored because they demonstrate that 'Achievement Matters.' They are the building blocks of our community and our future leaders."

This year, Trinity Ansley served as one of the MCs. She is a high school student completing her concurrent enrollment studies at Grossmont College. She will become one of the third Project Ready Youth Council Chairs to choose UC Davis as her college, following Karla Gonzelez and Raynesha Fields.

The Urban League also uses the ceremony to celebrate students receiving college scholarships from the Urban League of San Diego in partnership with Hologic, San Diego Delta Foundation, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Scholarships were distributed on Sunday to support Black and Brown youth's college dreams.

Special thanks to all of the sponsors not mentioned above, who also made the program possible, such as Grossmont College, CALSOAP, Hologic, San Diego Foundation, Comerica, and the National Urban League

Here are the names of the 2024 program participants:

- Oliver Jones, Board Member, Urban League of San Diego County (ULSDC)
- Mistress of Ceremony, Trinity Ansely, Project Ready National and Local Youth Council Chair and a high school student at Health Sciences High & Middle College (HSHMC), Current Enrollment Student at Grossmont College
- Masters of Ceremonies, Antonio Torres, Project Ready Youth Council Officer, and a high student at Health Sciences High & Middle College (HSHMC)
- Denise Whisenhunt, President, Grossmont College
- The Hon. Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D., California Secretary of State
- Dr. Sharon Whitehurst Payne, Board Trustee, District E, San Diego Unified School District
- Dr. Paul Gothold, Superintendent, San Diego County Office of Education
- Dr. Moises Aguirre, Superintendent, Sweetwater Union High School District
- Dr. Lamont Jackson, Superintendent, San Diego Unified School District
- Dr. Fabiola Bagula, Deputy Superintendent, San Diego Unified School District
- Dr. Richard Lawrence, Ed.D. Executive Director of Secondary Education, Oceanside School District
- Myeshia Whigham, Coordinator, Student Services, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Oceanside School District
- Joe Smith, "Linebacker Dad"

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Organized in 1953, the Urban League of San Diego County (ULSDC) is a community-based, direct-service, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) and an affiliate of the National Urban League that focuses on empowering underserved communities. ULSDC works to achieve social and economic equality through advocacy, bridge-building, programs, services, and research. ULSDC strongly focuses on **policy, practice, and protest** regarding youth education and family support services through employment, housing, elderly health outreach, and women's re-entry programs.