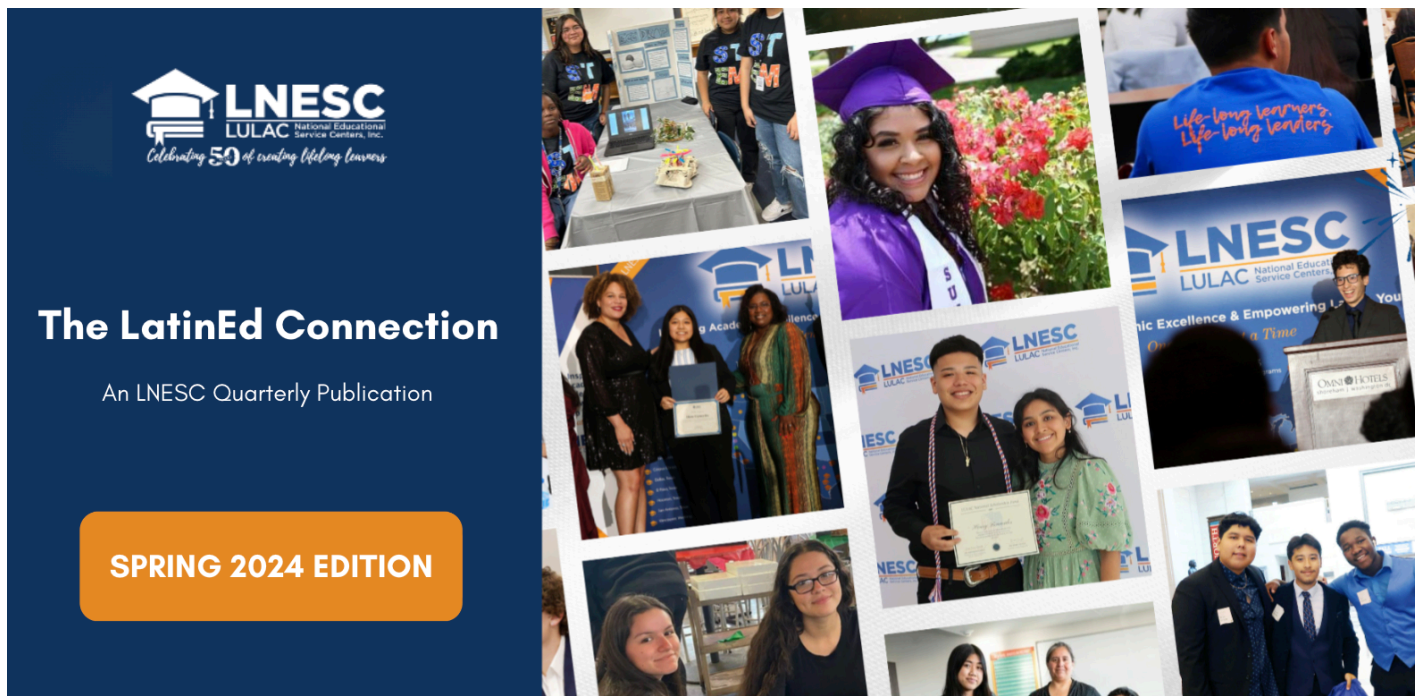


[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)

[View this email in your browser](#)



As the days grow longer and the signs of spring begin to show with pastel cherry

blossoms and lush greenery - we are excited to delve into the spring 2024 edition of The LatinEd Connection. In this issue, we celebrate the spirit of growth with gratitude due to the hard work of our Directors, students, and community, who work hard to make the dream of college a reality.

In this edition's *Que Pasa* section, you will find that our ongoing scholarship programming continues to open up doors for students across the nation. At our LNEESC field offices, from Colorado Springs to Vancouver, they've been as busy as spring bees! The Directors and staff have diligently supported scholastic achievement through the Upward Bound program and exciting field trips that allow students to not just learn, but thrive!

In this edition, we will also be spotlighting our PUENTES program, which is a program that provides resources to foster digital literacy for Latino communities. Of course, you will also find resources in our Student Cues section that provide tips on how to hone in on internship opportunities in today's digital landscape.

