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THE CLASS OF

26

JUNE 13, 2026

UCLA ED&IS

**UCLA SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & INFORMATION STUDIES**

Commencement Ceremony

*The School of Education & Information Studies at UCLA acknowledges the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and So. Channel Islands). As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Honuukvetam (Ancestors), 'Ahihirom (Elders) and 'Eyoohiinkem (our relatives/relations) past, present and emerging.*

**PROCESSIONAL**

School Faculty and Class of 2026

**CALL TO ORDER**

Christina A. Christie  
Wasserman Dean

**GRADUATION SPEAKER**

Valeria Alysandra Luquin

**DEAN'S WELCOME**

Christina A. Christie  
Wasserman Dean

**GEORGE F. KNELLER PRIZE RECIPIENTS**

Christina Allen  
Luis Manuel Macias-Macias  
Katherine Sanchez Mara  
Nicolas Ramon Ortega  
Stephanie Reynoso

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

Cecilia Rios-Aguilar  
Chair, Department of Education

José-Felipe Martinez  
Vice Chair for Undergraduate Programs

**CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND TASSEL-TURNING**

Christina A. Christie  
Wasserman Dean

**ALMA MATER**

Rongyi Yu

**RECESSIONAL**

School Faculty and Class of 2026

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Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

Today, we celebrate your extraordinary accomplishments and the journey that has led you to this moment. We also celebrate the loved ones, friends, teachers, mentors and coaches who helped you reach this milestone in your life.

Graduation marks both a culmination and a new beginning. It is a moment to reflect on your time at UCLA and the many ways you have grown — in mind, in creativity and in character. It also provides a chance to examine the path before you with renewed purpose.

Your graduation comes at a complex time in our history. Uncertainty can make it tempting to narrow your ambitions, even as the world needs you to expand them. I urge you to meet this moment with humanity. Your UCLA education has prepared you to navigate an evolving landscape and to turn uncertainty into opportunity.

The values you have cultivated here — kindness, integrity, curiosity, a commitment to service, and a respect for diverse perspectives — will serve as your foundation as you move forward to lead in your communities and professions. You now join a global network of more than 680,000 Bruins who are making a meaningful difference across every field and in every corner of the world. Stay connected to your classmates, and stay connected to this university.

You will always be a part of UCLA. And UCLA will always be a part of you.

On behalf of the entire UCLA family, I extend my warmest congratulations. We look forward to all you will accomplish and to the kindness you will bring to your communities in the years ahead.

We are One UCLA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julio Frenk", written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Julio Frenk  
Chancellor

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## 2026 Commencement Student Marshals

The 2026 School of Education and Information Studies undergraduate student marshals are **Sophia Agnes Bauzon** and **Julia Margaret Nunez Tungol**. Student marshals are selected by the department not only for their academic excellence, but also for their service to the community.

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Program includes Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 Graduates, Spring 2026 and Summer 2026  
Candidates

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## Education Studies Minor

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### Sponsor

José-Felipe Martinez

Rod Adib  
Violeta Del Carmen Aguilar Mendoza  
Hanin AlTammar  
Nolan Alvarez  
Melissa Rose Aparicio  
Adrienne Sharee Ann Augustus  
Shabac Sarai Banderas  
Maya Botros  
Sofia Byun  
Kali Helen Capper  
Kamea Kaci Carson  
Isabel Caroline Casem  
Natalia Alicia Casillas  
Farrah Castro  
Kassandra Castro Mendoza  
Sarai Cecena  
Stanley Chow  
Xitlali Contreras  
Diana Cordova  
Kaela Sherisz Marapao De Guzman  
Jolene Joy Enriquez  
Jocelin Escareno Aguayo  
Bryanna Keyla Estrella  
Kaelyn Sophia Fung  
Emily Guadalupe Garcia  
Bradys Garcia-Alvarez  
Jennifer Romero Garibay  
Gabriela Grishashvili  
Xueyi Guan  
Selene Nubia Gutierrez  
Wanning He  
Reid Daniel Henderson  
Yasmin Hernandez

Naomi Higareda  
Emely Huaroc  
Gabriela Raquel Jaquez  
America Juan Mercado  
Mason Randall Kellerman  
Kairi Euna Kim  
Jiorden King  
Abigail Jane Knudtson  
Nathan Chihin Lam  
Todd Lin  
Faron Jai Littleton  
Kayla Liu  
Alexsandra Nadezhda Lochridge  
Aiyannah Scarlett Lopez  
Brianna Alyssa Magana  
Emilia Victoria Magdaleno  
Carl Anthony Maier  
Alexa Sierra Majamaki  
Diego Gerardo Mancía Acosta  
Jasmine Martinez  
Yuui Maruyama  
Yvette Mendez  
Kassandra Guadalupe Morales  
Angelina Joline Moreno  
Francisco Munoz  
Karina Nanda  
Maliika Behmon Niakan  
Jia Angelique Alva Peña  
Janine Sophia Marbella Peralta  
Denise Perez  
Derek Pham  
Jahnet Alejandra Pimentel  
Emily Ponce-Olivares

