

CASL'S CORNER

August 2024 with the CASL Board

Meet the 2024–25 Executive Board

CASL President



*Katarina
Dragasevic*

Director of Operations



*Nadine Mae
Padrigon*

Outreach Director



*Donovan
Rudish*

Learn more about their experiences on the CASL E-board on page 3!!

VISION Conference, New Mexico

LASSOing our leadership:

This past June, five of our board members, joined by two Modesto High students, attended the 2024 VISION Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico and served as the conference's California delegation. They were taught to LASSO (Lead, Achieve, Success, Serve, Opportunity) their leadership through presentations by keynote speakers, (two of whom have spoken at the 2024 CASL State Conference!). They also learned team building activities, experienced the rich culture New Mexico had to offer, and collaborated with Student Councils from around the nation. The conference raised over \$2,000 for the Tamaya Horse Rehabilitation Center, and provided them with many hand-decorated horseshoes made by conference attendees to sell in their gift shop.

California Crew + Lucca Petrucci



California delegation



A'ric Jackson + CA + OR

California delegation



California state room +
NM state guide MJ!

Keynote Speakers

Keynote speakers for the event included Lucca Petrucci, A'ric Jackson, Dr. Jim Cain, Juan Bendaña, Dr. Farah Ortega-Choate, and Lilyan Prado-Carrillo. Each of these speakers gave unique insights into their own life experiences and gave presentations on how to become better leaders for our communities.



Upcoming Events

Check out our social media for all events, newsletter release dates, new projects, and additional information!

*Area Conferences:

Sept 16, 2024 9:00AM - 2:00PM

San Diego/Imperial Area High School Student Body
Hosted By Area G Classical Academy High School-
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido, CA 92025



Eastside LDD 7/24

*Leadership Development Days:

Sept 4th, 2024 Santiago High School - HS Delegates 9:00AM - 1:30PM

Sept 11th, 2024 Alta Loma Middle School - MS Delegates 9:00AM - 1:30PM

Sept 19th, 2024 Caruthers High School - HS Delegates 9:00AM - 1:30PM

Sept 20, 2024 Granger Junior High School- 9th Grade 9:00AM - 1:30PM

Sept 25, 2024 Rio Vista Middle School - MS Delegates 9:00AM - 1:30PM

more info:

[*How do I register?](#)

[*What's my area?](#)

[*What are these events?](#)



Ambassador Feature: Sebastian Grajales

Something I think that is very special to our school is our Summer Bridge program which is a high school orientation for the new students at our school. It's different from an orientation in the sense that it's 2 weeks long, instead of only a day, and it's completely student-led. The first week is solely for the student leaders to grow as leaders, prepare their games and workshops, and learn the ropes through things such as team building, games, and meetings. This year, my friend and I were able to bring Lucca Pretucci, a motivational speaker we heard and met at CASL last year, to host a workshop about authenticity. The student leaders then take all they've learned in the first week of Summer Bridge and apply that with the new students in week two. All of the 100+ incoming freshmen are broken up into groups for that whole week and bond through games and work on a project that falls in line with our yearly theme. This year's theme is, "High School's a Highway." We feel that Summer Bridge is so special because you're really pushed to step outside of your comfort zone and go beyond. It's nice for our incoming students because it helps them acclimate to our high school before starting the new year. When I was a freshman, the program introduced me to a lot of cool people who were grades above me that I felt I could really rely on. We put a lot of emphasis on showing these students what it's like being part of our high school community, and our workshops help them reflect on what kind of person they want to be during high school. We end the week by having the new students exhibit their projects to their parents and having a nice family barbecue.



Want to be featured? Use our form to submit any school accomplishments, personal achievements, and anything else you want to share. We greatly appreciate all submissions, no matter how big or small they may be!

Insights into CASL's Executive Board

Introductions:

My name is Katarina Dragasevic and I am going to be a senior at Modesto High School in the Central Valley. I serve as this year's CASL President, and I am beyond excited to continue to serve the students of California and make a tangible difference in people's lives!

Hey guys!! My name is Nadine Mae Padrigon, and I am your Director of Operations. I am a senior at Hanford West High School in the Central Valley, and I enjoy playing tennis, reading, and spending time with my family and friends. This position is a privilege and an honor, and I'm looking forward to serving and networking with our delegates across California!

Hello, my name is Donovan Rudish! I go to Mountain House High School and I serve as the Outreach Director for this year's CASL State Board. I've been involved with leadership for 5 years and I'm incredibly excited to serve my 2nd term on the board.

How and why did you get involved with CASL?

I first learned about CASL when I "accidentally" went to the Downtown CASL Conference my freshman year. The conference was a great opportunity for me to grow alongside other students and learn a lot as a young high schooler. At Downtown CASL, I was amazed to see how passionate everyone was about making a difference on their campus and within their communities, so I made the decision later that year to run for the board. I wanted to continue making an impact on a larger level, so I joined the Ambassador program sophomore year to start sharing ideas with other leaders, then eventually was elected onto the board at the CASL Studio Conference in 2023!

