

MADDY INSTITUTE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

"One of the things we want to do is influence young people to get involved in politics. The Institute should teach students about the complexity of a democracy at work and the passionate issues that motivate constituents and their elected representatives." - Senator Kenneth L. Maddy



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As alumni of the Maddy Institute Legislative Intern Scholarship Program, we hope that you take a certain amount of pride in continuing the tradition of engaging in politics in "the Maddy Way" - understanding that the importance of civility in politics and the "art of politics" (and actually getting something done) is really the "art of compromise."

To maintain and expand these opportunities for Valley students, we rely in large part on the generous support of the community. As alumni of the program, you know first-hand what this support can mean to a struggling student who wants to make a difference. Since the inception of the Maddy Institute Legislative Intern Scholarship Program, we have attracted some of the best and the brightest students the Valley has to offer—people like you. And like you, many of our interns could not afford this opportunity unless it came with a scholarship. The following small sample of our past and current Maddy interns shows you the difference we can make in developing the next generation of Valley political, civic and business leaders. We hope you will consider "paying it forward" to help us continue in that effort.



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With Appreciation,

A handwritten signature of Mark Keppler in black ink.

Mark Keppler, Executive Director

MADDY ALUMNI: *WHERE ARE THEY NOW?*



ANTHONY CAMACHO

***Press Secretary, Office of Congressman
Jim Costa (CA-16)***

Anthony interned in the Washington, D.C. office of Congressman Jim Costa in Summer 2020. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Business from Fresno State in 2021, and is currently working towards earning his Master of Professional Studies, Public Relations and Corporate Communications from Georgetown University.

After graduating from Fresno State, Anthony continued to pursue his passion for public service and moved to Washington D.C. Prior to being promoted to his current role, he worked as a Legislative Correspondent-Press Assistant, where he managed the constituent mail program and assisted with press operations.

As Press Secretary, Anthony is responsible for developing, managing, and organizing communications activities, and serving as a spokesperson/media liaison for the Congressman. He also manages digital media channels and serves as a liaison on behalf of the Congressman to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Anthony is grateful for the opportunity to help make difference and serve the people of the Valley.

"The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute and the Office of Congressman Jim Costa provided me with a life changing opportunity to serve the people of our Valley. My internship experience showed me that government can work for the people, and it inspired me to pursue my career in public service. This program is truly a catalyst for change in our Valley!"

**THANK YOU TO OUR
MADDY ASSOCIATES:**

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE



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GOVERNOR'S CIRCLE



E&J Gallo Winery





MICHELLE ESPARZA

School Psychologist, Silicon Valley Bay Area

Michelle interned for the City of Fresno in Spring 2010. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in English from Fresno State in 2010 and earned her Master's in School Psychology from Sacramento State.

At the department of Community Revitalization, Michelle worked closely with local businesses to benefit project initiatives.

Her internship was a great opportunity for networking and building professional relationships. After graduating from Fresno State, Michelle went on to pursue her passion helping others in education. She graduated from the master's program at Sacramento State in School Psychology and now works as a practicing school psychologist serving the Silicon Valley Bay Area.

Michelle continues to make a positive impact within her community. She currently serves as event Co-Host for The Modern Day Wife, a community that brings women together to connect, and grow in their career, family life, social life and relationships. Michelle also founded MichelleALaMode.com, a blogging community that shares insight and advice in the world of travel, fashion, and lifestyle. Additionally, Michelle has a unique background in health and fitness. As a certified Nutritional Health Coach and former national physique competitor, she is an advocate for health and wellness, not just in her profession as psychologist, but also through her social media platform @michellealamodeblog where she seeks to inspire others to be their best self.

"I highly recommend students apply to the Maddy Institute to broaden their community outreach and networking opportunities. The Maddy Institute provides hands-on experience and professional opportunities; an experience I am grateful to have had. My experience at the Maddy Institute helped build the foundation, and hone the necessary skills for continued networking, community influence and outreach I have today."

SENATOR'S CIRCLE



*Fresno State
President's Office*



ANGELA PIMENTEL

*Civil Rights Analyst, California
Department of Social Services*

Angela interned in U.S. Representative Jeff Denham's office in Spring 2018. She earned her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Stanislaus State in 2018.

