CONGRATULATIONS PREP STUDENTS!!

The renaming of PREP

The University of Texas at San Antonio announced it has named its highly respected STEM-based summer program the “Dr. Manuel P. Berriozábal Prefreshman Engineering Program” in honor of the immeasurable impact of founding faculty member and Professor Emeritus of Mathematics, Manuel P. Berriozábal. The program naming recognizes Berriozábal’s innovation and commitment to advancing San Antonio through the promotion of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education for middle and high school students and expanding opportunities for students of all backgrounds to access a college degree.

PREP Levels 1 – 5

This summer, students completed the PREP 4 1/2 weeks STEM focused program that took place June 14th – July 14th at different campuses including UTSA main and downtown campus, Texas A&M University, and St. Mary’s University. Students learned about the engineering cycle, physics, statistics, nanotechnology, and laboratory techniques while engaging in hands on projects, guest speaker series, campus tours, student-led symposium, and field trips. Students from districts throughout San Antonio participated including Southwest, South San, Southside, Northside, Northeast, SAISD, East Central, Judson, Boerne, Somerset, Fort Sam Houston, Edgewood, and Harlandale along with various charter schools.

PREP Levels 4 & 5 STEM Field Trip

PREP students in levels 4 & 5 had the opportunity to take part in a thrilling, immersive adventure by taking a trip to iFly in San Antonio. Students gained an exclusive behind the scenes look at wind tunnel technology. Students learned from highly trained STEM educators and were guided through an immersive, hands-on experience that consisted of an interactive presentation on real-world STEM applications. They were exposed to physics demonstrations in iFly’s state-of-the-art wind tunnel and were able to actually fly one-on-one in the wind tunnel with a certified world-class iFly flight instructor.
PREP CLOSING CEREMONY HONORARY SPEAKERS

A Life of Serving My Community

Marina Alderete Gavito was born and raised in San Antonio and has dedicated herself to innovating, strengthening, and driving results to help move her community forward. She received her Bachelor’s degree at St. Mary’s University, and her Master’s from DePaul University’s Kellstadt Graduate School of Business. She was elected to represent San Antonio’s District 7 in June of this year. Previously, she served as the Executive Director of SA Digital Connects - an organization focused on addressing the digital divide by improving internet accessibility for the residents of San Antonio and Bexar County. Prior to SA Digital Connects, Marina’s career focused on technology and innovation with Fortune 500 corporations. She was also the Founding Executive Director of Tech Bloc and has served on the VIA Board of Trustees the Bexar County Child Welfare Board, and the UTSA College of Engineering Advisory Board,

From PREP: The Beginning of a Lifetime of Learning

Mr. Enrique Bonugli is a native San Antonian and former PREP student. He is currently employed as a Technical Director at a consulting firm in San Antonio, Texas. He joined Biodynamic Research Corporation (BRC) in 2002 and over the past 20 years has developed an expertise in the fields of automotive crash reconstruction, impact biomechanics, automotive component performance, failure analysis and forensic investigation of industrial mishaps. He is an accredited accident deconstructionist and a current member of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM). Mr. Bonugli has published numerous scientific papers in the fields of accident reconstruction and biomechanics and continues to utilize the basic principles he learned through the PREP program.
PREP SUMMER 2023

PREP SPEAKER SERIES

From the Barrio to the Boardroom
Salena S. Guipzot moved to Portland, OR in 2008, where she attended Portland State University (PSU) to receive her degree in Finance before moving back home to San Antonio. Salena has participated in various leadership programs to include Oregon Leadership program, Latina Leadership program, Women of Texas Leadership, and is currently in the Briseño Leadership program. After years of working in the male-dominated financial sector, Salena was driven to create and develop the Boardroom Project (BRP) in 2018. BRP is an international leadership organization that develops future board leaders, one girl/woman at a time. Additionally, Salena is the owner and Wine Director of Casa Guipzot, LLC, a boutique wine shop and tasting room specializing in Mexican wine, located in the heart of San Antonio’s Westside.

From PREP to Cyber Pioneer
In 1980, Angie Collazo was selected as one of only 50 high school student participants for the second year of the UTSA’s Pre-freshman Engineering Program (PREP). She has also served as a PREP program assistant and PREP instructor. Ms. Collazo has extensive experience in the civil service, where her contributions played a critical role in how the United States Cyber Command conducts cyber operations today and will benefit the next generation of cyber operations well into the next century. In 2018, she retired from her AF civilian career, and was inducted into San Antonio’s Cyber Hall of Honor as a Cyber Pioneer. She continues serving the community as a UTSA professor and a senior cyber security engineer and consultant.

My Engineering Storey: A journey from the Ranch to the Ocean
Chris Storey is the Manager for the Ocean Simulation Lab at Southwest Research Institute where he manages subsea, various Oil & Gas, Submersible, Navy and other industries testing. Mr. Storey gained his MS in Mechanical Engineering in 2014 from UTSA and has experience with design and design verification testing of subsea structures/components from conceptual design to prototype. Chris was a team member in the design and fabrication of the hull for Alvin submersible. He is active in areas of fatigue testing of equipment involving strain gauges and asset integrity. Mr. Storey’s current research interests include test and certification of manned/unmanned vehicles and support equipment.
2024 PREP
PROGRAM DATES

November 14, 2023 – PREP 24 Applications Open
February 14, 2024 – PREP 24 Application Due
March 14, 2024 – PREP Student Selections Communicated
April 14, 2024 – PREP 24 Student Registration with Payment is Due
May 1, 2024 – PREP 24 Campus Assignments Communicated
May 14, 2024 – PREP 24 Final Day for Changes
June 4, 2024 – PREP 24 Family Zoom/Orientation
June 12, 2024 – PREP 24 First Day
If you would like to request a copy of your child's academic record, please click on the link below or use the QR code to complete the form request:

https://forms.office.com/r/4NDEWtQLkU