

CommUniverCity • SJSU

ENGAGE. LEARN. BUILD.

ANNUAL REPORT
2025-2026





OUR STORY

CommUniverCity SJSU was founded in 2005 as a unique three-sector partnership between San José State University (SJSU), the City of San José, and the local community. What began as a small initiative to improve local neighborhoods has since grown into a thriving model of civic engagement, service-learning, and social responsibility.

CommUniverCity's objective is to take community-identified needs and utilize faculty expertise and the people-power of students enrolled in SJSU courses to address those needs.

Over the last 20 years, CommUniverCity has launched numerous successful projects, from urban development initiatives to education programs that have empowered residents and students alike.

Since its inception, CommUniverCity has collaborated with 25,469 Community Engaged Learners (CEL), educating 134,379 Community Participants, resulting in a \$12.62 million investment value.

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cucsjsu.org



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BY THE NUMBERS

Fall 2025 - Spring 2026

2.6K

Community
Participants



1K

Community
Engaged
Learners



38K

Cumulative
Hours



\$1.32M

Investment
Value



Since 2005, our numbers show

137K

Community
Participants



26.7K

Community
Engaged
Learners



600K

Cumulative
Hours



\$13.9M

Investment
Value



Community Participants include K–12 students engaged in educational activities and workshops, along with residents attending neighborhood events and celebrations.

Community Engaged Learners (CEL) include SJSU students who apply course-based knowledge through activities and presentations for K–12 students, as well as Public Health, Communications, and Educational Counseling interns who work directly with the CommUniverCity team to implement projects.

Investment Value encapsulates the total monetary worth of the CEL volunteer hours contributed to the project.

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow CommUniverCitans,

As we reflect on the 2025-2026 academic year, we are filled with gratitude for the spirit of CommUniverCity's ongoing mission. Together, we have continued to address community-identified needs by deploying the people power and expertise of SJSU students and faculty – as part of their courses – to meet those needs. Through 18 projects this past year, CommUniverCity continues to stay true to its mission of empowering the community.

This year's annual report is "Engage. Learn. Build.," because that is – and has always been – central to CommUniverCity's mission. This means that each of our projects helps to support residents of all ages in realizing their visions of vibrant and healthy communities. In addition, through 37,806 volunteer hours, SJSU students and faculty have exemplified an ethic of service, maintaining strong connections with San José residents. The collective feeling is an increased sense of belonging and pride in the place we call home: SJSU and the City of San José.

CommUniverCity supports residents of all ages: children, youth, adults, and seniors. As such, CommUniverCity projects continue to inspire a college-going culture among our children and youth, because education and development of 21st century skills are the most likely pathways to employment and financial security. In addition, community planning and engagement projects are ways to connect with each other through festivals and opportunities to instill that civic pride, for today and for the future.

This year's projects are categorized into four groups: 1) College-Going Culture, 2) Community Planning & Engagement, 3) Student Learning, Community Earning, and 4) Growing Sustainably. Each of these project categories is rooted in CommUniverCity's ongoing mission and arranged to multiply the impact of CommUniverCity's model to deploy the people power of SJSU students. Furthermore, each of these categories has been aligned to include some of the same priorities as the City of San Jose's Children and Youth Master Plan, specifically: Early Learning, Health and Mental Wellness, Learning and Empowerment, Meaningful and Sustaining Jobs, Safe, Clean and Connected Communities. Together with the City of San José, SJSU, and the Community, we all have an opportunity to make a difference in our neighborhoods.

Lastly, we ask for your continued support. CommUniverCity has expanded projects outside of the previous core service area in District 3 that includes the downtown neighborhoods surrounding SJSU. For some new projects (in Districts 1 and 4 last year, and Districts 5 and 7 this year), we've had great successes; however, we found that more could have been done had there been established community relationships like those built in District 3 over the past two decades. As the reach of CommUniverCity continues to grow, we ask for your continued support for the established pathway to amplify the people-power of SJSU, for Community-minded projects, in the City of San José.

In the spirit of our core pillars, Engage, Learn, and Build, thank you for another year, and I look forward to many more together.



Michael Oye, MBA, PhD

MISSION

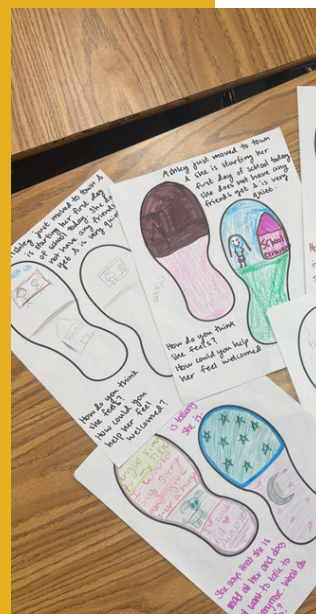
CommUniverCity's mission is to collaborate with SJSU faculty, students, the City of San Jose, and the community to address community needs. We aim to empower new generations of socially responsible, civic-minded citizens through impactful service-learning, engage the community by utilizing the expertise of SJSU, create events that promote education and college readiness, and support city efforts to build livable, healthy, and vibrant neighborhoods for all.

VISION

CommUniverCity's vision is to serve as the bridge connecting SJSU faculty, students, the City of San Jose, and the broader community to leverage local assets and address community challenges. We envision empowered, engaged, civic-minded citizens thriving in vibrant, healthy communities, collaborating across sectors for lasting impact.



COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE





ENGINEERING IN ACTION (EIA)

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Participating Schools: ACE Inspire Academy, Anne Darling Elementary, Bachrodt Elementary, Empire Gardens Elementary, ACE Esperanza Middle, Grant Elementary, River Glen Elementary

Faculty: Michael Oye, Tony Pan, Emi Ishida, Richard Chung - MATE 25

Engineering in Action (EIA) provides elementary students with the opportunity to explore the fundamentals of engineering through interactive workshops led by students from SJSU. In doing so, EIA supports the City of San José's Children and Youth Services Master Plan by offering an early introduction to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) education.

For this project, engineering students created a 20-minute presentation that consists of a 5-6 minute introduction and a 15-minute hands-on activity. These presentations are centered around one of the following topics: Batteries, Plastic Deformation, Elastic Deformation, How 3D Printers Work, Composites, Forensic Materials Engineering, Temperature Effects on Polymers, and Semiconductors.

During the Fall 2025 - Spring 2026 academic year, EIA interacted with K-8 students at the following participating schools: Empire Gardens, Anne Darling, Grant Elementary, ACE Inspire, Bachrodt, Ace Esperanza, and River Glen. In partnership with afterschool programs managed by CORAL, YMCA, and Think Together, CommUniverCity connected elementary students with a total of 306 MaTE 25 (Materials Engineering) students through the help of SJSU professors Richard Chung, Tony Pan, Emi Ishida, and Michael Oye. Through this collective effort, EIA impacted a total of 425 young learners.

Ultimately, young learners enjoyed the engineering activities and frequently asked questions about college throughout the presentations. Surveys handed out at the end of each event recorded the effects of EIA and its impact on student interest in STEAM careers. Analysis shows that 85% of participants would like to learn more about STEAM careers after attending EIA.

Though these topics are college-level, young students showed interest in learning about them and engaging in the activities, accomplishing the overarching goal of creating a college-going culture within the community. As for SJSU students, this project provides an opportunity for them to become involved in their community while developing communicative, technical, and organizational skills necessary for their professional growth. EIA proves to be a vital part of CommUniverCity's efforts to support underrepresented communities in San José and strengthen community engagement.





IMPACT



"I love coming to your events."

– SJSU Professor



"The kids really love these events and look forward to them because of how engaging they are."

- CORAL Site Manager

Community Engaged
Learners

306

Community Participants

425

Cumulative Hours

8,934

Investment Value

\$299,199

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL GROWTH WITH AREA YOUTH (SEGWAY)

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Participating Schools: Empire Gardens Elementary, Olinder Elementary, Washington Elementary, Lowell Elementary

Faculty: Krissy Hassett - CHAD 168

SEGWAY (Social Emotional Growth with Area Youth) connects K–8 students with San José State University (SJSU) students through engaging, interactive social-emotional learning experiences. In partnership with ChAD 168: Social Emotional Development, taught by Professor Krissy Hassett, SJSU students step into the role of near-peer educators, creating meaningful opportunities for young learners to learn, reflect, and build relationships while developing essential social-emotional skills.

Throughout the Fall 2025–Spring 2026 academic year, 144 SJSU students across four ChAD 168 sections participated in SEGWAY. Working in groups, SJSU students developed and facilitated 30–45 minute activities focused on one of five dimensions of social-emotional learning and development: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision-Making. Through games, discussions, hands-on activities, and reflection, SJSU students transformed SEL concepts from the classroom into engaging experiences designed to resonate with young learners.

