



KECK GRADUATE INSTITUTE

A Member of The Claremont Colleges



EVENT PROGRAM

2026

White Coat CEREMONY

Saturday, September 19, 2026 | 2 p.m.

Scripps Garrison Theater, 231 E. 10th Street, Claremont, CA 91711

Honoring

Doctor of Pharmacy | Class of 2030

Occupational Therapy Doctorate | Class of 2029

The Chan Family Master of Science in
Physician Associate Studies | Class of 2027

Message from the President and the Provost

Today marks a significant milestone for Keck Graduate Institute's Doctor of Pharmacy, Occupational Therapy Doctorate, and Master of Science in Physician Associate Studies students as we celebrate the White Coat Ceremony. This cherished tradition signifies an important step in your preparation to enter professions grounded in knowledge, compassion, service, and the pursuit of excellence in healthcare.

To serve as a pharmacist, occupational therapist, or physician associate is more than a career— it is a calling. As you don your white coats, you accept the responsibility that comes with caring for others. The coat represents not only the knowledge and skills you are developing, but also your commitment to practice with integrity, uphold the highest ethical standards, and place patients at the center of all you do.

The white coat is also a symbol of trust: the trust patients place in healthcare professionals during some of the most important and vulnerable moments of their lives. May it serve as a lasting reminder to see the person behind every diagnosis, listen with empathy, and approach each patient with dignity and compassion.

As you continue your educational journey at KGI, every lecture, lab, experiential learning opportunity, and interaction with faculty, peers, patients, and community partners will help shape the healthcare professional you become. Each moment offers an opportunity to grow as a skilled practitioner, thoughtful collaborator, and informed leader. Embrace the challenges and discoveries ahead -- they will prepare you to advocate for patients, advance innovative solutions, and help heal and uplift the communities you serve.

Congratulations on reaching this momentous milestone. May you wear your white coat with pride, curiosity, and a steadfast commitment to excellence. We look forward to seeing how each of you will help shape the future of healthcare.

Warmest regards,



Dr. Mohamed Abousalem
President



Dr. Megan Prosser
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean, School of Health Sciences



Program

Procession

Welcome from the Provost

Megan Prosser, PhD

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean, School of Health Sciences

National Anthem

Allison Bui

PharmD Class of 2030

Invocation

Iman Hadi Qazwini, PhD

Office of the Chaplains, The Claremont Colleges

Welcome from the KGI Board of Trustees

Yolanda Moses

Vice Chair, KGI Board of Trustees

Presentation of the School of Pharmacy and School of Health Sciences and Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Megan Prosser, PhD

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean, School of Health Sciences

Keynote Speaker

Samia H. Rafeedie, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, CBIS, FAOTA

President of the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC)
Director of the Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Professional Program
Director of Health and Safety, and Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy —
University of Southern California



Doctor of Pharmacy

Message from Dean and Introduction of Program Director

Derick Han, PhD

Dean, School of Pharmacy
Keck Professor of Biopharmaceutical Sciences

Presentation of PharmD White Coats

Talia Puzantian, PharmD, BCPP

Interim Program Director (PharmD)
Assistant Dean of Experiential Education
Norris Foundation Professor of Clinical Sciences

Announcement of PharmD Student Names

Kanika Bhandari, PharmD

Director of Outreach and Postgraduate Training
Assistant Professor of Clinical Sciences

Recitation of PharmD Pledge of Professionalism

Stephanie Kourtakis, PharmD, BCACP

Associate Professor of Clinical Sciences





Occupational Therapy Doctorate

Message from Dean and Introduction of Program Director

Megan Prosser, PhD

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean, School of Health Sciences

Presentation of OTD White Coats

Kelly Auld-Wright, OTD, OTR/L

Interim Program Director and Assistant Professor

Announcement of OTD Student Names

Yustina Nashed, OTD, OTR/L

Assistant Professor

Recitation of OTD Pledge of Professionalism

Vanessa Yanez, PhD, MSOT, OTR/L

Assistant Professor

The Chan Family Master of Science in Physician Associate Studies

Message from Dean and Introduction of Program Director

Megan Prosser, PhD

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Dean, School of Health Sciences

