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2019

### Opening Ceremony: "Procession of Hope / Procesoión de la Esperanza"

CSUSB - Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD)

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## LEAD Original Programming

### **Opening Ceremony - Procession of Hope / *Procesión de la Esperanza* (2019)**

*START – 00:00:00*

>> Bienvenidos and welcome to the next installment of LEAD Media Programming, from Studio 54, Campus of California State University, San Bernardino, the digital media platform for inspired educators, leaders and community activists and advocates, taking our message directly to the people, to the gente. Thank you for sharing our common interests in the analysis, discussion, critique, dissemination and commitment to the educational issues that impact Latinos. I'm your host, Dr. Enrique Murillo Jr. And this episode is a syndicated replay from season 10 of LEAD Summit 2019. The theme that year was *su voto es su voz*, everyone counts. For the U.S. to create a positive future, it will require a Latino citizenry the more greatly participates in the American Democratic process and that is poised to shape the U.S. political landscape through voting and civic engagement. Among the featured speakers that year was the Honorable Alex Padilla, who at the time was serving as the California Secretary of State and had modernized the office, increased voter registration and participation and strengthened voting rights. Padilla served as the Grand Marshal, helping kick-off our LEAD Summit by leading the procession of hope with Cal State San Bernardino's first 15 graduates of educational doctoral program, 35 brand new U.S. citizens and 24 dreamers and undocumented youth. The inaugural procession was emotionally overwhelming and there was not one dry eye in the room. Continue enjoy the full value and complexity of this episode, we extend our appreciation to all our LEAD sponsors and partners, planners, volunteers, speakers and panelists, production team, affiliates in town hall chapters and commend them all for lifting their voice and uplifting the plight of Latinos in education. Thank you. Gracias. Tlasojkamati. Alright. Un aplauso otra vez, pues. Come on. Come on. Ok. At this time, we're ready for our opening ceremony. Please, take your seats if you haven't yet. We want to bring forth Air Force Junior ROTC from the West Covina High School for the presentation of colors. Let me ask retired Captain Jesus Acuña Pérez, who directs the color guard and Star Kafovalu Wildes, who will lead us this morning. So Captain and Star, please step forward. They're already here. Thank you. Captain Jesús Acuña Pérez, who has since retired, previously served as a commandant of cadets for the Air Force ROTC here at Cal State University, San Bernardino. But now, currently, he is the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor at West Covina High School. He was born in Tijuana, in Tijuas. Let's hear it for Tijuas, Baja California. Star Kafovalu Wildes, who among other activities is our Cal State Campus - Works here but she works as the academic advisor and the social media coordinator for our advising and academic services, ok? So, Capitán, all yours.

>> Muchas gracias. Buenos días.

>> Buenos días.

>> Quiero darle las gracias a nuestro creador, al equipo de liderazgo de la universidad, al Doctor Murillo, en especialmente. Good morning. I'd like to thank our creator for allowing us to be united for this very important summit. I'd also like to thank the leadership team here at Cal State San Bernardino and, of course, Dr. Murillo. Esta mañana, además de visitar el juramento de lealtad a nuestro país, les quiero compartir algunas palabras. This morning, in addition to reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, I want to share with you a few words. Permanecer en silencio es dar a entender que uno es conformista. Su voz es su voto, úsela efectivamente. To remain silent is to be a conformist. Your voice is your vote, use it effectively. And with that, if I may please have you stand. Place your right hand over your heart and begin. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all. O say can you see, by the dawn's early light, what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming, whose broad stripes and bright stars through the -- Through the perilous fight, o'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there, o say does that star-spangled banner yet wave, o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

>> God bless you [inaudible].

>> Please take your seats.

>> Welcome to the 10th Anniversary of the Latino Education and Advocacy Days Summit, LEAD. Who are we? LEAD is a broad spectrum of researchers, education professionals, scholars, academics and administrators. We are also civic leaders, activists, advocates, students, parents, families and more. In short, LEAD is comprised of individuals who share a common interest, passion and commitment to educational issues that impact Latinos.

>> Over the past decades, Latinos have emerged as a largest minority in the United States, with majority populations in many regions and states and in some cases the majority among school-aged children. In many ways, this is our moment to excel as a major cultural and social influence. Latino workers too are the backbone of many business sectors that overlap local, regional, national and global economies, yet the strength of our schools and communities, basically our place in the world, is impossible to evaluate without focusing on the educational outcomes of Latino students.

