Dear Toros,

As we enter the season of gratitude, let us express our thanks to all the donors to California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) who continue to raise the bar through philanthropic support.

On behalf of CSUDH, we are pleased to present the very first Annual Philanthropic Report. This new report will give you a glimpse into the many ways our donors have participated in creating a vibrant academic environment. Philanthropic dollars help fuel the growth and excellence of our university and enhance our limited state funding. Tuition and state support do not cover the cost of a Dominguez Hills education, and increasingly, the university depends on private gifts.

Together, we achieved historic results. 2,468 donors raised over $30 million for scholarships, academic programs, the unrestricted Toro Fund, and other pressing needs. Thank you to all dedicated alumni, corporations, foundations, and other organizations and friends who continue to support our mission with their philanthropy. No gift is too small, and when combined they all make a difference.

Moving the fundraising needle from an average of $4 million a year to a new record is a monumental accomplishment, and we are especially grateful to our leading donors. We celebrate your enduring passion, commitment, and generosity to CSUDH. Your decision to invest your philanthropic dollars in our students is a powerful statement.

Thanks to your involvement, we can fulfill the promise of high quality and affordable education, provide world-class teaching by devoted faculty, and offer innovative academic programs that prepare our Toros for the complexities of life after college. Your generosity has a ripple effect—it goes far beyond our campus, fueling the impact of our Toros worldwide. Thank you for all you helped us accomplish. Toros truly go farther together.

Once a Toro, Always a Toro,

Thomas A. Parham, Ph.D.
President, CSUDH

Maria Villa-Lathrop ’82
Chair, Board of Directors,
CSUDH Philanthropic Foundation

Eva Sevcikova
Vice President, University Advancement
Executive Director, Philanthropic Foundation
In a landmark moment for CSUDH, BALLMER GROUP committed a historic $22.1 million gift to launch the Toros Teach L.A. program, marking the largest donation ever given to the university. This visionary gift will reshape the landscape of education and opportunity in California and beyond.

Toros Teach L.A. will address the severe shortage of early childhood educators by preparing, graduating, and placing culturally competent, racially diverse teachers and leaders in schools across the LA region. The program encompasses two vital initiatives: Early Childhood Excellence and Black Educator Excellence. These initiatives will build equity-embedded credentials, improve graduation rates of underrepresented students, and enable educators to upskill and forge successful teaching careers with less debt and improved career retention.

“Early education is a game-changer for giving kids a fair shot in school and life,” noted Kim Pattillo Brownson, Director of Strategy and Policy for Ballmer Group. “Teachers are vital to this work, and CSUDH will now be able to support LA’s future early educators through scholarships, degree programs, and partnerships to support our children’s learning.”

The majority of the gift will fund scholarships for 1,200 students, allowing them to earn bachelor’s degrees and PK-3 and K-8 teaching credentials. CSUDH President Thomas A. Parham emphasized the program’s importance. “This program will support communities of color by creating a pipeline of teachers working and staying in the area and will improve those educators’ ability to create positive outcomes for their students through the use of culturally competent pedagogies.”

Ballmer Group’s commitment to improving economic mobility, opportunity, and education aligns perfectly with CSUDH’s mission, demonstrating the transformative power of philanthropy in education for countless students and families. To learn more about this innovative program, please visit www.csudh.edu/ttla

Leo F. Cain Legacy Society
A Commitment to the Future

Named in honor of CSUDH’s founding president, the LEO F. CAIN LEGACY SOCIETY proudly acknowledges 60 individuals who named the university in their estate plans to ensure that CSUDH is able to serve students for generations to come. Over the years, more than $9 million has been donated by members.

One such Legacy Society member is DR. GARRY HART, who passed away in August 2023. Over the years, he served a variety of roles, including math professor, department chair, and Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities. His commitment to CSUDH did not waver even as an emeritus faculty member. Dr. Hart believed that a great learning experience begins with great teachers. He left a six-figure gift in his estate plans to support the Faculty Legacy Fund, empowering the next generation of professors to conduct vital research.
Carla’s parents immigrated to the United States from El Salvador before she was born. While settling his family in a new country, her father earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of Phoenix and set a high standard for his daughter. A transfer student from Cerritos College, Carla is now finishing her senior year. Her goal is to further diversify the film industry by creating more pathways for people of color.

