

JONAH SEGIL

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EDUCATION

Mira Costa High School

2023-present

- Currently a senior, Class of 2027. Academic Weighted GPA 4.49
- Challenging curriculum: AP English Literature, AP Government, AP Microeconomics, AP Calculus BC, AP Spanish, Honors Physics, and Model United Nations
- SAT: 1550; AP scores (out of 5): US History 5, Calculus AB 5, English Lang & Comp 5, European History 5, Human Geography 5, Chemistry 4, Precalculus 4

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

- **First author, correspondence in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* (2026)**; equal contribution with Dr. Mimiaga; subsequently cited in peer-reviewed literature. Segil, J., & Mimiaga, M. J. (2026). Actionable sexual health education for HIV and STI prevention among LGBTQ+ youth in the USA [Correspondence]. *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, 26(7), e268. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(26\)00225-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(26)00225-2)
- **Co-author, oral abstract, 26th International AIDS Conference**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2026) Mimiaga, M. J., Pantalone, D. W., Biello, K. B., Tian, J., Blankespoor, S., Hughto, J. M. W., Reisner, S. L., Yonko, E., Segil, J., O'Cleirigh, C., Mayer, K. H., & Safren, S. A. *Project IMPACT: Behavioral activation with integrated risk reduction counseling among MSM significantly reduces stimulant use and HIV sexual risk behavior*. "Minds Matter: Mental Health in HIV Treatment & Prevention" session.
- **Co-author & co-presenter, poster, 1st Annual LA Fires Research Conference**, UCLA (January 2026) Yonko, E. A., Aminzadeh, K., Orellana, C. C., Segil, J., Boka, C., Blankespoor, S., & Mimiaga, M. J. *Assessing trauma, mental health, and substance use impacts on HIV risk-taking behaviors among individuals living with and without HIV in the aftermath of the 2025 Los Angeles fires*.
- **Co-author (6 of 24 authors), manuscript under review, *Archives of Sexual Behavior*** [Authors, with Segil, J.]. *Determinants of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis positivity using self-collected biospecimens in a large cohort of sexual and gender minorities who are living with, or at heightened risk for, HIV in the United States*.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AS LGBTQ+ ADVOCATE

- **World AIDS Day Congressional Briefing, U.S. Capitol — Scheduled Speaker (Dec. 2026)**: Invited to address Members of Congress, congressional staff, and HIV/AIDS advocates on LGBTQ+ youth health, the impact of federal research funding cuts, and the importance of sustaining HIV research and prevention; also participating in the accompanying press conference.
- **Manhattan Beach Community Church: Open & Inclusive Sunday Keynote (May 2026)**: Keynoted before 200+ congregants, sharing my coming-out and advocacy journey and advising the faith community on creating a more welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ youth and members.
- **LA County Office of Education Report Card Opening meeting with Equality California (Fall 2024)**: Represented the student perspective alongside advocates, educators, and healthcare professionals; spoke about coming out, school-based discrimination, finding allies, and ways educators can support LGBTQ+ students.
- **PFLAG Manhattan Beach and Beach Cities Health District Event (Fall 2024)**: Spoke as a queer teen advocate about LGBTQ+ student leadership, homophobia on campus, and priorities for creating safer, more affirming schools and communities.
- **National Center for Civil and Human Rights LGBTQ+ Institute IGNYTE Conference (Fall 2025)**: Virtual student panelist presenting on HIV resource access in the Southern United States.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Yale Young Global Scholars Pre-College Summer Program

July 2026

- Attended a highly selective summer academic program, completing the Politics of Law & Economics track focused on global governance, public policy, economics, and leadership through college-level seminars. Completed a Capstone project on the history of colonial racism and legal codes.

Tufts University Pre-College Summer Program**June 2025**

International Relations Intensive Program (3 credits): Analyzed global issues in conflict, trade, public health, and diplomacy while developing advanced research, writing, and Spanish-language skills; completed an independent college-level paper on international responses to the HIV epidemic.

Georgetown University Hoya Summer Session**July 2025**

International Relations Academy: Explored modern geopolitical issues, competing philosophical frameworks, ethical leadership and exertion of power, and U.S. humanitarian aid as a strategic tool to advance national interests by fostering global stability, promoting democracy and economic development, and combating global health threats.

