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CONTACT:

Shelveen Ratnam

916 201-3405

Shelveen.ratnam@csac.ca.gov

2024 Arthur S. Marmaduke High School Counselor Award Winner Announced

"This year, we proudly recognize Adriana Ayala for her demonstrated excellence in helping her students pursue and navigate their higher education journey."

SACRAMENTO, Calif., April 23, 2024 – **Adriana Huevo Ayala**, a high school counselor at Segerstrom High School in Santa Ana has been selected as the winner of the 2023-24 Arthur S. Marmaduke High School Counselor Award for her outstanding achievements in serving students.

"One of the most important and inspiring recognitions the California Student Aid Commission offers each year is the Marmaduke Counselor of the Year award," said **Marlene Garcia, Executive Director of the California Student Aid Commission**. "This year, we proudly recognize Adriana Ayala for her demonstrated excellence in helping her students pursue and navigate their higher education journey."

Adriana's dedication to her students and families is exemplified by her two decades of preparing students for college and career readiness. Adriana has played a pivotal role in helping to foster a robust college-bound culture at Segerstrom High School since the school was founded in 2005. From helping coordinate the Higher Education Center, a vital hub offering comprehensive information and services to help college enrollment, to making sure students have completed their financial aid applications, Adriana does everything she can to make sure her students are best positioned to navigate their higher education journey.

"Innovative, inspirational, life-changer -- Adriana Huevo Ayala is that difference maker at Segerstrom High School who goes 'above and beyond' to ensure students have equity and access to programs, information and activities that support postsecondary aspirations," said **David Casper, Principal of Segerstrom High School**.

"Integral to the success of the Segerstrom comprehensive school counseling program, Mrs. Huevo Ayala is a driving force behind providing crucial resources for students and families in financial aid and college access programs," said **Laurie Tristan**, the colleague who nominated Adriana.

Adriana's leadership and dedication led to the Segerstrom High School team achieving top honors in the Commission's own [Race to Submit](#) races each year since 2021. Her contributions have also led to this school receiving the 2023 CSAC Exemplary School Counseling Program Award, which further underscores her commitment to her students.

Adriana was honored at a ceremony at Segerstrom High School, with community leaders, family members, friends, and students. The presentation of Laurie's award included a California Legislative resolution, a commemorative plaque, and a financial reward sponsored by the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund.

For more information on the Arthur S. Marmaduke High School Counselor Award, please visit <https://www.csac.ca.gov/arthur-s-marmaduke-high-school-counselor-award>.



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The California Student Aid Commission currently serves over 400,000 students and administers the state's \$3 billion portfolio of student financial aid programs and services, including the Cal Grant, the Middle Class Scholarship, and the California Dream Act Application. The Commission serves as a resource for policymakers and the public on college affordability and financing issues, and advocates for policy changes to eliminate cost as a barrier to any qualified California student pursuing a higher education. Visit our website at www.csac.ca.gov or follow us on social media by clicking on our [Link Tree](#).