>> Latinos continue to have some of the highest dropout pushout rates in the nation, score among the lowest on achievement tests and have low college enrollment and graduation rates. Both Latino students and teachers have a high mobility rate, are located in racially segregated communities with high poverty rates and attend schools with fewer resources, staffing and programs. The purpose of LEAD is to promote a broad-based awareness of the crisis in Latino education and to enhance the intellectual, cultural and personal development of our communities, educators, administrators, leaders, parents and students.

>> This 10th anniversary of the LEAD Summit marks the historically significant moment, an opportunity to review and celebrate our collective accomplishments and the fruits of our labor.

>> Doctoral graduates.

>> Who are we? We are the Latino scholars who have crossed the finish line to complete a rigorous and demanding educational commitment. As recent doctoral graduates, we are the new realities, shared histories and identities of Latinos today. We are the less than 1% of Latino adults who have earned advanced degrees. So much has changed in the last 10 years. Latinos are making significant progress on educational attainment and the opportunities to invest in our success have grown.

>> With the number doubling, we've seen a dramatic increase in the number of Latinos with two and four-year degrees in California. National participation and doctoral education by underrepresented minorities has grown from 5 to 7%, yet compared with the overall growing Latino population, the proportion of college-educated Latino adults over the same period remains flat. There is still much more work to do as schools, institutions, colleges and universities across the United States are trying and often struggling to develop faculty, staff and administrators that reflect the nation's growing ethnic and cultural diversity.

>> As scholars and graduates of doctoral programs for marginalized communities, we are paying it forward. Our very presence can actually transform and improve education. Our hope is to help move others along and across the academic finish line to increase the college readiness, attendance and college success of all of our communities. Sí se puede.

>> New citizens.

>> Who are we? Having taken a solemn oath, we are America's newest citizens. Once lawful, permanent residents, we have reached a very special milestone in our lives to become American citizens by choice. We are dedicated, diligent and hard workers. Our aspirations and actions enrich our society and strengthen our democracy. With our new title of U.S. citizens, we have an opportunity to make lasting contributions to both our community and adopted country. We hope that our efforts will ensure that America's promise of freedom, democracy and liberty is secured for generations to come.

>> Education is an economic imperative and an important civil rights issue of our generation. Education is a right, not a privilege. Creating a more positive future requires a much higher Latino voter participation, a strategy that is poised to shape the political landscape through increased voting and civic engagement. Su voto es su voz. Everyone counts.

>> Dreamers.

>> Who are we? We are the dreamers and doers, undocumented students and youths. Education is our priority. We have a voice. Our movement has developed into a significant national force. We are members of your communities. Raised and educated as Americans in the United States, we work hard, pay our taxes and don't bankrupt the system. Without options for legal residency, our lives remain uncertain and hang in the balance.

>> Hundreds of thousands of us are collectively holding our breath, anxiously waiting for comprehensive immigration reform and a permanent fix to help us safely stay in the United States with a goal of someday becoming U.S. citizens. As dreamers, we represent a significant portion of this country's future strength. We must achieve a dramatic and powerful change in our communities, one that requires courage, social action, public service and the creation of leadership opportunities. Undocumented and unafraid has emerged as a slogan for our immigrant youth. No longer living in the shadows, we are coming out organizing, advocating for change and building a new Civil Rights Movement. El presente es de lucha. El futuro, nuestro.

>> Our inaugural Latino education and advocacy day in 2010 at Cal State San Bernardino was a historical success in bringing needed attention and discussion to critical issues in Latino education. The highly visible success of the annual LEAD Summit has opened up the necessary groundwork and campaign for our extraordinary new future.

>> Are you ready to make a difference in the Latino community? Are you ready to connect with and be part of educational leadership? Are you ready to find cross-sector solutions to improve the education and lives of all students? Raise your hand, step in and get involved.

>> Let's stand as we give a round of applause. Let's stand as we give a round of applause to our procession. ¿Se puede? ¿Se puede?

>> Sí, se puede.

>> ¿Se puede?

>> Sí, se puede.

>> ¿Se puede?

>> Sí, se puede.

>> Levante la mano si queremos una buena educación. Levanten la mano si queremos voz y voto. Y mijas para todos. Please remain standing as the, our procession -- Please, to your left. And please remain standing until our color guard retreats. Let's give it up for our Grand Marshal, the Honorable Alex Padilla.

*END – 00:19:04*