



January 23, 2020

It is with great pleasure that we recognize Pranav Banuru as the Fall 2019 recipient of San Joaquin Outdoor Education's Redwood Leadership Award.

The Redwood Leadership Award acknowledges cabin leaders who do an outstanding job in supporting and inspiring their students to grow and learn during their time at San Joaquin Outdoor School. Excellent cabin leaders foster positive community within their cabin and in their trail group as well as are exceptional role models, leading students and fellow cabin leaders by example. Just as a redwood tree stands tall, providing shelter for many plants and animals around it, cabin leaders provide comfort and support to the students they serve.

Pranav was an exceptional cabin leader. In a semester in which we had over 250 high school students volunteer as cabin leaders, Pranav stood out as an exemplary leader for a number of reasons. Pranav's dedication and enthusiasm during his week of service at Outdoor School set the standard for students as well as other cabin leaders to get the most out of their week here.

Pranav clearly cared about each of his students' well-being and worked hard to make sure students bonded. Pranav's respectful and genuine tone fostered trust and openness between all students and helped the students move past any challenges that arose. He took initiative to facilitate community-building activities during down time in the cabin to further improve the relationships between students. These activities helped students find commonalities, relate to each other positively, and treat each other with respect.

Pranav stayed engaged and enthusiastic outside of cabin time, role modeling excitement about and providing support for trail activities. He utilized positive discipline on trail, appreciating students for their positive behaviors and helping students develop interpersonal skills to avoid repeating negative behaviors. He interacted with students during lessons, encouraged their enthusiasm for learning, and asked questions to deepen their thinking. He worked well with the other cabin leader in the naturalist's trail group, presenting unified leadership for the students. His communication with the other cabin leaders, the naturalist, and the cabin groups was excellent. He always asked questions when appropriate, advocated for his students' needs, and checked-in regularly with his students.

We are grateful for the contributions Pranav made to this program, which will be remembered by both the students in his group and the staff here at San Joaquin Outdoor Education. We wish Pranav all the best and know that he will continue to be an excellent leader and role model for people of all ages.

Allison Collins
Principal
San Joaquin Outdoor Education