Presentation of MSPA White Coats

Erin Gysbers, DMSc, MPA, PA-C

Interim Program Director and Associate Professor

Announcement of MSPA Student Names

Amanda Ingalls, DMS, PA-C

Director of Didactic Education and Associate Professor

Recitation of MSPA Pledge of Professionalism

Stacey McIlroy, MMS, PA-C

Assistant Professor

Closing

President's Remarks

Mohamed Abousalem, PhD, MBA, P.Eng

President

Sponsor Speaker

Darshana Patel

District Pharmacy Supervisor, Walgreens

Keck Graduate Institute has made every attempt to accurately include in these programs all persons deserving of recognition. If there has been any error or omission, please accept our sincerest apologies. For more information or to report an error, please email marketing@kgi.edu.



Keynote Speaker



Samia H. Rafeedie, OTD, OTR/L, BCPR, CBIS, FAOTA

President of the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC)
Director of the Entry-Level Occupational Therapy Professional Program
Director of Health and Safety, and Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy —
University of Southern California

An occupational therapist for more than 25 years, Dr. Samia Rafeedie is an accomplished educator, mentor, and professional leader whose career has been defined by service, advocacy, and a deep commitment to preparing the next generation of health care professionals.

Rafeedie serves as President of the Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC), where she has been a powerful advocate for occupational therapy practitioners, students, and the communities they serve. She is a Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy in USC's Mrs. T.H. Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy; Director of the entry-level professional programs in occupational therapy, overseeing the bachelor's and doctoral programs; and the Chan Division's Director of Health and Safety.

Her longstanding contributions to the profession have earned her numerous honors, including the OTAC Janice Matsutsuyu Service Award. In 2024, she was inducted into the Roster of Fellows of the American Occupational Therapy Association — one of the profession's highest honors — in recognition of her sustained leadership, advocacy, mentorship, and service.

Rafeedie has extensive clinical experience in adult physical rehabilitation, brain injury, geriatrics, skilled nursing, and acute care. She is Board Certified in Physical Rehabilitation, a Certified Brain Injury Specialist, and a Credentialed Leader in Academia. Her teaching and scholarship encompass adult rehabilitation, kinesiology, disability perspectives, productive aging, pedagogy, professional development, leadership, and advocacy. She has authored textbook chapters and professional publications and has presented her work at state, national, and international conferences.



| Students

Doctor of Pharmacy

Jaidynn Alvarez

Karla Alvarez-Lozano

Hiba Ashfaq

Karla Ayala Guardado

Riad Bellili

Samantha Bowers

Allison Bui

Edgar Campos Negrete

Ashley Chambers

Ahmad Chemkhi

Madhvi Choda

Arianna Cocjin

Sonia Darakjian

Matthew DeGuzman

Sohrob Doroodian

William Franklin

Nayeli Garcia

Lanaja Glover

Erika Hipolito

Nardin Ishak

Oluwatoba Karunwi

Jeongeun Lee

Keren Lo

Julissa Lopez

Victoria Ly

Rayyaan Mahmud

Amira Muhyeddin

Kim Nguyen

Johnathan Nguyen

Dvin Noravian

Aram Pembedjian

Anna Phan

Shima Rafiei

Hamza Rasheed

Madison Richman

Joshua Ross

Matthew Sandino

Patricia Santiago

Elyssa Savellano

Satleen Singh

LeAnn Souvannasing

Elsie Ureta

Zi Long Wu



Pledge of Professionalism

Doctor of Pharmacy

As a pharmacy student, I recognize the importance of building a professional identity founded on integrity, ethical behavior, and honor to serve society responsibly. To achieve this development, I pledge to:

- **Develop** loyalty, duty, and accountability to the profession and community.
- **Foster** lifelong professional competency, teamwork, and unity for optimal patient care.
- **Support** colleagues in upholding the Oath of a Pharmacist and Code of Ethics.
- **Incorporate** dedication to excellence and continuous value reassessment into my life and practice.
- **Maintain** the highest ideals to facilitate a covenantal caregiver-patient relationship.

Adhering to these high ethical standards begins within the college community and prepares me for full membership in the profession.



