

# 19<sup>th</sup> Hispanic Educational Summit 2018



On the morning of Friday, March 23, 2018, more than 650 middle and high school Hispanic students from 34 counties across North Carolina arrived at the McKimmon Center at NCSU for the **19<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 48 educational exhibitors, 46 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.



Ms. Sheri Schwab, Interim Vice Provost for the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity at North Carolina State University, provided opening remarks and a welcome to Summit participants. Mr. Mark Johnson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin, Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction, encouraged students to pursue educational goals, as they are an important part of the future of NC. NCSHP President and Co-Founder Marco Zárate also gave welcoming remarks, recognizing and giving thanks to NCSHP sponsors. He highlighted and recognized the presence of students that had previously attended the Summit and were now coming back as speakers, volunteers, and exhibitors... to inspire the next generation! In addition, Dr. William Thurston, Founder and Lead Coach for Enhancing Your Life Universe announced an exciting **partnership with the NCSHP that will provide on-line soft skills training scholarships to 100 Hispanic students and their parents.**



NCSHP Board Chair, Dr. Maria Rosa Rangel, recognized the winners of the NCSHP's **2017 "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 Anthony Raymundo, Western Harnett High School**, second place winner, Holly Shelter Middle School, and third place winner, Melvin Rubi, Millbrook High School. 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 Mr. Juan Cangas** (pictured above). A professional, motivational speaker with a heart for students, Juan 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 find their own motivation to succeed and make positive choices in their lives by making R.E.A.L. Decisions.



After the opening ceremony, students broke out into concurrent sessions designed for them to gain the tools necessary to prepare for their high school graduation and pursue higher education. Workshops addressing Life Skills, Career Planning, and Education Planning, were led by **43 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.

With an intentional focus on connecting Hispanic students to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education and careers, this year's Summit had notable representation of Hispanic STEM professionals and corporations such as BASF, Biogen, Cisco, and IBM engaging with students in STEM focused workshops, panels, and interactive exhibitions. The NCSHP promoted TuPortalSTEM- web-based portal that provides information to Hispanic students and their families about the available opportunities for students to participate in STEM oriented programs in North Carolina and encourages them to pursue careers in STEM.

Students also rotated through organized visits to the **Exhibit Hall** in between sessions where they received information on available programs and services from community colleges, universities and community supporters as they visited and interacted with over 48 exhibitors.

### Congrats Scholarship Recipients!

The audience then had the opportunity to congratulate the recipients of **2018-2018 NC Hispanic College Fund Scholarships** who were recognized during the closing ceremony. A total of **\$41,500** were distributed in scholarships to attend local community colleges and universities thanks to our generous NCHCF donors: Duke Energy, Goodnight Educational Foundation, SAS Institute, Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC, Juntos Program, La Oficina, Luis A. Olivieri & Evelyn Robert Fund, Students Helping Students go to College, Jóvenes para Ayudar, and NCSHP members and individuals. Congratulations to our 37 scholarship recipients! Our best wishes go out to the scholarship winners as they embark on their college/university adventures!



To close, **motivational speaker Shayla Rivera** delivered a keynote address that inspired and energized both students and adults alike. Shayla Rivera shared her personal story of becoming an Aerospace Engineer and Rocket Scientist at NASA, then speaking about becoming a Comedian, Writer, Professor and Motivational Speaker. During her keynote, she drove home the point that the biggest impediment to positive change is our lack of clarity about what we truly believe.

For the sixth 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 **\$800** in funds for a student scholarship award for next year. 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 19<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!

