

Brandon Cavazos, Academic CV
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Personal Profile

First-generation college student with a record of academic excellence, authorship, and entrepreneurial initiative. I have published original literary works, founded and managed a successful pet-care concierge business, and volunteered with organizations supporting vulnerable communities. Pursuing transfer to complete a **B.A. in Psychology**, I aim to integrate the humanities and the arts in examining human behaviour and mental health. My resilience, adaptability, and lived experience inform a deep commitment to scholarship and empower me to contribute a distinctive and empathetic perspective to my academic community.

Education

Pasadena City College – AA in Humanities (expected May 2026)	2024 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cumulative GPA across all coursework: 3.86• Dean's Honors, Fall 2024; Fall 2025 (Academic recognition awarded for GPA 3.5+ with full-time coursework).• Participant, University of California Transfer Admission Planner (UC TAP).	

Relevant Modules:

Ethics, Humanities Through the Arts, Introductory Psychology, Introduction to American Government, Reading & Composition I, Reading & Composition II, Contemporary Film History, General Biology, Elementary Statistics, Introduction to Business (in progress), Introduction to Ethnic Studies (in progress), Descriptive Physics (in progress), Interpersonal Communication (in progress).

Stanford University - Continuing Studies (Non-Degree Coursework)	2022 – 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieved A/A+ average across graded courses.	

Relevant Modules:

America as a Philosophical Problem (A+), Democracy and Its Discontents (A), The Twilight Zone: The Dimension of Imagination (A), What Matters Most in Life: Lessons from Dying (A+), The Creative Habit: Cultivate a Daily Writing Practice (Credit).

Village Christian Schools - High School Diploma	2013 – 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achievement Awards in History and Drama (2015, 2017).	

Publications & Creative Work

Books

- **Mía: Unbiblical Teething Psalms** (2024) — Self-published; U.S. Copyright registered.
- **Finger Cuts** (forthcoming) — Novel manuscript, 40,000+ words completed; first five chapters publicly released as a preview.
- **My Résumé** (2017) — Self-published; U.S. Copyright registered. Garnered 80,000+ reads online before being archived.

Selected Academic Essays

- *The Twilight Zone: The Dimension of Imagination* — Stanford University (FLM 142 Final Essay, 2023).
- *Democracy and Its Discontents* — Stanford University (PHIL 118 Final Essay, 2023).

- *Turning Point: Divine Command Theory vs. Contractualism* — Pasadena City College (PHIL 003 Paper, 2024).
- *Constitutional Law and the Dobbs Decision* — Pasadena City College (POLS 001 Political Science Final Essay, 2024).
- *Critical Lens: The Hole* — Pasadena City College (ENGL 001B English Essay, 2024).

Experience

Founder & Owner, Collar Cavazos — Hollywood's Dog Concierge – Hollywood, CA (2017 – Present)

- Founded and manage an independent dog concierge service, evolving from Wag! into a personal brand serving Hollywood, Beverly Hills, and Franklin Village.
- Earned **300+ verified 5-star reviews**, consistently praised for professionalism, trustworthiness, and communication.
- Maintain a **revolving client base of 10+ loyal families**, with consistent monthly bookings and seasonal surges generating multiple new inquiries through referrals and online platforms.
- Provide tailored care through **Hollywood Hills hikes, extended walks, and boarding services**, tailoring routines to each dog's breed, age, and health needs.
- Recognized for proactive updates, attentive safety measures, and individualized exercise plans that foster long-term client trust.

Community Service & Volunteer Engagement — Los Angeles, CA & Mexico (2015 – 2024)

- **“Campaign for Ysabel J. Jurado” (City Council District 14) – Canvasser** – (Oct – Nov 2024)
 - Volunteered 15+ hours and reached 1,000+ households and distributing campaign materials, contributing to a successful grassroots housing rights campaign.
- **“Casa Hogar Orphanage” (Tijuana, Mexico)** – Volunteer – (2018)
 - Assisted with children's care and activities, emphasizing empathy and cross-cultural service.
- **“Los Angeles Mission” (Skid Row)** – Volunteer – (2017)
 - Supported meal service and outreach to unhoused individuals, fostering compassion and resilience.
- **“Watts Learning Center”** – Volunteer – (2016)
 - Assisted with youth engagement and educational enrichment programs.
- **“Ronald McDonald House & Hope of the Valley”** – Volunteer – (2015)
 - Provided family assistance, facility support, and donation logistics.

Superhost & Property Manager, Airbnb – Burbank, CA (March 2015 – Present)

- Maintained a **4.87 rating across 1,070+ reviews** over a decade of hosting.
- Converted and managed seven private rooms; handled guest communications, scheduling, logistics, and issue resolution.
- Built repeat clientele through reliability, hospitality, and clear, professional communication.
- Developed cross-cultural communication skills by hosting guests from around the world, fostering understanding and adaptability in diverse settings.

Theatre & Performance Experience — Los Angeles, CA (2015 – 2022)

- Signed with **AEFH Talent (Amsel, Eisenstadt & Frazier)** in 2018 after being selected from a 3-2-1 Acting Studios showcase.
- **Performed in advanced class productions**, stage credits include:
 - *Mrs. Sorken* (Christopher Durang) – **Mrs. Sorken**
 - *Medea* (Christopher Durang) – **Deus Ex Machina**

- *The Actor's Nightmare* (Christopher Durang) – **George**
- *Fools* (Neil Simon) – **Snetsky**
- *Sylvia* (A.R. Gurney) – **Tom / Phyllis / Leslie**
- **Appeared on television:** *Judge Karen* (Sony Pictures Television) – Plaintiff's Witness.
- Trained at Lee Strasberg Institute, Ivana Chubbuck Studios, and Pasadena City College (Acting I, Voice & Movement).
- Developed skills in public speaking, adaptability, and creative collaboration through stage and screen performance.

Relevant Academic Skills

- **Academic Writing & Research** - Produced advanced-level essays at Stanford and Pasadena City College; demonstrated ability to integrate primary texts, critical theory, and structured argumentation.
- **Critical Analysis & Argumentation** - Skilled in constructing persuasive essays and philosophical papers, with experience in political science, ethics, and literary criticism.
- **Creative Scholarship** - Authored and published original literary works; blend of analytical and creative perspectives in psychology, humanities, and the arts.
- **Public Speaking & Presentation** - Developed through theatre performance, classroom discussions, and community advocacy work.
- **Entrepreneurship & Project Management** - Founded and managed Collar Cavazos, balancing client relations, logistics, and tailored service plans alongside full-time academic coursework.
- **Cross-Cultural Communication** - Strengthened through volunteer service in Los Angeles and international engagement in Mexico, adapting communication to diverse communities.

References

Available upon request.