



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Santa Ana College and SAUSD Launch Career Academy Scholars Program *Orientation is slated for August 26***

(Santa Ana)—Santa Ana College (SAC) and Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) announce the official launch of the new Career Academy Scholars Program. The academy gets underway with a bilingual (Spanish/English) orientation on Wednesday, August 26 beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Phillips Hall at Santa Ana College, 1530 W, 17<sup>th</sup> St., Santa Ana, 92706.

Thanks to a two-year \$25,000 grant from the James Irvine Foundation through the Alliance for Regional Collaboration to Heighten Educational Success (ARCHES), this unique career technical education program has been born. The academy's first cohort of scholars includes over 100 students from Century High, Valley High, and Santa Ana High schools. Grant funding is subsidizing the costs of the program for two years enabling students to pursue a course of study designed by a team of topic experts from SAUSD and SAC while still enrolled in high school. The team has developed four distinct career pathways in automotive/diesel, animation/digital media, international business, and welding. Classes for the Career Academy Scholars Program get underway on September 14.

“We are extremely pleased to be able to offer local high school students the chance to enroll in college-level career preparation classes through this highly collaborative program under the auspices of the Santa Ana Partnership,” said Dr. Sara Lundquist, Santa Ana College vice president of student affairs. “The students in this program will graduate from high school having completed approximately a year of college-level coursework in a high-demand career field. Santa Ana College continues to address community and regional needs in a creative format while opening a powerful opportunity to students.”

On Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. after hearing from SAC President Erlinda J. Martinez, Ed.D., and SAUSD Superintendent Jane Russo, the students and their families will then attend individual subject area orientations. Those who will study automotive/diesel will proceed

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to R114 to hear from SAC Dean of Career Education and Workforce Development Bart Hoffman; those who will study animation/digital media will proceed to C104 to hear from Dean of Fine and Performing Arts Sylvia Turner; and those who will study international business will proceed to A210 to hear from SAC Dean of Business Hilda Roberts. In each session, the students will meet the SAC professor who will be teaching the course and learn about the career possibilities in each field, the benefits available to those who participate, and the expectations of the students enrolling in the program. Parents will learn how to support students who enroll in the program.

For more information about the Career Academy Scholars Program, contact Dr. Sara Lundquist at (714) 564-6085.

**About the Rancho Santiago Community College District**

*The mission of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) is to respond to the educational needs of an ever-changing community and to provide programs and services that reflect academic excellence. Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College are public community colleges of RSCCD, which serve the residents of Anaheim Hills, East Garden Grove, Irvine, Orange, Santa Ana, Tustin and Villa Park. Both colleges provide education for academic transfer and careers, courses for personal and professional development, customized training for business and industry, and programs to train nurses, firefighters and law enforcement personnel.*

**About Santa Ana Unified School District**

*Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) educates approximately 55,000 students at 63 dynamic school sites throughout the eclectic and vibrant Santa Ana community. The K-12 school district is the second largest employer in Santa Ana, with 4,500 educators and staff members. Contact us at (714) 558-5555, or [pioinfo@sausd.us](mailto:pioinfo@sausd.us). For more information about our schools, visit [www.sausd.us](http://www.sausd.us).*

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