June 21st 2000

Hispanic News

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On June 15, 2000 at the White House, President Clinton hosted a White House Strategy Session on Improving Hispanic Student Achievement. At the day-long session, educators and leaders from the public, private and non-profit sectors discussed the need for a national effort to close the achievement gap between Hispanic students and their peers.

The President released a report documenting the achievement gap, called for a national commitment to five major goals aimed at improving Hispanic achievement, and unveiled several public and private sector commitments targeted at reaching those goals over the next decade.

The President also noted that progress toward closing the achievement gap would be threatened by the education spending bill passed in the House yesterday which fails to fund the President’s Hispanic Education Action Plan and other critical education measures.

Today’s strategy session focused on the importance of raising the academic achievement of Hispanics – our nation’s fastest growing population group. The President released a report by his Council of Economic Advisers, Educational Attainment and Success in the New Economy: An Analysis of Challenges for Improving Hispanic Students’ Achievement, which documents the achievement gap between Hispanics and their peers and the importance of educational achievement in the new economy.

The report illustrates that, in spite of progress that has been made over the last several decades, troubling gaps exist between Latino students and their peers at all levels.

Challenging the Nation to Reach Key Goals, the President announced five major goals for improving Hispanic student achievement and challenged the nation to achieve them by 2010:

1. Increasing access to quality early childhood education;
2. Ensuring that Hispanic students achieve English language proficiency;
3. Eliminating the achievement gap on state assessments;
4. Increasing the rate of high school completion; and
5. Doubling the rate of college completion.

The President unveiled several commitments by the private and public sectors in support of his Latino achievement agenda, including:

-  The 2010 Alliance, a partnership of corporate, foundation and community leaders committed to providing resources to reach the President’s goals by 2010: Internship programs for Latino students with the federal government and private-sector companies;
- Outreach campaigns by the federal government, Procter & Gamble, the Discovery Channel, and others; and
- A partnership between Lightspan and HUD to close the digital divide by providing educational technology resources for the residents in Hispanic communities.

Continuing a Commitment to Education: The President’s FY 2001 budget continues its investment in programs that improve the educational achievement of Hispanics, with an $823 million increase for programs that are part of the Hispanic Education Action Plan.

Unfortunately, in this year’s appropriations bills, the House underfunds this plan by more than $650 million, and the Senate fails more than $200 million short of the President’s budget request. President Clinton reiterated his threat to veto the education spending bill passed by the House yesterday, which also fails to strengthen accountability and turn around failing schools, reduce class size, fund emergency repairs and renovation of aging schools, sufficiently expand after-school opportunities, help prepare low-income students for college through GEAR UP fund programs to improve teacher quality, help bridge the digital divide and adequately fund child care and investments in Head Start.

The City of San Bernardino-Project Area Committee has scheduled a Free Dump Day in the Ward 1-Westside of the city on Saturday, June 24, 2000 from 8:00am to 12:30pm. Residents of the ward are eligible only for utilizing the services. Tree limbs must be within 5 foot length, and hazardous materials, paints, tires and batteries, etc., should not be taken to the pickup site area.

The pickup site is on the corner of Mt Vernon and 6th Street. For further information contact Nick Gonzalez at (909) 384-5133.
A TRIBUTE TO ALL FATHERS ON FATHERS DAY

Boys Town Kids Salute Their Dads by Father Val J. Peter JCD, STD

Here at Boys Town, Nebraska, and our sites across the country, we hear an awful lot about deadbeat dads. There are plenty of them to hear about, but what we don’t hear about are all the good dads. This is a group that has more members than the deadbeat dads, and they do some wonderful things.

Here are a few of the reflections my Boys Town girls and boys have written about the importance of their dads in their lives. We want to salute these and all good fathers everywhere, not just for Father’s Day, but the entire year.

My dad is the best person in the world. I want to thank him for being there to love me and my brothers, to care for us and to help me grow along the way. Even since my mom died, my dad had to be in two positions, both the mom and the dad. It’s not always easy for my dad to raise us kids...working and keeping up our house. He never gives up. He still loves us. Lucy, age 11

I would like to thank my dad for the way he has always been there for me. He was there for me when my mom died and has been there for me ever since. He is a great person. He cried so hard when my mom died. He didn’t have to care for me, yet, could have just felt sorry for himself, but he didn’t give up on me. I love him for that. Kayla, 10

My step-dad is a wonderful role model. I have known him since I was four years old. When we get into arguments, we hug each other and forgive each other. He has helped me in so many ways, especially when my own dad gave up on the whole family and just walked out of our lives. Michael, 13

God bless all the good dads in this world. Keep up the good work. We need more and more of your love and affection for your children. Happy Father’s Day.