In collaboration with CORAL (Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County), SEGWAY was brought to students at Empire Gardens, Olinder, Lowell, and Washington, reaching 400 young learners across the San José Unified School District. SJSU student groups were thoughtfully paired with grade levels based on the focus and complexity of their activities, allowing each experience to be tailored to the developmental needs of participating youth.

Post-event surveys found that 92% of participants expressed interest in attending higher education after participating in SEGWAY. Through these interactions, young learners gain practical social-emotional skills while seeing college as a familiar and attainable part of their future. At the same time, SJSU students gain hands-on experience applying their coursework within a community setting, creating a reciprocal learning experience that supports the holistic development and well-being of young learners from underserved communities.



Together, SJSU students, faculty, community partners, and young learners continue to demonstrate the power of university-community partnerships to engage, learn, and build while preparing the next generation with social-emotional skills and confidence for lifelong success.

IMPACT



"We got to have a heart to heart and the kids seemed to really enjoy it."

**SJSU student
Empire Gardens**



"The kids love it when you guys come there; they're asking, 'When are they gonna come back?'"

**Damien
CORAL Manager, Empire Gardens**

**Community Engaged
Learners**

144

Community Participants

300

Cumulative Hours

6,377

Investment Value

\$213,565

GEOLOGY ROCKS!

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Participating Schools: Anne Darling Elementary, Olinder Elementary, Grant Elementary, ACE Inspire Academy

Faculty: LeAnne Teruya - GEOL 2

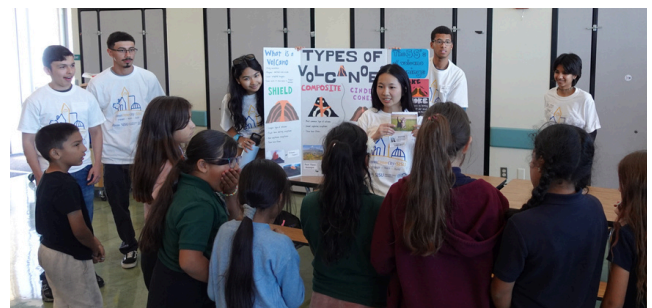
Geology Rocks! provides engaging, hands-on geology education to participating schools, inspiring interest in Earth Sciences through interactive lessons and activities. The goal is to educate young learners about the importance of Earth's materials and our dependence on natural resources by connecting SJSU Geology students to after-school enrichment programs such as CORAL. SJSU Professor LeAnne Teruya is an active supporter of this project, allowing us to connect Geology for Engineers (GEOL 2) students to local elementary schools. For this project, SJSU students are tasked with creating a 20-30 minute presentation consisting of a hands-on activity.



During the Fall 2025 - Spring 2026 academic year, Geology Rocks! was delivered to K-8 students at Olinder, Grant, Anne Darling, and ACE Inspire. A total of 108 SJSU students presented on topics including 1) Weathering & Erosion 2) The Rock Cycle 3) Geology of Beaches & Sand 4) Volcanoes 5) Minerals in Everyday Life 6) Types of Physical & Chemical Weathering 7) Sedimentary Rocks 8) Bay Area Fossils and What They Tell Us About Past Environments 9) Earthquakes and their Effects 10) Where Does Rainwater Go 11) Layers of the Earth.

This experiential learning model enriches students' understanding of science by introducing K-8 learners to scientific vocabulary and concepts not typically covered in their standard curriculum, encouraging curiosity and early interest in STEM fields. Through developing and leading these presentations, SJSU students apply concepts from their coursework, strengthen technical and communication skills, and serve as role models for young learners.

Geology Rocks! demonstrates the impact of community partnerships in connecting higher education with local schools to promote science education. Post-event surveys showed that 88% of participants reported an increased understanding of environmental issues and how to address them. Additionally, 98% of participants identified ways they can personally contribute to environmental improvement, including planting trees, recycling water, reducing fossil fuel use, and composting. Through programs like Geology Rocks!, CommUniverCity continues to connect SJSU students with local schools to create meaningful STEM learning experiences for young learners.



IMPACT



"CommUniverCity is a fantastic organization to work with! Working with CommUniverCity on Geology Rocks has been a really meaningful part of work for me!"

LeAnne Teruya
GEOL 2 SJSU Professor



"I didn't know there were layers to the Earth; that's awesome!"

Student
Anne Darling Elementary

**Community Engaged
Learners**

152

Community Participants

200

Cumulative Hours

4,244

Investment Value

\$142,131

SJSU CAMPUS TOURS

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Participating Schools: ACE Inspire Academy, ACE Esperanza Middle, Ohlone Middle

Faculty: Jimma Cortes-Smith - EDCO 4

CommUniverCity's SJSU Campus Tours are one of the organization's most impactful initiatives for promoting a college-going culture among local youth. By welcoming elementary and middle school students to San José State University, the program provides firsthand exposure to campus life, academic resources, and the many pathways to higher education. Through immersive, guided experiences led by EDCO 4 (Personal, Academic, and Career Exploration) students, the young learners are able to envision themselves as future college students while gaining a better understanding of the opportunities available to them.

During the Fall 2025–Spring 2026 academic year, CommUniverCity hosted four campus tours for students from ACE Inspire, ACE Esperanza, and Ohlone. These visits introduced young learners to the university environment while encouraging them to explore future educational opportunities in a supportive and engaging setting. Middle schoolers were introduced to key campus locations and resources, including the Spartan Food Pantry, SJSU Greenhouse, the Charles W. Davidson College of Engineering, the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), and Student Outreach and Recruitment (SOAR). Throughout the day, students participated in interactive presentations covering topics such as A–G college admission requirements, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, engineering careers, aerospace concepts, and essential resources available at SJSU.

In total, 78 SJSU students supported the campus tours, providing mentorship and guidance to 195 visiting K–8 students while sharing their own college experiences and encouraging questions about university life. These interactions helped make the college experience more accessible and allowed young learners to see themselves as future members of a university community.

Through SJSU Campus Tours, CommUniverCity continues to strengthen connections between the university and surrounding communities by making higher education accessible, welcoming, and attainable for young learners. Post-tour surveys reflected the program's impact, with 97% of participants reporting interest in attending college and 88% indicating they understood the steps necessary to pursue higher education. Many students left the tours expressing excitement and curiosity about attending college in the future, demonstrating the value of early exposure to higher education and meaningful interactions with university students.



IMPACT



"Thank you so much for everything.
Our students had a blast!"

Vanessa Rocha-Diaz
Principal, Ohlone Middle School



"I remember you guys from College
Week at my school!"

Student, Ohlone Middle School

Community Engaged
Learners

78

Community Participants

205

Cumulative Hours

2,949

Investment Value

\$98,792

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS ACADEMY

Spring 2026

Participating Schools: River Glen

Faculty: Pamela Wells - BUS 161A

Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA) provides elementary and middle school students with an opportunity to learn fundamental entrepreneurial and business skills through interactive, hands-on learning activities. During the Spring 2026 academic semester, San José State University's (SJSU) BUS 161A (Business) students and Professor Pamela Wells partnered with River Glen School through CommUniverCity to introduce young students to key business concepts. The purpose of this project was to inspire interest in young students for a future career in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) and teach them fundamental business skills.

On April 17, 2026, 25 SJSU students went to River Glen and delivered 30-minute interactive classroom presentations to 80 River Glen students, all ranging from grades 3rd-8th grade. The BUS 161A students were divided into five presentation groups, with each group focusing on the following topics: Why Teams Matter, Motivating a Business Team, Sales, Finance and Financial Management, Ideation, Motivating a Business, and Team Conflict and Negotiation.

Through activities like team-building challenges, financial engagement exercises, and business pitch presentations, the young students explored entrepreneurship while practicing their creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. The interactive hands-on activities encouraged students to think like entrepreneurs and apply business concepts in a fun and engaging way.

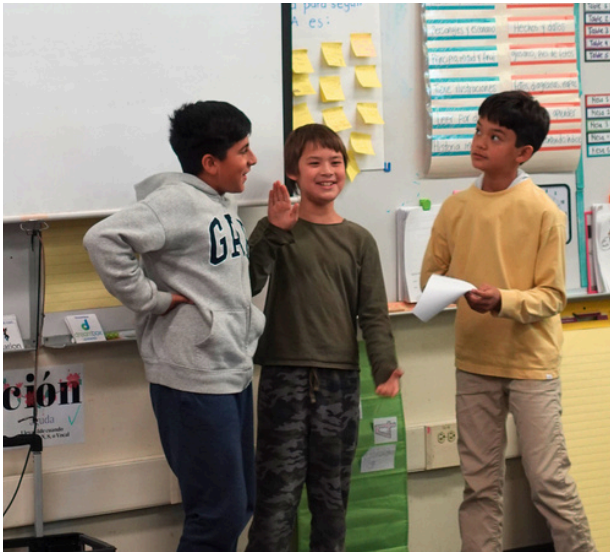
Through this experience, SJSU students improved their leadership, communication, teamwork, and classroom facilitation skills by applying learned business concepts in real-world settings. In turn, the young learners gained an early introduction to entrepreneurship and financial literacy while building confidence in their own creative ideas and abilities.