As the cherry blossoms and trees come alive with color this season, we are mutually keen to color you in on impactful programs and resources taking place in our communities!

IN THIS EDITION



Qué Pasa: Updates and Happenings at LNESc

- Ford Fund Scholarship Awards
\$220,000 in Financial Support
- Ford Auto Tech Scholarship Program
- Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund
- FAFSA Week of Action
- Spring into Our Newly Updated Homepage



Connecting Community to Education: LNESC in the Field

- Exploring Holistic Enrichment at LNESc in Vancouver
- Continuing Impact in Colorado Springs:
Field Trips and Alumni Success

Líderes in Action: Rising Stars of LNESc

- Spotlight on Lifelong Leaders through PUENTES

College Cues: Tips for Student Readiness

- Insights for Internship Readiness

Parent Forum: Strategies for Student Success

- Inspiring Internship Success as a Parent and Mentor



Que Pasa: Updates and Happenings at LNEsc

Ford Fund Scholarship Awards \$220,000 in Financial Support

In 2023, LNEsc and Ford Fund collaborated to create a new scholarship fund for two- and four-year college students pursuing STEM-related career areas that support the Electric Vehicles and Advanced Manufacturing Industries.

The fund specifically provides support for tools, resources, technology, and/or experiences that are critical for students to thrive in their studies, helping to develop critical Future of Work skills that will help them succeed after graduation.

The 2023 Ford Fund Scholarship program awarded **46** students with scholarships ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000, totaling **\$220,000** in awards.



For more information, please click [here](#).

Ford Auto Tech Scholarship



LNESC's long-standing partner, the Ford Fund, in collaboration with Ford Dealers across ten regions, will invest \$2,000,000 in scholarships to address the needs for aspiring future auto technicians in the industry.

The program will award \$5,000 scholarships to eligible students pursuing a degree in auto and auto/diesel technology at select schools in the greater **Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Detroit, Kansas, Memphis, Miami, Phoenix, and Seattle** areas. This need-based scholarship will be applied to a student's tuition and may be used for education-related costs, such as tuition, tools, transportation, and room and board.

LNESC will host a webinar on the program and application process on **Wednesday, April 24 at 7 pm ET.**

[To RSVP, please click here](#)

The Ford Auto Tech Scholarship is accepting applications now until August 31, 2024. For more information and to apply please [click here](#).

Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund

The Macy's Emergency Scholarship Fund is a joint partnership between LNESC & Macy's to

provide financial resources to full-time undergraduate or graduate students in **California, Florida, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Puerto Rico, or Texas** that are facing economic hardship and immediate monetary need that, if not met, could result in an inability to complete classes or a degree program.

Students who are interested in applying should visit the [Macy's Emergency Scholarship page](#) on the LNESc website for more details.



For additional non-LNESc scholarship resources, [click here](#).

FAFSA Week of Action



LNESC participated in the FAFSA Week of Action, which took place from April 15-19, 2024. It