## Education Studies Minor (cont.)

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Cedar Marlee Powers  
Vy Uyen Quach  
Briana Mailin Ramirez Hernandez  
April Giselle Reyes  
Kira Carroll Rice  
Cecy Jimena Rivera  
Kimberly Rizo  
Diana Rocha  
Melanny Anai Rojas  
Josephine Jane Rowan  
Valerie Nicole Rubalcava  
Naomi Salinas

Lizeth Esmeralda Sanchez  
Bethany Rubi Santana  
Adriana Sebastian-Ambrosio  
Mila Shaya Seraji  
Maile Elizabeth Shu  
Arcelia Isabel Solache Salgado  
Samantha Linden Soohoo  
Anna Tsai  
Elise Rachelle Tyler  
Isabela Gabrielle Villanueva  
Paige Wu  
Melanie Kaylee Xiong

## Information and Media Literacy Minor

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Sponsor  
Robert Montoya

Kylie Bach  
Emily Camarena  
Luana Carvalho  
Stella Louise Carr

Elly Claire Goan  
Isabella Mort  
Jimmy Moya  
Phoebe Ordaz  
Isabella Monique Rascon



## Education and Social Transformation Major (cont.)

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### Sponsor

José-Felipe Martinez

Alexis Adelstein  
Zainab Ahmad  
Christina Allen ✱  
Mariana Alonso  
Paola Gissel Alonzo Gonzalez ✦  
Kimberly Michelle Arana  
Melissa Arreola Cruz  
Chelsea Bautista Aspiras  
Melissa Bahena  
Samantha Baltazar  
Jose Barragan  
Sophia Agnes Bauzon  
Zoe Tsai-Yu Beccaria Chou  
Elyse Berger  
Jenna Bowie  
Daisy Carrasco Beltran  
Melanie Arely Castillo Vargas  
Jackelyn Aracely Castillo-Palma  
Samantha Camille Castro ✱  
Claudia Alexa Castruita ☆  
Zhiyao Chen  
Nancy Chi  
Nayely Chicas  
Daniel Chung Jr.

- ✱ George F. Kneller Prize Recipient
- ✦ Fall 2026 candidate

Spencer Lynn Cooney  
Gracie Cross  
Victoria Daniels  
Marabella Odvina De La Rea  
Chenchen Deng  
Daniela Derramadero  
Emily Olive Drekmeier  
Gabriel Embuido  
Cristopher Espino  
Ariadna Eufragio Cayetano  
Claudia Sanae Farrell ☆  
Alicia Samantha Ferraez Diaz ☆  
Angel Flores Martinez  
Sonny Elaine Gagnier  
Anabella Galán  
Janelle Garcia  
Veronica Garcia De Leon  
Emmylia Gelle  
Evelyn Gomez  
Lizbeth Gomez  
Kayla Gonzalez  
Priya Grewal  
Alyna Guangga  
Mariana Gudino Avalos

- ✱ *Summa Cum Laude graduate\**
- ☆ *Cum Laude graduate\**

\*As of Winter 2026

“You are challenged in the most beautiful and skillful way, you never just learn but you act. The education department requires you to reflect on your abilities & push past it in way you never thought you were able to accomplish, but do.” - Samantha Baltazar

“Social Transformation starts when we recognize the humanity in every person and commit ourselves to building a more just and equitable world through Education.”  
- Melanie Arely Castillo Vargas

“Thank you to every wonderful individual at SEIS who made this experience so incredible. From faculty mentors to my peers I sat next to everyday, you’ve left a mark on my time at UCLA.”  
- Claudia Alexa Castruita

