



tackling today's world of environmental and medical challenges

Successful Inaugural Symposium



Looking a little nervous before their presentations, The Rose Hills Foundation Research Fellows take time to sit for a photo on their last day as a group.

Recently the Oak Crest team moved to the Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles Arboretum in Arcadia, where we held our first annual symposium. The well-attended, one-day event was dedicated to presenting some of the current research at Oak Crest and featured a number of scientific and poster presentations, as well as a group of local sponsors. The keynote talk by Professor Jerome Zack (Chair of Microbiology, Immunology and Genetics, Director of the UCLA Center for AIDS Research, and co-director, UCLA AIDS Institute) about the challenges and successes of removing HIV from cells of infected patients was one highlight of the day.

Another highlight was the series of final presentations by our The Rose Hills Foundation Research Fellows. This group of talented community college students explained their research projects to colleagues, invited guests, and friends of Oak Crest.

Junior Researcher Academy is Underway



Students in the first JRA session posing in their lab coats.

The innovative program, in collaboration with the City of Monrovia, introduces 7th to 9th grade students to life as a research scientist in an authentic laboratory environment. This is the second year of the program and it was fully subscribed by enthusiastic young researchers. The program, run by our YES Interns with help from college students, gives participants the opportunity to isolate DNA, separate proteins by electrophoresis, and use microscopes to explore their surroundings. However, ice cream

making using liquid nitrogen may be the most memorable part of the program!

Go here (link: <https://www.monroviaweekly.com/community/city-of-monrovia-completes-the-largest-yes-internship/>) for more information

News & Events

Awards Season Again



Marc Baum, CEO and President of the Oak Crest Institute of Science preparing for his SGVEP video interview.

The San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership [link: <https://sgvpartnership.org/>] has selected the Oak Crest Institute of Science for an award at their Annual Gala in September. The award, "**Success Within Workforce Development**" is one of four being presented at the Pasadena Rose Bowl on Saturday, September 21, 2019 during their annual Gala. [link: <https://sgvpartnership.org/SGV-Awards-Gala>]

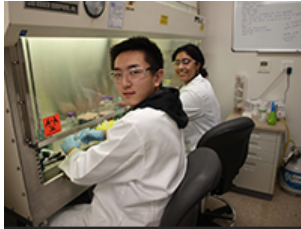
Pre-apprenticeship programs with Bio-Flex begin July 1



**A WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

about the Monrovia YES Intern Program.

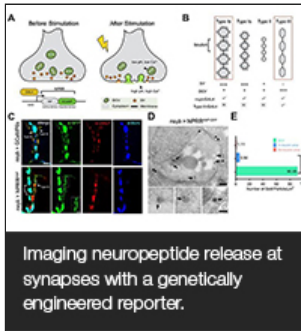
Summer Intern Program



Peter Song and Subashni Rajiv working on their cell culture project.

For most students, the summer months mean vacation, but not for our interns. Every summer Oak Crest fills with students contemplating science as a career. The students give up their summer to rotate through our laboratories, learning lab skills and getting an idea of what life is like working in a laboratory as a researcher. The experience helps them decide if research is a career path they would like to take.

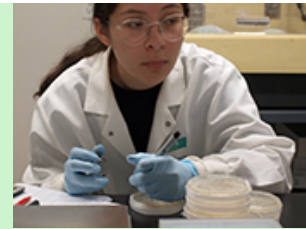
Imaging Core Activities



Imaging neuropeptide release at synapses with a genetically engineered reporter.

The Oak Crest Imaging Core, while still a fledgling service core, is already attracting users from the local research community, and is producing research papers on a variety of research subjects. The Imaging Core is open to users throughout the country, and can help with research projects from many different disciplines where microscopy is useful. Skilled local staff can assist with thin sectioning, electron microscopy, atomic force microscopy, and immunolabeling.

Neurobiology research in *Drosophila* (fruit fly) in the labs of David Anderson at Caltech, Dion Dickman at University of Southern California and Christopher Buser at Oak Crest Institute of Science was just published in the journal *eLife*. Congratulations to all! Ding, et al. "Imaging neuropeptide release at synapses with a genetically engineered reporter." *eLife* 8 (2019): e46421. [Link: <https://elifesciences.org/articles/46421>]



This summer Oak Crest has teamed up with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) to offer paid Bio-Flex pre-internships to some of our students. Currently 4 students have signed up to test the program. Working at Oak Crest and learning laboratory skills, the students will be supported for 80 hours of work. They will be presented with a certificate of completion at the end of the program showing their preparedness for a career in the biotech industry.



Professor Jerome Zack explains his important anti-HIV research to the Oak Crest Inaugural Symposium audience in June.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKING NEWS: Oak Crest Institute of Science Awarded Major Economic Development Grant

The Oak Crest Institute of Science has been approved for full funding support through the i6 Challenge program under the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) Program. The prestigious grant award will help fund the Monrovia~Oak Crest Science and Technology Incubator Program (MOST-IP). The full story will be featured next month.

