

# THE BUCK FELLOWS PROGRAM

Expanding Educational Opportunities for High Potential Students



[buckscholars.org](http://buckscholars.org)

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Launched in 2014 by the Buck Scholars Association, the Buck Fellows Program is designed to help talented Northern California high school students who demonstrate high academic and leadership potential, but who lack resources, support, and guidance to fully realize that potential.

The Buck Fellows Program offers Fellows expert guidance for applying to colleges, funding for academic and artistic enrichment opportunities, and workshops to cultivate resiliency and leadership. In addition, Buck Fellows have access to a thriving network of highly successful individuals in a diverse range of fields. All of these individuals grew up in Northern California and many of them—including doctors, actors, engineers, TV journalists, filmmakers, lawyers, writers, professors, and entrepreneurs—have dedicated themselves to individually mentoring Buck Fellows and helping them shape and pursue their dreams.



**SAUL LOPEZ-CRUZ**

Cristo Rey High School  
(Sacramento)  
U.C. Berkeley



**MADDIE  
REICHMANN**

Galt High School (Galt)  
C.S.U. Monterey Bay

Strong candidates for the Buck Fellows Program are high school sophomores who excel in their classes, impress teachers with their enterprise and personal initiative, and set an example for their peers by overcoming challenges. Current Buck Fellows have led their schools' sports teams, founded organizations at their school, and ranked high in their classes academically.

Applications for the Buck Fellows Program are available at [www.buckscholars.org](http://www.buckscholars.org) and are due on **March 31, 2018**. New Fellows will be announced in June 2018.

## WHY BECOME A BUCK FELLOW?

Many students have high academic aptitude, strong character, and a commitment to improving their communities, but lack the resources, support, and guidance to fully realize their potential. These students would benefit from becoming Buck Fellows and receiving unparalleled one-on-one mentorship, funding for enrichment opportunities, and academic and career guidance.

### Mentorship

This is the heart of the program and includes:

- **A primary mentor.** The Fellow will be paired with a mentor who will nurture the Fellow's academic and professional growth.
- **A secondary mentor family.** Experts in various fields, such as medicine, technology, and art, will be available to assist the Fellow.
- **Access to the network of 250+ Buck Scholars** whose collective experience includes more than 95 institutions of higher learning and dozens of professional career paths.

### Funding for Enrichment Opportunities

Every Fellow will also receive generous funding for a summer enrichment opportunity after their junior year through which the Fellow can grow academically, socially, and personally. Such opportunities might include travel to a foreign country, participation in a wilderness expedition, academic enrichment on a college campus, or a professional internship. The Fellow's primary mentor will help the Fellow identify and apply for these opportunities.

### Individualized Academic and Career Guidance

Buck Scholar experts will help Fellows think about college, prepare to apply to college, and develop the skills necessary to succeed in college.

- **Academic support.** Funding will be available to Fellows who would benefit from extra academic support, such as test preparation courses.
- **Local college visits.** Fellows will be invited in the spring of their junior year to visit a local college where they can speak to students and professors, and possibly attend lectures.
- **College application guidance.** Buck Scholar experts will be available to guide Fellows through revising essays, financial aid applications, and test-taking preparation.

## What Is the Buck Scholar Network?

The Buck Scholar network encompasses the 250+ individuals who received scholarship funding from the Frank H. and Eva B. Buck Foundation.

Buck Scholars have a record of excelling in high school, college, and their professional careers. The collective talents and resources of this network offer Buck Fellows access to the world's top universities, a range of professional careers, and internships and jobs with some of the nation's most competitive employers. Below are examples of Buck Scholars who will mentor new Buck Fellows:



**Ramit Sethi**, a graduate of Stanford, is the author of *The New York Times* bestseller *I Will Teach*

*You To Be Rich* and writes for over 450,000 monthly readers on his website where he covers psychology, personal finance and careers. Fortune Magazine has called him the "New Finance Guru on the block." Ramit appears on ABC and PBS regularly and periodically writes for *The New York Times*.



**Phuoc Le** has degrees from Dartmouth, UC Berkeley, and Stanford Medical School. He

currently practices medicine at UC San Francisco, where he also serves as a professor of medicine. He has conducted anthropological research in China and Switzerland and provided health care in Rwanda, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, and post-earthquake Haiti.



**Mia Saini Duchnowski** is the Co-Founder and CEO of Oars + Alps, a direct-to-consumer men's

grooming company. Previously, she was a TV reporter in Hong Kong and New York City with Bloomberg TV, covering business and finance. She holds degrees from Harvard Business School and MIT.



Marisol Contreras  
Middle College High School (Richmond)  
U.C. Davis

Ivan Herrera Perez  
Middle College High School (Richmond)  
U.C.L.A.



## BUCK FELLOWS PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

YOU MUST:	YOU CAN DEMONSTRATE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Live or attend school in Contra Costa, Napa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, or Yolo County.</li><li>• Be a high school sophomore.</li><li>• Submit a completed application, along with your transcript and two letters of recommendation, by <b>March 31, 2018</b>.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A record of academic success and a desire for academic and intellectual challenges.</li><li>• Evidence of leadership, enterprise, and personal initiative.</li><li>• A commitment to succeed and improve your community.</li><li>• Personal resiliency, including the capacity to overcome adversity.</li></ul>

**NOTE:** Students whose parents did not graduate from college, have limited English ability, or have limited financial resources are especially encouraged to apply.

## HOW TO APPLY

1. Ask for two recommendations as soon as possible. One must be from a teacher. The other can be from a teacher, counselor, school official, or community leader. The recommendation form is available at [www.buckscholars.org](http://www.buckscholars.org).
  2. Complete the Fellows Application, available at [www.buckscholars.org](http://www.buckscholars.org).
  3. By **March 31, 2018**, email your application and a copy of your high school transcript to:  
[programming@buckscholars.org](mailto:programming@buckscholars.org)
  4. Ask your recommenders to submit their recommendations by email to [programming@buckscholars.org](mailto:programming@buckscholars.org) by **March 31, 2018**.
  5. Personal interviews will take place in early May 2018. New Fellows will be announced by June 2018.
- To learn more, visit [www.buckscholars.org](http://www.buckscholars.org) or email [bsa@buckscholars.org](mailto:bsa@buckscholars.org) with any questions or comments.