

# The UC Davis University Honors Program

*ADVANCING EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE IN A COMPLEX WORLD*



**UC DAVIS**

University Honors Program  
Office of Undergraduate Education





## Tomorrow's Leaders

Within a university renowned for working across disciplines, the UC Davis University Honors Program (UHP) is a shining example of how bringing together different points of view enriches critical thinking and leadership development. Merging the academic strengths of a top-10 public research university with social, extracurricular and classroom enhancements, our program delivers an unparalleled educational experience within a dynamic living-learning community.

**By providing students with comprehensive resources, we build opportunities for tomorrow's leaders in every field—**from animal science, agricultural engineering and physics to history, music, and majors students create for themselves.

As we look to the future, our goal is to empower a new generation with diverse perspectives and toolsets to reimagine tomorrow's possibilities. Being admitted into the honors program strongly incentivizes top students to choose UC Davis—as do offers of financial support.

**Creating UHP scholarships will allow us to recruit diverse students whose hard work, courageous thinking and passion for public service epitomize the Aggie spirit.**

**UHP scholarships are catalysts that help remarkable students reach for new horizons.**



### The Opportunity

We invite you to help us reach our goal of creating 20 endowed UHP scholarships. Your gift will be invested as a permanent resource, **supporting generations of honors students in achieving their dreams.**

Through your philanthropy, we will continue to attract students of exceptional promise to UC Davis and ensure access to experiences that prepare them to be values-driven change makers and lifelong leaders.



## Honors at UC Davis: An Engine of Excellence

While they follow diverse paths into our program, UHP students are united in shared experiences and in finding themselves. Each one values and contributes to the mix of perspectives that is central to our success.

UHP students are encouraged to celebrate their unique and shared backgrounds, nurture their brilliance and build the educational experiences they imagine. Because we believe in their capacity to exceed expectations, we push them to take intellectual risks within a close-knit community of advisors, educators and fellow learners.

**UHP scholarships are investments in communities of learning defined by diversity, curiosity, humanity and intellectual rigor.**

As students' confidence develops, so does their exploration and achievement. Our scholars partner with graduate students to examine incarceration rates, join faculty to research brain development, advance the preservation of Indigenous art forms, and innovate at the intersection of biology, engineering and agriculture.

**Your philanthropic partnership will make life-changing opportunities like these available to extraordinary students,** enriching the collaborative scholarship and experiential learning that makes the UHP an engine of excellence.

*“This voice that I didn’t have in high school I developed through UHP. Even recently I didn’t see myself going into public service. I didn’t see myself as someone who speaks up. UHP made me realize that regardless of what I was interested in, there were opportunities for me.”*

- JULIE CRAVOTTO '19, honors alumna and University Medalist, fellow to CA Assemblymember David Chiu

*“I loved the opportunity to actually live in a dorm with fellow honors students. The intellectual conversations, the debates, the camaraderie—all extended well outside of the classroom and permeated our lives.”*

- BILL RISTENPART '99, Joe and Essie Smith Endowed Professor of Chemical Engineering and honors alumnus



## Honors in the World: *Expect Greater*

Through a powerful program that emphasizes inclusive excellence and tailored access to the depth and breadth of opportunities available at UC Davis, the UHP serves as a national leader in honors education. We honor the unique cultural assets that students bring with them to college and believe that achieving inclusive excellence requires engaging with and understanding diversity. We are distinguished in the high number of outstanding transfer students we serve, many of whom are veterans, parents and returning students.

Our goal-oriented scholars think deeply about their careers after UC Davis and leverage ample opportunities to gain professional skills. Their fresh ideas lead to the development of everything from new general education courses to products that attract investment from a variety of industries.

**There is no limit to the impact UHP students make over a lifetime.** Our alumni are both leaders and continual learners in their fields—working on the front lines of public health challenges, making the food and beverage industries more sustainable, transforming education, and so much more.

Supporting UHP scholarships means advancing 21st-century problem-solvers and global citizens who move society forward.



*"I feel like choosing UC Davis and the UHP was one of the best decisions I ever made. A lot of the program is very community-based. People aren't afraid to help each other out. Everyone is a hard worker and a genuinely good person. I feel like I've met a lot of people who will be going places."*

- VINCENT BASAS, honors student pursuing a double major in psychology and in neurobiology, physiology and behavior

*"There are endless networking opportunities within the UHP, and we have a really great advising team. You don't come into college knowing how to navigate college. The UHP provides the support necessary to allow people to become the best versions of themselves by the time they graduate."*

- ALLIE O'BRIEN, honors student pursuing a double major in sociology and political science





## An Invitation

Thank you for your consideration of a gift to the University Honors Program. Your scholarship support will open transformative new pathways of opportunity to top students and enrich the collaborative learning environment that makes the UHP one of a kind.

Together, we will ensure tomorrow's visionaries can access every opportunity to thrive—bringing about a brighter future for us all.

*"The fourth-year project is a huge opportunity. I'm really excited about my ability to do a thesis with professors who know I'm an honors student, and to be able to call it an honors thesis on my transcript."*

- SYDNEY WOODS, honors student pursuing a major in animal science

*"The heart of our program is attracting and supporting students of enormous potential—helping them to find their voice and their calling. Through the UHP, they come to honor the gift of knowledge within themselves and to discover their own capacity to achieve extraordinary things."*

- J. DAVID FURLOW, UHP director, associate dean for Undergraduate Education, and professor of neurobiology, physiology and behavior