



Ohio Latino Education Summit: "Best Practices for the Latino Community"

EL PUENTE LEARNING CENTER *Dayton, Ohio*

El Puente's goal is to help students from Latino families in grades K-6, succeed in their schoolwork. We focus heavily on reading and writing in English. Many of the students we serve are bilingual, but come from families where English is not read or written very often. We also serve as liaisons between the parents and the schools, advocating for the unique needs of each student. We also have a drop out prevention program for grades 7-12, *Camino de Vida*, sponsored by Ford Driving Dreams/LULAC (League of United Latino American Citizens.) We also have an adult program, *Conexiones*, for computer and language acquisition. Our program is collaboration of many partners including, Wright State University, University of Dayton, Dayton Schools, Hispanic Catholic Ministry and LULAC.



CTAG: CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP PROGRAM Cleveland Metropolitan School District - *Cleveland, Ohio*

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District's (CMSD) *Closing the Achievement Gap (CTAG) program* is a strategic initiative to address the graduation rate in Cleveland by engaging the most at-risk student population. Since 2007, the CTAG program has been a targeted intervention program for at-risk minority male students at the high school level. The goal is to partner these young men with Linkage Coordinators, who function as role models, mentors, and advocates for this targeted population. They monitor the students' academic progress and "link" them to necessary resource, in an effort to address the existing barriers that can hinder student academic achievement.



With the success of the *Closing the Achievement Gap program* with African American male students, the CMSD *Hispanic Graduation Team* was launched and the District has focused its efforts to address the needs of Hispanic youth, particularly for those whose second language is English. The CTAG program, CMSD Hispanic Graduation Team, and our Hispanic Community Leaders worked together to develop the collaborative strategies.

RttT: RACE TO THE TOP PROGRAM, Ohio Department of Education *Columbus, Ohio*

In 2009, 35 states wrote applications to reform their educational systems through a federal grant referred to as *Race to the Top (RttT)*. Ohio was one of ten recipients of this \$500 million dollar program and entered an era of unprecedented change focused on student, teacher and principal performance and accountability. During this same time the Ohio legislature has also passed several bills that have specifically addressed teacher evaluation. These laws require school districts to use value added metrics and other student growth measures as part of a teachers and principals evaluation.





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Ohio's new system for evaluating teachers and principals will provide educators with a richer and more detailed view of their performance, with a focus on specific strengths and opportunities for improvement. The new system relies on two key evaluation components, each weighted at 50 percent: a rating of teacher/principal performance (based on classroom observations and other factors), and a rating of student/building academic growth. This presentation will be an overview of the recent changes and how these changes will affect local districts.

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, LATINO STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE *Highland Heights, Kentucky*

"Championing Latino Higher Education Success: Preparing the Next Generation of Ohio Global Leaders" will highlight innovative higher education strategies as they relate to recruiting, retaining Latino students, and creating more vibrant communities.

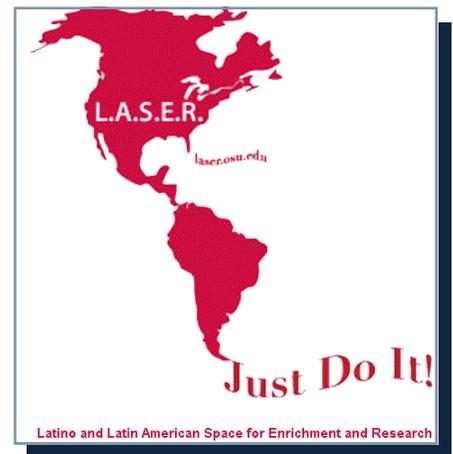


Since the establishment of the *Latino Student Affairs Office* at Northern Kentucky University (NKU) almost twelve years ago, the Latino student enrollment has increased by 577 percent. Also, thanks, in part, to the effectiveness of the *Latino Student Affairs Mentor Program*, our service efforts have increased exponentially. The presenter will share effective enrollment and retention practices that encourage the development of an attractive learning environment for underrepresented students. In addition, the presenter will share information about innovative community outreach models like the Saturday Program for Access to Rewarding Knowledge (SPARK), Latino Fun with Science Camp, English Language Learners Foundation, Alternative Spring Breaks in Mexico, and YMCA Black/Latino Achievers, etc.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, OFFICE OF DIVERSITY & INCLUSION L.A.S.E.R. – LATINO & LATIN AMERICAN SPACE FOR ENRICHMENT & RESEARCH *Columbus, Ohio*

