



¿Que Pasa?

The Hispanic Community Affairs Council
Newsletter
Fall 2014

The Hispanic Community Affairs Council (HCAC) is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization with a proud 32-year history. HCAC is dedicated to young Hispanics throughout Alameda County who are interested in pursuing a higher education. HCAC believes that investing in our future leaders is the key to a stronger community.

Our Mission is to promote the value of education, cultural diversity and community involvement.

Our Vision is to invest in the higher education of future Hispanic leaders to build a strong community.

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HCAC ANNUAL HOLIDAY RECEPTION

**Join us as we honor our
2014 scholarship recipients!**



**Wednesday, December 17, 2014
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Hayward City Hall Rotunda
777 B Street
Hayward**

City Hall is easily accessible from the Hayward BART station; and garage parking is across the street.

There will be light refreshments.

Please RSVP by Dec. 13th to Angie Reyes at 510.792.9545 or yes4reyes@gmail.com

Visit the HCAC website at www.hcac.ac.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am very honored to lead and be part of this wonderful organization that directly helps thousands of young individuals achieve their educational goals in life. As a past recipient of the HCAC scholarship, I experienced the financial struggles and life challenges that many of our students are facing. I'm immensely grateful that HCAC helped me pay for my college education and encouraged me to pursue higher education.

The need for financial aid continues to increase as the demographics of the Hispanic Community continue to expand. We are thankful to everyone, including the Board of Directors and Advisory Board Members, who have devoted personal time and resources to lend to the vision that makes HCAC the exceptional non-profit organization it is today. In its thirty-two years, HCAC has awarded approximately \$1.6 million dollars in scholarships to over 2000 young men and women throughout Alameda County.

Thanks to the dedication and support from our loyal members, sponsors, friends, and volunteers, we are making a difference, creating a positive impact in our community, and achieving our mission, *"to promote the value of education, cultural diversity, and community involvement."*

Our vision is to invest in the higher education of future Hispanic leaders to build a strong community. Please join us in our efforts to make a difference... together we can build a better future.



Sincerely,
Aracelia G. Esparza

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR 2015

Students may now access the HCAC Scholarship Application online at www.hcac-ac.org. Students applying for a \$750 grant for community college or trade school; or \$1500 for a four-year college or university must have their applications in by **February 13, 2015**.

Student application essays will be reviewed by a team of HCAC volunteers. Those qualifying will then be interviewed. (See *website for required documents*.)



Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic excellence, service to their communities and economic need. Many are the first in their families to attend college. They understand the importance of an education and the opportunities that will open once they complete the journey.

HCAC members, donors, sponsors and supporters believe that the investment today in these students will produce the future policy leaders, CEO's, teachers and health professionals that are so important for our communities.

HCAC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SAY...

As an Industrial Engineer student studying at San Jose State University, I am presented with a lot of responsibilities in order to be successful. My brother and sister are attending universities as well, which makes it hard for my parents who have three children attending universities at the same time.



Luckily, the Hispanic Community Affairs Council offered me a scholarship for the last two years, which took a lot of stress away not only for my parents, but for me as well. With the financial support I was offered, I was able to purchase my textbooks, buy a meal plan in order to eat at school, and fill up my car with gas in order to get to school. I am very grateful for this opportunity HCAC has presented me and I hope to achieve their mission and vision as an HCAC recipient.

-Enrique Gonzalez

My name is Yosaira Espinoza, a first generation college student. As of now, I am finishing my last semester at UC Berkeley and I am majoring in Public Health. I am very pleased to say I received the HCAC scholarship for my four years in college.



I come from a very humble home, of hard working immigrant parents. Both my parents wanted to receive a higher education; however, they were unable to. My parents, not wanting the same for my brothers and me, immigrated to the U.S. seeking opportunities.

Growing up, regardless of the language barriers, my parents instilled the importance of education. They always wanted

us to get straight A's and always supported us in our extracurricular activities. This support was essential in creating the passion within me that was always hungry for knowledge.

With my college career coming to a close, I can now reminisce at how this passion allowed me to be successful. It created an eagerness to learn and help others. Studying Public Health provided me the tools necessary in serving as an advocate for my Hispanic community in reaching their health needs.