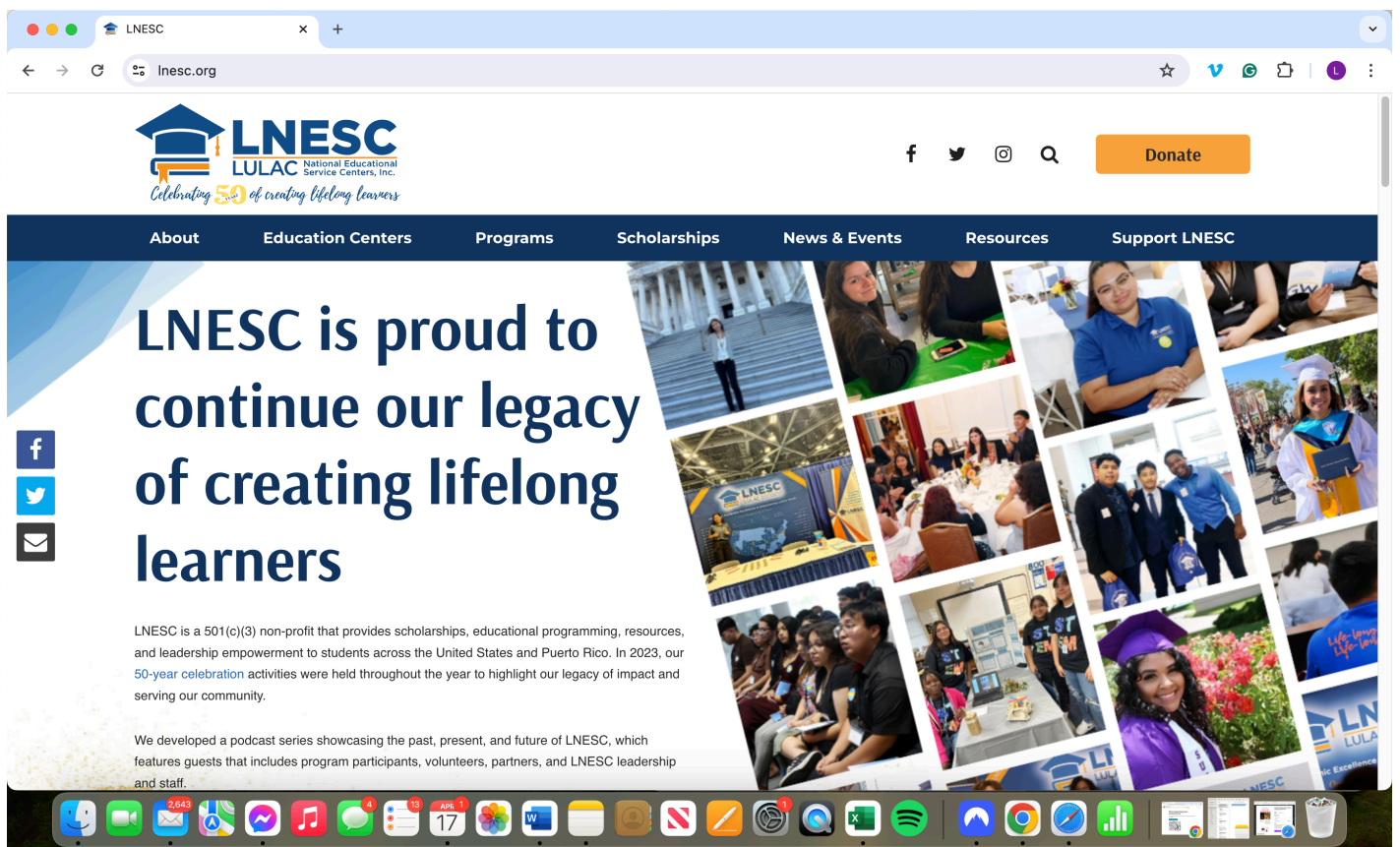
was a collaboration with the White House and the Department of Education to promote the newly launched Better FAFSA.

The redesigned FAFSA now requires less than 15 minutes to complete, thanks to a more streamlined, user-friendly interface. Additionally, the changes to the eligibility criteria mean that an additional 665,000 students will now qualify for Federal Pell Grants and 1.7 million more will receive the maximum Pell Grant amount. This makes college more accessible than ever!

For details on how you can take advantage of the Better FAFSA , you can [read more here.](#)

We encourage our community to forward and share these resources within their networks.

Spring into our Newly Updated Homepage



We recently launched our newly redesigned homepage. As part of the update, we are featuring not only our impact in numbers, but also our engaging podcast series - where we explore the past, present, and future of LNEESC. From alumni success stories to interviews with staff members and community partners, it offers a unique glimpse into LNEESC as we know it today! You can check it out [here](#).

Alongside visiting our website, you can stay connected with the latest updates by following us on social media at [this link](#).



Connecting the Community to Education: LNEESC in the Field

LNEESC Vancouver

LNEESC Vancouver is fully in tune with the spirit of spring, as they work with new LNEESC Director, Sandra Zavala,

and relocated the field office to a new facility. LNEsc Vancouver is navigating a diverse set of initiatives, which includes Upward Bound and the PUENTES program, and ultimately seeking to foster holistic academic enrichment for students.

