# PUENTE PROJECT NEWSLETTER

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PUENTE

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Written by Mr. Cedillos



### INTRODUCING OUR 2019-20 PUENTE COHORT

After 6 information sessions, 10 presentations, 4 tabling sessions, 3 registration workshops and 1 orientation, I am excited to introduce to you our 2019-20 Puente Cohort!

The Mission of the Puente Project is to increase the number of educationally undeserved students who want to enroll in four-year universities, earn college degrees and return to their community as a leaders and mentors. The program is interdisciplinary in approach, with writing, counseling and mentoring components.

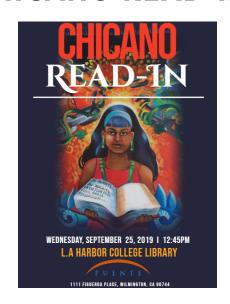
In this year's Puente Cohort we are fortunate to have 35 Puentistas motivated and eager to start their college journey at LA Harbor College. For the program, Puentistas are required to commit to 1 academic year and enroll in English 101/107B and Counseling 20 for Fall 2019. In Spring 2020 Puentistas will be enrolling in English 102 and Counseling 17. Additionally, students are required to commit to participate in Puente program activities and events including field trips, conference, and much more! See next page for the events.







#### CHICANO READ-IN





The Puente Project along with the Cultural Equity work group and the Spanish Department hosted Chicano Read-In.

To honor Hispanic Heritage Month, Puentistas like Citlalli Niebla got the opportunity to read inspiring books and poetry that recognize the wide range of voices and stories about Chicano and Latino culture.

Professor Carrillo closed the event with a powerful message reminding us all that every culture should be honored and celebrated.





## Hispanic Heritage Month Live Performance

The Cultural Equity work group, the Puente Project, and the Music Department hosted a Live Performance by Angelica Garcia, an up and coming local artist from East Los Angeles.

Over 100 students and staff watched Angelica Garcia performed "Jicama" a song that she describes about have a dual identity; about being American but also being Mexican and Salvadoran. "I want some freedom with my Pan Dulce." Her song embraces the two different cultures of her dual identity.

Puentistas such as Fernando attended the live performance.



### Transfer Motivational Conference



It truly was a motivational conference, it helped me spark my own confidence to become a leader."
-Stephanie Razo (Puentista)



The Transfer Motivational Conference was held at the University of California San Diego (UCSD). On a Saturday morning Professor Carrillo, Counselor Tracye Jones, and Counselor Cedillos along with the Puentistas departed from LAHC to UCSD at 6:30 a.m. The purpose of the conference was for Puentistas to explore their potential, strengthen their voices and develop new leadership skills.

Puentistas got to hear speakers such as Reyna Grande a first generation college graduate who attended Pasadena City College and obtained her Bachelors in Creative Writing from the University of California, Santa Cruz. She later received her Master in Fine Arts from the Antioch University. Reyna talked about her struggle of overcoming challenges as a Latina Immigrant, Mexican-American and writer. Her speech was inspiring and she shared that her 1st published book was after her 26th attempt. After publishing a few books, Reyna became an award winning Novelist and Memoirist.

Puentistas also got the opportunity to hear from a University of California (UC) campus panel. All UC's were in attendant and shared their uniqueness of their campus and reasons to apply to a UC. 2 of our very own LAHC Puentistas Ashley and Fernando were featured in a video asking the UC Panel "What are your popular majors?" and "What are you known for?" Our LAHC Puentistas cheered them on as they appeared on the screen.

Lastly, students were able to visit 2 workshops of their choice. Workshops varied from Empowerment, Campus Resources, Transfer Success and Wellness. All Puentistas attended the workshops.

The Puente Project thanks you for your continued support

Please follow us via Instagram @ puente\_lahc to receive daily LAHC Puente news and activity.



If you have any questions please contact: Professor Carrillo: carrilc@laccd.edu or Counselor Cedillos: cedillma@laccd.edu