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA) had a significant impact on students' interest in future careers, as reflected in post-program surveys. Overall, 91% of participants reported an increased interest in STEAM careers, exceeding the program's initial goal of 50%. Of those students, 51% indicated they were "a little" more interested and wanted to learn more, while 40% expressed interest in pursuing a STEAM career. Student reflections also demonstrated the program's success in encouraging creativity, collaboration, and entrepreneurial thinking.

One student shared, "I want to make a baseball club so that I can train people and help them get better and get money at the same time," while another envisioned starting a business centered around soccer and dogs. An SJSU student volunteer also observed, "The kids enjoyed stacking up the plastic cups, showing how coordination among teams is important in business." By connecting university students with young learners, YEA continues to inspire future innovators, entrepreneurs, and college-bound students.

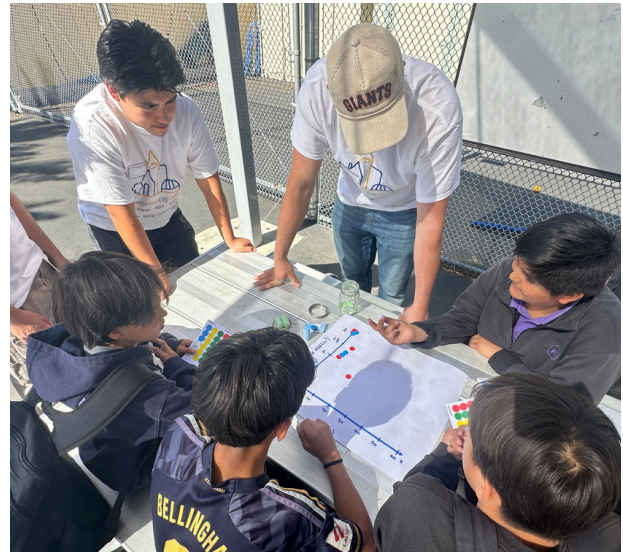


IMPACT



"The kids enjoyed stacking up the plastic cups, showing how coordination among teams is important in business."

BUS 161A Student



"I want to make a baseball club so I can train people and help them get better and make money at the same time."

Elementary Student

**Community Engaged
Learners**

25

Community Participants

80

Cumulative Hours

756

Investment Value

\$25,318

COLLEGE DAY

Fall 2025

Participating Schools: Stonegate Elementary, Olinder Elementary

College Day introduces elementary and middle school students to the value of higher education by connecting them with SJSU students representing a variety of academic majors and career pathways. Through interactive presentations, personal storytelling, and conversations with college students, participants gain insight into the college experience while exploring future educational opportunities.

College Day presentations are highly interactive, encouraging students to ask questions about college life, including academics, housing, scholarships, extracurricular activities, student organizations, and campus involvement. By hearing firsthand experiences from current SJSU students, participants build meaningful connections, discover new interests, and begin envisioning themselves pursuing higher education.

During the Fall 2025 semester, CommUniverCity partnered with Stonegate Elementary and Olinder Elementary to deliver College Day presentations. Twenty-one SJSU student volunteers led 30-minute classroom presentations highlighting college life, academic majors, campus resources, and student organizations. Through open discussions and question-and-answer sessions, students reflected on their future goals while gaining a better understanding of the opportunities available through higher education.

In addition to these classroom presentations, CommUniverCity participated in Ohlone Middle School's two-day College Week celebration. SJSU students staffed a CommUniverCity information table where they engaged directly with middle school students, answered questions about college life, shared their educational journeys, and encouraged students to begin thinking about their own pathways to higher education. These informal conversations provided students with approachable role models and personalized opportunities to learn about college from current university students.

By creating opportunities for meaningful interactions between university students and youth, the program helps make higher education feel more accessible, relatable, and achievable.

Creating a college-going culture remains a central goal of College Day, and participant surveys reflected the program's impact. Following the presentations, 90% of participants reported increased interest in attending college, while 87% expressed interest in exploring academic fields such as art and music, computers and technology, medicine and healthcare, science, and reading and writing. Through these experiences, College Day continues to inspire young learners to explore their interests, expand their educational aspirations, and envision a future that includes higher education.

IMPACT



"I want to be a teacher like you someday!"

Student, Olinder Elementary



"Thank you for coming to our school. SJSU is amazing!"

Student, Stonegate Elementary

Community Engaged
Learners

20

Community Participants

375

Cumulative Hours

660

Investment Value

\$22,103

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT





SUN FALL FEST

Fall 2025

Partners: South University Neighborhood Association (SUN)

CommUniverCity partners with the SUN (South University Neighborhood Association) to host the Annual Fall Fest, a Halloween-themed community fair designed to strengthen community engagement, neighborhood pride, and connections among local families and residents. This annual event combines celebration with resource sharing, offering a welcoming space where neighbors can enjoy interactive activities, seasonal treats, and opportunities to learn about local services.



In preparation for the 2024 Fall Social, CommUniverCity collaborated closely with the SUN community members and leaders to review past events, set shared goals, and incorporate feedback to enhance the experience. This successfully brought together residents of all ages, and the collaboration with CommUniverCity resulted in a successful community event equipped with resource tables, hands-on activities, and a festive atmosphere that encouraged participation and strengthening community bonds.



By combining fun with meaningful interaction, the Fall Social not only celebrated the season but also supported the long-term goal of sustaining neighborhood vibrancy and promoting a sense of belonging within San José's diverse communities, which meets both the City of San José State University's initiatives for community building and engagement.





IMPACT



"I liked how everyone was helpful,
and the information was useful."

**Resident
South University Neighborhood**



"It was a really fun experience where I
could gain better relationships with my
teammates."

SJSU Student

**Community Engaged
Learners**

10

Community Participants

100

Cumulative Hours

658

Investment Value

\$22,036

SPARTAN KEYES EGG HUNT

Spring 2026

Partners: Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition

Faculty: Pamela Wells - BUS 161A

Spartan Keyes Egg Hunt is an annual family-friendly community event that celebrates the spring season, strengthens community pride, and promotes civic engagement in collaboration with the Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition. The event, held at Bestor Art Park, offers a fun day of celebrating community, an important aspect for building and sustaining neighborhood vibrancy and pride. To promote and deliver the event, CommUniverCity partnered with Professor Pamela Wells and her Business 161A (BUS 161A) students.

The Spartan Keyes Egg Hunt was hosted on Saturday, March 21st, where the community could attend and interact with various activity hubs, engage in multiple egg hunts for varying age groups, and take photos with the Easter Bunny! The BUS 161A students were split into two groups. One group was divided into smaller groups, where each managed their own activities with community members. Activities included Easter egg bag decorating, Easter paper garland crafts, making flowers out of pipe cleaners, planting sunflowers, and face painting. CommUniverCity provided materials, staffing, and coordination for the event.

Leading up to the day of the event, the other half of BUS3-161A students oversaw the marketing and promotion of Spartan Keyes Egg Hunt, as well as other resources for the Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition. This group was divided into three teams for three different platforms: Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok.

On top of distributing flyers, students managed the social media accounts for Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition to promote the event and neighborhood engagement. By practicing effectively using various types of outlets as project managers, BUS3-161A developed the communication system of Spartan Keyes.

Overall, Spartan Keyes Egg Hunt is a prime example of how CommUniverCity SJSU works with faculty, students, and community partners to create and sustain meaningful course-based service-learning opportunities, while at the same time encouraging civic engagement of students and increasing community connections among residents. CommUniverCity connected the need for BUS 161A students to develop skills utilized in project management with the community's need to sustain a vibrant, connected, and engaged neighborhood. Through event planning, outreach, marketing, and hands-on service, students gained valuable real-world experience while helping strengthen relationships among Spartan Keyes residents and supporting a beloved annual community tradition.



IMPACT



"Thanks for having us! I really enjoyed painting the kids' faces and helping out with the egg hunt!"

BUS 161A Student



"My kids enjoyed going multiple rounds in the egg hunt!"

**Resident
Spartan Keyes Neighborhood**

Community Engaged
Learners

42

Community Participants

39

Cumulative Hours

738

Investment Value

\$24,715

SUN SPRING RESOURCE FAIR

Spring 2026

Partners: South University Neighborhood Association, LEAD Filipino, Santa Maria Urban Ministry, District 3 Office, St. Paul's UMC, California Interfaith Power and Light, Julia Robinson Math Festival, People Acting in Community Together

The South University Neighborhood Association (SUN) Spring Resource Fair encouraged residents to think more critically about local community issues affecting both the SUN neighborhood and the broader San José community while connecting them to helpful resources meant to promote a healthy civic lifestyle and engagement. CommUniverCity once again partnered with SUN to support this community-led event at O'Donnell Garden Art Park on Saturday, April 25th.