Angela is currently a Civil Rights Analyst with the California Department of Social Services. After her Maddy Institute internship, she joined

the Stanislaus County Department of Workforce Development and spent the Summer of 2018 working as a Case Manager in the Summer Youth Program. In the Fall of 2018, she began a position as an Executive Fellow with the Capital Fellows Program. As a Fellow, she spent a year working with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control in their Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs. In 2019, she was hired by the department as an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Specialist in their Office of Civil Rights. In 2020, she joined the California Department of Social Services as a Civil Rights Analyst in the Civil Rights Unit.

"The internship was an incredible opportunity to learn about the positive impact that government can have in communities. Prior to the internship, I did not have an opportunity to work in government or politics. Working in the District 10 office allowed me to fully appreciate how much the government can do to help individuals and improve their quality of life. I was with colleagues who worked hard to ensure that constituents had access to the services and resources they needed. Staff in the office had real dedication to the community and I discovered a passion for helping others while there. That passion is what continues to motivate me to work in government and create positive change for all Californians."

ASSEMBLYMEMBER'S CIRCLE

Jo-Ann Slinkard

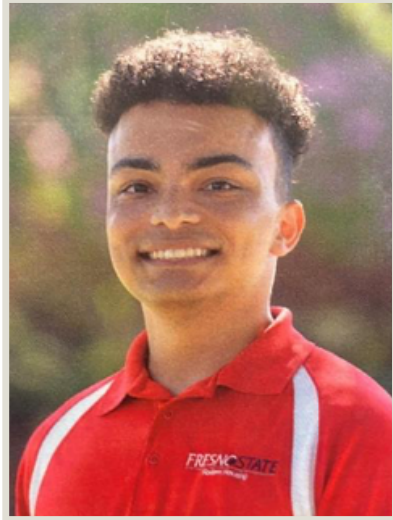
*The Mr. & Mrs. William
M. Lyles Fund*

Phillip Maroot



MEET OUR LEGISLATIVE SCHOLAR INTERNS

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Jalen Davis - *Office of Fresno City Councilmember Miguel Arias* - is a Political Science major at Fresno State. He is originally born in Fremont, California but spent most of his life growing up in both the Maryland-Washington D.C. and Greater Los Angeles regions. Jalen transferred to Fresno State last fall from Reedley College, where he served as President of the Residence Hall Association and Secretary of Green Club. At Fresno State, Jalen is very involved in student life and is a Resident Advisor for student housing.

In addition to an interest for all levels of politics, Jalen is passionate about environmental issues and community outreach. After graduating he plans to get a master's degree in either Counseling or Political Science. Jalen hopes to use his education and experiences to generate positive change within underprivileged communities.

Gehad Elhanafy - *Office of U.S. Representative Jim Costa* - is currently a third-year student at the University of California, Merced studying Bioengineering with a minor in Political Science, and is on the pre-law path. Her experiences as a research fellow, legal intern, and project manager led to her interest in bridging the gap between innovators, investors, policymakers, and consumers. She wishes to create a legal niche at the intersection of biotech, blockchain, and research.



Judson-Scott Ervin - *Office of Assemblymember Devon Mathis* - is a graduate student at California State University, Fresno pursuing a master's degree in Public Administration. He previously graduated from CSU Fresno with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration – Management Option and a minor in Philosophy. While completing his undergraduate degree, Judson was active in Alpha Sigma Phi, serving as Treasurer and Health/Safety Director. As a Philosophy minor, Judson-Scott has always been interested in the intersection of politics and the ethical obligations of society and its leaders. He sees this opportunity in the Legislative Intern Scholar Program as a means to further his understanding of the two in the hopes of applying that knowledge to a career based in public service.

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Alison Garibay - *Fresno Office of U.S. Senator Alex Padilla* - is from Chowchilla, CA and attends Fresno State. She is majoring in Social Work and is graduating this Spring. Her hope is to gain her MSW and attend Law school after receiving her masters. She currently serves as ASI Senator for the College of Health and Human Services and Student Court Chief Justice. Aside from the Maddy Institute, she is also an intern for Project Hope, a case management service offered on campus through the student health center. To relax, she likes to go to the beach, music festivals, and play with her dog Snowflake.