Father Val Peter is executive director of Boys Town Neb., and in California, New York, Louisiana, Texas, Florida, Nevada Rhode Island, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Washington, D. C.

FAMILY/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING

Option House, Inc. will begin its next family/domestic violence training on Monday June 26th and Wednesday June 28th. Evening classes are held on Mondays from 5:00pm - 9:00pm at 980 S. Bloomingtom Avenue, Ste. B, Bloomingtom. Afternoon classes are held on Wednesdays from 1:00pm - 5:00pm at 3333 North El Street, San Bernardino. The four-hour state-mandated course will be four hours weekly for ten weeks. Eight additional off-site hours will be scheduled after session begins. There is a ten dollar fee for materials. Please call (909)381-3471, Monday – Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm for additional information.

ACQUISITION, REHAB AND RESALE (ARR) PROGRAM IN SAN BERNARDINO CITY WINS HUD “BEST PRACTICES” AWARD

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo today announced that the ARR Program in San Bernardino City has received HUD’s Best Practices Award because it serves as a model for other communities around the country to follow.

The San Bernardino City ARR Program competed with over 2,900 other best practices nominees across the country for regional and program awards, and is among over 4,000 finalists for competition at the national level for one of the 100 “Best of the Best” awards to be honored during HUD’s 2000 Best Practices and Technical Assistance Symposium.

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BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS HOSTING COUNTY CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES SEMINAR FOR WEST-END SMALL BUSINESSES

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, along with representatives from various County departments and other agencies, is sponsoring a “Contract Opportunities Mini-Conference for Small Business Entrepreneurs.” This FREE Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, June 28, 5:30 PM, at the West-End County Schiffhol Educational Service Center, located at 8265 Aspen Street, in Rancho Cucamonga. “This Conference will help small business owners to learn what it takes to compete for millions of dollars worth of contracts with various County departments,” says W. B. Jeffs, Director of the County Office of Small Business Development.

Representatives will be on hand to explain the County’s procurement policies for the variety of goods and services, which will go out to bid throughout the County. There will be opportunities for all businesses – large or small enterprises.

County departments co-sponsoring the workshop include purchasing Department; Architecture/Building & Engineering; Facilities Management, Economic and Community Development, Department of Transportation/Flood Control, Special Districts Department, Vehicle Services; Sheriff’s Department, and the Office of Small Business Development. Other participating agencies are SPARTA, the County pre-approved liability insurance program, and the Inland Empire Small Business Development Center.

To RSVP, please call the County of San Bernardino Office of Small Business Development at (909) 387-2186.

MUSCOW SCHOOL HOLD INTERNATIONAL DAY

Muscoy Elementary School, San Bernardino, celebrated its 10th Annual International Day with over 1,800 students and parents enjoying the two-hour program of singing and dancing. Twelve countries are represented by students attending the school. Pictured above are students singing popular Mexican songs. The school population is represented by approximately 70% Hispanic students. Photo by IEHN.

The young fellow above, not identified, is thinking why he is not part of the 10th International Program that was recently celebrated at Muscoy Elementary School, San Bernardino. Students from different grade levels performed dances and songs representing the diversity of the school’s student population. Photo by IEHN.

The following poem was read to Hector Lopez in recognizing his 22-year teaching tenure at Muscoy elementary School, San Bernardino.

He came from humble beginnings from a far off place, ready for the challenges he would certainly have to face. His mother showed great courage, he would never feel alone. His family came to America to make it their new home. When he became a young man he had odds to overcome. He spent time in the Army where Korea he was stationed. It was there he found his calling, his goal became strong.

But he faced them head on, he had no intention to run. When he started teaching his feet “got wet” real fast. It's hard to keep that confidence with a combination class!

He graduated from Cal State right in this very town. Standing proud and confident in his cap and gown. It was there he found his calling, his goal became strong.

Now that the years have passed everyone knows his name. He has been someone special to all of us here. Without Mr. Lopez Muscoy wouldn't be the same.

And if we had a Hall of Fame he would certainly be there, For all he's done for everyone we would all want to share. His plaque would show all the things that he does for us, Like decorating for International Day without making any fuss. But if we listed everything this poem would never end.

