

# Student Equity & Engagement Programs

## Rising Scholars

Juan Manuel Ojeda Cabrera

Submitted by Noel Gomez

The Rising Scholars Student of the Year Award honors a student who has overcome personal obstacles, demonstrated academic excellence at SBCC, and actively engages in community service. In the Spring 2023 semester, Juan Ojeda Cabrera made the decision to transform his lifestyle and enrolled at SBCC, pursuing a degree in Addictive Disorders Counseling. Since then, Juan has consistently demonstrated academic prowess, earning a spot on the President's Honor Roll during the Fall 2023 semester.

In addition to his academic achievements, Juan actively participated in the Personal Development 100 course, engaging in classroom discussions with fellow Rising Scholars. His life experiences and perspectives served as valuable resources for encouraging others to participate fully.

Following the Fall 2023 semester, Juan made the decision to change his major to Sociology. He will graduate with an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences with a concentration in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Juan's unwavering determination and resilience are evident in his ability to overcome life's challenges. He possesses an internal motivation that drives him to persevere and achieve success. During his tenure at SBCC, Juan dedicated significant time to studying at the library, taking breaks strategically to maintain his focus and engage with fellow students and staff on a weekly basis.

We eagerly anticipate the continued accomplishments of Juan in the future. Congratulations to Juan on this well-deserved recognition!