It was attending the 2022 State Conference, Downtown CASL, that began my CASL journey and truly reignited my passion of serving others. The environment at the State Conference was nothing I'd ever known. It was a revitalizing experience where other student leaders took the initiative to lead chants, expressed an eagerness to learn from the curriculum and service project, and continuously networked and shared ideas from their own leadership programs. On top of this, the new state board was being elected in, and I remember watching the finalists on stage, so inspired, thinking that could be me one day. With newfound motivation, I knew from then on that I wanted to get more involved with this organization that impacted student leaders' lives for the better. Soon, I became a CASL Ambassador, ran for the board—finding myself just like those finalists on stage at Downtown CASL—and was elected as Northern Director.

I was first introduced to CASL through my leadership advisor, who'd gone to many previous conferences and pushed many of her previous students to apply. Hesitant at first but more curious afterward, I became very invested in the impact CASL brought. The idea of bringing leadership to the entire state seemed very motivating, so after much thought I applied hoping that my leadership skills would be able to contribute.

Keep Reading! →



What is something your committee has been working on?

Right now, I am working a lot on setting board members up for success by giving them tools and resources to use throughout the year at Area Conferences, LDDs, etc. I am organizing workshops, editing various things, and checking in with each committee to ensure they have everything they need to start the year off strong and be productive!

Currently, I've been working to support our President and Outreach Director in their projects. I am also working on our onboarding process for our new board members, such as our Leadership Development Day and Area Conference assignments, and helping our committees whether it be by attending their committee meetings or by giving input when needed. Additionally, I'm looking forward to overseeing the process for our Outstanding Leadership Program Award and helping our schools that are applying!

The Outreach Committee has been working very hard to expand our Ambassadors program and to provide resources for you to use. One such resource is the Newsletter you're reading right now! We'll also be working to provide monthly support calls for advisors and students to join if they have any questions about how to get involved in CASL. The committee is off to a great start and I'm excited for what we'll be bringing in the future!

What is one piece of advice you would give to student leaders?

The biggest piece of advice I would give to student leaders would be not to wait for the "perfect moment" but to make use of the time they have. I remember especially as a freshman and sophomore feeling scared to speak my mind and always feeling like I was waiting for an opportunity to be handed to me. The best thing to do is to not wait for something or someone, but to make a change (whether that be in your leadership/ASB, on your campus, or even within your community) if you see a current problem.

One piece of advice that I would give to student leaders is to prioritize not only serving others but to prioritize their own physical and mental well-being. I learned this especially during my application process running for the 2023-24 state board, and I realized that I was overworking myself and wasn't setting boundaries in order to establish a balance between my personal and school life. From then on, I became more aware of my time management, gave myself more opportunities to relax, and started setting my foot down by saying "no" to things I wasn't responsible for. By doing so, I found myself happier and more energized to do the things I loved most.

The best advice I can give is to become familiar with failure. To give an example, my leadership class tried to implement new events that we thought might be successful. Most of them didn't work out, and often times we had a period where we had to cancel or reschedule an event because of a mistake. That kind of progress became demotivating, however after one of our last new events we ended up making the most profit ever recorded from our grade.

Thank you for reading!

Contact them:

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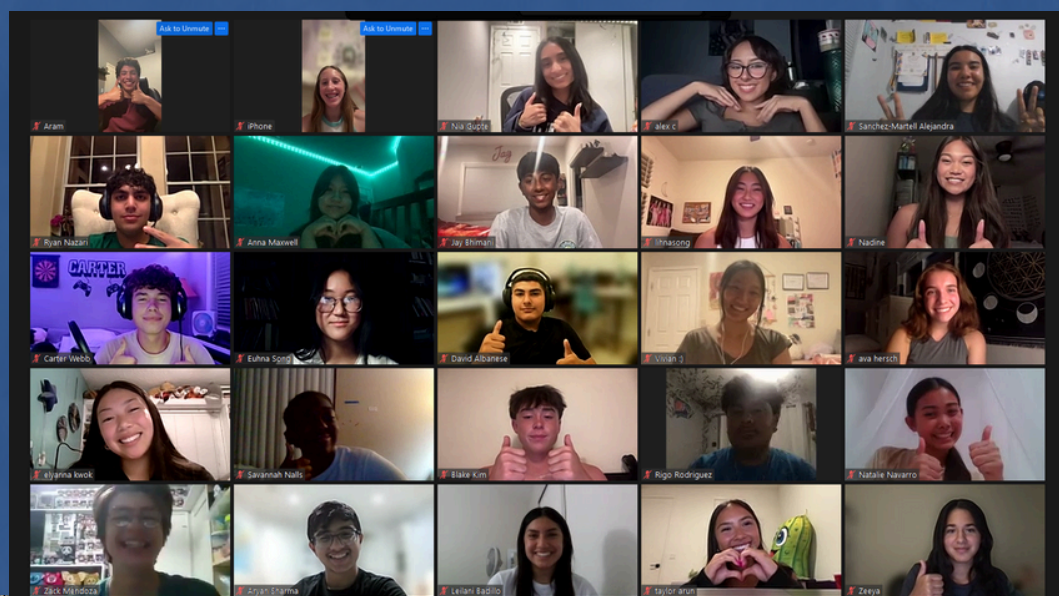
Keep reading for info on our CASL Magic + Ambassador calls →



Did you attend our August CASL Ambassador call?



