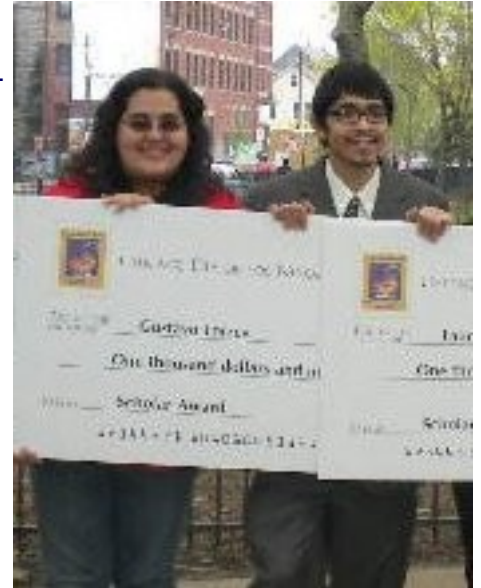


CSU Students Awarded Scholarships Dia de Los Niños Parade

Since 2005, Chicago State University has participated in the city-wide celebration of Dia de los Niños: Children's Day. Celebrated throughout Latin America, Children's Day traditionally consists of various activities that pay tribute to the contributions of children and the hopes we have for them in the future.

The Chicago Dia de los Niños Parade Committee hosted this year's celebration on April 24th. The kickoff started at Plaza Tenochitlan on 18th and Blue Island Avenue in Chicago's Pilsen's neighborhood. The parade concluded with an array of activities at Harrison Park. Additionally, the committee presents scholarships to high school students and two Chicago State University students. This year the scholarship was awarded to **Gustavo Torres**, Pre-engineering Studies, and **Ashley Sanchez**, Accounting—May 2010. They were presented with their \$1,000 scholarships alongside Chicago Mayor, Richard M. Daley. For more information about the Dia de los Niños Parade go to www.chicagodiadelosninos.com



Latino Heritage Month at a Glance

Salsa Thursdays—Free Salsa lessons were provided to students and the CSU community in the Cyber Café

Noche Mexicana—CSU joined the bicentennial celebration of Mexico's Independence from Spain.

Risas y Ritmo Comedy Show—Mickey Comedy Productions lined up a phenomenal cast consisting of Chicago's own Alex Ortiz, Prashant Vankarata and Marcy Deloeney.

Ninth Annual Feria Del Libro: Book Fair—Authors Miriam Jimenez Roman and Juan Flores showcased their latest work, *The Afro-Latin@ Reader* along with CSU's Dr. Pancho McFarland.

Barrio Tour—CSU students took an educational tour through various Latino communities in Chicago. Among the highlights include the National Museum of Mexican Art and Nuevo Leon Restaurant in Pilsen.

Upcoming Spring 2011 Events

January 22—Latino Cougar Day

January 27—Café con Leche

February 8—Resume Writing Workshop

March 10—Women's History Month

March 31—Cesar Chavez Blood and Marrow Drive

April 29—LRC Scholarship dinner

May 5—Cinco de Mayo Celebration

May 12—End of the Year Reception

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Latinas Shine at USHLI Conference

For the past five years, members of the five organizations housed in the Latino Resource Center have been attending the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute National Conference (USHLI). USHLI is the largest Hispanic conference promoting education and leadership development attracting young Hispanic leaders and professionals nationwide. USHLI is led by Dr. Juan Andrade Jr., one of only two Latinos in History of a Presidential Medal for excellence in promoting leadership and civic participation. In 1994, Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. established the “Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. Scholarship for Young Hispanic Leaders.” To date Dr. Andrade, USHLI Chairman Rey B. Gonzalez and others have donated thousands of dollars awarding \$310, 500 in scholarships to 305 Hispanic students throughout the United States.

Last year in the 28th National Conference Luz Cortez and Ashley Sanchez, both members of the Organization of Latin American Students and founders of the first Latina/o based Greek organization recognized at Chicago State University were honored to receive the Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. Scholarship for Young Hispanic Leaders. Their participation every year in the USHLI conference permitted them to build on their leadership skills, continue their education and motivated them to be successful Latinas. Their perseverance finally paid off this year as Ashley Sanchez graduated in May 2010 with a Bachelors in Accounting and Luz Cortez graduated in December 2010 with a Bachelors in Early Childhood. Congratulations to both!

Student's Thoughts on HACU Conference

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) was established in 1986. Today, HACU represents nearly 450 colleges and universities committed to Hispanic higher education. HACU is the only national educational association that represents Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs). In 1992 HACU led the effort to persuade congress to formally recognize campuses with high Hispanic enrollment as federally designated HSIs to formally receive federal appropriations. As the years have progressed, so has the success of HSIs; the more time progresses the higher the amounts of appropriations become.

Along with advocating for Latino educational issues, HACU offers a National Internship Program as well as several scholarship programs. Dr. Antonio Flores, President and CEO of HACU, has appropriated over thirty million dollars for Hispanic Higher education, has established, *Pro Talento*, a resume database for Hispanic students, has assigned over 650 paid internships, and has awarded over thirty thousand dollars in scholarships. These attributions are few of many.

Every year, HACU hosts a national conference that brings college administrators and students from the across the nation together to discuss best practices for Hispanic students. The 24th Annual HACU Leadership Conference was held September 18th-20th at Hilton San Diego Bayfront, in San Diego, California. Here I had the opportunity to represent OLAS (Organization of Latin American Students) as well as APLS (Association of Professional Latino Students) along with Blanca Muñoz, Physical Education major, and Melissa Velazquez, Sociology major. This conference has encouraged me to help CSU embark on its journey in hopes of one day attaining HSI recognition along with the appropriations. HACU 2010's slogan was “Championing Hispanic Higher Education Success: Expanding Opportunities in Challenging Times;” words that are forever embedded in my head and have become the force that drives me to strive for the best for myself and my educational institution.

Furthermore, this conference has exposed me to numerous resources. I experienced firsthand what it means to network with Latino professionals. Many organizations shared information regarding internship and job opportunities. Lastly, I came back to CSU with a mission to educate all my fellow students about HIS's and all the resources available through the governmental and private organizations that presented during the HACU Conference.

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Class of 2012

