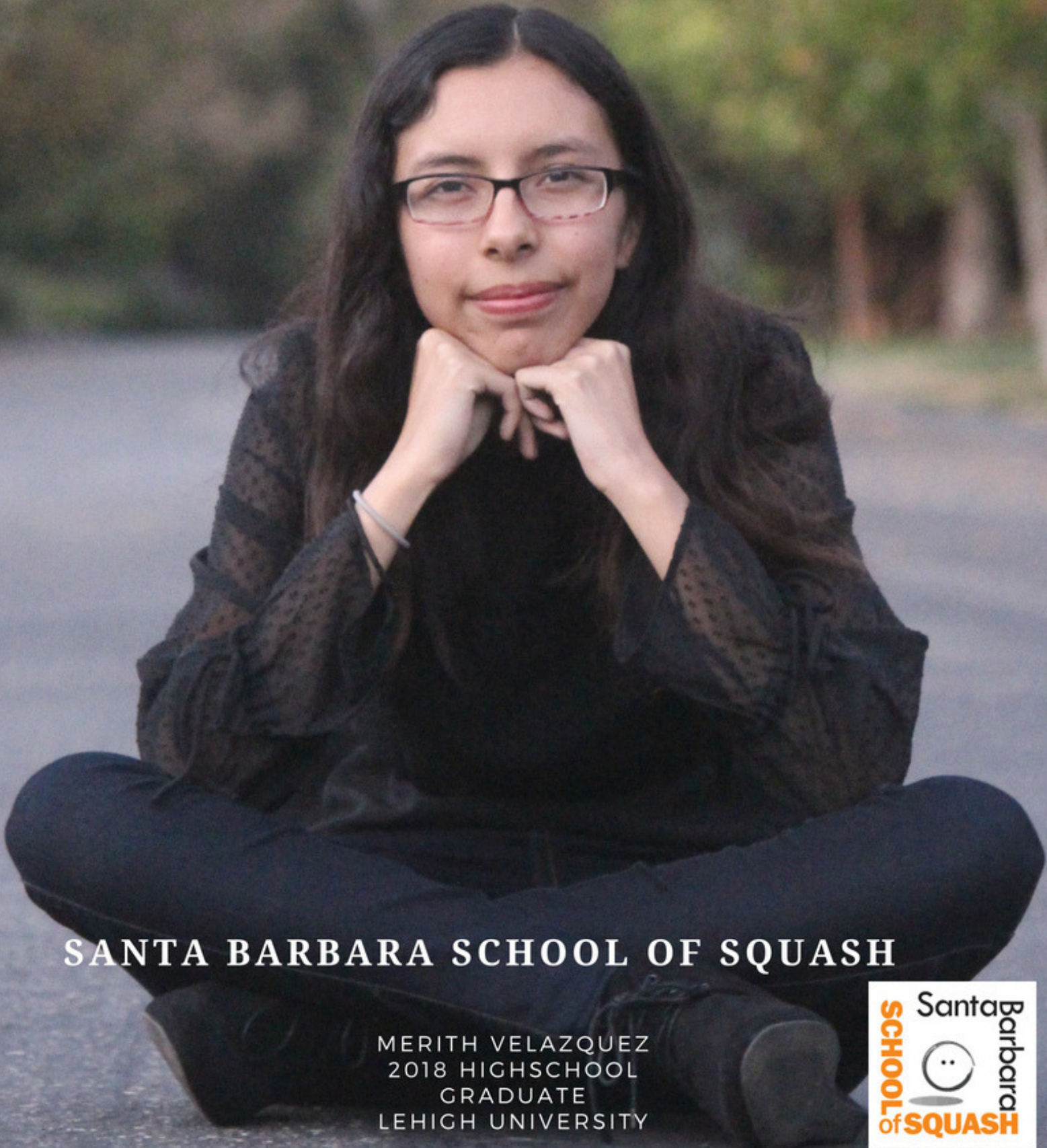


Annual Report

FY 2018
SEPT 1, 2017-AUGUST 31, 2018



SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL OF SQUASH

MERITH VELAZQUEZ
2018 HIGHSCHOOL
GRADUATE
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY





SBSOS

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It was quite a year for SBSOS!