He moved to Kindergarten with all those little kids. Now that the years have passed everyone knows his name.

Poem Written by Marty Richardson

Wednesday, June 21, 2000

Front page: Hector Lopez, Kindergarten teacher at Muscoy Elementary School, San Bernardino.

Recent developments may mean that the first opportunity to leverage the power of the Latino vote in 2000 will be the issue of adjustment of status for millions of undocumented persons currently in the U.S. Adjustment of status is also known as legalization or “amnesty” in the Latino community. Over half of the estimated five to six million undocumented persons in the U.S. are Latino. Estimates are that immigrant workers, legal and undocumented, comprise majorities or near majorities of workers in several important industries including: agribusiness, food-processing, apparel, and hospitality.

It is no coincidence that industry associations from the same industries and AFL-CIO (the insistence of international unions that organize in the same industries) have adopted positions in favor of some type of adjustment or “amnesty” program. Simply put, these businesses need to legalize their work force to continue to employ them, and labor unions may more easily gain union members from these industries if they have legal status. It's a classic case of self-interest, properly understood.

That's why it's crucial for Latino leaders, as well as others concerned with immigrants, to immediately ally with business and labor in a broad based, left-right alliance. The strength Latinos bring as the electoral group most in demand in 2000 by both parties and presidential candidates should be enough to persuade the Republican-controlled congress and the democratic-controlled White House to swiftly approve a new amnesty for the undocumented.

As Henry Cisneros put it at an April 12th immigration reform meeting in Washington, D.C. “the stars may be aligning in our favor in 2000.” We agree. We invite Latino leadership across the U.S. to join in this effort to bring millions of our brothers and sisters out from under the shadow of illegality into the sunlight of legal permanent residence and eventual citizenship...before the elections!

Leverage the Power of the Latino Vote in 2000, Join the Amnesty Alliance

By Antonio Gonzalez, Director, William C. Velasquez Institute

The following poem was read to Hector Lopez in recognizing his 22 year teaching tenure at Muscoy elementary School, San Bernardino.

His plaque would show all the things that he does for us, Like decorating for International Day without making any fuss. But if we listed everything this poem would never end.

He has been a mentor, a counselor, an advisor and a friend. He has been someone special to all of us here, So let's stand up and give him a big Muscoy cheer!!

Poem Written by Marty Richardson
RILEY ANNOUNCES GRANTS TO HISPANIC COLLEGES TO EXPAND ACCESS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

U. S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley announced the award of $25.8 million to fund 76 new grants to Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) to improve their facilities, academic programs and student services. Another $16.3 million will support continuation awards to 39 additional HSIs.

"The goal is to increase the college graduations rates of Hispanics," Riley said. "These grants will enable colleges that serve large numbers of Hispanic and disadvantaged students to offer an enriched academic experience that will go a long way toward making that goal a reality."

Addressing a White House National Discussion on Hispanic Education, Vice President Gore said today, "This program is part of a larger, overall effort to increase the achievement of Hispanic students at all levels of education, from preschool through college. Education can open a new world of opportunity for Hispanics and other minorities, and this administration is committed through this program and others like it to help those dreams become a reality. We must reduce the Hispanic dropout rate in America. And I will not rest until we do."

HSIs are colleges or universities in which Hispanics represent at least 25 percent of the student population and at least half of those students are low-income. Some 195 two- and four-year schools have been designated as HSIs. About 40 percent of Hispanic undergraduate students are enrolled in these schools.

HSIs confer more than 45 percent of all associate degrees and 50 percent of bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanics and provide access for a large number of other disadvantaged students. Hispanic enrollment in higher education has increased nearly 50 percent in six - from 782,000 in 1990 to about 1.3 million in 1999 - and Riley said the role of HSIs will become increasingly important as the trend continues.

"Because these colleges have a proven track record in retaining and graduating Hispanic students," Riley said, "their continued success is crucial to meeting the educational needs of the burgeoning Hispanic college-going population." By the year 2050, nearly one-quarter of our population will be Hispanic.

Funded under Title V of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, the program aims to enhance the academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability of the institutions educating a significant percentage of Hispanic students. Of the 76 new grants, seven are one-year planning grants to give institutions an opportunity to analyze their strengths and weaknesses and take steps to prepare a Title V development grant application for the following year.

