



tackling today's world of environmental and medical challenges

Congresswoman Grace F. Napolitano Visits Oak Crest



On August 15th the Oak Crest team had the great honor of welcoming The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano, the U.S. Representative for California's 32nd congressional district, to the Oak Crest Institute of Science.

Congresswoman Napolitano met with Dr. Chris Buser to congratulate him on his recently awarded prestigious RIS i6 Challenge grant by the Economic Development Administration for his Monrovia – Oak Crest Science and Technology Incubator Program (MOST-IP).

Congresswoman Napolitano also met with other Oak Crest Faculty members to discuss the on-going educational and research programs at the Institute. Of particular interest to her were the Oak Crest environmental projects involving improving water quality, as she is a strong advocate for securing clean, inexpensive water supply that we can rely on even in times of drought.

Congresswoman Napolitano met with Dr. Marc M. Baum, President and CEO of Oak Crest and presented him with a Congressional Certificate of Appreciation, which is already hanging on the wall in our entranceway!



Also present during the visit were Mr. Tom Adams, Mayor of the City of Monrovia, Mr. Oliver Chi, our outgoing City Manager, as well as Lauren Vasquez and Brittany Mello from the City Managers Office.

A Growing Technology Hub in Monrovia

In July Dr. Chris Buser received the great news that his grant application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) Program was successful. The grant, written in collaboration with the City of Monrovia and Newton World Enterprises

News & Events

Arcadia Performing Arts STEAM-M 2019



In October, the Oak Crest Outreach Team took their science displays to Arcadia in the courtyard of the Performing Arts Center. The annual [STEAM-M event](#) brings awareness of the arts and sciences in the local community.

City of Monrovia 2019 Trick-or-Treat Halloween Bash

Once again we took our bugs, blood and potions to the Library Park for the Monrovia Halloween Bash. Little Red Riding Hood (Sofia Rivera) joined the resident zombies and witches to help hand out candy and magnify the bugs. Sofia was also chosen to judge the Fancy Dress Costume Competition, not an easy task this year, with such a high quality of costumes on parade.

Awards

Dr. Marc Baum was honored to receive the "Success Within



LLC (our for-profit partner), marks the establishment of The [Monrovia – Oak Crest Science and Technology Incubator Program \(MOST-IP\)](#). This means we can continue to develop our biotech incubator program and attract more start-up businesses to Monrovia.

The funding will assist in helping us offer furnished laboratory space, access to core instrumentation, grant-writing & management skills, patent writing and submission, legal advice, capital, and staff training. [Contact Chris](#) if you want to learn more.

Summer of Students



With the wonderful support from the City of Monrovia, Huntington Library and Gardens, and Citrus College this summer, we offered a wide range of student programs to the local community.

[The Junior Researcher Academy](#), in its 2nd year, opened with forty 7th to 9th grade students enrolled.

Our team of trained high school YES interns, community college interns and fellows, and Monrovia City Recreation Leaders were in charge of the Oak Crest-designed laboratory classes.

Summer Interns

Students from high schools, community colleges, and 4-year colleges spent the summer as interns in our labs, learning essential laboratory skills and finding out what it is like to be a scientist. These experiences are essential for students deciding if a STEM career is for them.

The Rose Hills Foundation Fellows

Our final cohort of The Rose Hills Foundation Fellows completed their projects at the beginning of summer and presented their work at our “Innovation Through Research” Inaugural Symposium at the Los Angeles Arboretum in Arcadia.

Bio-Flex

Some of our summer interns joined the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program offered by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB). Completion of on-line classes and the Oak Crest laboratory work experience was required for the students to receive their certificates. A testimonial from Destiny Cambero, one of our student interns and a Bio-Flex participant, is featured on the [SBWIB web site](#). Destiny transferred to [UC, Davis](#) this Fall and we all plan on attending her graduation.



Workforce Development" Award on behalf of Oak Crest at [The San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Annual Gala](#) held at the Pasadena Rose Bowl. Drs. Chris Buser and Paul Webster were there to cheer for Oak Crest. The Oak Crest presentation video, played before the award presentation, can be found [on our video page](#).

In recognition of the participation of Oak Crest in the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program, we were awarded a scroll signed by the [Los Angeles Board of Supervisors](#).



The pre-apprenticeship program is an employer-driven model that aims to create a flexible, yet structured career pathway for the next generation of Bioscience workers in Los Angeles County. The scroll was presented to Dr. Paul Webster. Also present from Oak Crest at the ceremony in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration were Dr. Chris Buser, John Cortez and Simon Webster. Congratulations to the students, the employer and the SBWIB Bio-Flex team! And thank you to [Supervisor Ridley-Thomas](#).



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Oak Crest Institute of Science
OPEN HOUSE**

Oak Crest doors will be open to visitors interested in finding out about our **Research Projects and Labs**, about our **Biotech**

Have a question? Contact our newsletter editor at news@oak-crest.org.

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Incubator Program, or who just want to participate in our **Kid-Friendly Science Activities**.

Sign up [HERE](#) if you are planning to attend.