

## SOAR Mentor Bios

### 1. Dang Chau



Hello there! My name is Dang Chau and I am a 4th year Art major with an emphasis in Graphic Design and a minor in Art History. I am originally from Westminster, CA and I enjoy running, watching anime, gaming, and exploring new food places. My all-time favorite food/drink is boba milk tea and I have tasked myself with the lifelong goal to try every boba shop in California. Besides this, I am very passionate about art and design; I have been a graphic designer for the past eight years and I spend a majority of my free time learning about and working on designing. In the past year, I was the president of the Asian Pacific Student Alliance, a cultural organization at SDSU. I enjoy engaging myself in other cultures as well as sharing my own culture as well. Growing up, I have always aspired to become a teacher; I enjoy helping others find success in whatever it is they are passionate about. In being a SOAR Mentor, I want to build a space in which you can define and achieve success as you further your academic career. Whether you need some advice about a class, a person to show you around campus, or even someone to eat lunch with, I want to help you grow, both as a student and as a person.

### 2. Michelle De La Rosa



My name is Michelle De La Rosa. I was born and raised in Venezuela for most of my life, and then later moved to Miami, Fl., where I completed high school. I am currently a senior pursuing a bachelors in Public Relations with a minor in International Studies. I am proud to share that I will be the new president of the student organization on campus known as Public Relation Student Society of America. Campus is my favorite place to be because I get to meet many diverse individuals. Last semester, I had the opportunity to meet students from Hong Kong, China, Germany, and more. When I'm not exploring and partaking in activities at SDSU, I love going to the beach while also enjoying sushi and boba – my favorite food items. If not, I like practicing my creative skills with photography and videography. I'm excited to become a SOAR mentor because it will give me the opportunity to teach everything that SDSU has to offer for YOU to be successful.

3. Jennifer Macedo



Hi guys! A little background info about me. I am from Carlsbad, California and attend San Diego State University. I am a third year and in Spring 2019 I will be graduating with a Bachelors in Psychology, a minor in Counseling and Social Change, and the Weber Honors College minor in Interdisciplinary Studies. On campus, I am involved with EOP and I also work as a student assistant at the Spanish and Portuguese department. After I graduate from SDSU, I hope to get accepted into the School Counseling Master's program

at SDSU or NYU. My future goal is to become a school counselor. Outside of school, I have a passion for exploring my creative side – through traveling to gain new perspectives and adventuring the most that I can. I love to hang out with my friends and roommates, go to the beach, drive around the city, hang with my family-especially with my small beagle, and learn new things. I wanted to be a SOAR mentor because it will give me the opportunity to interact with students and build skills that will be beneficial in my future career as a school counselor. I'm very excited to meet you!

4. Tayelor Roberson



Hi, my name is Tayelor Roberson and I am from Los Angeles, California. This will be my fourth year here at State as an Interdisciplinary Studies major with disciplines in Africana Studies, Biology and Chemistry. I am an aspiring Surgical Physician Assistant who loves to hang out with family and friends during my spare time. Overall, I enjoy being around fun people laughing and having a great time.

5. Andrea Hoffman



My name is Andrea and I'm a third year English single subject major with a minor in Television, Film, and New Media. I'm from Fullerton, California and I sometimes drive up to Los Angeles for events or small job opportunities. I am also a concert photographer in my spare time which mixes two of my favorite things, music and photography. On campus I'm one of the Directors of Visual & New Media for Aztec Music Group, an organization that focuses on helping students learn about working in the music industry. I wanted to become a SOAR Mentor because I know I missed out on a lot of opportunities during my first couple of years on campus that I wasn't aware of. By being a mentor, I hope to help other students make the best of their time at SDSU so they can be better prepared to achieve their goals after graduation.

6. Mirna Sabri



My name is Mirna Sabri. I am majoring in Business Administration-Accounting and minoring in Counseling and Social Change. I am currently a senior and my current Grade Point Average is 3.7. I have worked with the Housing Department at San Diego State University as a desk assistant during the school year and a Summer conference assistant during the summer for two years. I have also worked with El Cajon Valley High School as an AVID Tutor for three years where I mostly helped immigrant students who are struggling with the English language. I have had two accounting experiences with Solar Turbines and Blue Tech. One of my hobbies includes photography. I am originally from Iraq and I speak three languages which include Arabic, Aramaic, and English. I am involved in the Society for Human Resource Management organization at SDSU. I wanted to be a SOAR mentor because I enjoy helping others and showing incoming students the great opportunities that are offered by this University. I look forward to meeting you!

