

Student Finds Her Voice at Visions



About Julianne

Julianne Silla is currently the Assistant General Manager at a local Jamba Juice. She graduated in 2016 and was the recipient of Visions' Steve Phelps American Dream Scholarship. Her writing was published in the book "Verbal Graffiti" as part of the 916 Ink Find Your Voice writing class. She is originally from the Phillipines and English is her second language.

Why did you choose to attend Visions?

JS: I moved from the Bay Area and found that I didn't like the public high schools here as I hoped I would. I felt that everyone was superficial and they didn't see the "big picture." I liked that I could attend school and work at the same time.

Visions' mission, values, and morals matched mine so I enrolled.

What was the biggest difference between Visions and your old public school?

JS: I wasn't growing there and I just felt like I was observing everyone else. [Public] high school felt so systematic but at Visions I was able to figure out what worked for me in terms of organization and my personal life. I was able to research what I wanted to study in college during my free time and I can guarantee I wouldn't have been able to do that in regular high school.

At Visions, **I was able to work on my well-being and figure out who I was as a person** because of the supportive environment. The **flexibility really helped me grow** and the staff was so welcoming.

How did the Find Your Voice writing class help you?

JS: The class was so beneficial. It was freeing, relieving and surprisingly therapeutic. It brought out the creative side of me that I never knew existed. I learned more about myself and **if I hadn't taken that class, I wouldn't be as open as I am today.**

How did Visions help you prepare for college and your career?

JS: While at Visions I took an Introduction to Psychology class at American River College and I worked with my counselor. **Visions taught me how to manage my time.** I'm currently attending American River College to pursue a degree in Psychology and I plan to transfer to San Francisco State University or California State University, East Bay to finish my degree. I hope to land a job in either counseling or clinical psychology.



"Visions is an inspiring environment. The flexibility helped me with my personal growth."

