



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 higher education of future Hispanic leaders to build a strong community.

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¿Que Pasa?

Hispanic Community Affairs Council Newsletter – Winter 2015

Scholarship Fundraiser Drawing!

FOUR 2-DAY TICKETS TO DISNEYLAND



Donated by Gerry Dove, Entercom & Sylvia Chacon, Clear Channel Media & Entertainment

For tickets, please contact Pedro Naranjo at 510.383.8983 or pedronaranjo@hotmail.com.

Drawing will take place during the HCAC Membership Reception

Please Buy Your Tickets!
1 for \$5 ♦ 3 for \$10 ♦ 7 for \$20

Thursday, March 5, 2015 (6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)
Celia's Restaurant
25010 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward

Winner need not be present to win.

All proceeds will benefit the HCAC's Scholarship Fund.

Thank you for your Support!

www.hcac-ac.org P.O. Box 3151, Hayward CA 94540
501(c)(3) 94-2951649

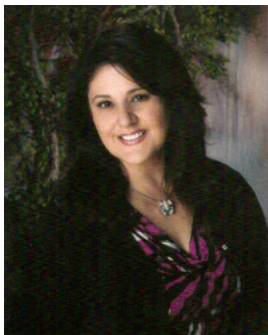
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the demand for an educated workforce rises and the cost for education continues to escalate, our focus to increase the number of Latinos who successfully graduate from college becomes even more important.

HCAC's vision is to invest in the higher education of future Hispanic leaders to build a strong community. What has been exciting for me is to see the powerful support and energy from everyone who shares our vision. What has been most rewarding is to see our scholarship recipients graduate and become professionals. I invite you to read their stories.

Last year, HCAC awarded 61 scholarships in the amount of over \$82,000 to deserving students throughout Alameda County. This year, the "**HCAC Challenge**" is to raise \$95,000. I'm certain that with the generosity of our sponsors, members, friends, and volunteers we will reach our goal.

I'm very pleased to announce that HCAC membership is growing. If you share our vision, I also encourage you to become a member, sponsor or volunteer. Please join us in our efforts to make a difference... together we can build a better future.



Sincerely,

Aracelia G. Esparza
President

HCAC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SAYS



I have been an HCAC Scholarship recipient for the past few years. I am very grateful to have had the scholarship for consecutive years as it has helped me greatly in paying for my education.

In 2011, I obtained my Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. This December, I graduated from Cal Poly once again and obtained my Master's of Science in Mathematics. It has been a long run and long nights of studying, but it was all worth it. I am so proud, that as a "Dreamer", I made it this far. Most importantly, I could not have continued with the support and optimism of my family friend, and scholarship organizations like HCAC!

Now, I am returning to Cal Poly as part of the faculty of the Mathematics Department and I will be teaching Trigonometry and Business Calculus for the upcoming quarter. I will also apply for analyst roles to various companies in hope of a possible start in the industry.

Thank you HCAC for all your help and support!

Best,

Blanca D. López
Graduate Teaching Associate
Mathematics Department
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

Education Summit 2015



For First Generation, African American, Latino, Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander Students and their Families

**Saturday, January 31, 2015 –
9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Cal State East Bay University
Gymnasium; 25800 Carlos Bee
Blvd., Hayward

Event Highlights:

- Lunch Provided and Free Parking
- Free Coffee and Hot Chocolate provided in the morning
- Educational and college-related workshops for middle, high school, and community college students and families
- College and Resource Fair showcasing Northern CSU campuses, community colleges, and community vendors
- Free Shuttle for BART riders, to and from event

For questions, please contact us at (510) 885-3516. Se habla Español. Registration will open soon.

Pictures will be taken at the event and by attending you grant permission for your picture and/or likeness to be used for CSUEB publications, promotional materials and/or social media platforms.

- [Maps & Directions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

ANNUAL HCAC HOLIDAY RECEPTION A SUCCESS

Many HCAC Scholarship recipients, their families, local dignitaries and HCAC board members attended the recent reception honoring students and their families. The event was held in the Hayward City Hall Rotunda, and newly elected **Mayor Barbara Halliday** welcomed attendees. During her presentation, she demonstrated her support by encouraging HCAC membership.



As part of the program, a parent was selected to speak to attendees. His heartfelt remarks are reprinted as follows:

My name is Robert Quihuis and my son is Roberto Quihuis (AKA Tito). He is a freshman student at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. My son and I would first like to thank HCAC for their generosity and support.

We know that the volunteers of this organization put a lot of their time and effort into the success of our students. At Creighton University, Tito is a Business Major and a member of the Freshman Leadership Program.

Every Thursday my son Tito's group visits the Boys and Girls Club of Omaha and provides assistance to the staff and helps the kids at the Club. The Freshman Leadership Program recently had a fundraiser where they assisted with a Thanksgiving meal on the College Campus. The funds raised were for a day care center that is operated by an elderly lady who provides free childcare for underprivileged families with children.

I am very happy for my son, Tito for selecting a college that recognizes that community service is an integral part of the overall college experience. Again, HCAC thank you for your support.