ALANE MARCH ’91 also transferred to CSUDH from Cerritos College after graduating with her Associate of Arts degree. It’s the sheer tenacity of the transfer students that inspired her to create the Alane March Endowed Scholarship. “I’m fortunate to be able to give back and help students who have had a similar path as I had.”

Nathanial, an Africana Studies major and a first-generation college student, enrolled in CSUDH immediately after graduating from City Arts and Leadership High School in San Francisco. He credits his professors for guiding him in the right direction both on and off campus. Nathanial aims to shatter barriers and pave the way for greater acceptance of people of color in leadership positions in the corporate world.

MONICA LITTLE founded the endowed scholarship to honor her late husband of 37 years, Dr. William Little, who passed away in 2008 and left a legacy both locally and nationally. Since joining the CSUDH campus in 1994, Dr. Little made enduring contributions as the founding Chair of the Department of Africana Studies, the founder of the Douglass-Bethune Graduation Celebration, the coordinator of the Division of World Cultural Studies, the coordinator of the Social and Behavioral Sciences program, and as the chair of the California State University system-wide African American Studies Lower Division Pattern Project.

In just four years, ANGELS NEST has gifted TGS more than $230,000, which allowed the program to achieve record-breaking success this year: 23 students earned bachelor’s degrees and their first student earned a graduate degree. The funding also helped students with homelessness prevention in the form of rental assistance. The program was also able to expand its physical space, grow its team, and launch a food pantry. The support also filled financial gaps and covered expenses for students who were ineligible for other types of aid. Angels Nest bridges financial gaps and transforms lives.

The Kroger Co. Foundation

A Significant Leap in Meal Safety and Security

More than 60% of CSUDH students experience food insecurity at some point during their academic journey, and nearly 16% experience homelessness. Many communities surrounding the CSUDH campus are in a food desert. Some neighborhoods have extremely limited access to fresh, nutritious, and affordable food.

In a widespread drought of farmer’s markets and reasonably priced supermarkets, many residents rely on fast food restaurants, small convenience stores, and even liquor stores for their daily meals. In response, CSUDH instituted the Basic Needs program featuring the Toro Food Pantry for students who skip one or more meals per day.

THE KROGER CO. FOUNDATION, with Ralphs and Food4Less acting as the philanthropic agents, made a generous gift for the acquisition of a refrigeration unit that facilitates contactless food distribution and offers shorter wait times, 24/7 accessibility, and expanded storage capacity.

Thanks to this gift, CSUDH now assists more students, enhancing the safety and privacy of their meals. It also extends services to new mothers needing cold storage, while accommodating more food distribution through increased storage space.

There is a correlation between basic needs support and improved retention, persistence, course completion, and graduation rates. Meeting students’ needs is one of the simplest ways the campus can position them for success within the classroom and for entry into the workforce.

Angels Nest

From Foster Care to College Degree

TORO GUARDIAN SCHOLARS, also known as TGS, is dedicated to supporting college students who have transitioned from the foster care system. Foster youth often experience many challenges, and in California only 4% attend and graduate from college. TGS is working to level the playing field in partnership with like-minded private funders. Led by director Ludivina Vasquez Snow ’12, TGS has supported more than 600 students since its inception a decade ago.

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The **CSU YOUNG MALES OF COLOR (YMOC)** is a groundbreaking initiative created to facilitate systemic change in higher education and enhance the outcomes for Black, Latinx, Asian Pacific Islander, and Native American males.

The 23-campus consortium collaborates with regional community colleges and community-based organizations to establish mentorship programs with institutional agents and peer networks, provide robust professional development opportunities for faculty and staff who support men of color, and help campuses understand how to recruit, train, and supervise faculty and staff who work with men of color programs.

This year, we’re also excited to announce our new partnership with **ECMC FOUNDATION**, which donated $585,000 to the YMOC program as its first direct gift to our campus.

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Operating within the nation’s most diverse 4-year public university system, the YMOC consortium finds its home at CSUDH under the visionary leadership of co-directors Dr. William Franklin and Dr. Matthew Smith.