The other 69 are five-year development grants to implement specific activities such as establishing community outreach programs with local elementary and secondary schools; offering special programs to improve students' academic success; purchasing books, telecommunications materials, scientific or laboratory equipment; and supporting exchanges, fellowships and other faculty development programs.

In fiscal year 2001 the administration has requested $62.5 million for Title V to serve a greater number of Hispanic students attending HSIs.

INLAND COLLEGES RECEIVE MAJOR GRANTS

Baca announces Funds for San Bernardino Valley College, Chaffey

Rep. Joe Baca (D-Rialto) announced that the U.S. Department of Education is awarding major grants to San Bernardino Valley College and Chaffey Community college, both located in the Congressmen's district.

"This is terrific news for our region," Baca said. "I want to thank the Department of Education for having great vision in awarding these grants to two of the Inland Empire's most outstanding academic institutions."

The grant for San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC), in the amount of $375,949.00, represents a first year funding under the "Strengthening Institutions - Hispanic Serving Institutions Program."

The program at SBVC, "Breaking the Science Barrier," is intended to increase the success rate of students who are enrolled in introductory science classes. The grant will serve "at risk" students who have been identified and recruited to participate in science courses.

The grant for Chaffey Community College, in the amount of $376,070.00, represents funding for the fourth year of a five-year program to assist Hispanic and high-risk students in math, English, ESL (English as a second language), reading and other courses intended to improve opportunities leading to enrollment in four-year institutions. These grants demonstrate that our local institutions are on the leading edge when it comes to proposing and developing new and innovative education programs, the type of programs that will prepare more Inland Empire students for the 21st Century," Baca said.

PAC BELL DONATES TO KIWANIS HEALTH FAIR

Mary Zanski, Pac Bell Director-External Affairs, presents a donation of $1,000 to Jess Torres - Program Administrator, Fair Housing/Inland Mediation, Brought to you by: Inland Empire Regional Opportunity Counseling in conjunction with the Housing Authority of San Bernardino, Fair Housing Council/Inland Mediation.

EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

San Bernardino County's Probation Department is currently recruiting to fill multiple vacancies at its juvenile detention and treatment facilities. The following positions are currently open for application.

Probation Officers Trainee $2153 - $2746 per month* (eff. 7/1/00)

Requires: 60 semester (90 quarter) units of completed college coursework, including 9 semester (14 quarter) units in behavioral sciences, criminology or a related area.

Night Custody Officer $1880 - $2371 per month* (eff. 7/1/00)

Requires: 60 semester (14 quarter) units of completed college coursework in behavioral science, criminology, or a related area.

Public Meeting for Community Input for Capital and Refurbishment Funds

The City of Riverside Park & Recreation Dept. invites the general public to share ideas, needs and suggestions for the use of new funds to build new recreational facilities and parks, or refurbish existing facilities and Parks.

Meeting Date, Times & Locations

June 19, 2000 — 6:30 - 8:30 pm
San Bernardino Public Library
555 West 4th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92410

June 21, 2000 — 6:30 - 8:30 pm
La Sierra Park Comm. Ctr. 5215 La Sierra Avenue
Riverside 92507

June 26, 2000 — 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Bordwell Park Park Comm. Ctr. 2008 Martin Luther King
Riverside 92506

June 28, 2000 — 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Amelia Earhart School 20202 Aptos Street
Riverside 92507

To RSVP (909) 680-4401 x128

Brought to you by: Inland Empire Regional Opportunity Counseling in conjunction with The Housing Authority of San Bernardino, Fair Housing Council/Inland Mediation
COLTON COUPLE CELEBRATE 50th ANNIVERSARY

She was 14 years of age and he was 19 when they met and their friendship blossomed into a marriage two years later. The year was 1950.

This year, Jess Lucero and Inez Sanchez Lucero celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their 6 children, 17 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and 350 guests at the GENTS Community Center, San Bernardino.

Mrs. Lucero reminisces about their marriage in Deming, New Mexico, the town she grew up in and moving to California. She missed her family very much not knowing anyone in her new residence.

In 1951, their first child, Margaret (Montano), was born and as the years rolled by, an additional five children were born. The children are Lindy (Gonzales), Jess Jr., Amanda (Gomez), Tim and Bernadette (Campa).

Mr. Lucero worked for CALMAT and has been retired since 1990. Mrs. Lucero started a flower shop, the well-known Casa De Flores at 342 So. Mt. Vernon Av., San Bernardino and in October is celebrating 25 years in the flower business.