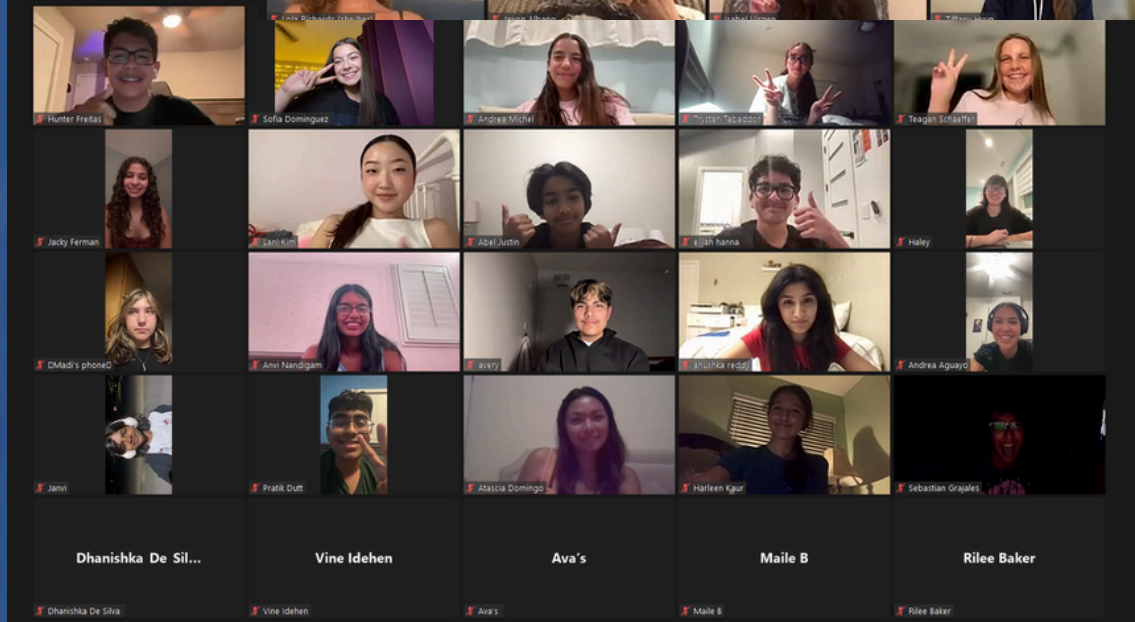
Spot yourself!



Want to become an Ambassador?
sign up [here](#) or check out our ambassador page!



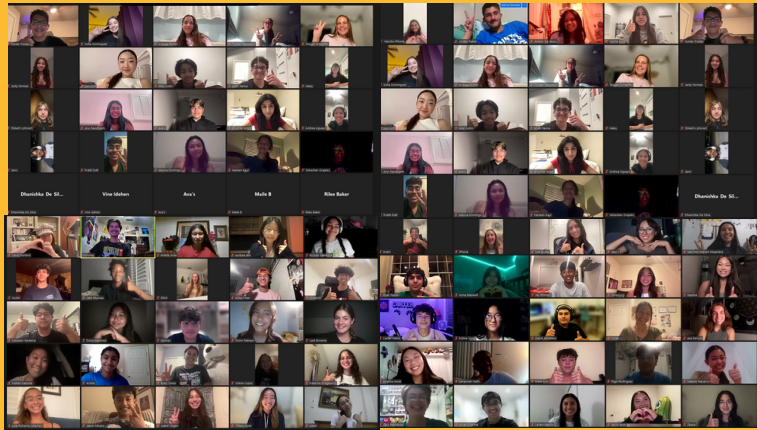
WE  YOU CASL
AMBASSADORS!



CASL Magic Calls

CASL Magic calls are held over zoom monthly during the year. The purpose of these calls is to simplify the process of registering for our Leadership Development Days, Area Conferences, and 2025 State Conference. Advisors and delegates can attend these calls and ask board members any questions they have regarding the registration process or any overall questions about CASL.

August Call



Fill out [this interest form](#) or scan the QR code to join our next meeting!



Upcoming calls:

Thursday September 12th 7:30pm
Tuesday October 8th 7:30pm
Thursday November 7th 7:30pm

Thursday December 5th 7:30pm
Wednesday January 8th 7:30pm
Thursday February 6th 7:30pm

With much CASLove,



The 2024-2025 CASL State Board

CONTACT US:

@caslfan (on all platforms)

Any questions? DM us on Instagram or email @donovan.rudish@caslfan.com