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**INCREASING SUCCESS RATES FOR MEN OF COLOR**

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**TAYLOR WATTS-WHITE**

2022-2023 Presidential Scholarship recipient

*Being a Presidential Scholar has changed my life. The generous funding comes with a support system and has given me a sense of belonging, confidence, and freedom, along with what now seems like endless possibilities and opportunities.*

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Fueled by the honor of her prestigious Presidential Scholarship and inspired by the Criminal Justice Administration Program, Taylor chose to attend CSUDH. Her decision to stay close to her home in Carson checked all the boxes, including a strong academic program for her interests in criminal investigations and the flexibility to aid her ailing family members. Taylor’s goal is to leave a mark on the world by upholding principles of fairness, lawfulness, and social equity in the criminal justice system.

**THE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM** has been instrumental in providing a pathway for exceptional students to access and afford a university education. Funded entirely through philanthropic gifts, this prestigious scholarship program provides full tuition and fees and additional support for students with a minimum 3.5 GPA and a record of leadership, campus involvement, and community service. Since its inception in 1985, 99% of students in the program have obtained their degrees.

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**JOSHUA PENG**

2022-2023 Takeshi Katsumata Endowed Scholarship recipient

*Without this scholarship, I would not have been able to continue my studies. Thank you!*
Over the past six years, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA), now known as the Golden Globe Foundation, has provided much needed scholarship and programming support to CSUDH students pursuing degrees in Film, Television, and Media and Journalism.

With over $400,000 donated, 124 students received fellowships, were sponsored to attend professional training seminars and film festivals, and have received one-on-one, year-long mentorship by industry professionals. In addition, over 2,000 Toros were directly impacted by programming such as film screenings, industry panel discussions, World Press Freedom Day workshops, and more.

“HFPA helps us create meaningful connections between our diverse, hardworking, and talented students and professionals in the entertainment industries. More importantly, their support helps our students create and cultivate their authentic stories that have the power to positively influence society and leave a lasting imprint on the media landscape,” said Toddy Eames, Associate Professor in Film, TV, and Media at CSUDH.

Carson Companies

Investing in the Future of Education and Entrepreneurship

Carson Companies has been a steadfast partner in our mission to provide transformational educational experiences. For the past three decades, they have contributed nearly $600,000 to prioritize student success through scholarships.

“The scholarships from Carson Companies pay for full tuition and fees for future teachers and entrepreneurs. Their partnership significantly improves our ability to ensure access and affordability in education,” said Jessica Zacher Pandya, Dean of the College of Education.

Close to 40% of our students come from low-income communities with an expected family contribution of zero, and many of them work multiple jobs to pay for the cost of attendance that on average reaches $30,000 per year. Carson Companies’ scholarships play a pivotal role in bridging this financial gap, offering students an opportunity to pursue their education while lessening the burden of debt upon graduation.
In a synergy of art and science, the University Art Gallery has embarked on an exciting journey, bolstered by a generous gift of $100,000 for research, followed by a $180,000 grant for the exhibition from THE GETTY FOUNDATION.

The prestigious award brings to life Brackish Water Los Angeles, an art and research project within Getty’s PST ART: Art & Science Collide initiative. Our gallery is one of the 50 esteemed visual arts institutions and top museums participating in this remarkable venture throughout Southern California.

Scheduled to open in August 2024, Brackish Water Los Angeles promises a vivid exploration of the delicate balance where saltwater and freshwater converge, echoing the very “in-betweenness” that permeates our society. This multifaceted endeavor transcends the mere study of water, delving deep into the intricate web of ecosystems, infrastructure, and politics interwoven with brackish water.

More than an artistic endeavor, this project is set to tackle pressing issues of access, inclusion, ecological disparities, and cultural and class dynamics along Los Angeles’ intricate waterways. With our campus residing on the front line of climate crisis and ecological injustice, we are the perfect canvas for this exploration.

Beyond the exhibition, the Getty Foundation’s Marrow Undergraduate Internships program has woven an additional thread of transformation on our campus. Over the past five years, our students have had the privilege of engaging in paid summer internships ($6,800 per student), aimed at opening doors for those who are historically underrepresented in the arts. This opportunity has not only enhanced their educational experiences, but has helped build their resumes, expand their networks, and open doors to careers in museums and visual arts organizations.