

Music

Selected Student: Sergio Rodriguez

Submitted by: Nathan Kreitzer, James Mooy, Anthony Ybarra

Sergio has proven himself to be a strong performer in many ensembles and a leader of his class. He has faced adversity in his life and met it with great resolve. He also has proven himself a great leader of his fellow students in recent developments in the department and shown remarkable strength and tenacity in difficult situations. I could not recommend him higher for this award! - NK

Two years ago Sergio enrolled as a full-time college music major at SBCC. He participated in seven ensembles including Lunch Break Big Band, Good Times Big Band, Combo A (New World Jazz Ensemble), SBCC Symphony Orchestra, SBCC Concert Band, SBCC Brass Quintet, and the SBCC Trumpet Ensemble. Sergio is the top student in SBCC's traditional theory classes, but that wasn't enough for this young man. Sergio has used some of his "gig" money to take advanced jazz theory lessons.

He currently boasts a 3.76 grade point average, he has been accepted into every school for which he has auditioned, USC, Cal Arts, Cal State L.A., CSU Long Beach, and CSUN. He wishes to attend USC and earn a Ph.D in music. -JM

I nominate Sergio Rodriguez for Outstanding Student of the Year. A self-taught musician, Sergio never had a proper trumpet lesson until college. In Jr. High, his natural talent and ability impressed teachers and clinicians. In High School, he won many awards for outstanding musicianship. When Sergio enrolled at SBCC to study music, he was immediately placed in our advanced music ensembles. During our fundraising concert, Sergio's combo performed Miles Davis' "Birth of the Cool". It was met with a standing ovation. Noozhawk music writer highlighted his performance stating "Props to trumpet player Sergio

Rodriguez, who slayed in Davis' shoes in the lead". Sergio is a model student at SBCC music and his dedication to his art has been inspiring. - AY

Sergio's Words of Gratitude:

Since I was 12 years old, the music professors from Santa Barbara City College have had a major influence in my life. They have provided me with a world-class education without asking for anything in return. Santa Barbara City College was the place where I learned how to get up after failing miserably and I am eternally grateful for having a space where I can continue to grow. My mentor James "Jim" Mooy has changed my life by believing in me and my dreams. He has never put a drop of doubt in mind and because of people like him, the world is a better place.