

GOLDEN BUDDIES FOOTBALL CLINIC – 5/4/2025

This year the Olden Bears were the sole named sponsor and had six members volunteer their time at this great event. Last year 100 youth participated in the Golden Buddies Program and this year over 150 attended.

In its 3rd year, The Golden Buddies Program is a collaborative initiative involving Cal football players, the Cameron Institute, the Special Olympics of Northern California, and Exceptional Sports (e-sports). The free clinic allows students ages 6-13 with and without intellectual disabilities to participate in a day of football drills and sports education stations. Participants had the chance to connect with Golden Bear football players, who ran drill stations, encouraging and empowering the athletes along the way. The Clinic empowers youth through sports while providing a fun, supportive environment.

Below is a thank-you letter the Olden Bears received following the event:

Dear Steve, Bob, and the Olden Bears,

On behalf of the Cameron Institute for Student-Athlete Development, Cal Football, and Cal Athletics, we want to thank you again for your generous support of the Golden Buddies Football Clinic.

It is not so often that donors are also willing to roll up their sleeves and put sweat equity into the success of an event, and we are so appreciative of your valuable volunteer support yesterday.

We are excited to share that this was our highest-attended Golden Buddies clinic since we started in 2023. Here are some numbers:

- 385+ total attendees
- 150+ kids
- 25+ student-athlete volunteers + 2 Former Cal Alums / Pro Bears Jeremy Ross & Trevor Davis

[Here is a folder of photos from the day](#) & [the recap video](#).

We would love the opportunity to debrief and plan forward when time allows in the near future.

Thank you again and GO BEARS!

Jessie, Tayler, Myles, Belay, and the Golden Buddies team



Olden Bears: Mark Myers, Bob Mansbach, Steve Gomberg, Keith Tandowsky, Joel Hausman, Bill Black

BERKELEY HOPE SCHOLARS GRADUATION – 5/18/2025

Berkeley Hope Scholars (formerly the Cal Independent Scholars Network) is the academic retention program at UC Berkeley supporting all incoming freshman, transfer, graduate, and continuing students who are current and former foster youth, probation foster youth or were orphaned before the age of 18. Starting in 2005 with one student, today there are 160 students.

The Olden Bears donated over \$90K last year to the Berkeley Hope Scholars (<https://hope.berkeley.edu/home>).

Below is a thank-you letter from Charly King Beavers, Director of the Berkeley Hope Scholars:

Dear Olden Bears,

Thank you for your continued support of Berkeley Hope Scholars and the recent contribution from the Olden Bears. Your generosity last year truly transformed how we can create opportunities and provide essential support to our students. Your partnership directly impacted our students and ensures that they have the support and opportunities they need to develop as leaders and scholars in their pursuit of a Cal degree.

Your timely gift at the start of this semester reinforces your belief in these programs and their impact on elevating the student experience. Thanks to your support, we can continue offering internship opportunities, emergency grants, and holistic support that help build a strong, resilient community on campus. I'm excited to share updates on how your contributions directly benefit our students. Thank you once again, Olden Bears, for your generosity and ongoing support. We are deeply grateful!

*Warm regards,
Charly*

Photos of the recent Berkeley Hope Scholars Graduation:

