



El Camino College Puente Newsletter



25 Years at ECC

Fall 2010

The Puente Program Presents its 25th Class of El Camino *Puentistas*! Welcome!

Introducing Puente 25

Luis Aguilar
 Vanessa Aleman
 Jocelyn Alvarez
 Indira Amaya
 Coreisy Barrera
 Miroslava Cerda
 Delmyn Conchas
 Iliana Cruz
 Verence Galvan
 Hugo Garcia
 Marisela Gutierrez
 Edgardo Hernandez
 Erick Hernandez
 Ricardo Jimenez
 Isaiah King
 Eder Lopez
 Osvaldo Lopez
 Osbaldo Mancía
 Josue Mauricio
 Areli Molina
 Elizabeth Monzon
 Areli Navarro
 Annette Nunez
 Teresa Ortega
 Mariana Prado
 Diana Rivera
 Ana Rodriguez
 Evelyn Rodriguez
 Gerardo Sanchez
 Ulysses Sandoval
 Richard Serna
 Raymundo Sevilla
 Nadia Silva
 Josue Vallecillo
 Cynthia Vicente



Puente Spreads the News of Student and Program Accomplishments and Activities

Puente 25 students have started the semester with great success. They have already composed five essays in their English A class, completed the Human Development 8 course, and formed its club.

The students voted Annette Nunez as president, Vanessa Aleman as external VP, Josue Mauricio as internal VP, Diana Rivera as secretary, Delmyn Conchas as treasurer, and Miroslava Cerda as ICC representative. Puente 25 is also planning their first community activity. October 10, the class will

volunteer at the Latino Book Festival, hosted by California State University, Los Angeles.

The Puente Coordinating team has similarly been busy. Counselor Maribel Hernandez is representing Puente in the Faculty Inquiry Partnership Program, funded by the Wal-Mart Minority Student Success grant. Instructor Loretta Ramirez is developing an *English 42: Chicano & Latino Literature* course, to be offered for the first time in many years at ECC in Spring 2011. All past and present Puentistas are invited to join the class!

PUENTE QUOTES: Puente 25 Students Reflect on All They May Gain in the Upcoming Year

"Through the Puente Program, I hope to discover me. I hope to find who I really am because I'm still stuck and have no idea what or who I want to be. Hopefully, I'll finally come out of my comfort zone and interact with the world. Being part of Puente is like joining a family, so I've been told by last year's Puentistas, and I'm really looking forward to being part of that Puente family because it seems that once a Puentista, always a Puentista!" EDER LOPEZ

"What I hope to learn is something about my culture." OSBALDO MANCÍA

"I hope that I become a better writer by the time I finish English A because so far I have learned a lot in this class and I have opened up to writing more than ever." MARIANA PRADO

"Even though we all come from different backgrounds, we all have something in common. We all want to be something. And, Puente will get us there." EDGARDO HERNANDEZ

"Here at Puente, it feels very different; we are all here for the same purpose, and that's to succeed and transfer to a university. Here at Puente, we are not only taught skills for college but skills for life." ANNETTE NUNEZ

"I look forward to Puente motivating me and keeping everyone else motivated, as well. I already like it and can't wait to let it change me and put me—and keep me—on the right track." JOSUE MAURICIO

"What I hope to gain through Puente is to be more confident to ask questions that I need answers to." GERARDO SANCHEZ

"I hope to gain discipline from Puente. With the help of Puente, I can achieve my goals and have that great experience of walking off stage with my diploma and my future in my hands." ULYSSES SANDOVAL

Puente Commemorates its 25th Year at El Camino College

The Puente Program is proud to celebrate 25 years at ECC. Puente was founded in 1981 by Felix Galaviz and Patricia McGrath at Chabot College in Hayward, California. The program was launched as a grassroots initiative to address the low rate of academic achievement among Latino students. El Camino College was one of the first campuses to join this eventual statewide program and immediately began to promote retention, transfer, and success in the Latino college community.



Instructor Barbara Jaffe watches as Puente students absorb a lesson from counselor Stephanie Rodriguez, September 2003.

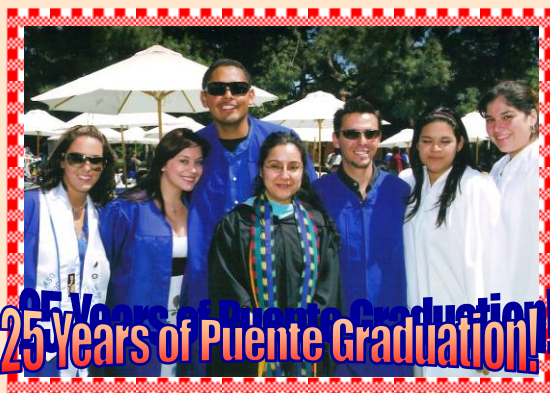


Puente enjoys its 2006 End of Year Celebration.

El Camino College's Puente Program went on to enjoy decades of achievement, due to the dedication of its students, instructors, counselors, administrators, mentors, and community.

According to its March 3, 2010 Student Outcome Report, ECC's Puente Program has a student one-year persistence rate of 91% and a transfer rate of 83%.

After 25 years, ECC's Puente remains a statewide model program because of its many supporters.



Puente participates in the 2008 ECC Graduation.

Throughout the year, Puente will celebrate its anniversary in a variety of ways, starting by giving thanks to the ECC Puente coordinating team members who all helped to keep the Puente Program alive for all students: Sallie Brown, Ray Talavera, Margaret Quinones-Perez, Barbara Jaffe, Sabra Sabio, Stephanie Rodriguez, Griselda Castro, Pete Marcoux, Nancy Fong, Elise Geraghty, Maribel Hernandez, and Loretta Ramirez.



Spring Break 2008, students tour Northern California universities.



Puente 20 celebrates friendship and accomplishment.

All Puente Students and non-Puente Students are Invited!

Join Puente English Instructor Loretta Ramirez to enjoy and examine
CHICANO AND LATINO LITERATURE—ENGLISH 42!

El Camino College Spring 2011 Semester
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. to 2:25 p.m.
(3 units. UC and CSU transferable)

This course will analyze Latino essays, novels, short stories, plays, and poems written in English translation. Students will explore a wide selection of texts that reflect social and cultural influences, as well as examine assimilation and self-identity.

For more information, contact Loretta Ramirez: Lramirez@elcamino.edu.



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