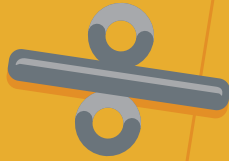




STUDENTS
RISING ABOVE

SPRING UPDATE



SOAR: The Results Are In!

In 2018, SRA created the Students Online Achieving Results (SOAR) program to support even more students in pursuing postsecondary education and obtaining career-ladder jobs. SOAR connects scholars from low-income backgrounds with an SRA advisor, a peer mentor, and a small cohort of peers in a supportive online community. The program provides scholars with one-on-one advising,

curriculum-based advising sessions (called hangouts), and real-world problem solving to increase college persistence and graduation rates.



In the spring of 2022, SRA partnered with the University of California-Riverside's School of Education to study the SOAR program's effects. Just some of the results:

This year marks five years since SRA's first scholars enrolled in the SOAR program, and - drum roll, please - **more than 70% have graduated from college.** This is nearly six times* the national average for students from low-income backgrounds.

**National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 2022*

Now, SOAR is expanding its services and growing to serve more students. While 106 scholars were supported through three SOAR programs during the 2021-2022 school year, 243 scholars are participating across five SOAR programs this school year. SOAR scholars are enrolled at 95 different colleges and universities, with the biggest representation here in California. There are 22 SOAR scholars attending UC Berkeley and 20 scholars attending UC Davis, and our Peer Mentor Internship program has also grown from 10 peer mentors to 17 peer mentors.



Take a look at how this program has made an impact on SOAR Scholars!

<https://bit.ly/3n78IXe>

New Grad Mentor Program

The transition from college to the workforce can be daunting. The New Grad Mentor Program is an 8-12 month program designed to provide college seniors and new college graduates an opportunity to connect with a professional in their field of interest. New Grad Mentors—30% of whom are SRA alumni—assist and guide new graduates during their

transition into their post-graduate life. Students in this program receive one-on-one mentoring and networking assistance from their assigned New Grad Mentor, who can help answer career or professional life questions. There are currently 60 participants in the program since its debut in October 2022.

New Grad Reflection

“Every call I leave with more insight on how to carry out my next month! She has helped me progress so fast and well in my job search and now my current career pathway”





Rodaisha James

My experience being an SRA student and now Alumni has been life-changing. Even with barriers, outside of my control, impacting my life, I've been able to achieve success. SRA has indeed empowered me: exposing me to financial literacy, making introductions to professionals in many industries, providing me with compassionate and effective mentorship, assisting me with college fees and living expenses,

and, most importantly, helping me to DREAM BIG.

SRA has set an excellent example of fighting for equity. It's encouraged me to have higher standards for companies I work for, my community, and myself; we all have a part to play in making diversity, equity and inclusion the standard. I am grateful and humbled to be an SRA Alumni.



Emily Taing

The ability to face and address systemic barriers from a place of empowerment rather than a place of survival is key to economic and social equity. Through the support and guidance of SRA, I was able to learn and develop my own sense of empowerment, and apply to my academic and professional endeavors.

Now, as a law student at UC Law San Francisco (formerly known as UC Hastings) I have a deep appreciation for strong friendships, familial relationships, mental health, and community engagement, alongside professional development, because from a place of empowerment, this is how I measure success.



to benefit



STUDENTS
RISING ABOVE

SRA to benefit from the Warriors Community Foundation Free Throws for Future, funded by PG&E Corporate Foundation!

SRA is a proud partner of the Warriors Community Foundation and the Free Throws for Future initiative, funded by the PG&E Corporation

Foundation. During the 2022-2023 NBA season, for every free throw made by a Warrior player, SRA received \$125 in support of our

students. Across 1,314 free throws, a total of \$164,250 was raised for SRA! **Thank you #DubNation!**



GENERATIONS OF CHANGE

SUNDAY, MAY 7TH, 2023

3:00 PM at the RITZ CARLTON in SAN FRANCISCO

join us for a

FIRESIDE CHAT with

RUBY BRIDGES and TANEA LUNSFORD LYNX

Get ready to be inspired! For a quarter century, SRA has been defying the odds and challenging the status quo, empowering thousands of students along the way. But we're not stopping there! On May 7th, we're inviting you to join us as we celebrate our achievements, honor our community, and unveil our plans for the next 25 years.

And you won't want to miss our special guests - civil rights icon Ruby Bridges and SRA alum Tanea Lunsford Lynx - as they share their perspectives on equity in education. This fireside chat will explore what it takes to ensure that every young person has access to the learning, growth, and development they need to thrive in our society. So mark your calendars and get ready to be part of something special!

"Hosting this conversation feels like a complete honor. Like so many others, Ruby Bridges' story is one that stoked a fire for justice in me when I was quite small. I can't wait to listen to her share about the power of her story, the healing that is possible, and what the work toward justice looks like today."
-Tanea Lunsford Lynx

More information at

<https://sra25.funraise.org/>