The Experiment in International Living: Southern Spain**July 2024**

Spanish Language & Culture Program (homestay with Spanish family): Improved knowledge and conversational skills through an intense language and immersion program.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ENDEAVORS***Research Intern, Fundraising Committee Member & Teen Advocate, UCLA Center for LGBTQ+ Advocacy, Research & Health (UCLA C-LARAH)*****2025-present**

- Analyze socio-demographic factors associated with STIs among minority populations in the [MACS/WIHS](#) Combined Cohort Study, a major long-term U.S. HIV study; co-authored a paper with the PI and epidemiology researchers, submitted for publication.
- Study trauma, mental health, substance use, and HIV risk behaviors following the 2025 Los Angeles fires; collaborated with epidemiology researchers and presented a research abstract at a conference.
- Lead a separate research paper examining relationships between federal, state, and local government environments and LGBTQ+ health outcomes; serving as primary author and targeting 2026 submission.
- Raised \$185,000 after major federal funding losses by establishing a fundraising committee of community supporters; developed donor pitch materials, social media, PR, and communications strategies to sustain the Center's LGBTQ+ health research.

Co-Chair, Beach Cities Health District Youth Advisory Council**2022-present**

- Co-lead a council of 40 teen health ambassadors serving 10,000+ students across three beach cities; preside over meetings and shape programming on mental health, substance use, social justice, sexual identity, and other youth health priorities.
- Represent LGBTQ+ youth perspectives at BCHD/allcove events and community panels; presented a youth advocacy and legislation workshop to ~100 community members and local leaders at the 2026 South Bay Leadership & Wellness Conference.
- Presented research on marijuana legislation and legalization trends at BCHD's 2026 Coalition Meeting; previously moderated its 2025 fishbowl on teen alcohol and drug use, leading discussion with students, educators, administrators, and parents.
- Developed educational videos and social media campaigns on substance use, mental health, nutrition, and physical fitness for middle and high schools across the three beach cities.

Student Representative, U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu's Youth Advisory Council (YAC)**2026-2027**

- Selected as 1 of 25 students through a competitive application and interview process to serve on Rep. Ted Lieu's YAC for California's 36th Congressional District and collaborate on critical issues for District's 150,000+ youth.
- Advise the Congressman's office on homelessness, education, social justice, immigration, and climate; research policy proposals and collaborate with peers to present youth perspectives and legislative recommendations.

High School Intern, CA State Senator Ben Allen (District 24)**2024-2025**

- Served as LGBTQ+ Community Liaison; researched legislation for Senator Allen's position papers, planned

student events and a resource fair, and supported office operations through data compilation, administration, and event coordination.

***Student Representative, MBUSD Equity, Diversity, Social Justice and Inclusion Committee* 2025-present**

- One of 10 students selected to collaborate with the Manhattan Beach school district administrators, educators, and peers on the “No Place For Hate” Action Plan.
- Conducted and mediated teacher coaching sessions, offering tips/role-playing to help them understand how to address classroom situations; educate peers about the diversity on our campus and how to stand up to hate.
- Contributed to conversations about the current status of discrimination on school campus, ways to involve students in diversity based activities.
- Shaped school-wide messaging on inclusion and allyship through assemblies and videos; featured panelist for the 2025 *Voices of Unity* assembly on discrimination and student advocacy.

Founder & Co-President Mira Costa Social Advocacy Club;

***Co-President, Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA)* 2025-present**

- Founded and co-led the Social Advocacy Club, teaching grassroots advocacy and organizing a peaceful 900-student walkout; in senior year, helped merge the club with Mira Costa’s LGBTQ+ student organization to form the Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA) and serve as Co-President.
- Lead campus LGBTQ+ advocacy and gender/sexuality awareness; organized the [first South Bay Queer Prom](#), leading outreach and fundraising, and now expanding the event and GSA programming for 2026–27.

Secretary & Treasurer, Golden State Readers

2024-present

- Edit newsletter, organize meetings, take notes, and handle outreach to members for this organization that ensures literary freedom by preventing book bans across schools in CA and nationally.
- Organize and plan logistics for virtual and in-person events, such as Freedom To Read summits and National Banned Books Week campaign.

Vice President, Mira Costa Banned Books Club

2023-present

- Lead efforts to raise awareness of challenged literature addressing race, LGBTQ+ issues, and history; facilitate monthly discussions examining themes, censorship, and the reasons books are challenged.
- Help organize Banned Books Week campaigns and initiatives that expand access to banned literature, foster dialogue, and encourage students to challenge censorship.

