

PRESS RELEASE

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Lynwood Unified Honors Achievements of Class of 2024 During Moving Graduation Ceremonies

LYNWOOD, CA – Lynwood Unified School District celebrated the dedication and academic accomplishments of over 800 scholars from Lynwood, Firebaugh and Vista high schools and the Lynwood Community Adult School during vibrant commencement [ceremonies](#) from June 10-12.

Vista High School and Lynwood Community Adult School kicked off festivities on June 10, when students and faculty celebrated a year of transformation and achievement. This school year, Vista High School was recognized as one of 31 California Model Continuation Schools, demonstrating the continued efforts made – from personal and academic support services to vast career opportunities – to ensure the success of its students.

“Vista changed my life in the best way possible, from making amazing friends to having such wonderful teachers,” said Vista Valedictorian Fatima Santos, who plans to attend Cerritos College. “I have turned my life completely around and hope to keep climbing up, and I am wishing that for all of you.”

On June 11, Lynwood High School students took to the stage to reflect on their growth and experiences over the past four years. Principal Ana Gonzalez commended their resilience and determination, with Salutatorian Sofia Herrera sharing memories and expressing gratitude for the support of teachers and families.

“I find it fascinating that each one of us took a distinct path, but we are all here today,” said Herrera, who will attend UCLA. “We all knew someday our lives would change - this being one of the most monumental as we say goodbye to friends, teachers and loved ones. At this point, it is bittersweet. However, our time together will stay with us forever.”

The celebrations continued June 12 with an upbeat ceremony at Marco Antonio Firebaugh High School, showcasing the vibrant community spirit and academic excellence that defines the award-winning campus. “Over the years, we've faced challenges, celebrated victories and grown in ways we never imagined,” said Senior Class President Kayleen Martinez, who will attend UC San Diego. “The future is a blank canvas, and only we have the power to paint it with our dreams, ambitions and actions.”

Both Firebaugh and Lynwood high schools were recognized in the 2023-24 Best High School rankings by U.S. News & World Report, contributing to high graduation rates and inspiring students to pursue their passions. This year's graduates are set to attend top universities in the fall, including Yale, Stanford and UC Irvine. Many other students will also be applying their skills in the workforce or serving in the armed forces.

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"We are incredibly proud of our graduates for their perseverance, achievements and the bright futures that lie ahead of them," Superintendent Gudiel R. Crosthwaite, Ph.D. said. "Their success is a testament to the hard work of our students, the dedication of our educators and the unwavering support of our families. We look forward to seeing all that they will accomplish in the next chapter of their lives."

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

LUSD_GRAD1: Vista High School students and families celebrate graduates during a commencement ceremony on June 10.

LUSD_GRAD2: A Lynwood Community Adult School celebrates her accomplishment with family during a joyous commencement ceremony on June 10.

LUSD_GRAD3: Lynwood High School graduates are honored for their accomplishments during a commencement ceremony on June 11.






LUSD_GRAD4: Firebaugh High School students celebrate the end of their high school journeys during a commencement ceremony on June 12.

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The mission of Lynwood Unified School District, the model urban school district, is to ensure each student fearlessly achieves their highest academic and personal aspirations while contributing to a diverse, global society through an evolving system distinguished by:

★ *People of great character who inspire and lead by example* ★ *The instilling of courage to be creative* ★ *The transformative uses of technology*
★ *Safe and clean environments* ★ *The inclusion of all voices in our community through equity, access and justice*

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