We exceeded \$1 million raised since our inception 12 years ago, and SBSOS students have now received over \$2 million in private school and college grants and financial aid.

We continued our 100% high school graduation record with our one senior Merith Velazquez receiving an almost full scholarship to Lehigh University in Pennsylvania.

We received confirmation of 3 more students being awarded full scholarships to local private schools...Jimena Lopez to Garden Street Academy, Diego Velazquez to Laguna Blanca, and Jade Silva to Crane Country Day School.

Sebastian Paredes continued his squash successes from last year, defending his SoCal High School Championships individual title as well as leading a combination SBSOS/Santa Barbara Athletic Club team to the Team title, and he also won the BU19 Urban National Championships just a few days after turning 17!

Summer programming was amazing...apart from the 3 days a week of squash and educational projects we also had so many fun and interesting field trips, including Team A's highlight of a 4 day camping trip at Refugio State Beach.

I feel like Rebecca, Hannah, Miguel, and I really came together and grew as a staff, and we were lucky enough to have Amanda DeLaura, an intern from Westmont College for 3 months, bring fresh energy and ideas. Of course Dennis Marable, David Farber, Brian Shafritz, and Koji Tanaka continued their amazing devotion as volunteers too!

28 of our 30 students' parents came to a parent meeting which was a record attendance, and it's been wonderful to see more parental involvement and their trust and belief in our program be so strong.

I was a founding board member of SBSOS 12 years ago and have been Executive Director for 4 ½ years now. I am so proud of how far we have come and what we do. It's heart-warming to see so many smiles whenever the kids are together, to see how we truly are a family, and to undoubtedly be meeting our mission of "changing lives through squash and education".

Thank you for your support, please continue it, and enjoy reading about our year in the following pages...

Robert Graham

Executive Director of SBSOS



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Miguel Nava, *Squash Coach*

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SWELL Santa Barbara Athletic Club
Westside Neighborhood Center
Santa Barbara YMCA
United Taxi Service
Santa Barbara Foodbank
Accountability Plus

Parent Organization

Squash and Education Alliance
(SEA)

Key Volunteer Staff

Dennis Marable, *Squash Instructor*
David Farber, *Lead One-on-One Tutor*
Koji Tanaka, *Fitness Instructor/Mentor*



Introduction

It has been said, "Be the change you wish to see in the world" and we are doing so one student at a time. Here at SBSOS we foster a community of local Santa Barbara youth and mentors to create a home away from home. We provide them with incredible opportunities they would not have had if they had never joined our program. Each student is paid close attention to as we support them in academics, community service, enrichment, and the sport of squash. We take pride in embodying our motto with our students as we are "an inch wide but a mile deep".

2017-2018 NUMBERS

31 students during the 2017-2018 program year

39 students served all year (including college)

28 students returned from the prior year

19 girls and **12** boys

100% of our students qualify for the federal free lunch program

28.8% of children live in poverty in Santa Barbara *

Academics

SBSOS is not necessarily trying to create world-class squash players (that's a bonus if we do!) - we are most concerned with our students' success in school: successful high-school graduation as well as college acceptance and/or an alternative career path. Considering such, we strive to provide our students with multiple career presentations, enriching talks, and academic field-trips to expand their horizons of what is possible for them to do in life.