During the event, CommUniverCity and SUN collaborated with various local organizations, including LEAD Filipino, Santa Maria Urban Ministry, St. Paul's UMC, People Acting in Community Together (PACT), California Interfaith Power and Light (CIPL), and Julia Robinson Math Festival (JRMF). Together, these organizations worked to raise awareness about local resources and the ways community residents and members can access the support they may need. CommUniverCity also hosted activity tables for the event, facilitating interaction through tote bag painting, seed planting, and community feedback. Event supplies, staff, and coordination were all provided by CommUniverCity and SUN.

A total of 70 community members were present during the event, including San José councilmember for District 3, Anthony Todillos, who was also briefly in attendance and had the opportunity to engage with local residents. Based on a poll conducted during the event, residents identified infrastructure as the most important issue in

the SUN neighborhood, followed closely by a lack of local businesses, housing inequality, and a lack of resources and events in the area. For the broader San José community, housing inequality was identified as the top concern among event participants, followed by a lack of resources and infrastructure. Residents who participated in the community board activity, "After the SUN Resource Fair, do you feel more connected with your community?" reported that 100% of respondents answered "yes," indicating that they feel more connected to their local community after attending the event.

Overall, the SUN Resource Fair generated strong interest in learning more about local community resources and events. Moreover, CommUniverCity successfully helped increase SUN neighborhood residents' understanding of community issues and the different ways they can address these challenges with the support of local resources and organizations, highlighting the importance of community engagement and interaction.





IMPACT



"When I attend these events, I connect with the community, and we are able to talk about the problems in our neighborhood and explore solutions."

**Resident
South University Neighborhood**



"I love learning about the various community resources present in the area!"

SJSU Student

**Community Engaged
Learners**

10

Community Participants

70

Cumulative Hours

562

Investment Value

\$18,821

LA PULGA SAN JOSÉ FLEA MARKET

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Partners: Berryessa Flea Market Vendors Association

Faculty: Rick Kos - URBP 295

La Pulga Planning Project is a year-long community planning initiative that supports the future of the San José Flea Market (La Pulga), one of East San José's most significant cultural and economic landmarks. Facing potential displacement due to redevelopment, the project brought together graduate students, faculty, and the Berryessa Flea Market Vendors Association (BFVA) to develop community-centered planning strategies that preserve the market's cultural identity while identifying opportunities for relocation and long-term sustainability.

Through research, community engagement, and policy analysis, students worked alongside vendors and local stakeholders to ensure the future of La Pulga reflects the needs of the families and small businesses that depend on it. During the Fall 2025 academic semester, 16 graduate Urban Planning students partnered with the BFVA to document the market's history, examine the role of public markets, and better understand the challenges facing vendors.

Students facilitated two vendor visioning workshops, where 10 BFVA members collaborated to imagine the characteristics of an ideal future market, while 8 vendor surveys captured perspectives on business operations, relocation preferences, and long-term goals. The semester emphasized relationship-building and trust with the vendor community, producing a shared vision that laid the groundwork for future planning efforts.

Building on this work, the Spring 2026 Capstone class expanded community engagement and evaluated potential relocation opportunities for the market. 19 graduate students conducted 42 vendor surveys, representing approximately 7-10% of all market vendors, and 55 customer surveys to better understand visitor patterns, transportation, and community priorities. Students also analyzed multiple relocation sites using criteria such as accessibility, financial feasibility, political considerations, and opportunities for vendor growth before presenting their findings at a public gallery event attended by vendors, City of San José staff, elected officials, faculty, and community stakeholders.

Overall, 35 graduate students participated across the two-semester project, engaging directly with the La Pulga community through 50 vendor surveys and 55 customer surveys while producing research that supports future relocation planning. This project demonstrates how CommUniverCity connects students, faculty, and community partners to address complex planning challenges through service-learning while giving students meaningful professional experience in community engagement, urban planning, and equitable decision-making. By centering vendor voices throughout the planning process, this project helped strengthen collaboration between SJSU and the La Pulga community while contributing practical recommendations to preserve one of San José's most important cultural and economic institutions.

IMPACT



“The market has helped more than 450 small businesses and 1,000 workers for over 60 years. It has been a lifeline for many immigrant and family-run businesses.”

**The Pulga Planners
URBP 295 Students**

**Community Engaged
Learners**

40

Cumulative Hours

3,860



“We asked people how long they have been coming to La Pulga; usually it was around 5 to 10 years plus...people have continued to come here and love spending time with their family at La Pulga.”

**The Pulga Planners
URBP 295 Students**

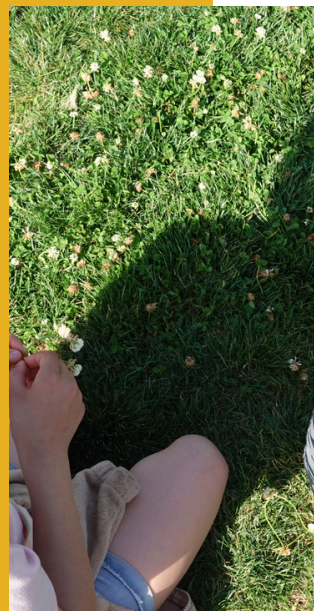
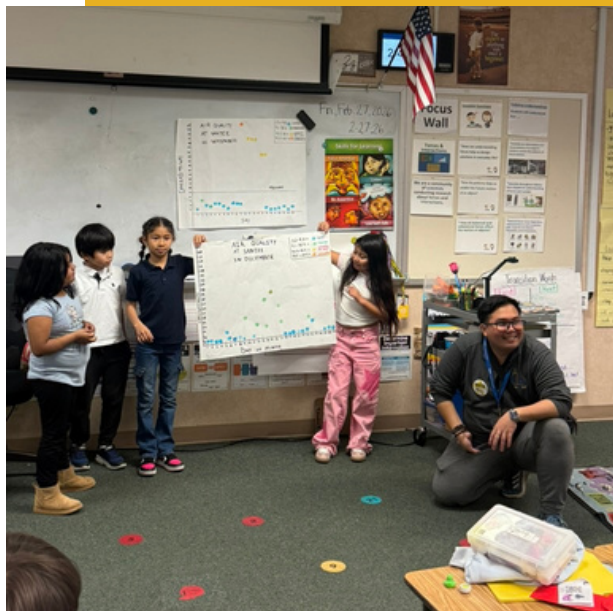
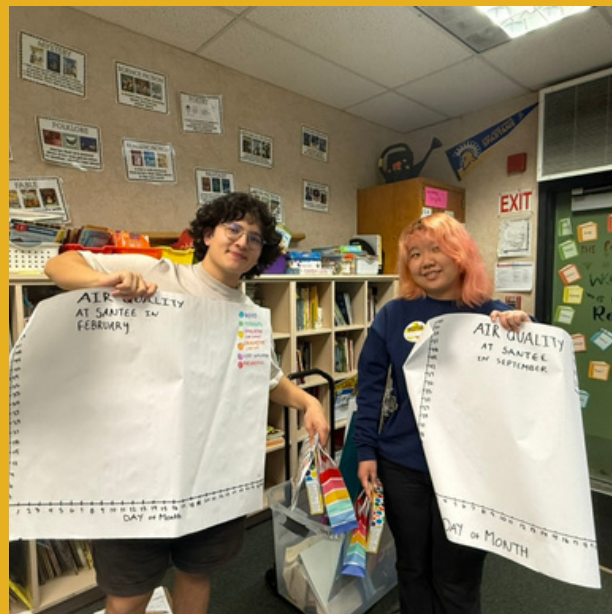
Community Participants

310

Investment Value

\$129,271

GROWING SUSTAINABLY





CALERO COUNTY PARK FIELD TRIP

Fall 2025

Participating Schools: Sacred Heart Nativity School

Partners: Calero County Park

The Calero County Park Field Trip provided middle school students with the opportunity to explore the outdoors while learning about the importance of local parks and the environment. As part of CommUniverCity's Growing Sustainably initiative, the field trip promoted environmental awareness, family engagement, and appreciation for Santa Clara County's public lands by exposing students to local outdoor exploration and interactive learning experiences. Through guided activities, students developed personal connections to nature while learning about the value of protecting the environment.

During the Spring 2026 academic semester, CommUniverCity coordinated a field trip for 40 middle school students from Sacred Heart Nativity Middle School and 18 family members to Calero County Park. Educational activities included a guided hike, wildlife observation, and opportunities for students to reflect on their experiences in nature. Throughout the day, participants explored the park while learning about the benefits of spending time outdoors and appreciating Santa Clara County's open spaces. Following the field trip, participants received take-home surveys to evaluate the experience and its impact on their attitudes toward health, nature, and conversation.

Survey results reflected the positive impact of the field trip on participants' appreciation for nature and healthy living, with 84% of respondents agreeing that spending time in nature improves their well-being.

Additionally, 72% reported that the experience inspired them to make healthier lifestyle choices, and 79% identified enjoying the natural scenery as their favorite part of the trip. These findings demonstrate the value of outdoor learning experiences in helping young people build stronger connections with nature and local public lands.