Occupational Therapy Doctorate

Ayah Abualhawa

Sydney Abundo

Jennifer Alvarenga

Zoey Barajas

Hermione Borisuthirattana

Linda Cordoba

Eliza Crumley

Natalie Duong

Amanda Ellis

Hannah Endo

Noshin Farhin

Helena Fultz

Kaitlyn Gatt

Kaitlyn Gonzalez

Lucy Guarrera

Rayleen Hernandez

Ashley Hinojos

Joseph Hsieh

Annelise Hurtado

Hannah Lopez

Emma Olsen

Chloe Ontiveros

Gift Osueke

Sarah Reynoso

Rebecca Ring

Jordyn Rong

Daniela Sanchez

Maya Sanchez

Constantine Serrano

Kira Stefanides

Melanie Sukkar

Olivia Tripp

Hannah Wu

Hailey Yektafar

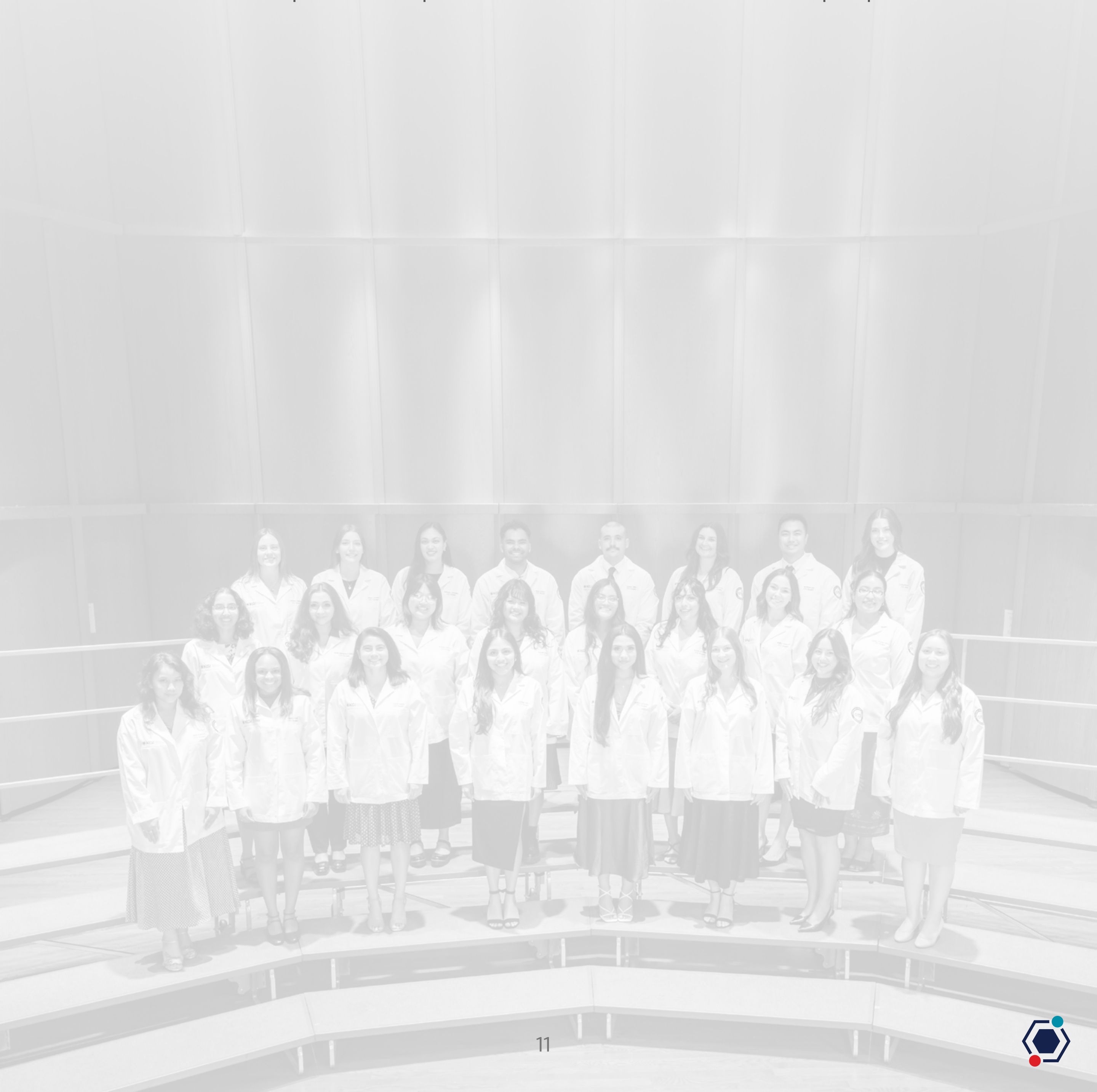
Gladys Zapata



Pledge of Professionalism

Occupational Therapy Doctorate

I, STUDENT NAME, an occupational therapy student, and a future occupational therapy practitioner, hereby pledge that I will always abide by the core values, principles, and philosophy of the occupational therapy profession. I will follow the OT code of ethics and deliver the highest standards of care throughout my professional career. After completing the program at KGI and obtaining the OTD degree and license, I will demonstrate loyalty, honesty, and commitment to the profession by serving in its best interest, and will always remain an ambassador and advocate for the profession. With this oath-taking, I also affirm that I will work towards benefiting societies, communities, people, and organizations through my acquired knowledge and skills and helping them obtain meaningful occupations in life. Finally, as a part of my professional responsibility and development, I will keep myself abreast of all the research, current changes, and trends happening within and outside the profession and will use evidence-based practice to provide the best outcomes for the people I serve.



The Chan Family Master of Science in Physician Associate Studies

Asma Ahmad

Juwairiah Ahmed

Jasleen Aurora

Alexis Baltierrez

Alexa Campbell

Carly Cheap

Domenico Chico

Madison Day

Amrita Deol

Antonio Diaz Martinez

Miranda Flores

David Frydberg

Ashley Gahagan

Aysha Gsibat

Mark Gerard Guiriba

Ariella Hananel

Kayla Henoud

Thomas Honda

Shannon Huang

Reginamarie James

Jamie Janchoi

Hana Kim

Yiyin Lin

Jan Lipovaca

Cassidy Liu

Mardoqueo Lorenzo

Cassidy Mirjah-Jablonski

Vi Nguyen

Jennifer Piatt

Lilly Rozier

Taylor-Ashley Siao

Kelli Smith

Sarah Snedaker

Kaelyn Stratton

Ava Tajbakhsh

Julia Weinstein



Pledge of Professionalism

The Chan Family Master of Science in Physician Associate Studies

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

- I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.
