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Winter 2023 Edition



March 7, 2023 marked 50 years of educational and leadership programming at LNESC which seeks to support Hispanic and low-income, first-generation students. It is a very exciting time for LNESC to not only reflect on the past 50 years, but continue to build on our legacy. LNESC's results are made possible by a network of dedicated sponsors, field staff, top-notch teachers, school partners, and the support of local LULAC councils. More information, along with educational resources in education programming and scholarships, will be found in this issue of our newsletter.

We look forward to celebrating this incredible feat and another year in preparing students for education, leadership, and career opportunities!

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Que Pasa: Updates and Happenings at LNESC

LNESC Celebrates 50 Years In Creating Lifelong Learners



The LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. (LNESC), the nation's premier Hispanic nonprofit education organization, is commemorating its 50-year anniversary in providing education and leadership programs for Hispanic and other students in need of financial assistance and educational counseling. Through the efforts of 16 education service centers across the U.S., including Puerto Rico, and a host of national programs, we proudly celebrate the positive impact on the future leaders of our communities.

In commemoration of our 50-year anniversary, LNESC Kansas City was featured in Volume 26 of the KC Hispanic News publication! You can read more about it <u>here.</u>

Please visit our website at **LNESC.org** to keep in touch and read more!

LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF)



LNESC and LULAC established the LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF) to help youth in underserved communities make the dream of college enrollment a reality. The LNSF program is a unique collaboration between grassroots advocates and corporate partners to fund educational opportunities for deserving youth across the U.S. The 2023 LULAC National Scholarship Fund is currently open to eligible students. Applications are due to a participating LULAC Council by March 31, 2023. Students who are interested in applying should visit the LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF) webpage.

For 2022-2023, LNESC and 60+ LULAC Councils awarded more than \$679,000 to over 940 students. Since the inception of the program in 1975, the program has awarded over \$20,400,000 to more than 36,200 students.

Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund

The Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund is a joint partnership between LNESC & Macy's to provide financial resources to full-time undergraduate or graduate students in California, Florida, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Puerto Rico, and Texas facing economic hardship and immediate monetary need that, if not met, could result in an inability to complete classes or a degree program. Students who are interested in applying should visit the Macy's Emergency Scholarship webpage.



For additional non-LNESC scholarship resources, click here.

Connecting Community to Education: LNESC in the Field

LNESC Houston

LNESC Houston's Exciting, New *Café con Pan Dulce* Resource for Parents and Students

Talent Search programming in Houston is on its second year of funding and staff are busy working towards meeting all objectives and goals set forth through the Department of Education



Talent Search. The Talent Search program is demoing an exciting new initiative. The Director provides coffee and pan dulce in the morning and called it "*Café con Pan Dulce* with the Director."

To continue reading, <u>click here.</u>

LNESC Kansas City

LNESC Kansas City's Continued Excellence in Mentorship and Summer Programming

LNESC Kansas City's Upward Bound (UB) program continues to provide participants with guidance and coaching to help prepare students and their families for college. The target school is East High School, in Kansas City, Missouri, where the program currently serves 60 students.



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Lideres in Action: Rising Stars of LNESC

In this edition of our newsletter, we ask staff at our national sites some thought-provoking questions to shine a light on their experience leading the **PUENTES** program in their respective communities. For reference, PUENTES is a digital education program is currently hosted at eight sites throughout the country. The purpose of this program is to cultivate a learning environment for both parents and children of disadvantaged households through skills, resources, and tools needed for digital literacy.

Andrea Zamora, Interim Director, LNESC Oxnard Oxnard, California

What do you see as one of the greatest barriers facing students and their families in realm of digital literacy in education?

The greatest barrier in the realm of digital literacy that students and their families face is not having reliable access to internet devices. For example, many of the participating families in the P.U.E.N.T.E.S program at Compton, California had one laptop or tablet in their household. The students would take the device with them to school. The consequence of having a single device was that their families did not have easy access to reliable laptops or computers.



