

Santa Barbara School of Squash



OUR MISSION

To provide year-round, long-term academic and athletic programming and guidance to children who are committed to self-improvement from low-income families. By exposing these children to educational experiences and the sport of squash SBSOS helps each child build confidence and character, and maximize his or her academic and personal potential.

As we approach our ten year anniversary in 2016, we have much to be thankful for. Thanks to your help the Santa Barbara School of Squash has grown into a smooth running life changing organization. We have now seen students starting as fourth and fifth graders move on to college. Not only were these children the first in their families to ever graduate from high school, they have even moved on to higher education. Along the way we have also had two NUSEA National Squash Champions. The continuity of staff and consistent generosity by those who know us have produced an intense loyalty from our students.

Besides our afterschool programming, we stay with our students during school breaks and even more so in the summer. Activities last year included summer school at Choate-Rosemary Hall in Wallingford Connecticut, Stanford squash camp, a class on manners, three overnight camps, and a special four-day weekend at a working cattle ranch. Our mission of changing lives is on target, and we are reaching children whose families qualify for the federal free lunch program. Teaching them the importance of education, working hard, and staying committed has been an absolute joy to watch. See details of one of our students chosen to go on a NUSEA citizenship tour inside this annual report.

We spent a fair amount of time last year figuring out how to grow. The organization will be forever in debt to the Santa Barbara Athletic Club (SWELL) for the use of the squash courts and rooms to tutor our students for the past nine years. We are now actively pursuing additional venues so that we can engage more students and at the same time give them more time tutoring, playing squash, and working hard for the community in service projects. We have a proven model and it is time to impact even more deserving and needy students.

Thank you again for helping us transform lives and achieve our mission of helping all SBSOS students realize their academic and personal potential.

Terry Eagle

Chairman of the Board

NATIONAL URBAN SQUASH + EDUCATION ASSOCIATION







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National Urban Squash & Education Association (NUSEA)

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David Farber, Lead One-on-One Tutor Ernesto Gutierrez, IT Director Dirk Reynolds, Website Designer Koji Tanaka, Fitness Director Dennis Marable, Squash Instructor



INTRODUCTION: It takes a village to raise a child

Serving low-income students is a challenge and we are proud to be a part of the journey that will help lead to successful, productive and happy citizens. Our expectations are high - students must commit to the weekly requirements of the program for 6-7 years. The demographic we serve are students who qualify for the federal free and reduced lunch program, which is an economic indicator of their poverty. At SBSOS we are a family – and part of the "village" that works together with parents, schools and other mentors in providing support to allow our students to have opportunities and choices about their future.

Studies have found positive outcomes among youth who regularly attend high-quality after-school programs, either alone or in combination with varied sets of additional enrichment experiences. In contrast, low supervision coupled with intermittent participation in an unstructured program of extra-curricular activities poses developmental risks to both elementary school and middle school youth.

Instead of going home after school, students attend programming with SBSOS 3+ days a week where they are provided support with their homework, they are given squash instruction and they are exposed to community service activities throughout the city. They are allowed to take advantage of opportunities that are not otherwise exposed to. Students are selected for the program based on many things, including enthusiasm and ability to commit to the rigorous requirements of the program. SBSOS seeks academically motivated and committed students who will benefit from the opportunities we offer.

THE NUMBERS

45 students during the 2014-2015 program year

39 students were served all year

34 students returned from the prior year

sBsos had an almost equal gender balance (22 girls / 23 boys)

100% of our students are Latino

Santa Barbara County is **64% Latino** and **21%** live in poverty



Congresswoman Lois Capps and Robert Graham discussing SBSOS

Academic Program

It was another successful year of academic programming. Santa Barbara School of Squash students came from 14 public and independent schools in 2014-2015. Along with homework support and individual tutoring, students participated in three literature enrichment projects, a virtual trip around the world to enhance both knowledge of world geography and map skills, and research and oral presentation activities. We had a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers and the average ratio of volunteers to students was 1:3.