[Read more here](#)



LNEsc Colorado Springs

We now turn the spotlight on to LNEsc Colorado Springs. Their start to spring reflects the excitement of their academic programs that have taken place both recently and all that lies ahead.

[Read more here](#)

Lideres in Action: Rising Stars of LNEsc

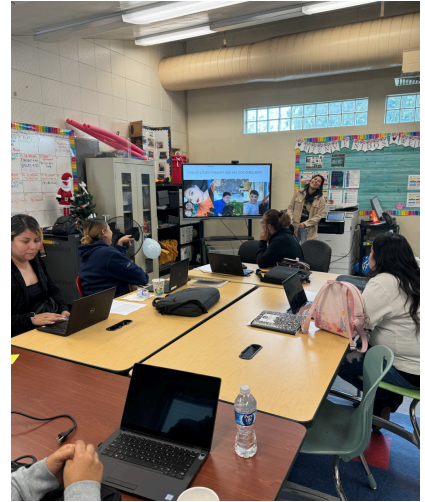


As we transition from reflecting on activities across LNEsc program sites, we are keen to highlight the voices of the program leaders and parents who have become not only participants in our PUENTES program, but also advocates within their communities for lifelong learning.

The PUENTES was implemented in partnership with Frito-Lay to guide Latino families across the digital divide by providing the skills, resources, and tools necessary for navigating the modern world.

Maria E. Gomez, PUENTES Participant

Maria E. Gomez from Compton, California proudly reflects on her experience with PUENTES, which is led by LNEsc Oxnard, under Director Andrea Zamora. Maria celebrates her newfound independence through the skills gained during the program.



“

Es un programa muy bueno, me enseñó a perder el miedo a manejar la computadora y los miles de programas que hay en ella. Gracias. Lo explicaron de manera muy fácil y comprensible. Ojalá pudiéramos tener más tiempo de enseñanza para aprender más.

Aprender a manejar las redes y los programas que podemos utilizar para la educación de los niños y mucho más.

Para mí ha sido un placer estar en el programa; como les comenté, me ha ayudado a perder el miedo y a ser más independiente con mis pagos y a saber buscar y manejar en las redes. Las ayudas en el programa realmente son buenas, las maestras son excelentes y me gustaría seguir aprendiendo más.

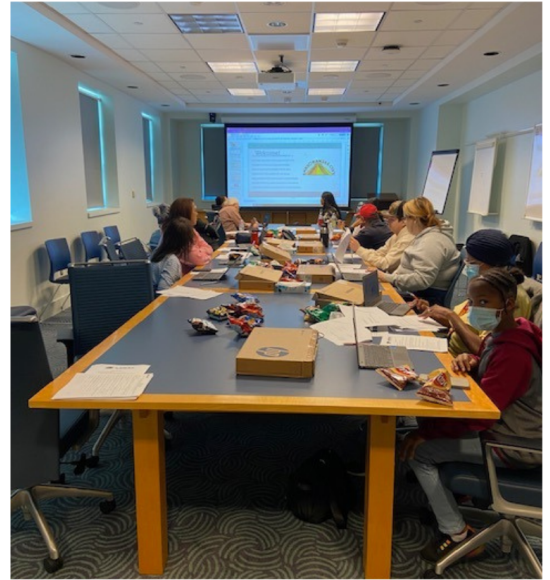
Gracias a ustedes, maestras, y al programa que es maravilloso. De verdad pido otra oportunidad y más tiempo de clase; me encantó. PUENTES, eres grande. Mil gracias por estar a nuestro alcance. Bendiciones.

MARIA E. GOMEZ, PUENTES PARTICIPANT

Translation: “PUENTES is an exceptional program that empowered me to overcome my apprehensions about using computers and the myriad of applications they offer. The instructors explained everything in an incredibly clear and accessible manner—truly commendable. I wish we could extend our learning time even further. The program also delves into managing networks and leveraging various software to enhance children's education, among other things.