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Sharon Ko, Program Assistant, LNESC Kansas City Kansas City, Missouri

What do you see as one of the greatest barriers facing students and their families in realm of digital literacy in education?

I believe that an overlooked barrier for students and families who experience a lack of digital literacy is embedded in homes that include blended families. This encompasses that there are not culturally relative nor intimate understanding of what the needs of the communities are to ensure that the



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College Cues: Tips for Student Readiness

students and families are being supported throughout their education.

It can be understood that many persons can work in their career to achieve being in a leadership role, but being an effective leader requires additional skills. There are always things that can be improved so that you can be the best possible leader in an academic and professional setting. Below are some of the best qualities to improve on in order to be a more effective leader in all aspects of life.

Student Mentality

When one has a student mentality, it allows them always to be openminded and understand that learning is a lifelong skill. It also always you to continue to learn and make your peers feel comfortable on their own leadership journey, as there is always



something to learn from each other. If you don't have this mentality, you will be less likely to take feedback into account. Great leaders are always willing to listen and grow!

Proactive Individuals

When it comes to leadership it is important to understand that there are two types of leaders: reactive and proactive individuals. Reactive individuals react to how to world is around them, while proactive individuals take lead in their life. It is important to find a compromise of these two qualities and also understand when embodying one quality (reactive or proactive) can be more helpful in the setting and situation.

Know Your Weaknesses



Strong leaders are able to understand and overcome their shortcomings. This could be as simple as delegating other individuals to roles that might be more appropriate for them or even stepping back and letting others lead if the tasks at hand require their

expertise.

For additional information, please click here.

Parent Forum: Strategies for Student Success

Parents play a strong role in the development of leadership qualities for students of all ages. Leadership is a skill that is developed over time and the communication skills gained from parental figures can help students excel in all aspects of their lives.

Teamwork

Teamwork is an exemplary primer to help your child understand the importance of collaboration



and master critical problem solving in a social environment. It will also catalyze their understanding of cooperation and how to creatively come to solutions with other students' needs in mind. Teamwork will also allow your child to understand how leadership can build one's confidence.

Be a good role model

Parents are the first examples that students are met with when it comes to respecting authority and understanding the concept of leadership altogether! As a parent, you can guide your child to positive ideas of leadership by exercising honesty, transparency, and be sure to highlight why you're taking a certain action, so that your child can understand good communication. Furthermore, it is a good idea to value their voice and ask them what they think when you are making a decision throughout the day. This allows them to realize the power of their voice and how to hone in on healthy leadership skills.

Encourage your child to take initiative and be involved in their school and/or community.



One of the best ways for your child to learn is by practicing leadership outside of home and doing so through extracurricular activities or community service. Leadership is about leasing with others to provide a lasting impact and serve the best interests of the

community. Responsibility that is rooted from being involved in different social environments can build emotional intelligence, which can help them be effective leaders in the future. Students will also realize the importance of routine and structure that comes from being involved in activities like baseball, choir, or volunteering at your local food bank.

You can find an excellent list of other ways parents can help their children be leaders in school and alternative settings <u>here.</u>

Support LNESC

Your contributions are what helps us continue with our educational programs and provide scholarships to outstanding Latino/a leaders. Together we can continue making an impact on the Latino/a community. **Consider supporting LNESC by making a donation.**



About LNESC



The LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. (LNESC) is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit agency whose mission is to provide the highest quality educational opportunities needed for the development of life-long learners and leaders.

As LULAC's education arm, since 1973 LNESC has provided direct educational services to under-served communities throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, serving more than 14,000 students each year. Our educational programs break down the barriers that exist between highneed students and high school diplomas, college degrees, and jobs in highly skilled fields.

Through its network of community-based education centers, LNESC provides educational counseling, scholarships, mentorship, leadership development, literacy, and technology programs.

For more information go to <u>www.lnesc.org</u>.

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