

# 18<sup>th</sup> Hispanic Educational Summit 2017

## Promote Latino Education... Shape the Future!

On the morning of Friday, March 31, 2017, more than 600 middle and high school Hispanic students from 29 counties across North Carolina arrived at the McKimmon Center at NCSU for the **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Educational Summit**, presented by the **North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP)** and hosted by **North Carolina State University**. Also in attendance, were 40 educational exhibitors, 39 concurrent session presenters, teachers, sponsors and representatives from government, academia and the business community, and over 100 NCSHP volunteers, all of whom share the NCSHP's mission of promoting education among Hispanic students in North Carolina. Throughout the event, they encouraged students to overcome obstacles, graduate from high school and pursue higher education.

Dr. Duane Larick, Senior Vice Provost at North Carolina State University, provided opening remarks and a welcome to Summit participants. Ms. Matty Lazo-Chadderton, Director of Public Engagement, delivered a special message and **proclamation for the observance of the "Annual Hispanic Education Summit Initiative" by Governor Roy Cooper** (see final page). NCSHP President and Co-Founder Marco Zárate



also gave welcoming remarks, recognizing and giving thanks to NCSHP sponsors. In addition, Alfred Mays, Program Officer of Burroughs Welcome Fund announced an exciting **partnership with the NCSHP to create TuPortalSTEM**, a web-based portal that will provide information to Hispanic students and their families about the available opportunities for students to participate in STEM oriented programs in North Carolina.

NCSHP Board Chair, Dr. MariaRosa Rangel, recognized the winners of the NCSHP's **2016 "Stay in School Video" Contest** for their outstanding Public Service Announcement videos and for encouraging and inspiring their peers to stay in school in unique and innovative ways. Recognized, were **first place winner Melvin Rubi, Millbrook High School**, second place winner, Ariadna Nolasco, Fuquay Varina High School, and third place winner, Alex Joaquin, Durham School of the Arts. We thank **Univision 40** for their ongoing sponsorship and support and for airing the first place video on their network.

This was followed by an inspiring and motivational **opening keynote presentation given by Angel Flores M.A.** (pictured above). A professional, motivational speaker with a heart for students, Angel used engaging stories to empower students to overcome the obstacles in their lives and to achieve their dreams. Students were captivated by his message to **soar high in life**, remembering each student that they are eagles!



Following the keynote address, **Ms. Margaret Spellings, President of the University of North Carolina System**, reiterated the importance of embracing the diversity of the State as a value and opening doors for Hispanic students' accessibility to education. President Spellings also motivated students to take full advantage of the resources and opportunities that the event offered, and encouraged them to continue to pursue their education.

After the opening ceremonies, students broke out into **concurrent sessions**. Workshops addressing Life Skills, Career Planning, and Education Planning, were led by **39 volunteer speakers** who truly created the backbone of the Summit. Session topics included: careers in science, engineering and teaching, college planning and the admissions process, financial guidance, and immigration options for youth.

Students also rotated through organized visits to the **Exhibit Hall** in between sessions. There, students mingled with college representatives from schools like Appalachian State University, Bryant College, Central Carolina Community College, East Carolina University, Johnston Community College, Lenoir Community College, Meredith College, NC A&T University, NC Central University, NC State University, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Greensboro, and UNC Wilmington; educational/professional organizations such as the Goodnight Scholar's Program, NC Association of CPA's, and Better Business Bureau; NC Museum of Natural Sciences, NC Museum of History, NC State Parks, NC Division of Services for the Blind, Job Corps, and the Social Security Administration; and businesses such as Brasfield & Gorrie, Cisco Systems, Food Lion, Univision 40 and Wells Fargo.



After the first two blocks of concurrent session speakers and exhibit hall breakouts, the students adjourned for lunch and enjoyed Chick-fil-A boxed lunches. During lunch, they were welcomed by Diamond Sponsor representatives Carlos Sanchez, from AT&T, and Roberto Pérez, from Food Lion. In addition, Food Lion also generously sponsored drawstring bags given to both the students and teachers.

To begin with the closing ceremony of this eventful day, **Honorable Consul General of Mexico in the Carolinas**, Remedios Gómez Arnau, delivered a message to all students and reiterated her commitment to supporting Latino education. The audience then had the opportunity to congratulate the recipients of **2017-2018 NC Hispanic College Fund Scholarships** who were recognized during the closing ceremony as well as our generous College Fund donors: Duke Energy, Goodnight Educational Foundation, SAS Institute, Juntos Program, La Oficina, Students Helping Students go to College, Jóvenes para Ayudar, and NCSHP members and individuals. Congratulations to our 37 scholarship recipients. A total of **\$41,500** were distributed in scholarships to attend local community colleges and universities. Our best wishes go out to the scholarship winners as they embark on their college/university adventures!



To close, **motivational speaker Lilyan Prado-Carrillo** delivered a keynote address that moved the hearts of both students and adults alike. Lilyan shared her personal story of coming to the United States as an immigrant at age four, being raised by her father, and being the first in her family to graduate high school and continue on to achieving a Master's Degree. Ms. Prado advised students to be grateful for the parents and teachers who support and encourage them. Her story was **inspirational**, and **deeply touched the lives** of many in the audience.

