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# IYT U at Sac State!



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We are excited to announce the newest program of Improve Your Tomorrow Inc, IYT U at Sac State!

IYT U is a student success initiative at Sac State focused on increasing the number of men of color that graduate on time and are prepared to enter the workforce. IYT U is a close partnership between Sacramento State and the VP of Student Affairs, Dr. Ed Mills.



The program is built upon 5 pillars:

- -Brotherhood
- -Scholarship
- -Community
- -Mentorship
- -Career

Program members will participate in a variety of activities including strategic mentorship, winter and spring retreats, internships, professional development workshops, community service and tutoring. IYT U will serve 50 men of color this year at Sac State.

## **IYT** is Growing!

As of this fall, IYT now serves <u>over 600 young men of color</u> across Sacramento through three programs: (1) the IYT College Academy (2) IYT Continue to Dream Academy and (3) IYT U. Program Descriptions are below.

The IYT College
Academy serves
students at
traditional middle
and high schools in
addition to college students across
California.

The program is currently at Valley High School, Florin High School, Luther Burbank High School, Natomas High School, Samuel Jackman Middle School and Natomas Gateway Middle School.



The IYT Continue to Dream Academy serves high school students at continuation

schools.

The program is currently at Discovery High School in Sacramento.



participating in the program, IYT is now the largest education nonprofit that only serves young men of color in California!

If you know of a school that can benefit from IYT, please contact michael@improveyourtomorrow.org

#### IYT: Back to School Chicken & Waffle Dinner









On August 30th, 2017, IYT at Valley High School hosted a "Back to School Awards Night". The awards night highlighted academic success and growth from the 2016-2017 school year. Approximately 150 students and their families were in attendance to support our IYT brothers during their special night

The awards included: Dean's List, Distinguished Honor Roll, Student of Year, Scholar of the Year, Most Improved Student of the Year, Taylor Bogg's Hardest Worker of the Year, and Honored Educator of the Year.

Valley High School Principal, Richard Gutierrez, spoke about how IYT is a community and will continue to work together. We look forward to seeing all of the great progress over the next year!

On Friday September 8th, IYT at Luther Burbank High School hosted an awards night for its Seniors. The students were excited to receive their awards and eat delicious tacos. Overall, it was a great night as students, parents, and Burbank staff celebrated the achievements of the young men.

IYT Senior, Sherman Walker received the Student of the Year Award for displaying commitment, perseverance and leadership throughout the past year. It was great to see his face light up and jump up in excitement to receive his award.



### Fall Fundraiser: "Harvesting Dreams to Reality"



IYT will hosts its first annual fall fundraiser titled "Harvesting Dreams to Reality" on November 3, 6pm-10pm at Antique Midtown.

The fundraiser will feature a silent auction, local art sale, complimentary appetizers, no host bar, live performances from local bands, spoken word and a special guest! Ticket prices for the fundraiser are \$50.

All proceeds go to helping IYT break the school to prison pipeline in Sacramento.

Click Here to Purchase Tickets!

#### **IYT Student Profiles**



IYT Luther Burbank High School: Silverio Rizo Llamas

"What I like about being part of IYT is that I really believe in their end goal and I believe the leadership in the program is really good at what they do. They [IYT Staff] have really thought about all our needs and strive to provide for us, students of color, anything and everything we might need to go to college and actually graduate".

Silverio aspires to get to a point in his life where he can help others and

Silverio has shown real qualities of leadership, brotherhood, and focus. Last semester he brought in 3 current IYT brothers and has been present to most, if not all, IYT events, and most importantly demonstrating scholarly excellence with his 4.50 GPA.

himself while still being able to do the things he loves to do. Schools he's considered so far are the University of Chicago and UC Davis.



IYT College Student: Devon Sanders

Devon Sanders, IYT student from the first graduating class at Valley High School, looks back to the opportunities that were presented to him back when he was a freshman at Valley High School.

"I joined IYT on a whim as a freshman because all my friends said how great the program was. It gave me a lot of opportunities such as the State Capitol Internship, working for Dana Howard (Conservation Corps), and several other networking opportunities". Now, about to start his 3rd year majoring in Philosophy at UCLA, Devon looks forward to not only reaching his goal of getting a college degree but also beyond.

"Being at UCLA, I am carving my own path. There aren't many black students at UCLA and students I met that are from Sacramento didn't attend schools that looked like Valley. Mike's contacts at UCLA really helped me transition into college a lot easier. After college, I plan to get my PhD and travel while I'm still young. I am rewriting my future, my family's and that of my community."