The Calero County Park Field Trip is another example of how CommUniverCity's Growing Sustainably initiative brings environmental education beyond the classroom. By introducing students and their families to Santa Clara County's public lands through guided outdoor experiences, the program encourages healthy lifestyles, environmental awareness, and an appreciation for the natural spaces that exist within their local community.



IMPACT



"I usually don't have time to take my kids out to the parks, so this trip gave us a reason to slow down and enjoy nature together. We'll definitely come back to Calero on our own."

Parent
Sacred Heart Nativity School



"The field trip helped our students understand that nature isn't just something out there, but it's part of their everyday lives. They left with a new sense of appreciation for the local environment."

7th Grade Teacher
Sacred Heart Nativity School

**Community Engaged
Learners**

5

Community Participants

68

Cumulative Hours

239

Investment Value

\$8,004

LET'S GO! PROGRAM

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Participating School: Santee Elementary

Faculty: Dr. Katherine Cushing - Environmental Studies Department

Let's Go! introduced environmental sustainability and healthy living to upper elementary students at Santee Elementary School through interactive games, outdoor activities, and soccer-based lessons offered during the CORAL after-school program operated by Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County. By integrating physical activity with environmental and nutrition education, the program helped students develop healthy habits while exploring how their everyday choices can positively impact both their own well-being and the environment.

Throughout the program, 96 students in grades 4–6 explored topics including waste management, sustainability, ecosystem relationships, pollution, environmental restoration, and healthy living. These concepts were taught through specially designed games, soccer drills, and collaborative activities that encouraged movement, teamwork, and active participation while making environmental learning engaging and accessible.

During the Spring 2026 semester, San José State University students from the Nutrition and Food Science (NUFS) Club facilitated two nutrition-focused workshops that introduced students to food groups, nutrition labels, and healthy eating habits. Through hands-on activities such as building USDA MyPlate models and playing Nutrition Bingo, participants learned practical strategies for making informed food choices in a fun and interactive setting.

Each workshop concluded with guided reflection activities that encouraged students to connect what they had learned to their own lives, families, and communities. By linking environmental sustainability, nutrition, and physical activity, the program reinforced the relationship between personal health and environmental stewardship while encouraging critical thinking and healthy decision-making.

CommUniverCity coordinated the program by developing the environmental education curriculum, managing logistics, preparing lesson materials, and facilitating activities alongside CommUniverCity student interns and members of the NUFS Club. Together, they created a supportive learning environment that encouraged collaboration, meaningful discussion, and active engagement while providing SJSU students with opportunities to apply their classroom knowledge in a community setting.

The Let's Go! program reflects CommUniverCity's commitment to experiential, community-based education that connects environmental sustainability with healthy living and active play. By making these topics engaging through games, teamwork, and outdoor activities, the program empowered students to develop lifelong healthy habits, deepen their understanding of environmental responsibility, and recognize the role they can play in building healthier, more sustainable communities.

IMPACT



"It has been wonderful having your team here; the students are enjoying every session."

Brenda Flores
CORAL Site Manager, Santee Elementary



"We had fun with the games because we played soccer and used teamwork."

Elementary Student
Santee Elementary

Community Engaged
Learners

27

Community Participants

112

Cumulative Hours

1,555

Investment Value

\$52,093

AIR QUALITY WORKSHOP

Spring 2026

Participating Schools: Santee Elementary

Faculty: Dr. Katherine Cushing - Environmental Studies Department

The Air Quality Workshop provided elementary students with an engaging introduction to environmental science through an interactive lesson led by educators from San José State University (SJSU). In partnership with Dr. Katherine Cushing from SJSU's Environmental Studies Department, CommUniverCity introduced third-grade students to concepts related to air quality, pollution, environmental health, and data literacy. Designed to make complex scientific topics accessible to young learners, the workshop combined hands-on activities with real-world examples that connected environmental science to students' everyday lives.

During the Spring 2026 semester, CommUniverCity delivered the Air Quality Workshop to 20 third-grade students in Ms. Melody Sue's class at Santee Elementary School. Supported by five CommUniverCity Project Coordinators, students participated in an interactive presentation that introduced the Air Quality Index (AQI), particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), sources of air pollution, respiratory health, and the environmental impacts of human activity.

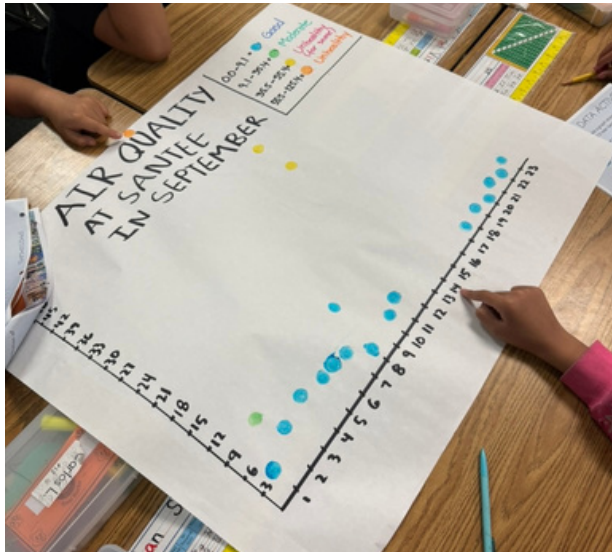
Following the presentation, students worked collaboratively in small groups to graph local PM_{2.5} data collected from the area surrounding their school using dot markers to visualize air pollution trends. Project Coordinators guided each group through the graphing activity, helping students organize, interpret, and discuss the environmental data.

The workshop introduced students to contemporary environmental issues while reinforcing foundational science and mathematics skills through data collection, graphing, and data interpretation. According to Ms. Sue, this activity marked the students' first experience graphing data. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and active participation throughout the lesson demonstrated both a strong interest in environmental science and an eagerness to engage with challenging concepts when presented through interactive, hands-on learning.

By connecting real air quality data from their own community with experiential, place-based learning, students developed a deeper understanding of pollution, public health, and environmental stewardship. Through collaborative exploration of the air quality surrounding their school, students strengthened their critical thinking, observation, and data analysis skills while applying scientific concepts to a meaningful local environmental issue.

The Air Quality Workshop reflects the goals of CommUniverCity's Growing Sustainably initiative by introducing experiential, community-based environmental education that empowers students to connect classroom learning with their local environment. By encouraging students to investigate real-world environmental challenges and understand the relationship between individual actions, community health, and environmental quality, the workshop helps cultivate informed, engaged, and environmentally conscious future stewards of their communities.

IMPACT



"At the end of class, all 20 students indicated by raised hand that they knew how to graph (air quality) data."

Katherine Cushing
Director, School of Planning, Policy, and Environmental Studies



"It was so lovely to see the students engaged and the SJSU students taking the lead to work with the groups!"

Melody Su
3rd Grade Teacher, Santee Elementary

Community Engaged
Learners

7

Community Participants

20

Cumulative Hours

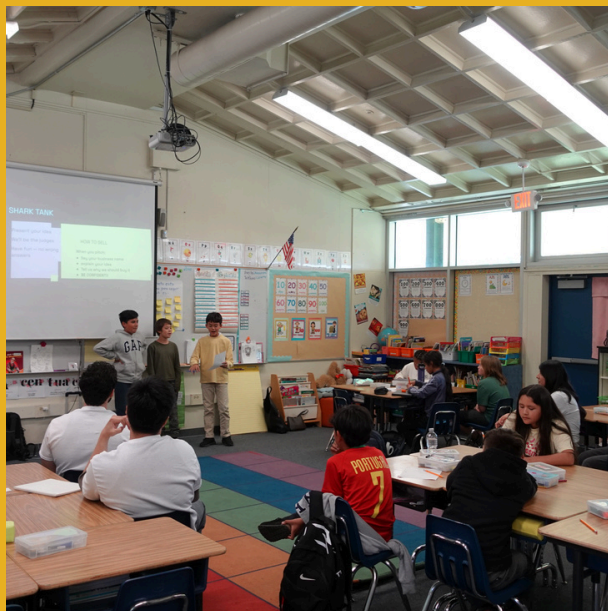
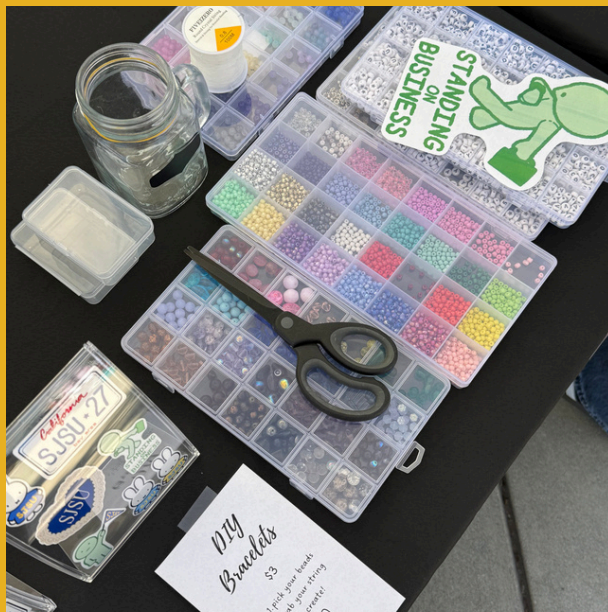
161

Investment Value

\$5,391.89

STUDENT LEARNING, COMMUNITY EARNING





SPARTAN KEYES NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT

Fall 2025

Partners: Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition, University Police Department, San Jose Police Department

Faculty: Pamela Wells - BUS 161A

In the Fall 2025 academic semester, the Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Engagement connected 50 San José State University (SJSU) Business 161A (BUS 161A) students with the Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition, San José State University Police Department (UPD), and the San José Police Department (SJPD) to strengthen community engagement throughout the Spartan Keyes neighborhood. The purpose of this project was to increase neighborhood engagement by developing creative and accessible ways to connect residents with local organizations, businesses, and community events.

