



---

## April 2020 Newsletter

---

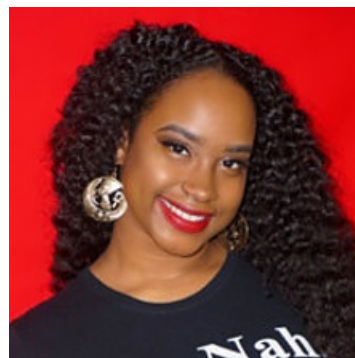
We hope you, your family and friends are continuing to stay well and healthy. We have been reaching out and supporting our scholars as they navigate this uncertain environment.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be a mentor. We paired every scholar with a mentor to provide one-on-one support. Students from underrepresented communities face complex obstacles that often strain their self-confidence and career expectations. They thrive when they know someone cares about their future and they receive educational and professional guidance.

Plus, we have been delivering professional development webinars every week to help scholars gain confidence and practice their elevator pitch as they prepare for and conduct their job search.

If you or someone you know can provide an internship or entry-level position for a new graduate, please contact [cindy@stemadvantage.org](mailto:cindy@stemadvantage.org). While jobs are limited, some companies are hiring.

Thank you for supporting our program and making a difference for remarkable and talented students like Darrielle, Armando and Jalyssa.



**Darrielle** is a Computer Information Systems major at Cal Poly Pomona.

"As a first-generation student identifying as a black female it tests my strength every day. Walking on campus and in classrooms being the only black female is tough sometimes especially while pursuing a degree in the STEM field. I push myself every day, to be a better person so that I don't have to face the same hardships I did growing up. Being the eldest of three I make it my responsibility to show my siblings that we can create a better future for ourselves and no matter what, not to give up on their dreams.

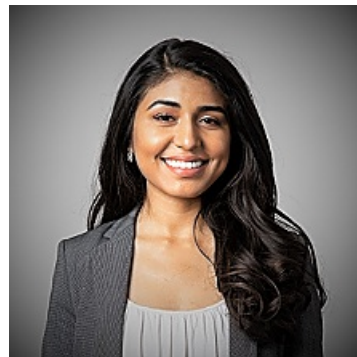
As far as my long-term goals, I would love to be in a position where I am able to teach others and be a role model to the people who look up to me, whether in a corporate or academic setting. I hope to inspire other black women and people of underrepresented communities to join the industry of tech as I know first hand how it feels to be the only black person or only female in a course or workplace when it comes to this industry."



**Armando** is a Mechanical Engineering major at Cal State Northridge. Like most of our scholars, he is a first generation college student, who is working hard to realize his dreams and help others.

"My father came to this country at the age of 6 and was living alone by the age of 16. He was not able to further his education past high school due to his need to provide for himself and his family. Growing up, all I wanted was to continue my father's legacy and grow where he could not."

In addition to working part-time while earning his degree, Armando is President of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) student chapter at CSUN. He is sharing the information and experience he gains from our program to aid the success of the members. Plus, he is helping his younger brothers, who are in high school, to decide which college is best for them.



**Jalyssa** is an Aerospace Engineering major at Cal State Long Beach.

"My background and the lack of experience and preparation that I had for engineering has caused me to work twice as hard. I like proving to myself how capable I am, so I have always maintained a higher than average GPA and stayed involved with part-time jobs, clubs, and volunteering. It certainly was not easy, but I'm glad to work hard because this is one hundred percent for myself and for my own success.

My long-term goals including going to graduate school for a masters or doctorate in engineering because I would like the opportunity to teach college students and conduct more research. As a Latina in STEM, it was originally never my plan to pursue my major because of the lack of minorities in the field. But, pushing myself to reach my full potential, despite the limits I thought existed, has been great. One of my goals as a professor would be to drive the pursuit for girls and other minorities to discover what they can do in the field of engineering and math-driven careers.

I will 'pay it forward' by being a role model for a more diverse population of engineers in the future who now know that they are capable, they can do whatever they set their mind to, and there are no true obstacles."

### AmazonSmile

Did you know that you can support STEM Advantage Scholars when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com>? **AmazonSmile** is the same **Amazon** you know. Same products, same prices, same service. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support our scholars every time you shop, at no cost to you. Amazon will donate a percentage of your total purchase to STEM Advantage. 100% of this donation goes directly to fund scholarships. Please designate **Stem Advantage (EIN: 46-1042540)** as your favorite charity. Thank you!

STEM Advantage is a proven pipeline for diverse STEM talent. 100% of your tax-deductible gift goes directly to fund STEM Advantage Scholarships.

[DONATE NOW](#)

For more information, please contact [leeann@stemadvantage.org](mailto:leeann@stemadvantage.org)

Follow us on social media!



[Click to edit Email Preferences](#) or [Unsubscribe](#) from this list.

STEM Advantage  
117 22nd Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648 - USA