7. Gerardo Castillo



I am Gerardo Castillo but I go by Lalo. I am a Sociology major that spends his free time playing games and hunting good places to eat and drink boba. I am a brother of Beta Gamma Nu and held the positions of Community Service Chair and Sergeant of Arms. My reason for wanting to be a SOAR Mentor is to pass on what I have learned. As a first generation college student, I needed all the help I could get and wish to support others that are in the same place that I was.

8. Destyni Vega



My name is Destyni Vega. I am a 4th year majoring in Speech and Hearing Sciences and hopefully will be minoring in Counseling and Social Change this upcoming year. I am from Riverside, California, which is about an hour and a half or so from SDSU. I am a huge baseball fan, I love fishing, off-roading, and music. I like all music, but mainly listen to classic rock and country music. I have a radio show here on campus where I share my favorite kind of music and my favorite songs to all my listeners. I have been a part of KCR college radio since my freshman year and am also involved with NSSHLA which is a club for my major where we do a lot of volunteer work and get the chance to talk to Speech Language Pathologist. I wanted to be a SOAR Mentor because I feel through my own experiences here at state, I have learned so much and feel I can really help mentor and be a guide/resource to someone who is just beginning their journey here. College is not the easiest of times, but having another friendly face on campus like myself can make things a little easier. I hope I can be that friendly face for my protégés.

9. Ana Partida



Hello everyone my name is Ana, I'm 23 years old and I'm a SDSU Senior majoring in Anthropology. As well I am minoring in International Security and Conflict Resolution (ISCOR.) I'm bilingual (Spanish and English), I was born in Mexico and I moved to the US 9 years ago. I'm kind and open-minded. I love adventures, I like to workout, hangout with friends, dancing (not an expert), in love with tea, really fan of anthropology, I love investigation and learning about culture. My favorite type of movies are action and science fiction. In the past I was a teacher assistant,

and I had been involved in other mentoring roles. I wanted to be a SOAR Mentor because I love learning from others, I have a keen interest in helping others and, I want to give back to the program. I can't make fit all about me in just one paragraph so I look forward to meeting and working with all of you and learn more about each other. Let's have a great semester full of learning and new experiences. Go Aztecs!

10. Brenda Arellano



Hello! My name is Brenda and I am a senior at SDSU studying Communication with two minors in Leadership and International Studies. Throughout my time at SDSU, this is my 5th semester working as a SOAR mentor, I have been a study abroad advisor, been involved in a business fraternity, participated in mentoring international students, met more international students through Global Aztec Alliance, been in MeCha, a club for Chicano students, and much more. I have studied abroad in Europe and Chile and volunteered abroad in Thailand. I am really passionate about working with students and having international experiences. I am really excited to get to bond with new protégés over the course of the

semester and get to know them more :)

11. Alejandro Ibarra



Hello, my name is Alejandro Ibarra and I am a third year Mechanical Engineering major, originally from Riverside, CA. I am 20 years old and some things that I like to do on my free time are hang out with friends, work out, and play sports. Some clubs and organizations that I am involved in here at SDSU are Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity. I look forward to making some memorable moments and have lots of bonding time with my new protégés this

semester.

12. Charitee Fereti



My name is Charitee Fereti and I am from Hawaii, where you can find some of the best beaches in the U.S. I am a 4th year majoring in Social Work with a minor in Counseling and Social Change. My experiences navigating the foster care system combined with my love for helping others is what compelled me to major in social work. In the past I have volunteered as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for foster youth, and this year I will be volunteering as a Peer Mentor at SDSU and as a Big Sister for Girls Rising. I have two daughters, ages 5 and 6 who are my biggest motivators in life. I love to go camping, and going on last minute mini vacations with my family (Big Bear is my favorite spot). I am a SOAR Mentor because helping others is my passion. Being independent since the day I emancipated from foster care, I learned to be very resourceful and it brings me joy when I can pass on my knowledge and support to others so that they can succeed in achieving their educational and life goals. I look forward to being a SOAR Mentor and making lasting friendships.