- I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice.
- I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.
- I will not discriminate. I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.
- I will hold in confidence the patient-specific information shared in the course of practicing, medicine.
- I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine. I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my practice of medicine.
- I will work with other members of the healthcare team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.
- I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to a healthy community and the improvement of public health.
- I will respect my professional relationship with all members of the healthcare team.
- I will share and expand my clinical and professional knowledge with PAs and PA students.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.



Information & Resources

Tap the buttons below to view more information on the White Coat academic programs and KGI's senior leadership.



**The Chan Family Master of Science in
Physician Associate Studies**

Occupational Therapy Doctorate

Doctor of Pharmacy

Board of Trustees

President's Cabinet

Thank You to Our Sponsor

Walgreens has maintained a steadfast commitment to promoting health equity. Out of the nearly 9,000 locations across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, more than half of them are situated in underserved communities.

Walgreens has implemented measures to enhance our efforts in addressing health disparities. These efforts are guided by our health equity strategy, which ensures shared accountability across business teams and focuses on three pillars: access, education and partnership to improve patient outcomes as we reimagine localized healthcare and wellbeing for all.

Walgreens



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For more information on how to stay involved and for a video archive of the ceremony, visit kgi.link/wcc.



KECK GRADUATE INSTITUTE

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Keck Graduate Institute is a one-of-a-kind graduate school focused on educating tomorrow's biotech, research, and healthcare leaders. We do this through a concentrated and hands-on approach to our methodology that brings students together with our extensive network of partners to work on real-world problems in real-world settings that allow our students to gain the experience and knowledge to truly make an impact on our communities and the individuals within them.

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