We provided over **4,799** hours of academic support and enrichment. Each student benefited from at least three hours per week of academic support with the opportunity to work one-on-one with a tutor at no cost. A total of **81** hours of one-on-one support were provided this year.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Adams Elementary School Brandon Elementary School McKinley Elementary School Monroe Elementary School Summerland Elementary School Washington Elementary School

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

La Colina Junior High School La Cumbre Junior High School Santa Barbara Junior High School

HIGH SCHOOLS

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

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Laguna Blanca
Garden Street Academy

UNIVERSITIES

University of Oregon University of Colorado, Boulder Santa Barbara City College

Highlights

100% of our students who have graduated high school while in the program have gone on to college

18% of our students have received substandard grades (D's and F's. All of them received **one-on-one tutoring** to address the area of difficulty and 83% of those students have improved their grades

25% of SBSOS students have been admitted to independent schools thanks to our SBSOS program

In a student survey, 100% of SBSOS student's stated that they plan to attend college after high school

6 students were supported as "members" (students currently attending college or independent schools do not have the same requirements as full-time members)

83% of students had In-Home meetings

94% attendance rate – total # of students attending sessions



Private School Partnerships

SBSOS has relationships with some local independent schools and if there is a good fit for a particular student for a partner school, we facilitate scholarship opportunities. We currently have nine students attending the following schools:

Laguna Blanca Garden Street Academy Crane Country Day School



Retention rate tells the story of how many years we are able to impact our students. NUSEA has found that continuous participation in the program for more than six years increases the commitment of students and their desire to change their future.





	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Started Year	18	28	36	41	38	38
Left Program	1	7	9	7	6	4
Remained in Program	17	21	27	34	32	34
Retention Rate	94%	75%	75%	83%	84%	89%

Class of 2015

Daisy was our only senior in 2014-15, and she was clearly motivated. She participated in the AAPL Academy at San Marcos High School where she rose to the top of her class. The reward for her commitment and hard work is that she will be attending UC Berkeley, her first choice university, in the fall of 2015!





"Every characteristic I value about myself I have acquired from positive people in my life. The individuals I have met in Santa Barbara School of Squash (SBSOS) have helped me grow into a motivated, passionate, disciplined, and caring person. I have grown up with SBSOS and am extremely thankful for all the love and support from everyone."

Daisy Altamirano

College Students



Brian MiguelSanta Barbara City
College - Junior



Eric Cervantes

Boulder, CO – taking a gap
year to gain CO residency



Vladimir Claudio Santa Barbara City College – Sophomore



Alumni squash day!



"Without the Santa Barbara School of Squash (SBSOS) I wouldn't be the person I am today. From traveling across the country to play in squash tournaments, to helping me succeed in my studies, and constantly stepping out of my comfort zone, has showed me just how much more there is in life and that not everything is going to be handed to me. I will be forever thankful for everything the SBSOS program has done for me."

Miguel Nava Santa Barbara City College – Sophomore SBSOS Volunteer Squash Coach



Squash is FUN and was voted the "healthiest sport" by *Forbes Magazine* for cardiorespiratory and muscular strength, and calories burned for 30 minutes (517) beating out rowing, swimming, running and basketball. Squash is the hook that keeps our students coming back. SBSOS students spent a total of 4,392 hours playing squash, 1,392 more than last year. The sport of squash is on the rise in the U.S. with 125+ university squash teams, and that means opportunities to play squash on a varsity or club team. The SBSOS Travel Team boasts several nationally ranked players - one of them was voted an All American by US Squash.

