

ALEXANDER VAN

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SUMMARY

Senior Plant Sciences/Environmental Horticulture major at Cal Poly, seeking a position as a Zoological Horticulturist at the Santa Barbara Zoo. Strong related experience and skills, including landscape design, creation, and maintenance.

EDUCATION

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly)

Bachelor of Science in **Plant Sciences**, June 2025

Concentration: **Environmental Horticulture Science**

- GPA: 3.4
- Worked up to 30 hours per week while attending school full-time

Coursework includes: Principles of Design Communication, Landscape Architecture Design Fundamentals I & II, General Botany, Landscape Ecology, Principles of Horticulture & Crop Science, Plant Materials, Plant Propagation, Landscape Installation & Maintenance.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

St. Peters Cemetery	Santa Maria, California	September 2024–Present
Landscaping Intern		

- Working under the Landscaping Director to re-design and re-plant the entire facility
- Trained to use PROLandscape and VizTerra in the process
- Researched and developed plans for new gathering spaces, maintaining a park-like atmosphere
- Interact directly with architects, contractors, and sub-contractors

Hortense Miller Gardens	Laguna Beach, California	Summers 2023 & 2024
Garden Coordinator		

- Started as a Garden Assistant, promoted to Garden Coordinator
- Led team of three assistants in maintaining the perennial border — a primary feature of the garden
- Performed general maintenance, including pruning over 50 fruit trees and handling a high volume of plantings
- Interacted with customers for multiple field days and special events

Gateway to Cal Poly and SLO	Cal Poly	April 2024–June 2024
Class Project		

- In a team of four, created a gateway to welcome visitors to San Luis Obispo/Cal Poly and provide a sense of the city
- Directly involved in designing, planning, and executing the installation
- Researched, selected, and monitored several outside vendors

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Barnes & Noble Bookstore	San Luis Obispo, California	September 2021–Present
Assistant Manager		

- Hired as a Customer Service Rep, promoted to Assistant Manager after six months
- Supervise large customer service team, including hiring, training, and scheduling
- Interact and problem-solve with a high volume of customers

SKILLS

- PRO Landscape, VizTerra
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Fluent in Spanish