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## NEWS RELEASE

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### Covina-Valley Unified Senior Earns Prestigious QuestBridge Scholarship, Showcasing Excellence

**COVINA, CA** – South Hills High School senior Julian Libuit is part of a prestigious group of students nationwide to match with one of QuestBridge's 55 college partners, earning a full four-year scholarship to Colgate University through the National College Match program.

QuestBridge connects high-achieving students from low-income backgrounds with top colleges and universities, offering the means to continue their educational journeys.

"This is a huge accomplishment for both me and my family," Libuit said. "I'm so excited for the opportunity this scholarship has given me and am thankful for the teachers and counselors at South Hills who have helped me along the way."

Libuit transferred to South Hills High in his junior year and immediately immersed himself in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. The rigorous coursework strengthened his critical-thinking skills, deepened his understanding of diverse cultures, and offered real-world applications that will prepare him for college-level work.

"I want to encourage my fellow students interested in higher education to take advantage of Covina-Valley Unified's most rigorous opportunities as early as possible, build sincere connections with peers and teachers, and stay committed to the passions that matter most to them," Libuit said. "Those choices played a critical role in my journey to becoming a QuestBridge Scholar."

Born in the Philippines, Libuit immigrated to the United States when he was three years old. He said the transition was challenging, forcing him to learn a new language while adjusting to a new culture. After six years in English Language Development, he continued to push himself academically and personally, now becoming the first in his family who will attend college.

"My family has always encouraged me since day one," Libuit said. "My teachers at South Hills have also been incredibly inspiring. They encourage me to do better, make the most out of every day, and always check in with me – not just about academics, but about how I'm doing overall. It's really impactful."

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At Colgate, Libuit plans to major in computer science or economics, with hopes of attending law school and becoming a corporate or litigation lawyer. His passion for the legal field began at South Hills High, where he is involved in mock trial.

"I really want to be able to help my community," Libuit said. "Knowing I could be an attorney one day and really make a difference is what drives me."

Outside of the classroom, Libuit tutors his younger siblings and enjoys designing video games for children.

"We are so proud of Julian for receiving such a prestigious honor and representing Covina-Valley Unified with excellence," Interim Superintendent Dr. Jonathan Blackmore said "His inspiring story encourages all students to dream big and always chase after their goals."

#### **PHOTO CAPTION:**

**CVUSD\_QUESTBRIDGE:** South Hills High School senior Julian Libuit earned a full four-year scholarship to Colgate University through the prestigious QuestBridge National College Match program.

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