For the fifth year in a row, students and participants of the Hispanic Educational Summit donated funds to "**Students Helping Students go to College**," scholarship established within the NC Hispanic College Fund at Triangle Community Foundation. Students raised a total of **\$750** in funds for a student scholarship award for next year. This year, **NCSHPE students** held a sweet sorbet fundraiser to raise money for the scholarship fund and donated \$330 to the "Students Helping Students go to College" scholarship.

The day ended with students feeling proud of their Hispanic heritage and empowered to finish high school and pursue higher education. The turnout this year was truly phenomenal! We are delighted with the impact and success of our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Educational Summit!



*Many thanks are due...*

The Summit, like most NCSHP activities, was organized through the support of our dedicated members and enthusiastic volunteers! **Volunteers are the heart** of being able to hold the largest and most important educational conference in North Carolina for Hispanic youth year after year!

Special thanks are also due to all the **teachers** who encouraged students at the Summit and work daily to bring out the best in students. Thank you also to the **bus drivers, counselors and chaperones** who served during the Summit. You are a big part of the Summit's success!

Financial support for the Hispanic Education Summit comes from our **generous sponsors**:

**Diamond Sponsors** – AT&T, Cisco Systems, and Food Lion  
**Platinum Sponsors** –Duke Energy, Wells Fargo, and North Carolina State University  
**Gold Sponsors** – Burroughs Wellcome Fund and PNC Bank  
**Silver Sponsors** – Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, Brasfield & Gorrie, North Carolina Farm Bureau, Golden Corral, NC Electric Cooperatives, Mt. Olive Pickle Company, PSNC Energy, Red Hat, Stewart Engineering, and Univision 40

We are very grateful for the participation of the following **Exhibitors**: Angel Flores, Appalachian State University, Better Business Bureau NC, Brasfield & Gorrie, Bryant University, Central Carolina Community College, Cisco Systems, College Foundation of NC, Consulate General of Mexico in Raleigh, East Carolina University, ESQ Immigration Counsel LLC, Goodnight Scholar's Program, Job Corps, Johnston Community College, Lenoir Community College, Meredith College, NC A&T University, NC Association of CPA's, NC Division of Air Quality, NC Division of Services for the Blind, NC Museum of History, NC Museum of Natural Sciences, NCSU College of Education, NCSU Crop and Soil Department, NCSU Office of Multicultural Affairs, North Carolina Central University, , NC State Parks, Raleigh Charter High School, Social Security Administration, UNC Asheville, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Greensboro, UNC Wilmington – Centro Hispano, Univision 40, Virginia Tech, Wake AHEC, and Wells Fargo.

The NCSHP would like to **offer thanks** to Dr. Duane Larick, Senior Vice Provost at North Carolina State University, Office of Governor Roy Cooper, Ms. Margaret Spellings, President of the UNC System, and the Honorable Remedios Gomez Arnau, General Consul of Mexico in the Carolinas, for delivering welcoming remarks and for continuing to support our endeavor.

NCSHP would also like to recognize Ms. Yasmin Wurts Metivier of Panoltia, Inc., and Mr. Bryan Mims of WRAL TV who did a terrific job as the Mistress and Master of Ceremonies. We also extend a heartfelt thanks to our 2017 Summit Planning Committee: Glenda Bowman, Ashlyne Eaton, Courtney George, Cynthia Martínez, Elda McGrath, Jairo Nájera, Jorge Pacheco, Cecilia Polanco, MariaRosa Rangel, Neyra Toledo, Luis Toledo, Yessica Vázquez, Marco A. Zárate, and Susan A. Zárate. Thank you your enthusiasm and the commitment you bring to our mission!

**The North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals**

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# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

ANNUAL HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT INITIATIVE

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, in a state that derives so much of its strength from many cultures and races, Hispanic Americans are a thriving force in our society and a vital part of our economy; and

**WHEREAS**, as we face the challenges of a global economy, we recognize that the success of our State is closely tied to the success of our young Hispanic students, who are an increasing segment of our population; and

**WHEREAS**, my Administration is committed to ensuring that Hispanic students have the opportunities they need to realize their dreams of a better life, and

**WHEREAS**, the key to those dreams is education. We must continue to reach out to Hispanic youth, encouraging them to stay in school, graduate from high school, and go on to college so that they can compete successfully for good jobs and take advantage of promising career opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, an investment on the education of a Hispanic students is an investment in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations such as the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals have made a major commitment to promote education of Hispanic youth in North Carolina; and have had an outstanding community service and outreach for more than 18 years to improve the lives of Hispanic students in our State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hispanic Educational Summit initiative is the largest and oldest annual statewide educational conference for middle and high school Hispanic students in our State, to promote and disseminate information on the benefits of graduating from high school and pursue higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, we reaffirm our efforts to ensure that all Hispanic children have the tools and opportunities they need to make the most of their lives through education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER**, Governor of the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim the observance of the "ANNUAL HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT INITIATIVE" today, March 31, 2017 in North Carolina, and call upon all government officials, educators, and citizens to honor this educational initiative today, and throughout the school year with appropriate programs and activities to fulfill the spirit of this educational initiative.



  
Roy Cooper  
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirtieth day of March in the year of our Lord two-thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.