Highlights

SBSOS students spent 4,392 hours playing squash

15 SBSOS students were on the Travel Team and played in 9 squash tournaments in San Francisco, San Diego, Redwood City and Santa Clara

 ${f 2}$ students traveled outside California to play squash tournaments in Chicago and Connecticut

2 students were ranked in the top 100 in their age group nationally

1 student was selected to represent the West Coast on the California Regional Squad where they placed 4th out of 8

11 students traveled to Oakland to play in a head-to-head match with our sister NUSEA program, SquashDrive

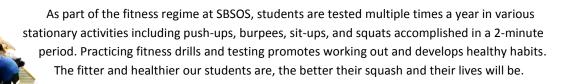
7 students attended the Stanford Squash Squads

6 students participated in the SoCal High School League, which they won representing Santa Barbara!



David Quintero with Paul Assaiante, Trinity College Coach and author of Run to the Roar: Coaching to Overcome Fear

Skills & Fitness Testing



In the past we have incorporated a timed mile run as a gauge of fitness, but over the summer we introduced the "Beep Test" to a few of the Travel Team players, with excellent results. The Beep Test is a multi-stage fitness test used to estimate the student's maximum oxygen uptake, or VO2 max. Students can see improvements in their endurance, which can also be used as a mental training tool enabling students to see just how far they can push themselves. It is a short test, with significant quantifiable measurements. It will be incorporated into the fitness testing twice a year in 2015-16.

Squash

Squash is a unique sport in many ways and sportsmanship is its greatest differentiator. No other sport requires the level of regard and respect for one's opponents quite like squash. No other sport leaves the fair outcome of the contest in the hands of the competitors. We believe these qualities make up the essence of the game, and therefore must be preserved. We teach and encourage sportsmanship by training junior players the rules of the game and proper conduct, by recognizing those who exemplify outstanding sportsmanship, and by promoting fair play.



Yoga for Kids



Students participated in three yoga sessions at the Santa Barbara Athletic Club



"Ever since I started at SBSOS, it has been nothing more than an amazing experience. I have been given the opportunity to travel and meet extraordinary people from all over the country. Not only was I given the opportunity to meet great role models, but I was also given the great gift of a better education at private school and I couldn't be more grateful. SBSOS is a program that supports kids through their journey and makes sure we are able to reach our goals".

Zaira Paredes
11th Grader @ Laguna Blanca



Throughout the year SBSOS participated in **24 events**, twice as many as last year. The Santa Barbara community takes great pride in the Arts and we reach out to as many community programs as we can to provide entry to theater, museums, artist events, etc., to give our students the opportunity to go places that they haven't been and experience new activities they never even imagined. Cultural education and enrichment is a fun way to introduce experiences that aren't learned in the classroom. We spent **776 hours** participating in cultural and educational outings, **464** more hours than last year.

ACADEMIC AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Nutcracker Ballet @ Arlington Theater
Revels @ Lobero Theater
Holiday Hike @ Rattlesnake Trail
Marine Science Boat Trip
UCSB vs. Hawaii Basketball Game
Tech Savvy Girls: 2 Day Technology Conference

It's Magic @ Lobero Theater
UCSB vs. Cal Poly Basketball Game

Santa Barbara Historical Museum

Bethany Hamilton: Pro Surfer Presentation @ Westmont College
Kids Draw Architecture

SB Youth Council: Teen Leadership Conference United Youth Festival @ SBCC

SB Historical Museum: Star Party

Malala: Presentation @ Victoria Theater Key Class: 4 Day Course

Camp Tehachapi: 4 Day working ranch/camping trip
Los Cumbres Observatory: Star Party @ Segwick Property

UCSB Ropes Course MacFarland USA: Movie

FUN OUTINGS

Trolley of Lights Holiday Tour
Public Market Holiday Tour / Outing
Holiday Pot Luck @ SBAC
Cloud 10 Trampoline Park

COLLEGE CAMPUS TOURS				
UCLA	Yale			
Bates	Trinity			
USC	Brown			
Yale	Harvard			
Wesleyan	UCSB			
Bowdoin	Connecticut College			
UC Berkeley				



Community Service

SBSOS requires each student to complete a minimum of 15 hours of service. SBSOS continues to foster the service-giving spirit providing the opportunity to give back to the community. SBSOS completed 32 service projects including feeding the hungry at the Rescue Mission once a month, playing games with seniors, beach clean-ups, working at Fairview Gardens, Special Olympics events, the Santa Barbara Beautiful Adopt-A-Block program, and many other projects that rely upon our yearly support.



