



Rodrigo Jimenez
Nursing Program

Rodrigo Jimenez is in his third year at San Jose State University where he is enrolled in Pre-Nursing to fulfill his dream career of being a registered nurse. His father is Juan Jimenez, who was a sous chef at MHCC.



Anthony Romero
Business Major

Anthony Romero is the first in his family to go on to higher education. He is a Business Management major at California State University San Marcos. He wants to be a force for positive change. His mother, Leticia Lopez, is a retired massage therapist in the MHCC spa.



Timothy Holyk
Environmental Science

Timothy Holyk is in his third year at California Baptist University as an Environmental Science major. He'd like to continue with a master's degree in Zoology. His father, Michael Holyk is Director of Golf.



Christy Thao
Health Science

A third year Health Science major, Christy Thao is very focused on becoming a diagnostic medical sonographer. For the upcoming school year, she plans to complete her courses at College of the Desert and apply for the sonography program at Mt. San Jacinto College. Her mother is Susan Moua, Director of the Land Lease Office.



Rocio Lua
School Counseling

Rocio Lua is a second time Mission Hills Employee Scholar having received her undergraduate degree and is now pursuing a master's degree in School Counseling. Her father, Jose Lua is in golf maintenance at MHCC.



Jacqueline Russell-Burse
Nursing Program

A recent graduate of College the Desert where she earned her Vocational Nurse license, Jacqueline Russell-Burse is finishing her education at Copper Mountain College to become a registered nurse. Her plan is to apply for the Advanced Placement Registered Nurse (RN) cohort. Jackie works at the Spa at MHCC and also teaches Aqua Sculpt classes.



Adeline Valenzuela
Molecular Science

Adeline is a Molecular and Cellular Biology major with a minor in Spanish at California State University San Marcos,. As a Latina woman with a disability, she is committed to breaking barriers in a male-dominated field and become a forensic scientist. Golf Pro Richard Valenzuela is her father.



Nathan Serrano
Radiologic Technology

A fourth year major in Radiologic Technology at College of the Desert. Nathan is excited about the hands-on work that comes with radiologic technology and the opportunity to be a part of a team that helps diagnose and care for patients. Nate works as a busser in Champions restaurant.



Anthony (Tony) Bosken
PGA Member Program

A member of the Golf staff at Mission Hills Country Club, Tony is working to achieve Level 3 of his PGA Class A to complete his requirements to be a PGA member.



Rafia Melhem
Computer Science

Currently a student majoring in Computer Science at College of the Desert, Rafia Melhem would like to transfer to a four year university to major in Management Information Systems. Look for Rafia as hostess at MHCC.



Ava Guerrero
Kinesiology

Ava is majoring in Kinesiology for her third year at California Baptist University. Her purpose in life is to be an athletic trainer. She will be attending Emergency Technician (EMT) school in the summer of 2026. Her mother Gina Guerrero is a Spa Nail Technician at Mission Hills CC and is also one of our scholars this year!



Dzana Dlakic
Nursing

Dzana joined her high school's Health Academy to learn more about a career in medicine. After graduating, she enrolled in the College of the Desert's nursing program where she is in her fifth year. For her, Nursing offers an incredibly perfect balance of compassion, science, and hands-on care. Dzana's mother, Anela Dlakic is a line cook in the MHCC restaurant.



Truc Nguyen
Accounting

Truc has had a roundabout journey to her current major in Accounting at College of the Desert, where she is in her second year. She is a single mom of two teenage sons and works three jobs, one of which is at the Fitness Center at Mission Hills.



Gina Guerrero
Cosmetology

Gina is currently a Spa Nail Technician at Mission Hills Country Club. She has always been passionate about the beauty industry and really enjoys helping people gain confidence. She has enrolled in the Cosmetology program at Milan Institute in Palm Desert. Her daughter, Ava Guerrero, is also a scholar!



Courtney Brennan
Public Health Sciences.

Attending the University of California at Irvine for her first year, Courtney Brennan is majoring in Public Health Sciences. When she had multiple opportunities to observe medical field professionals, she knew it was something that she wanted to do in life. Her father, Thomas Brennan is in the Valet Service at Mission Hills.