

Aefrata Teklai
She/Her
Student Advocate

As a Black woman at SBCC, I've experienced firsthand what it feels like to be underrepresented. Through Umoja, I've found a community that uplifts and celebrates Black identity, culture, and excellence. It has helped me reflect on the barriers marginalized students face and envision a more just and inclusive campus.

That's why I'm stepping up as your Student Advocate. My goal is to fight for the interests of underrepresented students and ensure that no voice goes unheard. I will challenge unfair policies and work to hold leadership accountable when procedures fail to serve all students equally.

I'm running on a platform grounded in equity, justice, and visibility. I plan to connect directly with students through listening sessions, work with student-led groups, and push for policy changes that reflect the lived experiences of our diverse campus. Whether it's advocating for more culturally responsive mental health resources or improving communication between students and administration, I'll be a voice that speaks up, every time.

At SBCC, in Santa Barbara, and across California, students are facing rising costs in cafeteria prices, lack of representation throughout all areas, and systemic barriers. I bring lived experience, leadership through ASG as the IV community representative and a passionate commitment to community.

If elected, I will push for innovations within ASG that improve accessibility to resources, increase transparency through regular student updates, and ensure ASG becomes an even better platform for student advocacy!