Highlights

23 out of 30 students met or exceeded the 15 hours requirement of community service

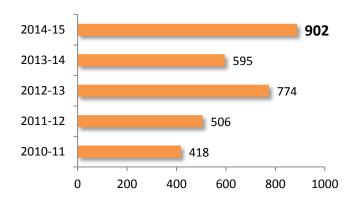
16 out of 30 students had more than 20 hours (5+ more than required)

7 students had under 15 hours due to other sports, employment experience, or joined the program mid-year

Students performed a total of **902 hours** of **service** – the most ever in our history!



Community Service - Total Hours 2010-2015





Diego Lopez completed 79 hours of community service and won the Community Service Commitment Award.

Polunteerism

Volunteering sets a good example for kids and helps the community. It is the perfect way for children to be welcomed as productive, active members of a community as well as to have fun and feel closer as a team. Volunteering together as a team is a wonderful way of creating a special bond and lasting memories for the students in SBSOS. SBSOS continues to foster the service-giving spirit within the program and provides opportunities to give back to others. Giving back to the community promotes healthy lifestyle and choices, enhances development, teaches life skills, improves the community, and encourages a lifelong service ethic. When asked, many of our students responded that community service is their favorite part of the SBSOS program.

ACTIVITY	DATE		
Day of Caring	9/20/2014		
SBSOS Fundraiser – Pro Squash Exhibition	9/20/2014		
Games With Seniors @ Garden Court	10/1/2014		
Rescue Mission – October to August	10/8/2014		
Games With Seniors @ Garden Court (x3)	10/29/2014		
Channel Keepers Beach Clean-Up	11/2/2014		
Girl on Fire 5K	3/7/2015		
Kiwanis BBQ @ St. Andrews School	3/7/2015		
Channel Keepers Beach Clean-Up	4/2/2015		
The Best Day – BBQ with Kiwanis Club	5/30/2015		
Down's Syndrome Buddy Walk	6/20/2015		
Looking Good Santa Barbara: Adopt-A-Block	6/26/2015		
Westside Neighborhood Medical Clinic	7/10/2015		
Special Olympics – Friendship Bracelets	7/1/2015		
Special Olympics Dinner/Dance	7/22/2015		
Looking Good Santa Barbara: Adopt-A-Block	7/24/2015		
Fairview Gardens – Camp Counselors	8/10/2015		
Dog Agility Show	8/15/2015		
Santa Barbara Triathlon	8/23/2015		
Squash Coaching – Peer Coaching	Year Round		









SBSOS Summer Programming

"Summer slide" is the backslide that happens when a kid's learning activities stall out for the summer months. Sociologists say the summer slide compounds over the years of a child's schooling and is a main factor for big differences in achievement between students from low-income and high-income families. Therefore SBSOS offers additional academic opportunities during the summer.



Highlights



Key Class: Four sessions of social etiquette skills

College Campus Tours: UCLA, USC, Bates, Yale, Wesleyan, Bowdoin, UC Berkeley, Trinity, Brown, Harvard & CT College

Camp Tehachapi: 12 students stayed for 4 days/3 nights at a working ranch where they spent time exploring as well as each student learned to weld, built a wooden carrier, made a mosaic photo frame and baked a loaf of bread. Many students had never been away from their parents before.

Attended a Roller Derby and Trampoline Park

Attended the **I Am Malala** simulcast at the Victoria Theater

Saw **ET** at the **Granada Theater**

Received 4 classes from Planned Parenthood

David Quintero Summer Highlights

David Quintero was selected to represent SBSOS on the 2015 NUSEA Citizenship Tour. David is an exceptional squash player and exemplary student. He had quite a summer traveling extensively on the east coast (often alone) by plane, train and automobile for several weeks. He visited many college campuses, played in college showcase squash tournaments, participated in summer school, and among the many exceptional experiences on the tour, he met Senator Al Franken (see photo), other senators, professional baseball players and more! All in an effort to inspire and encourage youth!