Jasleen Gill - *Fresno Office of Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula* - is a junior at Fresno State pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in history and is a member of the 2019 cohort of the Smittcamp Family Honors College. Jasleen was born in Fresno County and is passionate about community work. She is involved in local politics and community organizing, especially with empowering young people to become politically involved. On campus, Jasleen is the Vice President of the Fresno State College Democrats Club. She is also a delegate representing Assembly District 31 in the California Democratic Party and serves as an alternate on the Fresno County Democratic Central Committee. Prior to working at the Maddy Institute, Jasleen worked for uSpark Valley, the Fresno Youth Platform, and interned for Congressman TJ Cox. In

addition to her interest in local politics and public policy, Jasleen is passionate about foreign policy and international affairs. After graduating in May 2023, she plans to attend law school with a focus on international law and pursue a career in public service in the international relations and foreign policy arena.

Elizabeth Morales-Castillo - *Office of Fresno City Councilmember Tyler Maxwell* - is a third year at California State University, Fresno double majoring in Political Science and Chicano Studies along with a Legal Studies Certificate. On campus, she has served on the USU Board of Directors, and has been involved with ASI Lobby Corps, Mock Trial, Phi Alpha Delta and many others. Off campus, she enjoys helping her community by volunteering at resource fairs and she has canvassed for current local elections. Her plan after this semester is to graduate and attend law school this upcoming fall. She plans to become an immigration attorney and help the thousands of immigrants who live in the Central Valley. She looks forward to working in the office of Councilmember Tyler Maxwell and learn about his leadership style and the amazing work his office has done for the people of Fresno.



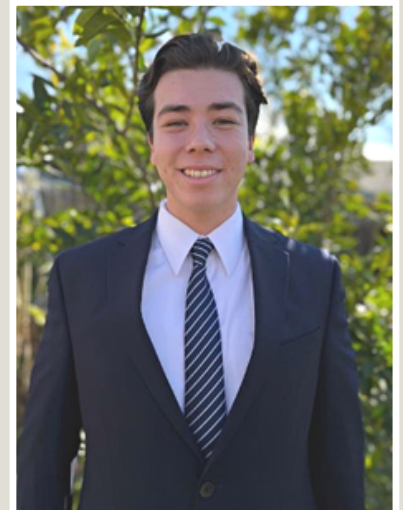
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Liliana Reyes - *Fresno Office of Governor Gavin Newsom* - is a Graduate student working towards her Master of Public Policy and Administration at California State University, Bakersfield. A second-generation Mexican American born and raised in Porterville CA. Her policy interests are sustainability, public planning/works, immigration, and water. Liliana spends her free time outdoors either exploring or hiking, she also loves to travel and try new cuisine. A fun fact about Liliana is that she was awarded Porterville's Key to the City for her exemplary work as a city employee. Liliana hopes to work for the Department of State in the foreign civil service with an emphasis in Consular Affairs.

Cristian Silva-Toro - *Modesto Office of U.S. Representative Josh Harder* - is a third-year student at CSU Stanislaus where he majors in Psychology, Criminal Justice, and minors in Sociology. Cristian is a proud first-generation college student who was born in Modesto, CA. He is involved with the McNair Scholars program, an honors graduate school readiness program where he will publish his own research. He also founded and is the president of a new club on campus, the Addiction Science Club, a club committed to educating about substances and their use from a different lens. In the past, Cristian has interned for the Stanislaus County Probation Department where he worked for the Adult Supervision Unit. In near future, he is set on pursuing higher education after receiving his bachelor's degree. He is eager to apply his conscious perspective on what is to come.



Edward "Eddy" Thurber - *Fresno Office of U.S. Representative Jim Costa* - is a junior at California State University, Fresno earning a bachelor's degree in Political Science, PreLaw. He transferred from Clovis Community College where he founded the Soccer Club and graduated Magna Cum Laude with an Associates in the Arts. He has lived in the San Joaquin Valley all his life, and is deeply involved in the Fresno/Clovis communities. Upon graduation Eddy plans to attend Law School and pass the bar in California to go into practice locally with the intention of founding his own firm and serving as a Federal Judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He believes that his passion for law, order, and governance will fuel a successful career in private practice where he hopes to serve the Central Valley Community. He hopes to continue to work to improve his State and Country.

