2017-18 Koret Undergraduate Research Scholars:

Valeria Jacqueline Alonso Blanco (CROWN)
Major: Psychology BA
Mentor: Rebecca Covarrubias
Project: The role of familismo on Latinx first-generation college students' academic motivation and resilience

Gabriella Alvarez (TEN)
Major: Biochemistry & Molecular Bio BS
Mentor: Ansari Aleem
Project: Investigating the Active Site of 12-Lipoxygenase and the Role of pi-pi Interactions

Garrett Badano (PORTER)
Major: Environmental Studies BA
Mentor: Weixin Cheng
Project: Alternative Approaches to pH & Nutrient Management in Hydroponic Blueberry Production

Carmelle Bareket-Shavit (STEVENSON)
Major: Psychology BA
Mentor: Audun Dahl
Project: The Role of Cognitive Biases in Identifying and Disciplining Plagiarism

Aleya Caballero (KRESGE)
Major: Art BA
Mentor: Christie Mccullen
Project: Brown Girl Pissed

Noe Castaneda (CARSON)
Major: Marine Biology BS
Mentor: Rita Mehta
Project: Comparative feeding mechanics in a trophic generalist and a trophic specialist

Jimmy Chan (CROWN)
Major: Bioengineering BS
Mentor: Manel Camps
Project: Identification of temozolomide resistance markers using matched pairs of sensitive and resistant glioma cell lines.

John Contreras (COWELL)
Major: Art BA
Mentor: Laurie Palmer
Project: Art Therapy Ethnographic Study

Fabiana De Lima (STEVENSON)
Major: Psychology BA
Mentor: Rebecca Covarrubias
Project: Documenting the Facets of Family Achievement Guilt for Latinx First-Generation Students

Sarah Deleon (COWELL)
Major: Biochemistry & Molecular Bio BS
Mentor: Fitnat Yildiz
Project: Exploring the Role of the Vibrio exopolysaccharide (VPS) degradation enzyme, RbmB, in VPS production and biofilm formation in Vibrio Cholerae
Joshua Dillen (COWELL)
Major: Biochemistry & Molecular Bio BS
Mentor: Rebecca DuBois
Project: Development of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus Attachment Glycoprotein Subunit Vaccine

Katherine Dunne (CROWN)
Major: Physics BS
Mentor: Jason Nielsen
Project: ATLAS Pixel electronics and cable services for the High Luminosity LHC upgrade

Eghosa Edogun (OAKES)
Major: Molec Cell Develop Biology BS
Mentor: Manuel Ares
Project: Inducing Variable Expression of PRP5 gene in Saccharomyces Cerevisiae

Gabriel Louis Embrey (PORTER)
Major: History BA
Mentor: Juned Shaikh
Project: Caste Class and the Left, an Inquiry into the Ideological roots of leftist praxis pertaining to caste and class

Alfred Freeberg (CARSON)
Major: Chemistry BS
Mentor: Peter Weiss
Project: Characterizing the process of the conversion of dimethylmercury to monomethyl mercury in fog

Natalie Friedman (COWELL)
Major: Cognitive Science BS
Mentor: Leila Takayama
Project: Achieving a Feeling of Mobility and Exploration Through Telepresence

Christopher Garcia (COWELL)
Major: Linguistics BA
Mentor: Maziar Toosarvandani
Project: Multiple Questions In Santiago Laxopa Zapotec

Matheson Gee (CARSON)
Major: Molec Cell Develop Biology BS
Mentor: Michael Stone
Project: Understanding the effects of G-Quadruplex binding ligands on G-quadruplexes in Telomeric Displacement Loops

Crystal Gomez (MERRILL)
Major: Sociology BA
Mentor: Rebecca London
Project: Understanding the Role School Systems Play in the School-to-Prison Pipeline

Wilfrido Hernandez Flores (CARSON)
Major: Community Studies BA
Mentor: Rebecca Covarrubias
Project: Family Achievement Guilt and First Generation College Students

Wynn Jacobson-Galan (CROWN)
Major: Physics (Astrophysics) BS
Mentor: Ryan Foley
Project: A Spectroscopic Analysis of Type Iax Supernova

Amy Leslie (NINE)
Major: Biochemistry & Molecular Bio BS
Mentor: Alan Zahler  
Project: Branchpoint Mapping in C. elegans

Erik Li (NINE)  
Major: Molec Cell Develop Biology BS  
Mentor: Jeremy Sanford  
Project: Characterizing Splicing Sensitive Disease-Causing Mutation in Exon 6 of the Fabry Disease Gene, Galactosidase A.

