

Q: What sustains Mills over world crises —including two historic pandemics?

A: The commitment of students like Aniella, the dedication of professors like hers, and the generosity of alumnae like you.

One hundred sixty-eight years after the College's founding, our mission and your support are why we're still here—to educate students, promote social justice, and engage community. **Thank you, donors, for being a part of history.**

MEET:

Aniella Aguiar '22, a business administration major and computer science minor who won't let a virus get in the way of her education as she returns to all-online instruction.

Q: Why did you choose Mills?

A: I was impressed, not only by the campus but by the students. I loved their passion and how committed they were to what they were interested in, how engaged they were with the Oakland community, and their drive to change the world. This was the place I needed to be.

Q: Which professors have inspired you?

A: When I came here I wasn't sure what I was going to major in. I decided to sign up for Business and Society with Professor of Business Practice **Darcelle Lahr**. I fell in love! I loved the topic of how a business can be beneficial yet detrimental to a community. That resonated because I've seen how businesses have affected my community of East LA, where mom-and-pop shops get replaced by Burger Kings.

Barbara Li Santi was my first computer science professor. I was so scared. I knew nothing about computer science and didn't know how I would do this.

She was always supportive, pushing you to think. She showed me coding could be fun and that the way a computer works was actually interesting.

This spring, I took a class with **Rebecca Portnoy** called People and Organizations, a hybrid online/in-person course. When Mills first announced it was going all online, she reminded us that we'd had practice with remote learning, which made me feel comfortable going online in the rest of my classes.

Q: Why are you continuing at Mills this semester, given that learning is remote?

A: I'm not going to lie. You miss the in-person class experience. I'm continuing my education because I love learning and I still need to keep the ball rolling for my future. I'm thinking good things are going to happen!



Pandemics fade; education endures.

Your gift can make a lasting Mills education possible for students like Aniella.

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