TOM HANKS PRAISES COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR HIS SUCCESS

*In an Opinion piece in the New York Times on Jan. 14, Tom Hanks credits his education and experiences at **Chabot College** for his success. Here is an excerpt of what he said.*

To read the full text go to--

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/14/opinion/to-m-hanks>

“In 1974, I graduated from Skyline High School in Oakland, an underachieving student with lousy SAT scores.....I sent my final set of stats to Chabot a community college in nearby Hayward, which, because it accepted everyone and was free, would be my alma mater.

“Chabot offered courses in physics, stenography, auto mechanics, certified public accounting, foreign languages, journalism — name the art or science, the subject or trade, and it was probably in the catalog. Classes I took at Chabot have rippled through my professional pond.

“President Obama hopes to make two years of free community college accessible for up to nine million Americans. I’m guessing the new Congress will squawk at the \$60 billion price tag, but I hope the idea sticks.....

“High school graduates without the finances for a higher education can postpone taking on big loans and maybe luck into the class that will redefine their life’s work. Many lives will be changed.

“I drove past the campus a few years ago with one of my kids and summed up my two years there this way: **That place made me what I am today.**

FROM HCAC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT LISHA PACHECO

I am studying International Relations in the University of Chile. I was extremely ecstatic and grateful to learn that I had been selected as a recipient for a consecutive time. I could never thank you enough for the opportunity!

This scholarship has lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of studying abroad, learning while traveling. Your generosity has inspired and given me the confidence to broaden my horizons and explore my academic potential outside of the US. Yet not only have you helped with my financial stability, the words of encouragement and support that I have received make me feel a part of something bigger which helps with the loneliness of being so far away from home. Caring people like yourselves validate my struggle and motivate me no matter how far away I may be.

I promise, I am working very hard to make the best out of this experience, which I hope inspires other underrepresented students such as myself to look into other countries for academic and personal growth. I am hoping to reapply to the scholarship and remain an active member of this amazing support system.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION UPDATE

Students applying for a \$750 grant for community college or trade school or \$1500 grant for a four-year college or university must have their applications in by **February 13th**. Applications are online at www.hcac-ac.org.

Volunteers Needed!

Scholarship application readings are Tuesday, March 10th (6 to 8 p.m.) at the Alameda County Office of Education, 313 West Winton Ave, Hayward.

Scholarship interviews are Tuesday, March 24th & Thursday, March 26th (6 to 8:30 p.m.), at St. Bede Catholic School, 26910 Patrick Ave., Hayward.

If you would like to **volunteer** as a scholarship reader and/or interviewer, please contact Angie Reyes, Scholarship Committee Chair at yes3reyes@gmail.com or 510.792.9545.

HCAC MEMBERS SAY

"I chose to become a member because I believe that as a Latina I have the obligation to help empower my community. This can only be done by achieving higher education. I look forward to helping HCAC achieve its goals for 2015."

- Miriam Lens, Hayward City Clerk

"I'm excited to become a member of HCAC. I look forward to supporting their efforts in creating opportunities for youth in Alameda County to pursue a college degree."

**-Elisa Márquez,
Hayward City Council Member**

"As an Educator in Hayward, at Chabot College for 36 plus years, I witness first hand the benefits of an HCAC scholarship with our Youth. It becomes not only financial help, but most importantly a confidence booster to the student who receives one. HCAC is my partner in facilitating the road to academic success of our Students. Thank you, HCAC."

**-José Francisco Zermeño Cárdenas
Hayward City Council Member**

"I became an HCAC member because I believe in educational opportunities and am impressed with the consistent, high quality opportunities created each year by HCAC. The organizations long standing commitment to developing the next generation of leaders and outstanding professionals is exceptional and I am proud to be part of it."

**-Sara Lamnin
Council Member, City of Hayward**

"The HCAC has invested thousands of dollars in my own family's education and today we're all educational administrators and professors. I am incredibly proud to be able to return the investment by becoming a member and helping the HCAC to raise money and continue to invest in California's Latino/a professionals."

**-Mark Salinas, M.A.
CSU East Bay | College of Education and
Allied Studies**

"I became a member of HCAC because I want Latino students to know that there are people that believe in them and will invest resource to ensure their success. With more students receiving BA, Masters and Doctorates it will create more interest and pave the road for future generations to enter the world of academia."

**-Elsa Saenz
Alameda County Social Services**



BECOME AN HCAC MEMBER

HCAC membership is open to any individual who supports the Mission and Vision of the Hispanic Community Affairs Council. Membership dues are \$50 a year and the rewards are priceless.

There are several ways you can support HCAC. Join our efforts by becoming a member or volunteers, or by making a donation to our scholarship fund.

All monies raised for the HCAC Scholarship Fund go to scholarships. We have no paid staff. We are all volunteers. Together we can create educational opportunities for Hispanic students in Alameda County.

Please make checks payable to: HCAC and mail to HCAC, P. O. Box 3151, Hayward, CA. Or visit our website for further information at www.hcac-ac.org. Donations are tax deductible. 501©3: 94-2951649

Join us on Facebook!

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