The BUS 161A students were divided into 10 groups, with each group consisting of 5 students. Each group explored a different approach to increasing neighborhood engagement. Projects included creating multilingual newsletters, posting TikTok and Instagram content, compiling an updated business directory, conducting multilingual resident surveys, and organizing community outreach events. One group partnered with UPD and SJSU to host “Reading with UPD,” a community reading event for local families at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. UPD recognized the partnership on social media, thanking Professor Pamela Wells and the BUS 161A students for the exciting collaboration, highlighting the positive community turnout. Other groups interviewed residents and business owners, identified barriers to community participation, and developed recommendations to improve communication and increase attendance at neighborhood events.

The project culminated in a poster presentation held in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library and attendees included members of the community, UPD’s Chief Carroll, his administrative team, and officers, as well as Dean Kannan of the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business, Melinda Jackson, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Stephen Kwan, a CommUniverCity founder and doner, Kevin Mitchell, Director of Development for the Lucas College and Graduate School of Business, and the CommUniverCity team.

From this project, 50 SJSU students gained hands-on experience in community engagement, research, and leadership while applying classroom content to real-world challenges. At the same time, community participants benefited from improved outreach strategies, updated neighborhood resources, and new opportunities to connect with local businesses and organizations.

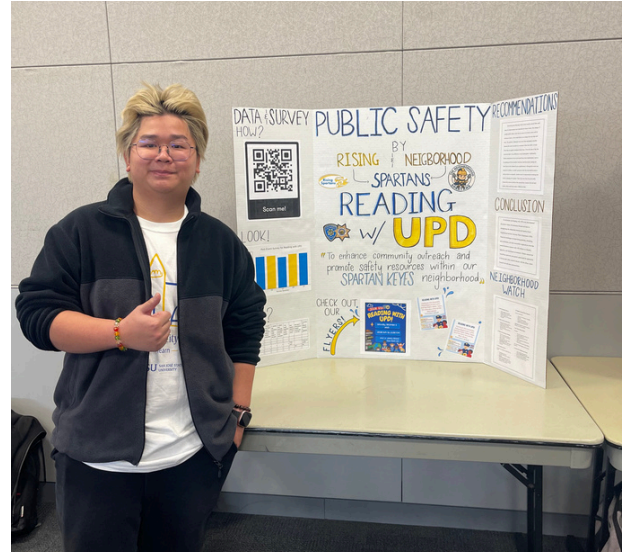
By combining research, community partnerships, and innovative engagement strategies, the Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Engagement project strengthened partnerships between SJSU and the community while supporting a more connected and engaged Spartan Keyes neighborhood. Quotes from students include: “I learned how to talk to people... get out of my comfort zone and talk face-to-face with people I did not know,” “This was the best way to learn management skills,” and lastly, “It felt good helping the community.”

IMPACT



"Thank you to Professor Pamela Wells for inviting UPD to participate. Grateful for the collaboration and looking forward to Spring!"

UPD Officers



"It felt good helping the community."

BUS 161A Student

**Community Engaged
Learners**

60

Community Participants

100

Cumulative Hours

4054

Investment Value

\$135,768

ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS: SMALL BUSINESSES

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

Participating Local Small Businesses: MeiMei Dumpling, Spoonfish Poke, 3Below Theaters, Urban Putt, Dulceria Mi Carnaval Party

Faculty: Michael Llewellyn-Williams - ADV 129

Advertising Campaigns connects San José State University (SJSU) advertising (ADV 129) students with local businesses throughout downtown San José. Through CommUniverCity's partnership with Professor Michael Llewellyn-Williams and the ADV 129 course, students collaborated directly with business owners to identify marketing challenges, conduct audience research, and create strategic advertising campaigns shaped to each client's goals. Acting as the primary liaison between students and community partners, CommUniverCity coordinated client communication, project logistics, and semester-long collaboration to provide students with a unique and meaningful consulting experience by supporting local economic development.

During the Fall 2025 - Spring 2026 academic year, 50 ADV 129 students were divided into groups, each partnering with five local businesses: Meimei Dumpling, Spoonfish Poke, 3Below Theaters, Dulcería Mi Carnaval Party, and Urban Putt. Students developed customized advertising campaigns that addressed each organization's unique marketing needs. Collaborating in agency-style teams, students met regularly with business owners to conduct market research, analyze competitors, develop branding strategies, create social media content, recommend website improvements, design creative advertising materials, and produce comprehensive campaign books.

Throughout the semester, students refined their work through client feedback before presenting their final campaigns to a panel of judges during the annual Blue Cow Award competition, recognizing excellence in creativity, strategy, and campaign effectiveness.

Students gained valuable professional experience in client communication, market research, branding, creative strategy, and campaign development while helping local businesses strengthen their marketing presence and better engage customers. By connecting emerging advertising professionals with small businesses seeking fresh ideas and innovative solutions, the program demonstrates the value of course-based service learning in supporting both student success and the continued vitality of San José's local economy.

Through Advertising Campaigns, CommUniverCity continues to strengthen connections between SJSU and the local business community by transforming classroom learning into meaningful community impact. The owner of Dulcería Mi Carnaval Party, Cynthia Valasquez, expressed her gratitude for this initiative and the students she was connected to, saying, "For the last couple of months, I've been working with two groups of college students from SJSU...Proud to say I am a part of this and have met some truly amazing students and hope to see them again...A huge thanks to CommUniverCity for choosing us to be a part of this!"

IMPACT



"I loved working with the business owners and getting their insights on the business."

ADV 129 Student



"Proud to say I am a part of this and have met some truly amazing students... A huge thanks to CommUniverCity for choosing us to be a part of this!"

**Cynthia Velazquez
Owner, Dulceria Mi Carnival**

**Community Engaged
Learners**

50

Community Participants

10

Cumulative Hours

3,986

Investment Value

\$133,491



CALLE WILLOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Spring 2026

Partners: Calle Willow Business Association

Faculty: Pamela Wells - BUS 161A

The Calle Willow Business Association project provided San José State University (SJSU) students with the opportunity to partner with the Calle Willow Business Association to support the growth and sustainability of small businesses in San José's Calle Willow District. During the Spring 2025 academic semester, CommUniverCity collaborated with Professor Pamela Wells and her 26 Business 161A (BUS 161A) students, who served as organizational development consultants.

Working directly with association leaders, the students identified business needs and developed practical marketing and organizational recommendations. The purpose of this project was to help small businesses attract new customers, strengthen their online presence, and support long-term economic growth within the district.

BUS 161A students were divided into five consulting groups, with each group focusing on a different aspect of digital marketing and organizational development. Each team created a presentation on one of the following topics: Website Presence, Social Media Strategy, Business Identity, Social Media Content, and Digital Storytelling. The students evaluated the Calle Willow website and recommended improvements to its usability and messaging, developed social media strategies to help businesses reach their target audiences, created sample social media graphics and promotional materials, and demonstrated how digital storytelling could showcase local businesses and community identity.

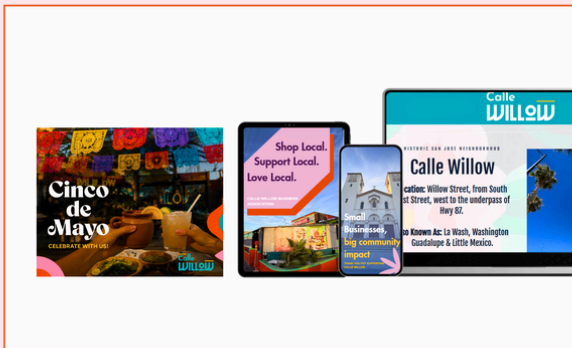
The project concluded with a final presentation, where all five teams shared their findings and recommendations with business owners and community members in Calle Willow.