Schools

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Cleveland Elementary
Monroe Elementary
Roosevelt Elementary
Franklin Elementary
Summerland Elementary School
Washington Elementary School

HIGH SCHOOLS

Dos Pueblos High School
San Marcos High School
Santa Barbara High School

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Laguna Blanca
Garden Street Academy
Crane Country Day
Notre Dame
Santa Theresa

JR HIGH SCHOOLS

La Cumbre Jr High
Santa Barbara Jr High

Academic Enrichment

Attorney Elvia Presentation

CMC Rescue tour

Courthouse Oral Arguments

SB Scholarship Foundation Presentation

Ocean Education with SB Maritime

SBCC Promise Presentation

Sansum Diabetes Presentation

Auto Haus Presentation by Chris

Mental Wellness with Maria UCSB

Drug Prevention with Ivan

Police by Noel Rivas

Cottage Nurse Presentation

Training Room Presentation by Mark Brisby



Academic Director
Hannah Vidmar



SBSOS CLASS OF 2018 Merith Velazquez

Merith is a first generation college student and is incredibly driven. She has worked very hard to get to where she is today. As a junior-high student she received a scholarship to Crane Academy and then a near full-ride to Laguna Blanca for high-school. She took multiple Advanced Placement and Honors courses in high-school and received stellar grades and honors. She also worked hard as the theatre assistant stage manager and enjoys the thespian community. In addition, she was the editor for her school's year book! Her hard work and dedication have set her apart as an amazing individual and she has earned a scholarship to Lehigh University in Pennsylvania where she will double major in Engineering and Japanese. We are so proud of her and cannot wait to hear how her college experience is.

"I'm so glad I was introduced to such a wonderful program. My journey through highschool and path to college was made significantly easier because of the supportive environment and positive attitudes from everyone all around."

-Merith Class of 2018

SBSOS College Students

Lehigh University

-Merith Velazquez 2022

University of Southern CA

-Zaira Paredes 2021

Bates College

-David Quintero 2020

Westmont College

-Camilla Altamirano 2020

UC Berkeley

-Daisy Altamirano 2019

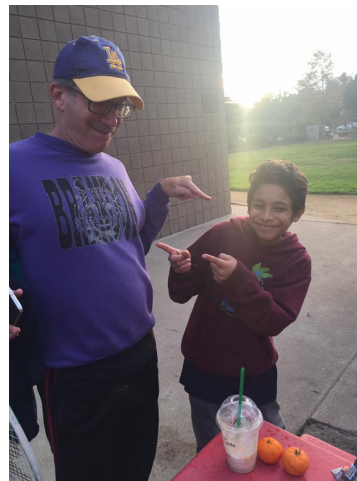


Volunteers & Tutors

SBSOS is extremely thankful for all our incredible volunteers! Here are a few in action:



(left) Sue Burk generously gives her time and resources to send care packages to SBSOS college students



< Brian Shafritz or 'Mr. Brian' as we lovingly refer to him as, has been serving our students with a smile and gumption for years! He loves to join in games with them, help them with homework, and even wears their names on sweatshirts!

Squash

Miguel Nava is our talented squash coach. He went through the program at SBSOS for seven years and his level of squash upon graduation was incredible. It is so great to have him as our part-time squash coach imparting the skills he learned into our students now. He had the opportunity to travel with Sebastian Paredes to the University of Virginia to oversee five NUSEA students playing in a Gold tournament and teach for three days at an exclusive squash camp.



Squash Coach Miguel Nava

SQUASH STATS

SBSOS STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN OVER 6 TOURNAMENTS IN THE 2017-2018 YEAR

SBSOS PLACED 2ND IN THE SOCAL HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE B DIVISION

SBSOS STUDENTS PLAY SQUASH THREE TIMES A WEEK

THIS YEAR OUR STUDENTS RECORDED OVER 2,839 HOURS OF SQUASH COMBINED IN PRACTICE ALONE!!

SBSOS STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN APPROXIMATELY 380 TOURNAMENT HOURS IN THE 2017-2018 YEAR!



In the Fall of 2017 we had the privilege of having Amanda DeLaura intern with us from Westmont College. She was an incredible asset, bonded quickly with the students, and served whole-heartedly.



"It was an honor working alongside SBSOS and being a part of their vision. The best part was building relationships with the students during academic hours and earning their trust over the course of the year"

-Amanda

Fall Intern Amanda DeLaura

Dennis
Marable
Volunteer
Coach



Squash Cont.