Mrs. Lucero stated, "My husband and I have had our ups and downs like any married couple. I would never trade him for anyone else. He is my companion and it would be very strange if he was not around. We are going to be together until one of us departs."

San Bernardino International Airport Authority
Notice Inviting Bids

Airport Electrical Improvements
AIP 03-06-0-0358-08
Airfield Lighting, Vault, ILS and VASI Improvements

Prospective bidders are hereby notified that San Bernardino International Airport Authority will receive sealed bid proposals for Airport Electrical Improvements. The Project includes high-voltage equipment replacement, airfield electrical relocations including FAA specified fixtures, generator and emergency power system upgrades. One original sealed bid will be received until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 18, 2000 at Owner’s office, Clerk of the Board, at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting for prospective bidders and their major sub-contractors will be held at the San Bernardino International Airport Passenger Terminal, 105 N. Leland Norton Way San Bernardino, California, at 8:00 A.M. on Thursday, July 6, 2000.

Contract Documents may be obtained from Owner, 294 South Leland Norton Way, Suite 1, San Bernardino, California 92408, upon payment of a one-hundred dollar ($100) non-refundable fee. Make all checks payable to "San Bernardino International Airport Authority ".

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified or cashier’s check or bid bond for 10 percent of maximum amount(s) bid, or equivalent substitution in lieu of a bond as authorized by Civil Code Section 995.710. Said check shall be made payable to San Bernardino International Airport Authority and when delivered with a proposal, shall constitute a guaranty that bidder will, if awarded the contract, furnish contract performance and payment bonds with a corporate surety or sureties satisfactory to the Owner, or equivalent substitution in lieu of bonds, each for not less than 100 percent of total bid price; furnish certificates of insurance evidencing that all insurance coverage required by the contract has been secured.

Owner has obtained from the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work. Said rates are on file at the Airport Administration office and they will be made available to any interested party upon request. Each contractor to whom a contract is awarded must pay the prevailing rates and post copies thereof at the job site. Owner reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any irregularity or to award the contract to other than the lowest bidder. Bidder may not withdraw his/her bid for 30 days after bid opening.

Contractor is advised that he/she may, at his/her sole cost and expense, substitute securities equivalent to any monies withheld by the Owner to insure performance under the contract. Such securities shall be deposited with the Agency or with a State or Federally Chartered Bank as escrow agent who shall pay such monies to the Contractor upon satisfactory completion of the contract. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for monies withheld and shall receive any interest thereon. Securities eligible for investment under this section shall include those listed in Government Code Sec. 16430 or bank or savings and loan certificates of deposit.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended, of September 24, 1965, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and the Federal Labor Provisions.

Each bidder must complete, sign and furnish, with completed bid documents, the “Bidder’s Statement on previous contracts subject to the EEO clause”, a “Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities”, and the Assurance of Minority Business Enterprise Participation as contained in the Bid Documents.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and his subcontractors having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of $50,000 or more will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications.

Disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) as defined in 49 CFR Part 23 shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds under this agreement. Consequently, the DBE requirements of 49 CFR Part 23 applies to this agreement. Please visit our DBE Program at www.sbdairport.com for more information.

All solicitations, contracts, and subcontracts resulting from projects funded under the API must contain the foreign trade restrictions required by 40 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Suppliers of Goods and Services of Countries That Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors. The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

San Bernardino International Airport Authority
San Bernardino, California

By: Mr. Alex Estrada
Senior Project and Property Manager

Prior to the award of this contract, the contractor must file a Compliance Report (SF 100), if the contractor has not submitted a complete and accurate Compliance Report within 12 months preceding the date of award.

San Bernardino International Airport Authority
San Bernardino, California

People in the News
Inland Empire Hispanic News
Wednesday, June 21, 2000

LIBRERIA DEL PUEBLO’S HONORS FOUR OUTSTANDING WOMEN

Libreria Del Pueblo held its 15th Annual Celebration FIESTA DE LA MUJER with the selection of four outstanding women in the region. Pictured (l to r) Rachel Clark, San Bernardino’s City Clerk, educated in San Bernadino and involved in many worthwhile projects in the region; Elizabeth Plott; Dr. Olga Montano, co-owner of several family care centers and convalescent homes, and extensively involved in numerous charitable activities, including projects in Mexico; Senator Nell Soto, 32nd Senatorial District, has been actively involved in civic and political activities for over four decades, concentrating in the education of children, civic improvements and senior citizens welfare; and Carlene Henriques, a certified health care specialist, is Regional Project Director for the South Regional TURN and has been a volunteer for over 17 years. She is credited with personally helping over 3,000 people break free from tobacco addiction.

