

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Achievement Institute of Scientific Studies
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ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC STUDIES CELEBRATES THEIR RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY AND RECEIVING A \$20,000 GRANT FROM THE NICOHLAS ENDOWMENT!

SANTA ANA, CA - This summer, the **Achievement Institute of Scientific Studies (AISS)** found a location for a new office. This will be the first time in 17 years that the organization will have an office to call "home." This wonderful space is located at OC Shared Spaces Village at 17th Street in Santa Ana. What makes this a perfect place for AISS is that The Village is a shared space facility that houses a host of local non-profits, which AISS will have the opportunity to collaborate with to help strengthen the local community. The office will provide not only space, but access to shared conference and training rooms. Moreover, it provides the opportunity for AISS to meet in a consistent location in order to better serve their scholars and alumni, and continue to improve their program. In collaboration with the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce, AISS celebrated their Ribbon-Cutting ceremony on Tuesday, **October 2, 2018**.

The ceremony was attended by local community leaders and other supporters who presented various awards and plaques to recognize the value and impact of AISS. It was an opportunity for the community to find out more about who AISS is, what their mission is, and to meet the scholars, their families, board members, and staff. **Mariscos El Governador** generously provided their taco truck for a few hours of enjoyment as AISS Scholars networked and shared their presentations with the guests, parents and alumni.

In addition to celebrating their new home this month, AISS excitedly found out that they were awarded a **\$20,000** grant from the **Nicolas Endowment** for their College to Career Readiness STEM Program. These funds will continue to support the current scholars who are finishing up their last year as seniors and the new scholars who will be recruited in the spring. The current scholars are also working on college applications and will announce their college choices at next year's Bridging the Gap Celebration.

"Having our own and first office space now is a huge step for our organization, which will allow us to better serve our scholars and continue to improve our College to Career Readiness STEM program. As the executive director, this opportunity has been a goal of mine for years to bring this to fruition for our founder, Paul Riordan. As a retired educator and administrator, Paul's vision is to have AISS' program in every school district in the country. Our new home takes us one step closer to realizing his vision," said **Debbie Wells**, who has served as AISS's Executive Director for over nine years.

AISS Board and staff would like to thank everyone who attended the Ribbon-Cutting, including their donors and supporters from **Chapman University, Santa Ana Kiwanis, Edwards Lifesciences, the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce, Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce** and the local community leaders. A very special thank

you goes to **Judy Greenspon** (NPI Services, Inc.), **Yolanda Menosky** (Auctions With Flair) and **Gloria Strayer** (Design and Print Resource, Inc.) who played a key role in going above and beyond in helping to secure this long awaited office space for the organization. If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Debbie at (714) 544-1316 or Debbie.wells@aissfoundation.com.

Achievement Institute of Scientific Studies

Achievement Institute of Scientific Studies, as a charitable foundation, opens opportunities and a STEM focused program for Santa Ana high school students in disadvantageous circumstances -- who demonstrate interest in science, technology, engineering and math disciplines -- to acquire extra- curricular training, and to build bridges with premiere career professionals in STEM fields.

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