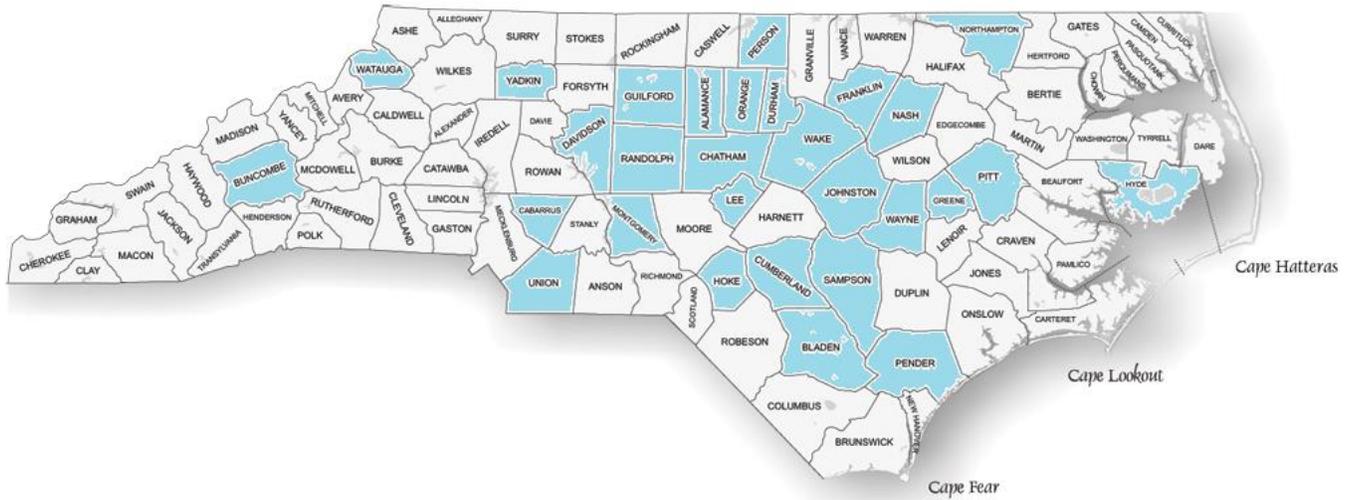
Special thanks are also due to all the **teachers** who encouraged students at the Summit and work daily to bring out the best in students. Thank you also to the **bus drivers, counselors and chaperones** who brought students to the Summit. You are a big part of the Summit's success!

We are very grateful for the participation of the following **Exhibitors**: Appalachian State University, BASF, Better Business Bureau (BBB), Biogen, Brasfield & Gorrie, Bryant University, Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Central Carolina Community College, Cisco, Consulate General of Mexico in Raleigh, East Carolina University, Food Lion, Goodnight Scholars Program at NC State University, Guilford College, Immigration Counsel, LLC, Johnston Community College, Lenoir Community College, Multicultural Student Affairs at NC State University, NC Agricultural & Technical State University, NC Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources, NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, NC School of Science and Mathematics - Distance Education & Extended Programs, NC School of Science and Mathematics - Office of Admissions, NC State Parks, North Carolina Central University, NCCU – BRITE, NC Society of Hispanic Professionals, NC State University Natural Resources, NC State University - College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Sampson Community College, The Department of Natural & Cultural Resources (DNCR) - Education & Outreach, UNC Asheville, UNC at Chapel Hill – Office of Undergraduate Admissions, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, UNC Wilmington – Centro Hispano, Univision 40 North Carolina, Wake AHEC (Area Health Educational Center) – Health Careers, Wells Fargo, and William Peace University.

The NCSHP would like to **offer thanks** to Ms. Sheri Schwab, Interim Vice Provost for the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity at NC State University, Mr. Mark Johnson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin, Deputy State Superintendent of Public Instruction, 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 Summit's **Mistress and Master of Ceremonies**. We also extend a heartfelt thanks to our **2018 Summit Planning Committee**: Carlos Goller, Cynthia D. Martinez, Elda McGrath, Hugo Linares, Irina Gomez, Marcela Labrador, Marco Zárate, Marili Alvarado, MariaRosa Rangel, Nadia Pacheco Amaro, Neyra Toledo, Raul Gomez, Ricardo Ekmay, Susan Zárate, and Teodoro Gonzalez. Thank you your **enthusiasm** and the **commitment** you bring to our mission!

# Providing pathways to higher education throughout the entire state of North Carolina!



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