- ✓ Bay Club Santa Clara Squash Camp
- √ Yale Tournament
- ✓ Wesleyan College Showcase Squash Camp
- ✓ Loomis Chaffee College Showcase
- ✓ Bowdoin College Squash Camp
- ✓ Choate Summer School Intensive Writing Camp
- √ NUSEA Citizenship Tour: Visited **New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington DC**



Parent Participation

Research shows that when families are involved in schools, students do better. We can also expect that family and community members with an investment, however large or small, in a school-based afterschool program will be more interested and involved in their own children's learning, in the learning of all children in the program, and in the life of the school as a whole. Teachers and school administrators encourage parents to support their children's academic pursuits, but often parents are unable to help with homework, or they are working. In the SBSOS program we are able to help students work on homework with support from volunteer tutors.



Parents are required to participate in a minimum of one SBSOS project per year. This year parents logged 60 volunteer hours.

In addition to meeting scheduling and cost needs, we ease parent stress by providing transportation from school to the site location of the program. Transportation is a major cost for an extended day program, and a major safety and logistical concern for families. Parents were surveyed and were very satisfied with the program both in terms of positive changes in their child's behavior and attitudes as well as general functioning of the program. They felt the staff cared about and respected their children. We are moving in the right direction and our parents understand the importance of their participation to support their children.

"SBSOS is an outstanding program where kids have fun playing squash and focus on academics and their future"

Blanca HernandezParent of Josue





"SBSOS is an excellent afterschool program. This program has a strong foundation on supporting my son to do well in his studies and stay on track with his responsibilities.

Furthermore, the tutoring that they offer is the best I have found for children who are facing new opportunities in their lives. Not just tutoring but also bringing motivation to my son to keep going and accomplish his outstanding goals. Indeed they offer one of the best squash activities and sports training to keep my son active and healthy doing something he loves to do. I would like to thank the staff for their continued support and hard work".

Lourdes RochaParent of Sebastian Paredes



SBSOS staff is made up of former educators and squash coaches. Our volunteers are mostly former educators and future educators affiliated with local universities, as well as squash players from the community. SBSOS works closely with Partners in Education to fill key volunteer positions. Staff stability has been excellent and we have very low staff turnover.

SBSOS relies heavily on its volunteers to help run day-to-day programming and events. From tutoring students in academic sessions to one-on-one tutoring, our students have benefitted from over a thousand hours of academic volunteer time. Volunteer squash coaches help with squash coaching, fitness training, and Travel Team chaperoning and fitness tests. Our volunteer community includes individuals that tutor, coach, help with events and help with administrative work and our website.









Partnerships

SBSOS has an amazing support network that helps us to provide programming to our students. All of our site partner facilities provide space to us at no cost, including SWELL Santa Barbara Athletic Club, Santa Barbara YMCA and the City of Santa Barbara, which provides space for our academic sessions at the Louise Lowry Davis Center. Partners In Education helps us to recruit high-quality volunteers, and the Santa Barbara Foodbank provides healthy snacks to our students at every session. We thrive due to these partnerships and appreciate their support of our mission.









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SantaBarbara of SQUASH

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- ✓ Designate SBSOS as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy
- Establish a SBSOS Charitable Gift Annuity
- ✓ Making a gift of \$25,000 or more to the SBSOS Endowment Fund





Changing lives one student at a time.

Santa Barbara School of Squash

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Contact Robert Graham at (805) 316-0720 or <u>Robert@SBSOS.org</u> to discuss what you can do and/or request specific bequest language to share with your financial advisor. On behalf of our SBSOS recipients and their families, thank you.

Robert Graham

Executive Director