

Winter 2024 Edition



As the winter winds usher in a season of reflection and renewal, we at LNESC are thrilled to present the Winter 2024 edition of The LatinEd Connection. In this issue, we dive into the heart of our community's accomplishments and look forward to the promising initiatives on the horizon.

In this edition, we are proud to announce the launch of the LULAC National Scholarship Fund, which is one of many opportunities that allow us the privilege to serve underserved students from across the country and help make the dream of college a reality. We also have our Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund, which uniquely supports students who have an immediate monetary need.

We also take the time to highlight and honor Director Rose Ann Blanco's 50 years of dedicated service at LNESC! We are highlighting her journey as an early advocate for education to how she is now an esteemed educator and mentor in the Houston community. Furthermore, we are also spotlighting Director John Moya's tenure with LNESC and his invaluable leadership in the Albuquerque community.

Our LNESC centers throughout the country continue to thrive through their respective innovative programming. Students at LNESC San Diego have gone on enriching field trips to college campuses and attended insightful lunch and learns. At LNESC Miami, the Upward Bound program continues to thrive through its programming efforts, such as academic advising and fostering connections between parents and their students. Our diverse programming grounds the importance of ensuring that our students are not only academically accountable, but meaningfully engaged with their learning experience.

As we gather around the warmth of a crackling fire this winter, we are also gathering in community and shared aspirations to continue to inspire and inform through the LNESC mission. We are keen on celebrating the achievements of our students, dedication of our staff, and an unwavering commitment to education and empowerment!

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**Que Pasa: Updates and Happenings at LNESC** 

LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF)



LNESC is excited to announce the launch of this year's new LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF) application on February 16. We are excited to host the application online, as it will allow us to ensure that students from across the nation have ease of access to this opportunity.

The application deadline to apply this year is March 31, 2024. Students who are interested in applying should visit the <u>LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF)</u> page on the LNESC website for more details.

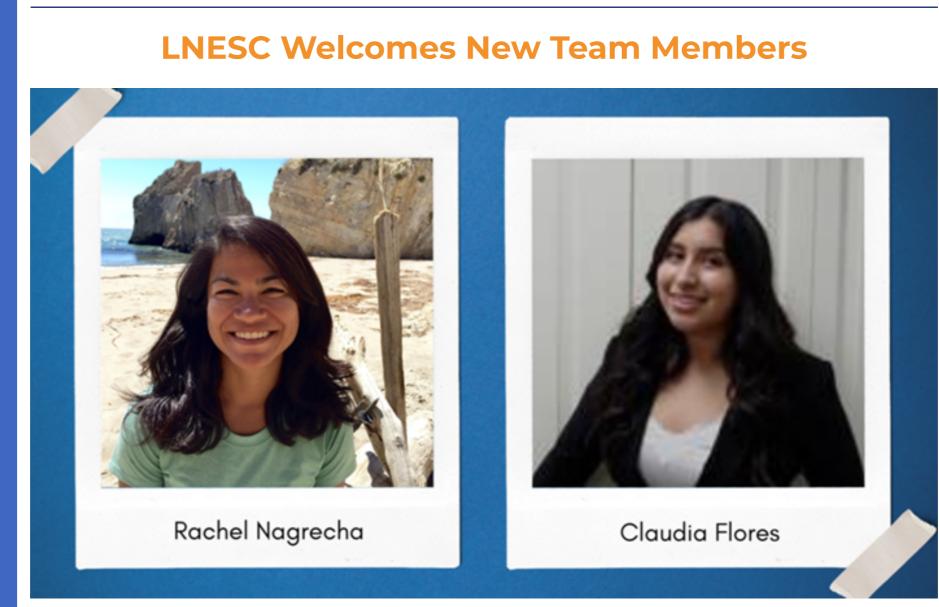
Read more <u>here.</u>

# **Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund**

The <u>Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund</u> 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, or 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 <u>Macy's Emergency Scholarship</u> <u>webpage.</u> Applications for this fund are accepted on a rolling basis.



For additional non-LNESC scholarship resources, click here.



LNESC is thrilled to welcome Rachel Nagrecha and Claudia Flores to our National Office team and allow their experiences to enrich our mission, while also allowing them to contribute their unique insights and experiences.

#### You can read more about it <u>here.</u>

Connecting Community to Education: LNESC in the Field

## **LNESC** Miami



#### LNESC Miami's Upward Bound Program Success

LNESC Miami wrapped up the academic year strong and hosted various avenues for students to experience learning and personal development for their Upward Bound (UB) cohort. The students reflected their drive for ambition, exploration, and were able to do so under the leadership of Director Dulce M. Diaz-Vega.

