



The Partnership Sun

Partnership Sun is a publication of the Urban Education Partnership (the Partnership), a non-profit organization that focuses on helping students in high-need schools to improve their academic achievement. The Partnership works in collaboration with educators, parents and the community. For further information, please contact Urban Education Partnership.

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Welcome to the Summer edition of the **Partnership Sun**, a periodic publication of news and events at the Urban Education Partnership. We welcome your comments at jhorwatt@urbanedpartnership.org

The Honor Roll Reception celebrated the extraordinary work of public school teachers in Los Angeles who are making a difference in urban education as well as the commitment of parents and community members who support their work.

Over 1,000 people attended the evening of Marshall High School Humanitas student performances at the Greek Theater.

Two new nonprofit collaboratives are combining their resources to focus on the goal of 100% graduation in Pacoima and the Northeast San Fernando Valley.

Over 100 internship opportunities were secured for Academy students this year.

Honor Roll Reception 2006

The STAPLES Center Foundation and Urban Education Partnership hosted the 2nd Annual *Honor Roll Reception* on Thursday, June 29, 2006 at the STAPLES Center's Grand Reserve Club. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and over 200 community members came out to support the Partnership's six honorees and the important programs that they represent. The Partnership is privileged to support the individuals who are on the front lines of one of the greatest challenges facing the Los Angeles community — education. And this successful event celebrated their efforts and accomplishments. Sponsors of the event included STAPLES Center Foundation, The Boeing Company, Century Housing, The Gas Company, Jenkins/Gales & Martinez, Inc., Minuteman Press Downtown Los Angeles, UPS, Deloitte, KABC-TV, Kaiser Permanente, New Schools Better Neighborhoods, Public Education Network, RBZ LLP, SEIU Local 347 and Southern California Housing. Proceeds from this event help provide access to a quality education to thousands of children in low-income neighborhoods. The Partnership is grateful to all its contributors for assisting the Partnership's important and continuing work. To view Honor Roll Reception 2006 pictures, please visit <http://www.urbanedpartnership.org/honorroll2006/index.html>

Humanitas Teacher Awarded Disney National Teacher Award

Marshall High School Humanitas Performing Arts Academy Coordinator Carolyn McKnight was awarded the Disney National Teacher Award in April. She will receive \$10,000 and, as part of her award, Marshall High School will receive \$5,000. This fine small learning community also presented its 2nd annual "Bach, Rock and Shakespeare" concert at the Greek Theater in April. The Greek Theater teams with Marshall's Humanitas program to present this eclectic performance of drama and music.

The Partnership Collaborates with The Prudential Foundation

The Partnership serves on the steering committee for a new collaborative of organizations funded by The Prudential Foundation. The Prudential Neighborhood Partnership (PNP) brings together nonprofits serving children and families in the Pacoima area. Members of the PNP Initiative have the goal of achieving a 100% high school graduation rate and are meeting together to determine how to attain their shared vision. Additionally, the Partnership is collaborating with the Valley Education Collaborative, led by Senator Richard Alarcon and the Alliance for a Better Community. This collaborative also is working toward the goal of 100% high school graduation in the greater Northeast San Fernando Valley.

High School Academy Student Internships

The Partnership joined with more than 20 Los Angeles area companies to provide all eligible High School Academy students with paid internship this spring and summer. One of the most dedicated supporters of the internship program is Smith Barney, having provided 173 internships for Academies students in the past six years. During the course of the internship, students gain experience in basic business concepts such as sales support & client services, operations, sales, compliance and management. Students also learn about the broad spectrum of career opportunities in the field of financial services.



3,500 fifth through eighth grade students will benefit from the math and science initiative.

UCLA School of Dentistry provided free dental screenings and sealants at fairs in Sylmar and South Los Angeles. Mission Community Hospital provided diabetes screenings in Sylmar.

Target Science, which reaches more than 300 teachers in 129 LAUSD schools, is dedicated to promoting scientific thinking for children in the Los Angeles area.

Families read recipes and cooked together, demonstrating one creative way for parents promote literacy at home.

Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, a Roosevelt alumnus, wrote an introduction to the Humanitas students' book.

The Partnership Awarded California Math and Science Grant

Urban Education Partnership, in partnership with Baldwin Park Unified School District (BPUSD) and Occidental College, was one of only three recipients in Los Angeles County selected to receive the California Department of Education California Math and Science Partnership grant. The grant will enable us to offer intensive professional development and follow-up training in the classroom to middle school science and math teachers in BPUSD and area private schools.

Annual School Readiness Fairs In South Los Angeles and Sylmar

In April, the Partnership hosted the 3rd Annual School Readiness Fair in South Los Angeles. Over 300 children and their families from the African American and Latino communities attended and learned about school programs, health and nutrition and home buying opportunities. Several workshops were held during the fair to educate parents about the value of reading with their children, special education issues and even yoga. In May, the Partnership hosted the 7th Annual School Readiness Fair at Fenton Avenue Charter School in Sylmar. The event was attended by over 380 community members who participated in workshops in a wide variety of topics such as college preparation, how to start a college fund, parents as first teachers and A-G requirements.

Roche Challenge Benefits Target Science Program

Roche, a leading pharmaceutical company, used its presence at the Digestive Disease Week Conference in May at the LA Convention Center to help math and science education in Los Angeles. Roche challenged physicians and other healthcare professionals attending the conference to answer a quiz about Hepatitis C, and, for each correct answer, contributed \$5 to the Partnership's Target Science program. The effort resulted in a \$15,000 contribution to be used for professional development for K-12 math and science teachers. The Partnership's Math and Science Program also received support in 2005-2006 from The Boeing Company, McMaster-Carr Supply Company, Northrop Grumman Foundation, Toyota USA and California Department of Education.

Teachers Host Literacy Workshop

Two experienced teachers who work as literacy coaches in the Partnership's Content Literacy program facilitated the ***How to Create a Literacy-Rich Environment at Home*** workshop at the School Readiness Fair in South Los Angeles in April. Families attending the workshop were provided with current research and data regarding early literacy and learned about literacy strategies such as family visits to libraries and bookstores and parents and children reading together.

Humanitas Students' Writing Published

A collection of essays, poems and stories written by students in Roosevelt High School's Humanitas Academy have been published in a book entitled, "Entering New Territory - Dreams For A New Los Angeles." The publisher is 826LA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping students with their creative writing skills. Mayor Villaraigosa attended a public reading of selected student pieces, which took place at the Los Angeles Central Library. Excerpts from the book were featured in the "Current" section of the Los Angeles Times, April 9 Sunday edition.