For me, participating in PUENTES has been not just a pleasure, but a transformative journey. It has enabled me to become more independent, especially concerning financial transactions online, and to proficiently navigate digital platforms. The support and expertise of the wonderful teachers have been invaluable, and I am eager to continue my learning journey. I sincerely hope for another opportunity to expand my skills with more classes.

Thank you, PUENTES, for making such a profound impact and for being so accessible. A heartfelt thank you to the teachers and everyone involved. Blessings!”



Orlando Blancas, Director of LNEC San Antonio

Orlando plays a pivotal role in spearheading the PUENTES program in San Antonio, Texas. His leadership, alongside the rest of the LNEC San Antonio team, are part of sustainably bridging the digital divide in their community.

“

LNESC San Antonio’s goal is to provide quality educational programming and leadership programs for both parents and low-income first-generation students; with the intention to develop young talent and future leaders that aspire students to have a measurable impact in their community.

ORLANDO BLANCAS, DIRECTOR OF LNESC SAN ANTONIO

Ashley, PUENTES Participant

Ashley from Topeka, Kansas shines a light on the enriching educational experience provided by the PUENTES program. Due to the enthusiastic instructors, she credits the creative approach of the curriculum to driving her newfound digital skills.

“

The instructors in the PUENTES program were fantastic. Everyone was incredibly helpful and full of information, which created a positive learning environment. What stood out to me was the creativity of our instructor, which brought the course material to life. It allowed me to enhance our digital literacy skills.

ASHLEY, PUENTES PARTICIPANT



Andrea Zamora, Director of LNE SC Oxnard

Andrea has witnessed firsthand the transformative power of the PUENTES program. The program is now in its second year under her leadership. She celebrates the resilience and achievement of participants.

“

There are particular moments that define the essence of the PUENTES program. \One mother’s journey has been particularly inspiring. We saw her begin the program telling us that she has severe anxiety, to the point that she cannot attend her child’s school events. Towards the end of the program, she was driven by her own will to learn and grow in such a collaborative learning environment.

In one of the last sessions, she stood before the class to confidently deliver a presentation on her own. It really felt like seeing someone blossom. PUENTES is more than just a program, it is a resource that allows them to thrive today’s technology-driven world.

ANDREA ZAMORA, DIRECTOR OF LNEC OXNARD

College Cues: Tips for Student Readiness

As the academic year progresses into spring, it's an excellent time for students to start thinking about internships as a vital step towards their career goals. Whether you are certain of your career path or still exploring your options, internships offer a pivotal experience before you fully commit to a professional direction.

Whether you're navigating the initial steps of securing an internship or aiming to optimize this experience, here are three tips that can set you on a path towards a meaningful internship experience.

Building A Resumes for Future Success

It is important to craft a high-quality resume as you prepare for internships. It is easy to become overwhelmed, as you may not be sure how you want to present yourself.

As an initial guide, it is best to simply list your experiences, strengths, and education. In order to weave it together, you should defer to online resources for best practices and templates.



[Read more here](#)

Parent Forum: Strategies for Student Success



As parents, you're likely aware of the increasing importance of internships in shaping your child's future career path. Your support can greatly aid your child in securing valuable internship opportunities and gaining hands-on experience in their chosen field.



Here are three essential strategies for parents to support their children in navigating the internship journey effectively.

Nurturing Strengths and Goals

You can engage your child in conversations about their career interests and strengths and foster an environment of open dialogue and support. As your child is likely early in their career development, it is important to understand their weakness and strengths. This self-awareness enables them to identify areas for skill development within their fields of interest and empower growth with confidence. You can find a comprehensive compilation of career planning resources based on self-assessment

[here.](#)

Self-reflection and exploration through personality assessments and career aptitude tests available on platforms like [CareerExplorer](#) and [MyPlan](#) are a great way to open up the conversation.

You can find more ways to hone in on the role your personality and skills play in the professional world and how to mold it for meaningful career development [here.](#)

[Read more here](#)



Copyright (C) 2024 LULAC National Educational Service Centers (LNESEC). All rights reserved.

Edition 14 of the LatinEd Quarterly Newsletter

Our mailing address is:

1776 Eye Street NW | Suite 400 | Washington, DC 20006

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)