To continue reading, click **here.** 

# **LNESC San Diego**



#### Innovation at LNESC San Diego: Workshops and Field Trips

We now turn the spotlight on LNESC San Diego's enriching autumn semester and explore the impactful Lunch and Learn workshops and field trips. We will come to understand how Director Mariana Mendez-Casanova and the LNESC staff are setting the stage for a season of growth throughout the season!

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

#### **Lideres in Action: Rising Stars of LNESC**

In our Winter 2024 edition, we spotlight two pillars of the LNESC community: John Moya, Director of LNESC Albuquerque, and Rose Ann Blanco, Director of LNESC Houston. Rose Ann marks 50 years of transformative service at LNESC Houston and her colorful journey has allowed her the incredible privilege of mentoring generations of students to positively nurture better futures.

Director John Moya's leadership was pivotal in the success of the 50-Year Youth Conference in Albuquerque. John has had a longstanding commitment in serving through leadership and driving educational excellence for the Albuquerque community for 20 years!

John and Rose Ann further ground the "*Líder* in action" ethos, due to their enduring legacy. The commitment and legacy embedded in their stories inspire us all to endlessly empower youth.

## **Celebrating Leadership and Legacy at**

## **LNESC Albuquerque with John Moya**



Director John Moya has been serving the Albuquerque, New Mexico community for over 20 years. Students, educators, and staff alike can affirm that he has been a pillar of steadfast leadership and guided the center through numerous milestones. The commitment to education was once again evident during last year's LNESC 50-year celebration and youth conference. Alongside his incredible team, he was able to support the LNESC National Office in curating an impactful 50-year celebration and youth conference. As we reflect on the impact of his legacy and wrap up our 50-year celebrations, we posed a few questions to him to gain insights into his experiences and aspirations for LNESC.

To continue reading, click here.

## **Celebrating Half a Century of Impact**

## with Rose Ann Blanco



In this special Winter 2024 edition, we delve into the profound journey of Rose Ann Blanco, who has dedicated half a century to mentoring and leading within the LNESC Houston community. Through her experiences, we gain insights into the transformative power of education and community service. Rose Ann shares her reflections in response to our questions, encapsulating the enduring legacy of LNESC's mission.

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

## **College Cues: Tips for Student Readiness**

As we progress into a new semester, students can easily be overwhelmed by

technology altogether, but especially how it syncs with providing impactful learning opportunities. Students are now used to using "smart boards" in the classroom and adopting innovative technology to streamline their study habits. Here are three key strategies to effectively utilize technology for educational advancement, as well as some resources to help guide you.

# **1. Innovative Software for Strategic Time Management and Organization**

You can leverage digital tools for time

management and organization is essential for balancing the demands of academic life. **Google Calendar** serves as a powerful ally in scheduling and reminding you of important deadlines, classes, and meetings. It encourages specific time blocks for both academic and personal tasks and can promote a more well-rounded routine- especially



with extra-curriculars and personal life! For a more comprehensive task management solution, you can explore platforms like **Trello** or **Todoist**. These apps provide a visual overview of your tasks and projects and make it easier to stay organized and focused. You can read more about innovative time management apps <u>here.</u>

You can read more of our tips on how to better leverage technology for academic success **here.** 

## **Parent Forum: Strategies for Student Success**

As parents, you may understand that the role of technology in education has never been more critical. For parents looking to support their children's academic journey, it is important to understand the current ecosystem and know what age-appropriate and relevant technological tools are available. This understanding can make a significant difference in allowing students to be digitally literate and engaged with the curriculum alongside their peers. Here are three key strategies for parents to help their children utilize technology effectively for educational success, with some helpful resources embedded.

#### **1. Technology As An Ally**



You can help your child harness the power of digital organization tools to manage their academic and personal life efficiently through your own initiative. Technology can be a deep distraction or serve as an ally! When the right software and platforms are used, it can drive students of all ages to focus, be organized, and set the deadlines necessary. As such, tools like **MyStudyLife**, which is a free planner for

students offer seamless integration with their daily routines. You can find a more comprehensive list <u>here.</u>

You can read more of our tips on how to help your child engage in mindful use of technology, to elevate student success <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.** 

DONATE NOW

## **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.

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 high-need 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, visit our <u>website.</u>

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