Throughout the semester, CommUniverCity coordinated communication between SJSU, the Calle Willow Business Association, and the participating businesses. CommUniverCity worked closely with Calle Business Association leaders Alonzo Lopez, owner of Arteaga's Food Center, and Mario Quezada Murillo, owner of Mario's Boots, who served as the primary liaisons between the association and their student teams. Their professional guidance and feedback allowed the students to refine their recommendations before the final presentation.

This experience allowed 26 SJSU students to gain valuable hands-on skills in organizational consulting, teamwork, client communication, and community engagement while applying classroom knowledge to real-world challenges. At the same time, local businesses received practical tools and strategies needed to strengthen their digital presence and the use of social media more effectively to promote their business. Through this collaborative effort, this project supports the continued success of the Calle Willow Business District while reinforcing CommUniverCity's mission of connecting university learning with meaningful community impact.

IMPACT

Print & Digital Mockups



“We focused on creating posts that were welcoming, community-oriented, and reflective of each business’s identity. We wanted the content to showcase the culture, local businesses, and a sense of community.”

BUS 161A Student Group



“We wanted our videos to feel authentic. So, instead of only showing the locations, include real stories from local businesses, business owners, and community members.”

BUS 161A Student Group

**Community Engaged
Learners**

26

Community Participants

10

Cumulative Hours

962

Investment Value

\$32,217

LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Spring 2026

Partners: Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association

Faculty: Pamela Wells - BUS 161A

The CommUniverCity Leadership Training Workshops series provided San José State University (SJSU) Business 161A (BUS 161A) students with the opportunity to partner with the Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association (ARSCSBA) to deliver professional leadership development workshops for local business owners and community leaders.

During the Spring 2026 academic semester, Professor Pamela Wells and her BUS 161A students hosted a three-part workshop series about strengthening leadership skills, communication, and organizational effectiveness within the local business community. These workshops took place on February 26th, April 23rd, and May 14th and were offered free of charge with the support of the Cathy Bank Foundation and the CommUniverCity Founders Fund.

Throughout the semester, more than 20 SJSU students attended each workshop and worked in subgroups to prepare presentations and interactive activities for over 30 local businesses and community leaders. The three workshops focused on the following topics: Personal Leadership Styles and Motivating Others, Emotional Intelligence, Values-Based Decision-Making, Effective Communication, Conflict Resolution, SMART Goal Setting, and Action Planning. Each workshop provided participants with practical leadership strategies that could be used to benefit the success and longevity of their businesses.

From this experience, SJSU students strengthened their leadership, facilitation, teamwork, and public speaking skills. The students also had the opportunity to speak with local businesses and learn about their personal experiences owning a business. One SJSU student was quoted as saying, “These local business owners shared valuable experiences that just aren’t taught in class.”

As for the community participants, they gained knowledge on practical leadership skills and earned certificates of completion recognizing their commitment to professional development. Community leaders openly expressed gratitude to CommUniverCity and Professor Wells. “I requested more of this...! We started this, and I think we need to continue it. So we can make better leaders for Santa Clara Alum Rock Business Association,” said business owner Oswaldo. Overall, this workshop series equipped local business owners and community leaders with practical skills while providing SJSU students with meaningful community-engaged learning experiences.



IMPACT



"These local business owners shared valuable experiences that just aren't taught in class."

**BUS 161A
SJSU Student**



"We started this and I think we need to continue it. So we can make better leaders for Santa Clara Alum Rock Business Association."

**Oswaldo
Business Owner**

**Community Engaged
Learners**

25

Community Participants

60

Cumulative Hours

1037

Investment Value

\$34,729

LA AVENIDA COMMUNITY STREETSCAPE

Fall 2025 - Spring 2026

Partners: Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association

Faculty: Gordon Douglas - URBP 231 and Rodney Knox - PR 191

La Avenida Community Streetscape is a collaborative project between the Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association (ARSCSBA), 40 San José State University (SJSU) students, and faculty members, including Professors Gordon Douglas of Urban Design in Planning (URBP 231) and Rodney Knox of Strategic Content Creation (PR 191). The project focused on improving the East Santa Clara Street and Alum Rock Avenue Business District.

During the Fall 2025 academic semester, graduate students in URBP 231 and undergraduate students in PR 191 worked together to develop urban design concepts and communication strategies that would improve the streetscape, strengthen the neighborhood's cultural identity, support local businesses, and enhance the overall experience for the community. SJSU students worked with community partners to conduct site visits in the neighborhood, analyze the conditions, and develop design concepts for improvement.

URBP 231 students created 15-20 streetscape improvement proposals, which included ideas such as gateway concepts, public space enhancements, and design illustrations. PR 191 students developed strategic communication strategies to promote the district and expand community engagement. Some strategies included creating social media campaigns, flyers, newsletters, and websites.

In the Spring 2026 academic semester, after concluding the project, Professor Gordon Douglas presented the Urban Design analysis and recommendations, while Professor Rodney Knox and his student Kanakpreet Kaur presented the marketing and communications analysis and recommendations to the ARSCSBA Board. Together, their presentations guided future improvements in the La Avenida District.

La Avenida Community Streetscape gave 40 SJSU students the chance to apply classroom-learned knowledge to a real-world community setting. Students gained practical experience in urban planning and design, research and data analysis, and professional presentations and report writing. At the same time, this project engaged 100 community participants, allowing residents, business owners, and stakeholders to share their perspectives and help shape planning recommendations for the La Avenida Cultural District. The president of ARSCSBA shared, "We appreciate all the work that went into these projects."

This project successfully connected SJSU with the East San José community through community-engaged learning, leaving substantial community impact such as innovative streetscape proposals, support for local businesses through revitalization planning, enhanced recognition of the neighborhood's cultural identity, and available resources to pursue future grants and funding opportunities.

IMPACT



"Outstanding efforts and collaboration by many thoughtful leaders and students from San José State University. Well done CommUniverCity SJSU! Glad to see the work continue to grow to support LaAvenida, AlumRock, and Peter Ortiz."

Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson
President SJSU



"Our team (Diana Zepeda, Cindy Feng) continues to work with and be awe-struck with student work as we appreciate the opportunities to collaborate with CommUniverCity SJSU."

Nathan Ulsh
Community Strong Strategies

**Community Engaged
Learners**

40

Community Participants

100

Cumulative Hours

2148

Investment Value

\$71,936

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS



SJSU Votes Festival

Fall 2025

SJSU Votes and the Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (IPACE) hosted the SJSU Votes Festival to promote civic participation and voter engagement at SJSU.

CommUniverCity participated with an informational table sharing opportunities for student involvement in civic engagement, highlighting community-engaged learning projects, and community partnerships.



CCLL Community Connections Fair

Fall 2025 & Spring 2026

CommUniverCity participated in the Center for Community Learning and Leadership (CCLL) Community Connections Fair, tabling on 7th Street Plaza at SJSU.

During the Fair, team members shared resources with SJSU students looking to get more involved in their community. Team members also had the opportunity to meet other organization leaders in the community.



Coastal Cleanup Day

Fall 2025

Coastal Cleanup Day serves as a significant annual volunteer effort dedicated to preserving local inland waterways, including Coyote Creek and the Guadalupe River, by preventing pollutants from entering the bay.

CommUniverCity team members joined several neighborhood cleanups to enhance and beautify the Coyote Creek and Trail areas. These activities help residents connect, revitalize local parks, and cultivate a shared commitment to community service.



Dumpster Day

Spring 2026

Organized by the McKinley Bonita Neighborhood Association at McKinley Elementary School, this Dumpster Day provided residents with free, large commercial bins to dispose of bulky waste.

Neighbors assisted one another in clearing out unwanted items, a convenient effort that helps prevent waste accumulation and revitalizes the local community.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS



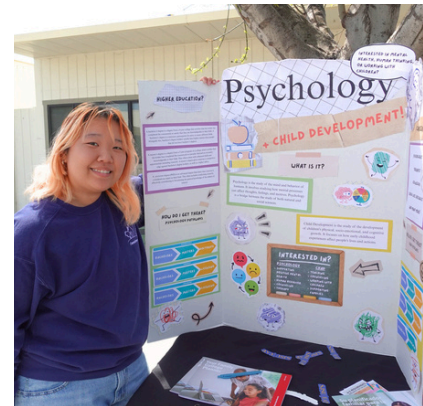
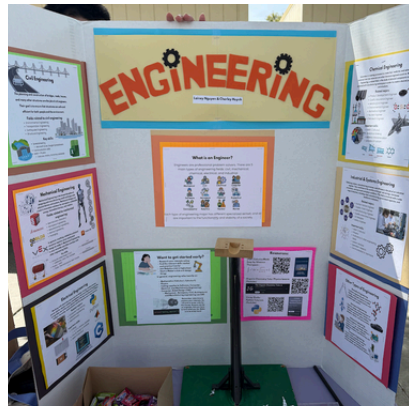
STEAM Career Fair

Spring 2026

Stonegate Elementary School

CommUniverCity took part in Stonegate Elementary's STEAM Career Fair on March 26, 2026, providing an opportunity for students to explore careers in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. SJSU students introduced the young learners to diverse academic disciplines and encouraged them to strive toward their educational goals.