My Public Health education has allowed me to gain internship experience in Kaiser Permanente's and Genentech's Diversity and Inclusion departments. In the future, I hope to continue my public service and support my Hispanic community's health needs.

I am forever grateful to HCAC. HCAC has been a very strong pillar in my successes, as not only did they provide me financial assistance, but they also provided me with a strong and loving network. It is a great organization of wonderful people who devote their time and attention to tomorrow's future leaders. They are open for informational interviews, giving advice, and doing everything necessary in empowering us.

I am also thankful for our donors, who made my education possible. Your love and commitment has served as a prime example for me to give back to such a wonderful organization, because I know it not only changes the individual receiving the scholarship, but also their families, and the Hispanic community.

Thanks to you, this December I will be a college graduate! Con todo corazon, muchas gracias!

-Yosaira Espinoza

SAVE THE DATES!

The HCAC Annual Scholarship Luncheon will be held on **Friday, May 1st** at the Double Tree-Hilton, 39900 Balentine Drive, Newark. Board and Advisory Board members will be handling ticket sales.

Upcoming events and meetings are as follows:

Holiday Reception

Wednesday, December 17, 2014
(6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
Hayward City Hall
777 B Street Room 2A
Hayward, CA 94541

Scholarship Application Deadline

Friday, February 13, 2015

Scholarship Application Readings

Tuesday, March 10, 2015
(6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.)
Alameda County Office of Education
313 West Winton Ave.
Hayward, CA 94544

Scholarship Interviews

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 and
Thursday, March 26, 2015
(6:00 p.m. -8:30 p.m.)
St. Bede Catholic School
26910 Patrick Ave
Hayward, CA 94544

Parent-Student Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2015
(6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.)
Hayward City Hall
777 B Street Room 2A
Hayward, CA 94541

Scholarship Awards Luncheon

Friday, May 1, 2015
(11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.)
Double Tree by Hilton
39900 Balentine Dr.
Newark, CA 94560

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

During our scholarship review process, we need people to volunteer to read student applications and assess their essays. Readings will be done on **Tuesday, March 10, 2015** at the Alameda County Office of Education in Hayward.

Applicants will then be interviewed on **Tuesday, March 24, 2015 or Thursday, March 26, 2015** at the following location:

St. Bede Catholic School
26910 Patrick Ave
Hayward, CA 94544

Whichever date fits your schedule, HCAC will be glad to have your help. If you can spare two hours on any of the three dates listed above, please contact:

**Angie Reyes, Scholarship
Committee Chair
yes4reyes@gmail.com
510.792.9545**



BECOME AN HCAC MEMBER

HCAC has enjoyed a diverse membership including local merchants, educators, public and private corporate representatives, human service providers, elected officials, and local residents. Membership is open to any person who supports the objectives of the Hispanic Community Affairs Council.

Annual membership dues are \$50 a year and the rewards are priceless.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Last year, with the generosity of our sponsors, HCAC awarded 61 scholarships and a total of over \$81,000 to a group of well-deserved young students who have made the commitment to pursue their dream of attending college.

This year our goal is to raise \$95,000! With your help, and the help of sponsors and volunteers, we can continue to increase the number of scholarships awarded each year. We can continue to help increase the number of Hispanics who attend college and become professionals. Together we can make a difference!

There are several ways you can support HCAC. Join our efforts today by becoming a member or volunteer, or by making a donation to our scholarship fund. All monies raised for the HCAC Scholarship Fund go to scholarships. Together we can create educational opportunities for Hispanic students in Alameda County.

Please make checks payable to:

**HCAC
P.O. Box 3151, Hayward CA 94540
www.hcac-ac.org**

Donations are tax deductible.
501(c)(3): 94-2951649

Join us on Facebook!

2014 Major Sponsors

The success of HCAC's Scholarship Program would not be possible without the partnership, participation and generosity of our Sponsors.
Thank You!

Padrinos de Diamante (Diamond Sponsors)

A contribution of \$10,000

La Comisión Honorífica Mexicana

Padrinos de Oro (Gold Sponsors)

A contribution of \$5,000 or more

Fremont Bank
Kaiser Permanente
Markstein Sales Company

Padrinos de Plata (Silver Sponsors)

A contribution of \$2,500 or more

Atkinson, Adelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
Hon. Richard Valle



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