Photo By IEHN

Jess and Inez Lucero, center, of Colton, celebrates their 50th wedding anniversary at the GENTS Community Center. Pictured above with the couple are 6 children, 17 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Photo By IEHN
It’s All in the Frijoles

100 Famous Latinos Share Real-Life Stories, Time-Tested Dichos, Favorite Folktales, and Inspiring Words of Wisdom

Salsa dancing, rice and beans, and Ricky Martin Tunes have exploded in popularity as Americans collectively have come to appreciate the Latino culture across the country. But dance steps, burritos, and musical beats reflect only a hint of the vast cultural heritage that infuses the lands both north and south of the U.S. border.

Despite their differences—whether dialects, education, or policies—the diverse Latino community throughout the U.S., Mexico and South America, shares a common unshakeable reverence for life’s desirable virtues.

Yolanda Nava explores and explains these less appreciated values of Latino culture in IT’S ALL IN THE FRIJOLES: 100 Famous Latinos Share Real-Life Stories, Time-Tested Dichos, Favorite Folktales, and Inspiring Words of Wisdom (Fireside Books/A Simon & Schuster Trade Paperback Original; May 200; $15.00.)

Nava’s compilation of this Latino-style ‘Book of Virtues’ uses first-person accounts by notable Latino figures, along with relevant folktales, proverbs, and poems. Illustrating the importance of virtues such as responsibility, justice, fortitude, charity, and hard work, IT’S ALL IN THE FRIJOLES can serve as an inspiring character development tool for all cultures and ages.

Nava came to understand the nature of character from frijoles (beans) during a moment of insight a few months after her mother’s passing. She recalled that her mother when preparing the popular bean dish, frijoles de la olla, would rinse them extensively and pick through the beans to remove those imperfectly shaped, shriveled, or discolored. Only flawless pinto beans were worthy of the dinner table. From her mother’s care with the family’s frijoles, Nava realized that bean sorting could be seen as a metaphor for character-building. “Virtuous life,” as her mother taught her, “is the product of constantly weeding out flaws and weaknesses.”

A multitude of inspirational anecdotes abound within this first-of-a-kind collection. Many are recounted by Latino role models—from intellectuals to politicians to performing artists—who offer wisdom from their own experiences.

• Author Isabel Allende explains how she came to understand that responsibility to her Chilean family surpassed other, more mundane, concerns.

• Burt Corona tells how his grandmother’s stories of fighting Geronimo-led troops in Chihuahua, Mexico infused him with the courage to become an activist.

• Edward James Olmos reveals how the importance of prayer and faith in his family nourished the spirituality which provides the anchor for his life as an actor.

• Loretta Sanchez explains how her parents taught her the value of hard work and how she applied these lessons when running a victorious congressional campaign.

• Daniel Catán shares how, faced with a career crisis, he summoned the necessary fortitude to switch direction and pursue a life as a composer.

IT’S ALL IN THE FRIJOLES incorporates lessons from heroes, both ancient and modern, to reinforce time-honored teachings that have helped mold men and women of admirable character for generations. As a guidebook for children and adults, or as an inspirational celebration of the virtues that have spurred the ascendency of Latino culture in the U.S. spotlight, its wisdom is certain to endure throughout generations to come.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

YOLANDA NAVA is an Emmy Award-winning television journalist, columnist, educator, consultant and community leader. She was a co-founder/owner of Ponce-Nicasio Broadcasting in Sacramento, the first Latino-owned and operated television station in the United States, and regularly writes a column for Eastern Group Publications, the nation’s largest chain of bilingual newspapers. An avid gardener, she is the mother of two college students and lives in Southern California.

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Pro-Summer Youth Program
Peoplez Bancorp will be offering a local community youth summer program for students ages 13-18. The program will begin on Tuesday, June 27th, and continue every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Fridays from 8-9 p.m. The program is free. We will be offering exciting workshops along with fun activities that the campers will enjoy. Some of the workshops and activities are: Conflict resolution, anger management, job shadowing, arts and crafts, swimming, field trip, biking, soccer, basketball, baseball. The program is located at the Cesar Chavez Center 2000 University Ave., Riverside, Suite 102. For more information, please call Nita Cooper 888-888-888. Spaces are limited so sign up now!

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