SJSU students from majors such as engineering, communications, economics, finance, psychology/child and adolescent development (ChAD), and environmental studies shared their academic journeys, reasons for attending SJSU, and career field advice using poster boards. These interactive discussions enabled young learners to ask questions, explore career paths, and connect classroom learning to real-world professions. Young learners were empowered through connections with current college students, gaining valuable exposure to educational resources, mentorship, and career exploration. These experiences encouraged the students to envision themselves pursuing higher education and meaningful future careers.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS



Viva Calle SJ

Spring 2026

Mexican Heritage Plaza

Viva CalleSJ is an event that closes certain streets to cars and other motor-driven vehicles for people to walk, bike, skate, and enjoy their community streetscape in a safe and fun environment. The event brought together local organizations, businesses, residents, and families to promote healthy living, active green transportation, and community engagement.

CommUniverCity engaged with residents, families, local businesses, and visitors, providing information about community initiatives while encouraging civic participation and neighborhood involvement. The welcoming and fun ambiance of Viva CalleSJ made it easy to build connections and introduce visitors to the organization's work. Team members led an interactive activity that encouraged participation from residents, visitors, and local businesses. The activity included asking participants, "What does community mean to you?" Participants wrote their responses on sticky notes and added them to the community display. The responses highlighted common values, such as strengthening local communities, belonging, helping others, family, friendships, and supporting neighbors.





PARTNERSHIPS

Community

13th Street Neighborhood Advisory
Committee

3rd Street Community Center

A Slice of New York

AARP California

Alpha: Cornerstone Preparatory Academy

Alum Rock / Santa Clara Street Business
Association

Alum Rock Counseling Center

Anne Darling School Council

BART/Urban Village Advocates
(BARTUVA)

Buena Vista Neighborhood Association

Campeonas de la Salud

Campus Community Association

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

Center for Employment Training

Chopsticks Alley

Community Financial Resources

CORAL (Communities Organizing Resources to
Advance Learning) After School Sites

Coyote Meadows Coalition

DB Consultants

Delmas Park Neighborhood Association

Destination: Home

District 3 Community Leadership Council

Downtown Enrichment

Downtown Streets Team

Alum Rock Santa Clara Street Business Association
Exhibition District

Filomena Farms

First Community Housing

Five Wounds Church

Five Wounds/Brookwood Terrace NAC

Forest and Flour

Franklin McKinley Children's Initiative

Friends of Backesto Park

Friends of Five Wounds Trail

Friends of Watson Park

Garden to Table

Good Spot

Greenbelt Alliance

Grocery Outlet (Downtown San Jose)

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

Guadalupe Washington Neighborhood
Association

Habitat for Humanity

Happy Hollow Park & Zoo

Help One Child

History San José

Hunger at Home

Indian Health Center

Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful (KCCB)

Kids in Common

Knight Sounds

League of Women Voters

Loaves and Fishes

Local Color

Luna Park Business Association

Mamas Unidas

Market Almaden Neighborhood Association

Martha's Kitchen

Mayfair NAC

McKinley Bonita Neighborhood
Association

Mister Softee NorCal

National Compadres Network

Nextdoor Solutions

Northside Neighborhood Association

Olinder Food Program

Olinder Neighborhood Association

Operation Frontline/Fresh Approach

Our City Forest

POSSO: Portuguese Community Center

Ren Connection

Rolling Dough Food Truck
 Roosevelt Park Neighborhood
 Association
 Roosevelt Community Center
 Roosevelt Teen Center
 Sacred Heart Community Service
 Sacred Heart Nativity School
 Sacred Heart Parish
 San Andreas Regional Center
 San José Bridge Communities
 San José Downtown Association
 San José Downtown Residents
 Association
 San José First United Methodist Church
 San José Downtown Residents Association
 San José First United Methodist Church
 San José Woman's Club
 Santa Maria Urban Ministry
 Save Our Trails
 School of Art and Culture
 Second Harvest Silicon Valley
 Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
 Silicon Valley Education Foundation
 Silicon Valley Leadership Group
 SOMOS Mayfair
 South University Neighborhood
 Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Coalition
 St. Paul's United Methodist Church
 Sunday Friends
 SV@Home
 The Health Trust
 The Last Round Tavern
 The San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban
 Research Association (SPUR)
 THINK Together
 TransForm
 United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara
 County
 University Neighborhoods Coalition
 Valley Transportation Authority
 Valley Verde
 Veggielution
 Wesley United Methodist Church
 Wooster Neighborhood Association
 Year Up

San José State University

ALMAS
 Associated Students
 Braven
 Campus Community Garden
 Center for Community Learning and
 Leadership (CCLL)
 Chicano Commencement
 College Awareness Network
 College of Business
 College of Education
 College of Engineering
 College of Health and Human Sciences
 College of Humanities and Arts
 College of Science
 Department of Accounting and Finance
 Department of Aerospace Engineering
 Department of Anthropology
 Department of Art & Art History
 Department of Chemical and Materials
 Engineering
 Department of Chicana and Chicano
 Studies
 Department of Child and Adolescent Development
 Department of Communication Studies
 Department of Counselor Education
 Department of Design
 Department of Economics
 Department of Educational Leadership
 Department of Elementary Education
 Department of English
 Department of English and Comparative
 Literature
 Department of Environmental Studies
 Department of Geography
 Department of Geology
 Department of Health Science
 Department of Justice Studies
 Department of Linguistics
 Department of Management Information
 Systems
 Department of Marketing and Decision
 Sciences
 Department of Mechanical Engineering
 Department of Meteorology and Climate
 Science

Community Graph!

Most Important

Department of Nursing
 Department of Nutrition and Food Science
 Department of Organization and Management
 Department of Political Science
 Department of Psychology
 Department of Public Health and Recreation
 Department of Radio, TV, Film, & Theater
 Department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
 Department of Urban and Regional Planning
 Department of World Languages and Literature
 Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)
 Game Development Club
 Graduate School of Business
 Industrial Design Program
 Jay Pinson STEM Education Program
 Pride Center
 Mineta Transportation Institute
 Office of the President
 Office of the Provost
 Office of Undergraduate Education
 Santa Clara University
 School of Journalism
 School of Management
 School of Social Work
 Science Education Program
 SJSU Athletics
 SJSU Cares
 SJSU Office of Sustainability
 SJSU Votes
 Spartan Eats
 Spartan Food Pantry
 Spartan Recreation and Aquatic Center
 Student Outreach and Recruitment
 Thriving Neighborhoods Initiative
 Women's Resource Center

City of San José

BeautifySJ
 Biblioteca Latinoamericana
 Carnegie Library

City of San José
 City Manager's Office
 Climate Smart San José
 Department of Environmental Services
 Department of Housing
 Department of Human Resources
 Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services
 Department of Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement
 Environmental Innovation Center
 Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley
 Joyce Ellington Library
 Martin Luther King Library
 Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force
 Mayor Matt Mahen's Office
 Mayor Sam Liccardo's Office
 McKinley Teen Center
 Office of Immigrant Affairs
 City of San José Council: District 1
 City of San José Council: District 2
 City of San José Council: District 3
 City of San José Council: District 4
 City of San José Council: District 5
 City of San José Council: District 6
 City of San José Council: District 7
 City of San José Council: District 8
 San José Fire Department
 San José Fire Museum
 San José Police Department - Crime Prevention
 Spartan-Keyes Teen Center
 San José Public Library
 Santa Clara Mental Health: Downtown Health Clinic
 SJPL Works
 Spartan-Keyes Teen Center
 Vision Zero San José Task Force

Santa Clara County

Consumer and Environmental Protection Department
 Public Health Department
 Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office
 Santa Clara County Office of Education
 Santa Clara Valley Water

Schools & Districts

ACE Inspire Academy
 ACE Esperanza Middle
 Anne Darling Elementary
 Bachrodt Elementary
 Bridges Academy
 Cristo Rey San José Jesuit High School
 Empire Gardens Elementary
 Foothill High School
 Franklin-McKinley School District
 Gardner Elementary
 Grant Elementary School
 Horace Mann Elementary
 Latino College Preparatory
 Lowell Elementary
 McKinley Elementary
 Muwekma Ohlone Middle
 Olinder Elementary School
 Overfelt High School
 Rocketship Discovery Prep
 Rocketship Mateo Sheedy
 River Glen School
 San Jose Community School
 San Jose High School
 San Jose Unified School District
 Santee Elementary
 Stonegate Elementary
 Sunrise Middle
 Walter L. Bachrodt Elementary
 Washington Elementary
 Yerba Buena High

Elected Officials

Rosemary Kamei, City of San José
 Council: District 1
 Anthony Tordillos, City of San José Council:
 District 3
 Dave Cortese, District 15, California State
 Senator
 Zoe Lofgren, District 18, US Congress

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 Office of San José City Council, District 5
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Designed by Kimberly Melena-Gonzalez