## Education and Social Transformation Major (cont.)

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### Sponsor

José-Felipe Martinez

Boyu (Delancy) Guo	Valeria Alysandra Luquin
Isabella Guzman-Quijano	Luis Manuel Macias-Macias ✱
Paria Hakemi ☆	Aisha Malik
Kokomo Hara ☆	Hajra Malik
Giovanni Hernandez	Katherine Sanchez Mara ✱☆
Jennifer Estefani Hernandez	Lucia Arely Mares
Leydi Diana Hernandez Velasquez	Araceli Martinez ☆
Amanda Grace Herrera	Connie Martinez
Ayat Hilal	Lucia Isela Martinez ◆
Alex Ho	Luna May
Misha Hsueh ☆	Aliah Medina
Maggie Huang	Terri Medrano-Johnson
Shanell Monique Hunt	Claudia Michael
Jasmine Subin Ji	Alexie Mitchell ☆
Christa Chen Jung	Sho Miyamoto
Lauren Eunbie Jung	Delila Eva Morales
Hyein Kang	Olivia Blanca Moxie
Juliet Kim ☆	Jennah Noorzayee
Mary Kim	Andreanela Ordoñez Carbajal
Yeonjie Michelle Kim	Nicolas Ramon Ortega ✱☆
Precious King Cohick	Maya Passananti
Kayeon Koh	Tatum Pearlman ☆
Ava Kuhns-Vasquez	Lizelle Perez
Brooke Lucille Kundert ☆	Molly Nicolle Pleitez
Gwen Marie Kurtz	Alejandra Pulido
Leanza Landa ☆	Alexis Joy Ramirez
Aikang Li	Camille Honrado Reyes
Yihan Li	Stephanie Reynoso ✱
Jingyi Liang	Edward Martinez Rodriguez Jr. ◆
Luis Enrique Linares	Wendy Rodriguez Garcia ◆

❖ Chancellor's Service Award Recipient

“Change is not done by yourself but with community.” - Maggie Huang

“They can say whatever, but if I changed, it was for the better!” - Aliah Medina

## Education and Social Transformation Major (cont.)

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### Sponsor

José-Felipe Martinez

Liew Wang Saelee

Liliana Sanchez

Mayumi Sasame ❖☆

Aminah Zareen Shaikh ☆

L Siswanto

Alexa Tapia Delgado ◆

Kimberly Narely Toloza

Jocelyn Torres

Julia Margaret Nunez Tungol ☆

Sara Paz Vazquez Vasquez

Jiachen Wang

Zi Wang ☆

Zhixuan Wu

Rongyi Yu

Arianna Zamora

April Zavala ◆

Jiali Zhang ☆

Xiyun Zhang

Xu Zhu

Yiheng Zhu

Hannah Zuckerbraun ☆

“Through my UCLA community engagement work and Bali Global Internship experience, I learned that the education we acquire in classrooms can be a catalyst for action and a source of inspiration. Education is not simply about acquiring knowledge; it is about building relationships, honoring diverse perspectives, and working alongside communities to create meaningful change.” - Mayumi Sasame

“I never expected this department to become a family. All our professors, advisors, TAs, and peers cared so much about us and each other, and I will never forget the care present in every space.” - Julia Margaret Nunez Tungol

# School of Education & Information Studies

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## Administration & Faculty

Julio Frenk, *Chancellor*

Christina A. Christie, *Wasserman Dean*

Eddie R. Cole, *Associate Dean, Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion*

Annamarie Francois, *Associate Dean, Public Engagement*

Georgia Lazo, *Associate Dean, University Partnership Schools*

John S. Rogers, *Associate Dean, Research/Public Scholarship*

Tonia Sutherland, *Associate Dean for Faculty Development*

Cecilia Rios-Aguilar, *Chair, Department of Education*

Megan L. Franke, *Vice Chair of Professional Programs, Department of Education*

Ananda M. Marin, *Vice Chair of Graduate Education, Department of Education*

José-Felipe Martinez, *Vice Chair of Undergraduate Education, Department of Education*