L.A.S.E.R., or the Latino & Latin American Space for Enrichment and Research is the country's first hub for scholarship and mentoring that centers on Latinos and the knowledge and cultural production of the Latin/o Americas. L.A.S.E.R. provides the forum for faculty, students, and staff to build a scholarly community on campus, to make visible OSU as a center for knowledge production in and around the study of Latino and Latin Americas, and as a space for preparing, recruiting, and retaining Latino scholars from high school through graduate school. L.A.S.E.R.

is an initiative and space for the implementing of a total system for mentoring Latinos and those who seek to learn more from one another's research concerning Latino and Latin American history, culture, economics, literature, geography, and other areas. L.A.S.E.R. is a space that seeks to cultivate the growing of a new generation of scholars who bridge different learning environments.





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To achieve this, L.A.S.E.R. and the Humanities Institute offer L.A.S.E.R./Humanities Institute Graduate Fellow Program. L.A.S.E.R. brings a two-pronged approach to programming and mentoring. By bringing speakers, artists, authors, and scholars from across the nation and the Midwest, it seeks to bring visibility to OSU as a center for knowledge production in and around the Latin/o Americas. This, in turn, creates bridges between students, staff, and faculty on campus as well as the greater Columbus community.

The L.A.S.E.R Mentor is a total system. It begins with preparing Latinos in Columbus high schools for successful entry to OSU (and elsewhere). Then it follows with mentoring through undergraduate, graduate, and professional school at OSU.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, "COLLEGE 101" PROGRAM *Columbus, Ohio*

"College 101", covers all the logistical aspects of high school college prep, but also goes into depth about roles and responsibilities parents need to be aware of from the elementary to the secondary school levels. The main goal of this presentation is to provide Latino parents with information and best practices they can use to be more involved with their children and their schools to instill and maintain an environment which help children to develop a positive attitude toward education.



SPRINGFIELD CITY SCHOOLS HOP: HISPANIC OUTREACH PROGRAM

Springfield, Ohio

Two years ago, the Springfield City School District (SCSD) embarked in an ambitious and necessary program to meet the significant and growing challenge of educating a growing number of Hispanic students in the District.

The SCSD's intention is to fully embrace and meet this challenge by extending our beliefs to the Hispanic population of our community; primarily by helping our Hispanic students achieve academic success and preparing them to be productive citizens of our community. The Hispanic Outreach Program (HOP) was created to assist the district with designing, implementing and managing efforts to achieve this goal. There are underlying and fundamental differences, most notably cultural and socio-economic, that had to be immediately and consistently addressed in order to meet our responsibility of educating this segment of our children. One important factor in the success of our students performances is the complete support of their parents. Considering the characteristics of most of our family's socio-economic background, it was imperative to work toward the creation of a program that included adult education.



The Learning Cafe (TLC) is an evening program designed to support community learning of all ages and members of Springfield and surrounding areas. We offer classes that address the particular needs of our local community through custom designed coursework, individual attention, and general programing that considers the unique interests of our Hispanic students and community.



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TTLIC specifically benefited Hispanic families through programming that integrated English language acquisition with childcare, dinner support, as well as involvement with community events such as a community parade and our Thanksgiving cooking class and dinner. Approximately 75 adults and 25 children are registered in TLC. Attendance at programs varies by season but on average, 15 adults attend language acquisition classes and 10 children receive music lessons and/or childcare twice weekly.

LC: Conversational English Class for Hispanic Speakers . The Learning Café began a conversational English class for Hispanic speakers, March 19, 2012 for community members with Hispanic backgrounds seeking to learn basic English speaking and literacy skills. The class has a rolling enrollment structure and is focused on developing basic functional English speaking, writing, and reading skills. The class is entirely adults. Children are either monitored in our childcare program while their parents are studying or receive singing and music lessons designed to support literacy development. Two instructors conduct the program, one a native speaker and the other a professional high school foreign language teacher. The instructors collaborate to determine key skills students should master before moving on to English, level I and later, English level II which will be designed to advance speakers into higher levels of mastery developed around functional English literacy skills. English level I and II will not be rolling enrollment courses. They will be offered sequentially as the demand arises.