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Anisa Viveros - *Office of Fresno City Council President Nelson Esparza* - is a transfer from Clovis Community College and on her fourth year at California State University, Fresno. She is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Human Resource Management. She graduates this Spring of 2022 and is currently applying to the Master of Business Administration Program at California State University, Fresno. She hopes to attend in fall of 2022, immediately after graduating in the Spring. Being a part of the Maddy Institute is an honor and hopes to represent the program in the greatest way.



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Holly Cecil - *Washington, D.C. Office of U.S. Representative David Valadao* - is a recent graduate from Fresno State University where she obtained a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Business. She is originally from Bakersfield, California and grew up being involved in 4-H, FFA, and the California High School Rodeo Association. Holly was incredibly involved in her college from being an Agriculture Ambassador to being a Treasurer for the National Agriculture Marketing Association. In addition to an interest for all levels of politics, Holly is passionate about agricultural issues and water management. She hopes to continue advocating for agriculture and farmers in the valley.

Rosa Corcoles - *Office of Governor Gavin Newsom* - is a fourth-year student at California State University, Fresno, majoring in Political Science with a minor in Spanish. She is a Mexican American, first-generation student and is native of Reedley, CA. She transferred from Reedley College with an Associates in Political Science and History and continues to work at the college's Reading and Writing Center as an English tutor. Her policy interests include housing, transportation, and urban and regional planning. Rosa has a passion for helping others and wants to work towards promoting equitability and improving quality of life for disadvantaged communities. She hopes to take advantage of the valuable experiences offered through the Maddy Legislative internship program to further her knowledge, understanding, and connections so she can be better prepared to serve her community in her future career endeavors.



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Corbin Farias - *Washington, D.C. Office of U.S. Representative Jim Costa* - is a rising 4th year at the University of California, Merced double majoring in Public Health and Psychology and minoring in Political Science. His involvement includes: being the President of the Associated Students of the University of California, Merced, representing UC Merced as a Student-Athlete competing in Cross Country, and a Brother of Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity. Some of his hobbies include hiking and visiting our nation's and state's national parks, and swimming. His passion for policymaking specifically includes health and mental health policy.

Guadalupe Gutierrez - *Office of Governor Gavin Newsom* - is a Master of Public Policy student at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Economics and Policy with a minor in Education from UC Berkeley. Prior to graduate school, Guadalupe served as a GED instructor for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated adults and as a case manager for at-risk youth with barriers to employment. Guadalupe's personal and professional background has shaped her policy interests and long-term career goals. She has a deep interest in workforce development, regional and economic development, environmental justice, education, and criminal justice policy. She is looking forward to strengthening her research skills at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research/Strategic Growth Council this summer. Guadalupe is a Stanislaus County native.



Lillian Hammerstrom - *Fresno Office of U.S. Representative Jim Costa* - is a sophomore at California State University, Fresno, majoring in Political Science and Spanish. Lillian is a member of the Smittcamp Family Honors College. As a Central Valley native, she has always been fascinated with local politics and is excited to learn more about how local government works. On campus, Lillian participates in the Fresno State Mock Trial Team. She also serves as the volunteer coordinator for the Fresno State chapter of Camp Kesem. In addition to these activities, Lillian works as a student assistant for the Maddy Institute. This spring, she was selected as a Law Fellow for the UCLA Central Valley Law Fellows program. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, exploring the outdoors, and enjoying time with friends. Last fall, she interned in the Fresno

office of Congressman Jim Costa and is excited to serve in this capacity once again. Lillian has a passion for public policy, law, and serving others, and hopes to attend law school after graduating from Fresno State to later pursue a career in the field of immigration advocacy.

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Lucca Lorenzi - *Washington, D.C. Office of U.S. Representative Jim Costa* - is a Fresno State student majoring in public relations and minoring in multimedia arts. After recovering from a life-threatening tumor in 2017, he founded "Pack It Up For Packard." The project collects art supplies and books for Lucile Packard Children's Hospital-Stanford as a 'Thank You' to the doctors and nurses who saved his life. To date, the project has donated over 7,000 supplies and books (both in English and Spanish) in efforts to restock their art therapy program and children's library. In addition, he is a Fresno State Smittcamp Family Honors College Scholar and interns for organizations, including the Fresno State Transportation Institute, American Red Cross, Valley Children's Healthcare and Art of Life Cancer Foundation. Lucca is pursuing a career in public relations and graphic design while promoting the healing power of creativity.