Crisis Director, Mira Costa Model United Nations

2023-present

- Member of the national championship debate team for the past 3 years.
- Invited to compete at top conferences, including UCLA and Canadian high school national championships.
- Research topics to understand background, write position papers, propose solutions, debate foreign policy, and negotiate with other delegates to formulate a resolution to solve current world issues.
- Crisis Director (12): Appointed to one of the top leadership positions in charge of the Los Angeles Invitational Model UN Conference (LAIMUN), Mira Costa HS’s conference with over 1,000 delegates.
- Crisis 2 Committee Co-Chair (11) & Committee Legal (10): Collaborated and organized LAIMUN with top leadership team to ensure smooth operation of debate; performed extensive research to compose topic synopsis regarding the Assassination of Julius Caesar (Anti-Caesar) and Crisis 2 Arab Springs committees, and ensured smooth operation of debate of around 30 delegates; graded position papers, mediated debate, and scored delegates based on performance in speaking and diplomacy skills in committee negotiations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council Member, Manhattan Beach Youth Council

2025-present

- Selected through a competitive interview as one of 50 students for a leadership program; collaborate with business leaders and peers on real-world challenges and career exploration.

Conference Leader, Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Youth Leadership 2024-present

- Presenter of the LGBTQ+ Advocacy workshop, but the 2025 event was canceled due to LA Fires.
- Participated in workshops focusing on educating student leaders on building awareness of LGBTQ+ issues as well as teen mental health issues.

Mentor & Translator, Kids In Need of Defense (KIND), Los Angeles, CA 2024-2025

- Used Spanish skills to mentor an unaccompanied minor navigating U.S. immigration; attended meetings and immigration proceedings with client and pro bono attorneys while providing support during resettlement.

HONORS & AWARDS

- **National Merit Commendation**
- **AP Scholar with Distinction (2026) and AP Scholar (2025)**
- **Certificate of Congressional Recognition** - Congressman Ted Lieu; recognized for LGBTQ+ advocacy, philanthropic leadership, and community engagement supporting UCLA C-LARAH.
- **UCLA C-LARAH Meritorious LGBTQ+ Service Award (2026)** - Honored for sustained, high-impact contributions to LGBTQ+ rights, visibility, and advocacy.
- **City of Manhattan Beach Certificate of Recognition (2026)** - Awarded by the Mayor and City Council for research and fundraising efforts benefiting UCLA C-LARAH.
- **University of Rochester Frederick Douglass & Susan B. Anthony Award (2026)** - Recognized for academic excellence, leadership, community action, and commitment to addressing challenging social issues.
- **Mira Costa School awards:** AP Scholar, Principal's Honor Roll, Scholar Athlete 9th grade.
- California Scholarship Federation-On track for life membership in a statewide academic honors organization
- **Model UN Awards:** 11 conference awards, including:
 - 2 Best Delegate/Gavels (NHSMUN New York; Surf City MUN).
 - 3 Outstanding Delegate Awards (UCLA BruinMUN, Surf City MUN, Edison MUN).
 - Plus awards at Canadian High School MUN, UC Davis MUN, Claremont McKenna MUN, Santa Margarita MUN, Tustin MUN, and Los Angeles Invitational MUN.

PRESS COVERAGE

- [**Cover Story Feature**](#) — **Southbay Magazine, 2/26**. Profiled as an LGBTQ+ youth advocate & researcher, recognized for raising \$85,000+ for UCLA LGBTQ+ research & contributing to academic publications.
- [**Featured for Organizing Student Walkout**](#) — **Manhattan Beach News, 2/25**. Co-led a peaceful Mira Costa student walkout protesting ICE policies, mobilizing ~900 students & coordinating with administrators to ensure lawful civic engagement.
- [**Front page of UCLA Daily Bruin**](#) - **UCLA Daily Bruin, 4/10/26**. Picture of Jonah Segil, Dr Matthew Mimiaga, Miyashita Ochoa & Jack Feng showing all the UCLA C-LARAH award winners with Ted Lieu.
- [**Feature Story**](#) - **The Beach Reporter/Daily Breeze, 4/16/26**. Profiled for community advocacy, philanthropy, Congressional Recognition, and UCLA C-LARAH honors.
- [**Featured in UCLA Fielding School of Public Health News: UCLA Fielding School of Public Health Website, 5/13/26**](#). C-LARAH intern Jonah Segil was honored for leading a fundraising campaign that raised nearly \$150,000 for the center.
- [**Featured in Mira Costa School Newspaper: La Vista School Paper, 5/22/26**](#). Profile piece in the Mira Costa School newspaper on both my fundraising and research success with UCLA C-LARAH.
- [**Featured in The Daily Breeze: Queer prom looks to be integral part of South Bay teen culture, 6/1/26**](#). Launched 1st Queer prom for Southbay teens organized by my Southbay Social Advocacy Coalition.
- [**Featured in Transformative Investment Section, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health Magazine, 6/26**](#). Launch of the "Join Jonah" School of Public Health fundraising campaign.

OTHER INTERESTS

- Native English speaker; advanced Spanish; pianist since age 8; avid geography and map enthusiast.