

November 8, 2022

Honoring our Veterans

Today (Wed) we will have both celebratory and commemorative moments at our Veterans Plaza, and at the Veterans' Plaza in downtown Los Altos on Friday, in remembrance of Veterans Day. There will be student speakers at these events. I hope that you will join us either in person or in your thoughts, to honor our Veterans. I am heartened each time I attend one of our events, to realize how much we mean to this particular group of students and the opportunities we enable them to have. They make us a better college. With her permission, I want to share the words of one our students:

*My name is Maya Marquez-Garcia. I was born and raised in Colorado. I have two brothers and a twin sister. I am a Corporal of Marines. I served in the Marine Corps from 2017 until 2021. I was a 3531 motor transport operator. I was stationed on Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay, HI with HQBN fuels division. I was responsible for fuel delivery of all aircraft and government vehicles aboard MCBH. Most of my duties consisted of hot fueling (in-flight aircraft), cold fueling (stationary aircraft), quality control of fuel and fuel farm maintenance. I also took pride in being a dependable and understanding leader for my junior Marines. I loved being a leader and looking out for my Marines. I knew that they had my back just as much as I had theirs. I loved being a Marine. There is a certain kind of comradery that comes with being a Marine that only Marines will understand. That is one of my favorite parts of being a Marine. After my time in service, I decided to move to California to pursue my education at Foothill College studying psychology. I'm in my second year now and getting ready to submit my applications for transfer to university. I'm currently working as a research assistant at Stanford University in the sociology department. I hope to do my own research in psychology as I continue my education.*

I had asked Maya why she chose Foothill, since she was from out of state. She said she was online looking for schools and she was struck by the services we provided for Veterans and that she was impressed with the sense of community for Vets that was portrayed on our website. Join me in wishing her well as she continues her education. I find it remarkable that she is able to have an educational goal so remarkably different from her Marine experience and we are able to facilitate her dream.

Best regards,

Bernadine

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