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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



College of Social
& Behavioral Sciences

SBS SNAPSHOTS

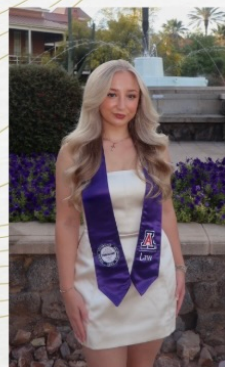
NEWS AND EVENTS FROM
THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
College of Social
& Behavioral Sciences



Congratulations and thank you to the graduating group of SBS Student Ambassadors



The College of Social and Behavioral Sciences celebrates its 2026 graduating Student Ambassadors! Through leadership and service, they have represented SBS with distinction while sharpening their skills in critical thinking, communication, and engagement across diverse communities. [Discover their fun facts and future plans!](#)

SBS FEATURES



[Reclaiming Land, Food and Story: Tommey Jodie, '26, Named SBS Outstanding Senior](#)

Tommey Jodie, a triple major in food studies, creative writing, and nutrition and food systems (CALES), is the spring 2026 SBS Outstanding Senior Award recipient, recognized for her academic excellence, leadership and community-centered work.



[Greta Cotraccia, '26, Earns SBS Leadership and Community Engagement Award](#)

Greta Cotraccia, an Honors student majoring in environmental studies and graduating with a 4.0 GPA, is recognized for her thoughtful, community-centered leadership and hands-on work advancing sustainability on campus and beyond.



Science and Society: Anneleigh Twer, '26, Receives SBS Research Award

Honors student and global studies major Anneleigh Twer, graduating with a 4.0 GPA, is recognized for research bridging global health and the lived experiences of displaced populations, with work spanning both the social and biomedical sciences.



First-Gen Leader Ariel Castillo, '26, Named SBS Student Success Awardee

First-generation student Ariel Castillo, graduating at 20 after completing her B.A. in law in three years, is recognized for academic excellence, campus leadership and resilience—balancing multiple jobs while earning her paralegal certificate and serving in student organizations across SBS.



David Wanyama, '26, Named SBS Tenacity Awardee

David Wanyama, an Honors student graduating with double majors in political science and law, is recognized for extraordinary perseverance — overcoming significant personal and financial challenges to complete his degree while maintaining academic excellence and contributing to his community.



Lilith Green Receives SBS Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award

Sociology doctoral student Lilith Green is recognized for creating inclusive, thought-provoking classrooms that challenge students to think critically and see the world through a sociological lens.



Alice Chaiten Baker to Receive Honorary Degree from College of SBS

Longtime Tucson philanthropist and University of Arizona alumna Alice Chaiten Baker will be honored by the College of SBS for her transformative support of the Arizona Center for Judaic Studies and numerous initiatives across the university and community.



PPEL Major Braelyn Huff Named Robie Gold Medal Honoree

Braelyn Huff, a first-generation student double majoring in PPEL (politics, philosophy, economics, and law) and economics, is a 2026 Outstanding Senior Award recipient and Robie Gold Medal honoree, recognized for her integrity, initiative and impact on the university community.

SBS NEWS BRIEFS



Shannon Taylor, an Arizona Online student and member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and Navajo Nation, is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in geographical information systems technology from the School of Geography, Development and Environment. She is using her training to support land stewardship and conservation efforts within her tribal community. **[Learn more about Shannon in this story from UANews.](#)**

Caroline Mattos, a political science senior with minors in journalism and public relations, is graduating after a year as a student intern with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences MarComm team. [In this recent Q&A](#), she reflects on her time at the University of Arizona and what comes next. A member of Alpha Chi Omega, she plans to apply to law school, building on her interests in communications and political science.

More than 50 undergraduates, the majority from the College of SBS, presented original research at the 2026 "[Prospecting the Past: The Arizona Undergraduate History Research Symposium](#)," highlighting topics ranging from politics and identity to environmental change and technology. The conference gave students hands-on experience presenting scholarly work and engaging with faculty mentors and peers.

Danielle Hermosillo, a sophomore double majoring in care, health and society and psychology, [talks about her experience in this Q&A](#) as a 2025–26 Earth Grant scholar through the Arizona Institute for Resilience. She discusses her work with the Earth Grant program and an internship with Flowers & Bullets, highlighting how sustainability, health and community engagement intersect in her goals.

Saidjakhon Tursunov, an Honors student from Uzbekistan graduating with a major in public management and policy, has focused his time at the U of A on the intersection of technology and policy. [In this Q&A](#), he shares about the experiences that shaped his path and his interest in bridging innovation and policy across borders.

SBS IN THE NEWS

['26 Lionel E. Rombach Outstanding Student Award](#), School of Government and Public Policy, 5/11/26 (Doris Mensah, MPA; Nathaniel Cross, MPP)

' **26 Franke Honors College Outstanding Transfer Student**, W.A. Franke Honors College, 5/11/26 (Rebecca Ursule, Political Science)

"**Community-built map tracks ICE activity across Tucson**," *The Washington Post*, 5/9/26 (Dugan Meyer, Geography, Development & Environment)

" **From the Sahara to the U of A: This graduate brings language, culture and community together**," *Lo Que Pasa*, 5/5/26 (Mourad Abdennebi, Second Language Acquisition and Teaching, Graduate Interdisciplinary Program)

"**OPINION: Immigration policy affects citizens too**," *Arizona Daily Wildcat*, 4/6/26 (Isabel Vidrio, Journalism)

"' **Culinary Mestizaje' in Tucson's food and land justice ecosystem**," *Arizona Sonoran News*, 3/29/26 (Summer Williams, Geography, Development & Environment)

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A Just World, Together

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