Hispanic Council, Cuyahoga Community College, *Cuyahoga County, Ohio*

Created in 1992, *the Hispanic Council (HC)* develops and implements Hispanic initiatives that mutually benefit Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) and the Hispanic community. The Council also serves as a liaison between the College and the Greater Cleveland area Hispanic community by linking Hispanics with Tri-C programs and services. On a daily basis, the *HC* office provides bi-lingual support services for prospective and current

Hispanic students in person and over the phone in the following areas: admissions, registration, financial aid, English as a Second Language (ESL), student visas, transcript translations, scholarships, student loans, and student academic appeals. The *HC* is also responsible for the development of ongoing educational programming for the Hispanic community. This year the Council celebrates the 20th anniversary of its annual Hispanic Education Conference for Cleveland high school students. Pre-college students have the opportunity to tour the campus, interact with faculty and staff in career exploration workshops and learn about financial aid and scholarship opportunities. To date, over 1,500 high school students have participated in one or more of Tri-C's Hispanic Education Conferences. Due to the generous support from our community donors, the *HC* was instrumental in the development of Tri-C's first Hispanic Endowment Scholarship Fund in 2003. The Council is responsible for the review of scholarship applications and leads the Hispanic Scholarship Review Committee. The *HC* celebrates its student successes with an annual Hispanic Scholarship Luncheon at the beginning of every academic year. Four recipients are selected each year to "tell their story" including field of study, obstacles they have overcome and career goals. To date, the *HC* has awarded college scholarships to over 300 Tri-C students.



The *HC* started a new initiative in 2012 called *Employees Supporting Hispanic Success (ESHS)*. Full-time, self-identified Hispanic employees of the College are invited to quarterly ESHS lunch meetings. Goals of the meetings are as follows:

- To share current Hispanic Council initiatives
- To work collaboratively on Hispanic internal and external events

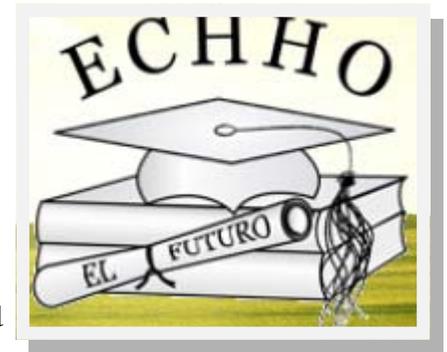


Ohio Latino Education Summit: "Best Practices for the Latino Community"

- To provide an opportunity to learn about other college-wide initiatives
- To network with College colleagues
- To share Hispanic community news
- To provide internal and external volunteer opportunities
- To acknowledge professional accomplishments

To date we average 20 associates per meeting and have added other non-Hispanic employees who have expressed interest in the goals of this group. Due to the passion and initiatives of the Hispanic Council, Tri-C has experienced continuous and significant growth in Hispanic student enrollment with a 12.4% college-wide increase from fall 2011 to fall 2012. In addition, the Council has also formed strong partnerships with local Latino organizations such as Esperanza, El Barrio, and the Hispanic Roundtable, in an effort to work collectively on community initiatives that support Hispanic success and prosperity including the Latino Youth Summit, Career Exploration, Saturday Academy and Convencion Hispana Cleveland. Roundtable, in an effort to work collectively on community initiatives that support Hispanic success and prosperity including the Latino Youth Summit, Career Exploration, Saturday Academy and Convencion Hispana Cleveland.

ECHHO: EDUCATORS AND COMMUNITY HELPING HISPANICS ONWARD *Statewide*



ECHHO (Educators and Community Helping Hispanics Onward) has been in existence since 1983. This group advocates to increase the number of Hispanics in Ohio higher education. ECHHO members will share “best practices” to recruit and retain Ohio Hispanic students. The Hispanic population in Ohio has increased 63.4% from the year 2000 to 2010 from 217,123 to 354,674 residents while the total population in the state of Ohio increased 1.6% during the same duration from 11,353,140 to 11,536,504 residents. Hispanics now make up 3% of the state of Ohio population but only 1.6% (1,922 graduates) of Ohio high school graduates. The number of Ohio Hispanic residents is continued to rise, which will mean an increase of Hispanics students in K-12. However, Ohio Hispanic enrollment drops off from high school to college. ECHHO’s efforts are to reach out to Hispanic students in high school to inform them that higher education is affordable and accessible in Ohio and what possibilities are available to bridge the gap between Hispanics and other racial/ethnic groups.

As a result of the presentation, attendees will be able to:

- Have an understanding of the increasing demographic of Hispanics in Ohio and impact on Ohio higher education.
- The best practices are going on around Ohio concerning Hispanic recruitment and retention in higher education.
- Learn what ECHHO is doing to promote college accessibility and affordability to Hispanic high school students and family members in Ohio.