We are forever grateful for Dennis Marable who gives his time and effort to our older students three days a week and is dedicated to their squash success. He cares about each student and enjoys getting to know them on a personal level as well. His squash achievements as both a player and coach are impressive and we are honored that he chooses our students to volunteer his time with.



Sebastian Paredes

- SoCal High School Championships individual title
- Lead combination SBSOS/Santa Barbara Athletic Club team to the Team title
- Won the BU19 Urban National Championships just a few days after turning 17!

Fitness and Health

Fitness and Health are very important for SBSOS students. We have had multiple health practitioners and coaches speak to the students this year. We incorporate fitness drills weekly and stress the importance of daily movement and daily nutrition. We are so thankful for fitness volunteers (such as Koji Tanaka and George Witter) who come and demonstrate useful drills and exercises for our students to live a healthier lifestyle. We also continue to incorporate the Beep Test to track their fitness progress.



Enrichment



At SBSOS we love to provide as many enrichment opportunities as possible. We are a 'home away from home' as many students have said and being such, there must be some fun! This year we visited many wonderful places in the Santa Barbara community and attended multiple events because of community partners and donors. It is an absolute delight to watch our students bond together and share joyful experiences. These relationships will last for many years for these students and it is so important to have a safe place to be able to have a lot of good, clean, fun!

Fun in the Community

- Cloud 10 Jump Club
- Christmas Lights Caravan
- Nutcracker @ Arlington
- Christmas Party
- SBSOS Zoo Day
- Movie Day
- Pickleball
- Ice Skating @ Ice in Paradise
- Salsa Dance Lesson
- SB Rockclimbing Gym
- Pool @ Cathedral Oaks
- Channelkeeper Boat Trip
- Surf Day with Lovewater
- Refugio Camp
- Moxi Museum
- UCSB Ropes Course
- Yoga



The students led a bake sale to buy new jerseys. They raised over \$900!!



Community Service



In a world where people are often self-absorbed, we strive to teach our students at SBSOS to get outside and give back. We are so impressed with our students' attendance at community service events and are proud to say they actually enjoy them. From singing to the elderly to cleaning the neighborhoods, our students serve with a smile on their faces. They have changed lives all throughout Santa Barbara and yet the best part is that their lives are being changed while serving and gaining a heart to care about others.

SBSOS STUDENTS ATTENDED MORE THAN **20**
COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES IN THE
2017-2018 PROGRAMMING YEAR

53% STUDENTS HAD MORE THAN 15 HOURS SERVED

404 TOTAL COMBINED HOURS SERVED BY STUDENTS
THIS YEAR

JIMENA LOPEZ LED THE WAY WITH MORE THAN **23**
SERVICE HOURS IN THE SCHOOL YEAR

Community Service Activities

Clockwise from top left:

Mesa Harmony Garden

Day of Caring

Adopt a Block

Friendship Center (serving the elderly)

Not Pictured:

SB Triathlon

Beach clean w/ Channelkeeper

Garden Court

Path

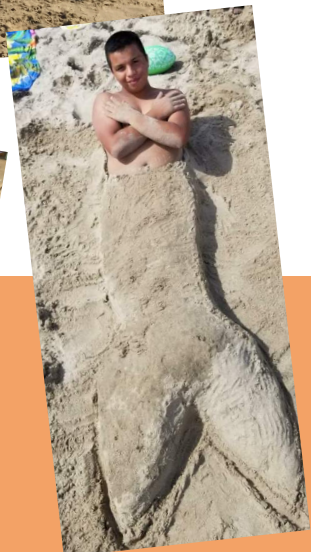
Backyard Bounty

Little League with Special Needs

Camp Refugio



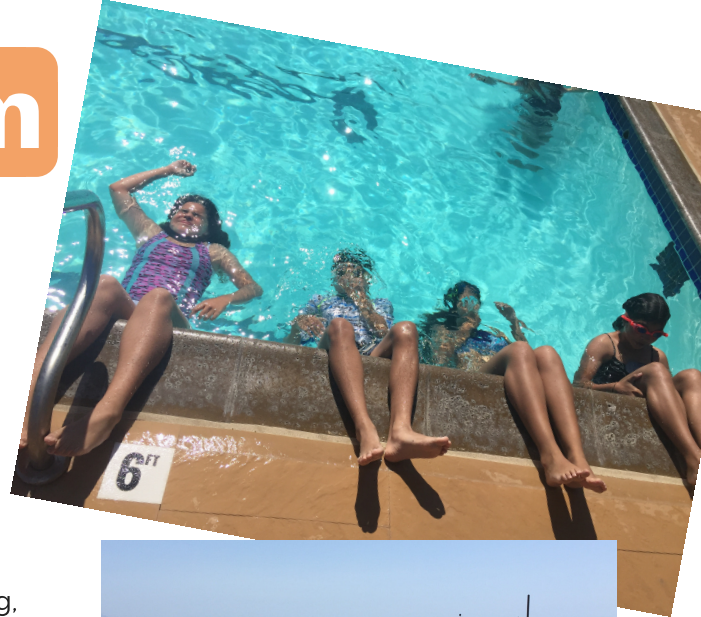
Camping for our students is a diamond in the rough! Since they rarely experience it, SBSOS decided to take eight Team A students with excellent attitude, effort, and attendance to Refugio State Beach for hiking, beach play, and games. It was an incredible bonding experience for all with many fun memories!



Summer Program



Summer is a time to reach new levels of bravery, persevere, and grow. This summer students had enriching lessons from different presenters (as well as staff) and learned new forms of exercising. Students also were able to go on more than eleven outings in eight weeks! They bonded as a family of friends while rock-climbing, surfing, cleaning the city and so much more. They worked hard on their squash game with three hours of squash practice a week. Students love summer time with SBSOS and grow leaps and bounds!



Fun Activities

- SB ROCK GYM
- CATHEDRAL OAKS POOL
- CHANNEL KEEPER BOAT TRIP
- SURF DAY WITH LOVEWATER
- BEACH DAY
- MOXI MUSEUM
- CAMPING
- ZOO DAY
- UCSB ROPES COURSE
- CLOUD 10



Presentations

- SCIENCE WITH DEMIS
- STUDENTS FROM CHINA AND AUSTRALIA
- IMPORTANCE OF RATS
- YOGA AND MINDFULNESS



Summer Community Service

- adopt a block Santa Barbara
- channel-keeper beach clean
- summer solstice float building

SBSOS Year End Celebration

It has become tradition to hold our Year End Party at Cloud 10 while we celebrate students effort, attitude, and commitment to our program. This year we had 99% attendance to our party and were able to honor the students with exceptional character and performances this year.



Students received a medal for completing 15 hours of Community Service!

AWARDS

Team A MVP
Angela Lopez

Team A most improved
Paul Gonzalez

Team B MVP
Daniela Elias

Team B most improved
Jessica Pacheco

Best attendance
Sofia Vargas

Most community service
Jimena Lopez



Student Spotlights



PATTY, Grade 9
Patty shines with her incredible care of others and shows it by always asking peers and adults "how are you doing and how was your day?"



JAVI, Grade 11
Javi is hard-working and a gentlemen. He always offers to lend a helping hand and encourages his team to get along.



GABY Grade 7
Gaby is a delight and always has a smile. She is respectful and joyful and is able to be friends with anyone.



JIMENA Grade 8
Jimena is an overcommer. She doesn't give up and she shows us all what the meaning of SBSOS is: family!

Donors

HONOR ROLL OF CUMULATIVE GIVING 2006-2018

Thank you to our donors! SBSOS proudly recognizes your generosity.



* All donations listed through August 31, 2018

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Thank you!
from SBSOS



"helping students succeed in life through squash and education"

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you will leave a legacy that will continue our work far
into the future.

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