Ciannah Moreno - *Fresno Office of U.S. Senator Alex Padilla* - is a first-generation college student studying at California State University, Fresno. Before transferring to Fresno State to pursue her degree in Crime, Law and Society, she attended Clovis Community College where she was awarded the Dean's Medal of Distinction for her academic excellence and positive impact on campus. Ciannah has proven herself to be a strong advocate for young people in the Central Valley. Outside of work and school, she enjoys volunteering with the Fresno Rescue Mission and Beautify Fresno. She is currently doing another internship for the Fresno County District Attorney's Office. Through her own life experiences and those in her community, she realizes how valuable policy work towards the right goals can be for those in

need. Ciannah hopes to pursue a career in law to advocate for underrepresented communities. Being a Central Valley native herself, she is eager to work as an intern for the Maddy Institute as she is passionate about policy goals related to poverty, criminal justice, and educational equity.

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Rut Ortiz - *External Affairs Office of Governor Gavin Newsom* - is a first-generation college student from Stockton, CA. She is an upcoming senior at UC Merced studying Political Science and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies. She is interested in the intersection of politics and public policy to study how they affect underserved communities. Her areas of policy interest are agriculture, education, immigration, and environmental policy. In the past, she has done research concerning misinformation in the Central Valley. She has also interned in D.C. on Capitol Hill for the House of Representatives. In the future, she hopes to continue working in public service for the Central Valley. She will use her classroom experience and see how it translates to this internship and possible career routes. She looks forward to working in the External Affairs Office of Governor Gavin Newsom to learn the daily operation of the office and the policy priorities of the Central Valley and of the state.



Cassidy Sheppard - *Sacramento Office of Governor Gavin Newsom* - is a senior at California State University, Bakersfield. They will be graduating with a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science in the Fall of 2022. In addition to studying political science, they are also minoring in history and completing the social science teacher preparation program. They hope to teach civics education and U.S. history to high school students in continuation schools and juvenile detention. They long to engage students who struggled like they have, and more than they have, in learning about the way the United States government functions and to encourage them to be active in civic life.



Wesley Sorenson - *Fresno Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein* - is from Madera, CA and is currently a second-year master's student in Public Administration at Fresno State. Wesley graduated from UC Santa Cruz in 2020 with bachelor's degrees in Business Economics and Computational Mathematics. Since November 2021, he has been working as a Certified Substitute Teacher for Madera Unified School District in his hometown. Academically focused, Wesley became a new member of the honor society Phi Kappa Phi at Fresno State. He also enjoys playing tennis and is a member of the Fresno State club tennis team. As a future public administrator, Wesley hopes to use the knowledge and skills he has gained from his studies in building a better future for California.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP



Over 400 Legislative Intern Scholars have had the opportunity to learn about the legislative process and many have gone on to become leaders in politics, law, business and non-profit organizations. We have been able to grow this program and increase opportunities for Valley students due, in large part, to the donations of those who realize the importance of "paying it forward."

You can help us achieve our goal of engaging, preparing, and inspiring the next generation of great government leaders and civil servants by sponsoring a Maddy Legislative Intern Scholar. Not only are you contributing to a life-changing experience for these Valley students, you also planting the seeds of the next generation of Valley leaders.

SPONSOR A MADDY LEGISLATIVE INTERN SCHOLAR

Sponsorship levels:

- **Valley Circle:** Sponsor a local intern's stipend for \$2,250
- **Sacramento/D.C. Circle:** Sponsor a Sacramento or D.C. intern's stipend for \$4,500

BECOME A MADDY ASSOCIATE

Maddy Associate sponsorship levels:

- **President's Circle (\$10,000 annually)**
- **Governor's Circle (\$5,000 annually)**
- **Senator's Circle (\$2,500 annually)**
- **Assemblymember's Circle (\$1,000 annually)**

For more information on the benefits of becoming a Maddy Associate, contact Mark Keppler at mkeppler@csufresno.edu or visit our [website](#).

To make a **tax-deductible** donation, please send checks to:

The Maddy Institute, 4910 N. Chestnut Ave. M/S OF 43 Fresno, CA 93726

Contact Us

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