Wendy Lin (TEN)  
Major: Biology BS  
Mentor: Peter Weiss-Penzias  
Project: Testing coastal Lichen species as a bioindicator of atmospheric Total Mercury and Monomethylmercury in Central California

Ricardo Lopez (STEVenson)  
Major: Art BA  
Mentor: Karolina Karlic  
Project: American Acculturation: A photography multimedia sculptural project

Giovanni Magana (OAKES)  
Major: Electrical Engineering BS  
Mentor: Joel Kubby  
Project: Hyperspectral Imaging UAV for Thermal Energy Detection and Precision Agriculture

Steffen Mahnke (PORTER)  
Major: Chemistry BS  
Mentor: William Hollingsworth  
Project: Fractionation and Characterization of poly[3-(potassium-4-butanoate) thiophene-2,5-diyl] in Conjugated Polyelectrolyte Complexes

Josselyne Morales (PORTER)  
Major: Art BA  
Mentor: Karolina Karlic  
Project: American Acculturation: A photography multimedia sculptural project

Tyler Myers (CARSON)  
Major: Bioengineering BS  
Mentor: Angela Brooks  
Project: High-throughput screen for oncogenic exon skipping events in immortalized tracheobronchial epithelial cells

Jessica Ness (COWELL)  
Major: Literature BA  
Mentor: Wlad Godzich  
Project: Age and Agency: Translating Fanon and Poe

Hermes Padilla (KRESGe)  
Major: Community Studies BA  
Mentor: Steve McKay  
Project: Crisis on a Hill: A Study of On-Campus Student Housing Experiences

Rosanai Paniagua (MERRILL)  
Major: Latin Amer & Latino Studies BA  
Mentor: Roxanna Villalobos  
Project: Central Valley Youth and Civic Life

Jessica Parra Moya (KRESGe)  
Major: Literature BA
Mentor: Zac and Amanda Zimmer and Smith
Project: *The Reconciliation of Heterogeneity in the Conscious of the Mestiza/o*

Bradley Puckett (PORTER)
Major: Computer Science BS
Mentor: Chen Qian
Project: *Private Queries for Internet of Things*

Socorro Ramirez-Gamino (NINE)
Major: LALS/Sociology Comb BA
Mentor: Adrian Felix
Project: *(Re)*membering Citizenship: Memories of Political Membership from ‘Anchor Babies’ & ‘Derivative Citizens’

Kyle Rocha (OAKES)
Major: Applied Physics BS
Mentor: Josiah Schwab
Project: *The Effect of Minor Isotopes on Accretion-Induced Collapse*

Gavin Rockwood (CARSON)
Major: Physics (Astrophysics) BS
Mentor: Adam Coogan
Project: *Distinguishing Between Pulsars and Dark Matter as a Source of Positron Excess*

Rosa Sanchez (CARSON)
Major: Spanish Studies BA
Mentor: Sylvanna Falcon
Project: *Youth Identity Formation Amongst Indigenous Oaxaqueños*

Megan Schnabel (COWELL)
Major: Psychology BA
Mentor: Sarah Harsey
Project: *The Female Gaze: Analyzing Queer Women’s Objectification of Women*

James Severson (COWELL)
Major: Cognitive Science BS
Project: *Negotiating Bodily Difference: Cognition and Physically-Integrated Dance*

Ethan Slattery (CARSON)
Major: Computer Engineering BS
Mentor: Daniel Costa
Project: *Seal Heart and Activity Tracker (SealHAT)*

Adam Smith (CROWN)
Major: Physics (Astrophysics) BS
Mentor: Jonathan Fortney
Project: *Confusion in Understanding the Atmospheres of Giant Planets in Reflected Light in Color-Color Space*

Kavin Subramanyam (NINE)
Major: Mathematics BA
Mentor: Jordan Eizenga
Project: *Effective Markov Sampling in Pan-Genome Graphs for Genome Inference*

Sierra Surabian (KRESGE)
Major: Environmental Studies BA
Mentor: Michael Loik
Project: *Phytoremediation of Copper-Contaminated Soils Using Hemp*
Natalia Ubilla (MERRILL)
Major: Biochemistry & Molecular Bio BS
Mentor: Kevin Schilling
Project: The Role of Glycosylation in the Prion Protein's Neuroprotective Self-Regulation

Kateryna Voitiuk (KRESGE)
Major: Computer Engineering BS
Mentor: Mircea Teodorescu
Project: Anatomically Inspired Bioreactor for Growing Brain Organoids

Andy Wang (KRESGE)
Major: Art & Des: Games & Playable BA
Mentor: Joseph Osborn
Project: Automated Game Design Learning

Sarah Wikle (TEN)
Major: Community Studies BA
Mentor: Miriam Greenberg
Project: Digital Stories Archive, No Place Like Home

Natalie Wollenweber (MERRILL)
Major: Literature BA
Mentor: Deanna Shemek
Project: Female Warriors: Connecting the 16th Century to the Now

Kimberly Zuniga (OAKES)
Major: Psychology BA
Mentor: Rebecca Covarrubias
Project: Understanding the Emotional Responses and Resilience of Youth of Color Who Confront Community Stressors