Robert D. Montoya, *Chair, Department of Information Studies*

Teresa McCarty, *Chair of the Faculty*

Raul Alarcon

Rebecca Alber

H. Samy Alim

Marvin C. Alkin

Walter R. Allen

Arif Amlani

Melissa Arias

Ron Avi Astor

Alison L. Bailey

Eva L. Baker

Kelly Barnes

Nicole (Nikki) Barry

Marcia J. Bates

E. R. Baughman

Jackie Belloso

Gordon L. Berry

Howard A. Besser

Anne Blackstock-Bernstein

Jean-François Blanchette

Nicholas G. Blurton-Jones

Christine L. Borgman

Susan Bush-Mecenas

Li Cai

Michelle L. Caswell

Mitchell J. Chang

Laura Chavez-Moreno

Maggie Chen

Lily Chen-Hafteck

Janice Chow

Clara M. Chu

Gregory K. Chung

Falyn Cooper

Robert Cooper

Monique Corral

Alma E. Cortes

Zachary Cue

Mariana De La Garza Luviano

Richard Desjardins

Jason Nunzio Dorio

Elizabeth Drolet

Johanna R. Drucker

Diane Durkin

M. Kevin Eagan Jr.

Marjorie Elaine

Nicole Else-Quest

Frederick D. Erickson

Cindy Escobedo

Dino Everett

Joanna Fabicon

Minnie Ferguson

Megan L. Franke

Jonathan Furner

Ronald G. Gallimore

Patricia C. Gándara

David G. Garcia

Inmaculada M. García- Sánchez

Melissa Gill

Anne J. Gilliland

Karen Givvin

Kimberley Gomez

Louis M. Gomez

Cynthia Gonzalez

Jennie K. Grammer

Lorena I. Guillén

Kris D. Gutiérrez

Kyle Halle-Erby

Mark P. Hansen

Jessica C. Harris

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Emma Hipolito

Eric Ho

Tyrone C. Howard

Carollee Howes

Derek Hubbard

Karen Hunter-Quartz

Sylvia Hurtado

Jo Ann Isken

Christopher C. Jadallah

Ozan Jaquette

Minjeong Jeon

Connie L. Kasari

Douglas M. Kellner

Christopher M. Kelty

Sara Kersey

Jane Kim

Lynn Kim-John

Marilyn L. Kourilsky

Cindy C. Kratzer

Leona Kwon

Monique Leahey Sugimoto

Gregory H. Leazer

Darlene Lee

Han Lee

Patricia Ciccone  
Jill Locke  
Eduardo Lopez  
Beverly P. Lynch  
Reynaldo F. Macías  
Candice A. Mack  
Tatevik Mamikonyan  
Nicole A. Mancevice  
Alicia Mara  
Jane Margolis  
Anna J. Markowitz  
Teresa L. McCarty  
Patricia M. McDonough  
Peter L. McLaren  
Robert Mechikoff  
Luiz H. Mendes  
Nicole Mirra  
Rashmita S. Mistry  
Kimberly Mitchell  
Catherine Lord Morrison  
Julissa Muñoz  
Bengt Muthén  
Imelda Nava-Landeros  
Bertie Navarro Pope  
Cristina Navarro-Aguire  
Cindy Nguyen  
Mike Hoa Nguyen  
Safiya Umoja Noble  
Pedro A. Noguera  
Erin Sanders O'Leary  
Edith Mukudi Omwami

Sandra H. Graham  
Tonikaa Orange  
Gary A. Orfield  
Susan Oswald  
Jaime Park  
Lori Patton Davis  
Ellen J. Pearlstein  
Faye C. Peitzman  
Julia Pelikhova  
Elisa Perez  
Miriam Posner  
Erin Powers  
William C. Purdy  
Patricia Quiñones  
F.H. Rafi  
Federica Raia  
Noopur A. Raval  
Karen Recinos Alvarado  
Meredith Reese  
John V. Richardson Jr.  
Jordan Rickles  
Sarah T. Roberts  
Kristen L. Rohanna  
Ana Romero  
Kimberly Rosenfeld  
Val D. Rust  
Theodore Sagun  
Cinthya Salazar  
William A. Sandoval  
Lucrecia Santibañez  
Linda J. Sax

Leah A. Lievrouw  
Michael Seltzer  
Jeff Share  
Christine Shen  
Gabriel Solis  
Daniel G. Solórzano  
Ramesh Srinivasan  
Ilene Straus  
Carola Suárez-Orozco  
Marcelo Suárez-Orozco  
Elaine Svenonius  
Robert T. Teranishi  
Diana M. Thomas  
Carlos A. Torres  
Minh C. Tran  
Concepción M. Valadez  
Shawn G. VanCour  
Melissa Villa Nicholas  
Thuy Vo Dang  
Virginia A. Walter  
Jin Wang  
Noreen M. Webb  
Carl Weinberg  
Kenya Williams  
Wellford W. Wilms  
Dee Winn  
Maryanne Wolf  
Jeffrey J. Wood  
Laura Wray-Lake  
Mitsue Yokota

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## Mission of ED&IS

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ED&IS is dedicated to inquiry, the advancement of knowledge, the improvement of professional practice, and service to the education and information professions. We develop future generations of scholars, teachers, information professionals, and institutional leaders. Our work is guided by the principles of individual responsibility and social justice, an ethic of caring, and commitment to the communities we serve.

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## Hail to the Hills of Westwood

Hail to the hills of Westwood  
To the mighty sea below,

Hail to our alma mater,  
She will conquer every foe.

For we're loyal to the southland,  
Her honor we'll uphold;

We'll gladly give our heart to Thee  
To the blue and to the gold.

For we're loyal to the southland,  
Her honor we'll uphold;

We'll gladly give our heart to Thee  
To the blue and to the gold.

Saturday, June Thirteenth  
Two Thousand Twenty-Six

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**UCLA SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & INFORMATION STUDIES**

Commencement Ceremony

**#UCLAEDIS2026**