

## Guardian Scholars

Student Selected: Paulo Aguirre

Submitted by: Paloma Arnold

Paulo Aguirre is someone that encompasses the true power of the stories of our Guardian Scholar students. As a former foster youth, Paulo's story of resilience and the hard work he puts forth to not only get through these hardships, but to THRIVE through them is inspiring.

Despite the need to balance between basic needs survival and educational priorities, Paulo has remained an active participant in the Guardian Scholars events and always shows up for other students in need. He is the first to volunteer for outreach events, despite his busy schedule, and will be instrumental as we collaborate with the Transitional Youth Services through the Santa Barbara County Education Office to outreach to and create programming for local high school foster youth. Paulo is a passionate Computer Science major and is actively involved in SBCC's Computer Science Club, is Vice President of the Competitive Programming Club, and a member of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, where he volunteers as a mentor for local youth.