

Good morning, my name is Krystle Evans. I am a sophomore at UCLA, my major is Political Science and my minor is Education. Two years ago I sat in the same seats you are sitting in, I participated in the same ceremony, and just like most of you I did not have a clue about Urban Planning. I did not know what to expect from the UrbanPlan Program and I did not plan on continuing anything in regards to Urban Planning after high school. However one thing that I learned from the UrbanPlan Program is that everything we do is connected to Urban Planning.

I was the CEO of Shaw Inc., out of Crenshaw High School. My team was excited to participate in the program because we lived in the Crenshaw District. On the first day of the program we took a field trip of Marlton Square and Playa Vista. My team felt a little discouraged once we were able to see the differences in the two areas. We planned on incorporating everything we saw in Playa Vista into Marlton Square. When we received our ULI packet and saw that there was a budget and other limitations, we understood how complicated it is to build a community. We learned that Urban Planning is more than engineering and architecture, that it brings together politicians, school administrators, citizens, and businesspeople.

Two of my team-members from Shaw Inc. are now majoring in engineering and one is an accounting major. My career goal is to be the superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District. I know that I will be able to call on my team-members once I become superintendent so we can improve the community that will surround my schools. The UrbanPlan Program instills responsibility, accountability, and determination in its participants. I will use these tools to improve the school district, thus helping the community developers. Through the UrbanPlan program I no longer feel discouraged

about my community, I now I have faith that it can improve, it just takes time. The program allowed me to learn the rich history of Marlton Square, and knowing its history, I feel obligated to help it thrive once again.

I hope you leave the program empowered, ready to make a difference in your community like the participants before you. You do not have to major in Urban Planning in order to stay connected to community building. You can tell a friend about this program, teach people what you learned in the program and most importantly you could VOTE. All of these things are apart of Urban Planning. Good luck and if you're a junior, I hope to see you back next year. Thank You.