



Event: Kern Leaders Academy 2020 Commencement
Day: Monday, December 21, 2020
Contact: Marlene Heise, 661.323.8594, marlene@heisemedia.com

2020 Kern Leaders Academy Commencement Seven Aspiring Leaders Graduate from Intensive Program

Kern Leaders Academy is proud to announce the graduation of its 2020 class. The seven graduates, who come from a variety of business and service backgrounds, spent 72 intensive training hours over the course of nine weeks to learn from seasoned Kern County business and industry leaders. KLA is designed to assist in the development of visionary community leaders who recognize that a healthy business climate leads to a strong economy, which is necessary for a vibrant community. The program is conducted by the Kern County Taxpayers Education Fund.

“This class benefited greatly from the wisdom of the dynamic faculty made up of senior leaders from major companies and industries in Kern County. The program provides real-life experiences and years of combined knowledge to the academy participants. In turn, Kern County’s future business and civic progress will be greatly enhanced by these up-and-coming visionary leaders. Kern Leaders Academy is proud of this class’s efforts and achievements and looks forward to many successful years under their leadership,” commented Mike Turnipseed, Academy Director and Executive Director of Kern County Taxpayers Association.

The KLA Class of 2020 honored its graduates at a dinner at Bakersfield Country Club on Wednesday, November 11, 2020. Graduates are:

- **Sanjeev (Sunny) Advani**, Owner of Synergy Real Estate & Property Management and Bakersfield Maintenance & Construction
- **Josh Bryant**, Chief Business Official (CBO) for the Taft Union High School District
- **Monica Jara Guerra**, Director Community Initiatives for Grimmway Schools
- **Ucedrah Osby**, Founder and President of the Bakersfield Chapter of All Of Us Or None and Kern County Parks and Recreation Department Commissioner
- **Elizabeth Ramos**, Administrative Assistant at the Kern County Hispanic of Commerce
- **Angela Trevino**, Real Estate Agent and Office Manager for Century 21 Jordan Link & Co.
- **Ally Triolo**, Communications at Kern County Department of Human Services

The KLA program requires commitment and study on behalf of both the participants and faculty. Kern Leaders Academy has exceeded expectations as an innovative educational program. Graduates studied topics in ethics, critical thinking, the economy, education, healthcare, public relations, social issues, communication, leadership, the electoral process and became well versed on important topics in federal, state, regional and local governance.

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Sponsors of the 2020 Kern Leaders Academy included Wonderful Orchards, Adventist Health Bakersfield, WZI, Inc., Heise Media Group, Chevron, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, The Donna Carpenter Fund, PAS Human Resources Consultants, and Kern County Taxpayers Association.

If you are interested in applying for the 2021 Kern Leaders Academy or wish to become a sponsor, please contact: Michael Turnipseed: 661-322-2973 / email: Kerntax@kerntaxpayers.org

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