

ACHIEVE FORUM

dedicated to hispanic youth entrepreneurship & leadership development

“Stem the High School Dropout Rate, Bridge the High School to College Continuum, and Promote Entrepreneurship among Hispanic Youth”

By
U.S. Hispanic Youth Entrepreneur Education



Project Description

The Achieve Forum fosters the high school to college continuum to Hispanic students, teaches entrepreneurship skills, promotes leadership development, teaches financial literacy, engages our youth with the creative process. This is extremely important for our children's future and for the future strength of the U.S. economy. USHYEE believes in engaging our student's parents. Involving parents in their children's activities truly creates a positive impact on the education of their children.

The Achieve Forum fosters the importance of finishing secondary and higher education. USHYEE believes that Hispanic youth, through this program, will realize how vital it is, to aim for higher academic achievement. Through the Achieve Forum, USHYEE's goal is to encourage at-risk Hispanics to remain in school and pursue college degrees, to provide financial aid and scholarships for a college education.

Our passion is to help Hispanic Youth not only develop the technical skills that they will need to own and operate successful businesses, but to encourage life skills that will help them to succeed at what ever they choose to do. USHYEE gives young entrepreneurs classroom experience as well as real life experiences, through successes and failures, while helping them learn how to manage both. We will challenge them educationally and provide rewards such as scholarships and seed capital to start their businesses. As the Hispanic population explodes, USHYEE stands ready to help the Hispanic youth of today shape their world tomorrow.

U.S. Hispanic Youth Entrepreneur Education's Mission is to provide Hispanic youth with comprehensive and innovative tools, leading to enhanced opportunities for building successful individuals and successful businesses. We prepare, equip, and educate today's Hispanic youth to become this country's brightest and most successful business leaders. USHYEE exists to serve young Hispanics desiring to pursue the "American Dream" through entrepreneurship & education.

The Program

Goals

1. 90% of our youth will understand what leadership is
2. 90% of our youth will understand the college admission process and why college is important
3. 90% Our youth will understand business planning and creative entrepreneurial thinking
4. 90% Our youth will understand why savings and credit are important
5. 90% of our parents will lean about available financial resources for their children's higher education
7. 90% of our parents will understand why savings and credit are important

8. 90% of our parents will understand the college admission process

The Achieve Forum is a educational enrichment program that encourages students, incorporates parental participation, and engages teachers and community leaders.

Students

For the students, the program re-enforces what they have learned at the Hispanic College Fund's, Hispanic Youth Symposium (HYS) and also serves as a conduit for the HYS. Students are taught basic financial literacy, personal empowerment, development of an entrepreneurial way of thinking, business planning familiarization of college life and that college should be a part of their life plan.

Workshop I

Financial Literacy I & II – This workshop is taught by professionals in the field of financial literacy.

Workshop II

The Greatest Company You Will Ever Build, Me, Inc. – This workshop builds the fundamentals of personal success and helps students develop their personal life plan. Before you can be a captain of industry or start your own business you need to know who you are. The workshop helps students develop their own mission – vision statement, and personal goals.

Marketing Myself to the World – During this workshop the students learn how to network with teachers, business leaders and community leaders in order to accomplish their goals. They will also learn the importance of establishing a mentor

Workshop III

The Entrepreneurial Way of Thinking to Success – In this workshop the students will learn how successful entrepreneurs think, and how they have accomplished their goals. They will also learn the art of thinking big and stepping out of their comfort zone. SWOT – Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat analysis is a common practice in the business world, in this workshop the students will learn about their own strengths and weaknesses, and how they can use them to advance. They will also learn about finding opportunities and beware of potential threats.

Workshop IV

Me, Inc. - Venture Competition – During this workshop students will take all they have learned about themselves and business, and form their own company. The students will be divided into teams and develop their own business idea.

Rewards for Students

Gift certificate for completing the program

Group field trips between sessions

Cash and gift awards for first, second and third prize winners in venture competition

Parents

The Forum encourages parental participation. We understand the correlation between student's success and parental participation in the educational process. Some elements of the parent's workshops are taught in a bilingual environment. The parent's workshops are geared to help them understand basic financial literacy, financing college education and their children's college experience.

Workshop I

Parents - Financial Literacy I & II – This workshop is taught by our partners at the Maryland Coalition for Financial Literacy and other professionals in the field of financial literacy. The workshop is intended to give parents and their teens an opportunity to discuss financial decisions that the family will be making.

Workshop II

Preparing Your Child For the 21st Century – We live in a world where technological innovation and global competition are increasing at a pace never before seen. Now is the time to invest in our children to make sure they are prepared to succeed in the 21st century.

Why Should my Child go to College – This workshop helps parents crystallize why college is important and builds the case that they need to encourage their teens to attend an institution of higher learning. (Panel Discussion)

Workshop III

Preparing My Child for College – We help parents understand that to prepare for college, there is no substitute for your child getting a solid and broad academic education. This means your child should take challenging courses in academic subjects and maintain good grades in high school.

How Do We Decide on a College – In this workshop parents begin to learn about community college, four year institutions, vocational schools and the various reasons why each type is important. We help the parent get clarity on what type of higher education might be appropriate for their teen.

Workshop IV

Who Should I Talk to About My Childs Education – In this session college admissions professionals and high school educators talk about their respective roles. They offer pertinent advice as to who parents should be talking to at both the high school and college regarding their teen's education. Other topics include importance of the PSAT and the SAT

Immigration Issues – We know that one of the barriers to college is the failed Immigration system. In this workshop parents are exposed to resources that can help with the financial burden of a college education.

Educators and Community Leaders

For Educators and Community leaders, basic history and cultural context are offered as workshops. Here they learn how to deal with the needs of this demographic, how to assimilate these young people into their classrooms and how to engage parents.

Workshop I

Hispanic History I – This workshop is an overview of Latino history in the Americas and begins to lay the ground work for Session II.

Hispanic History II – Hispanic cultures and ethnicities are varied but are bound by language. This workshop is designed to aid the attendee in understanding some of the issues young Hispanics especially first generation youth face.

Workshop II

Reaching the Heart of the Hispanic Student – We believe that knowing what is important to Hispanic youth is an important strategy in identifying ways to help these young people succeed. Understanding what life experiences maybe affecting these young people and their learning processes can be the difference between motivating and desensitizing today's Hispanic youth.

Resources to Help the Hispanic Student Achieve – Many times the community leader or educator is the only resource between students and the success of a student. A 20 year old entrepreneur recently told me that a graphics teacher told him that he should start his own company. It is this encouragement that is vital to success. We help you understand your role in the Hispanics student's success.

Workshop III

How Can We Help Parents – In this session educators and community leaders learn strategies for engaging parents and how to incorporate parents in the process that will lead to higher education for their teens.

How Do We Lead – In this session, paradigms in leadership are discussed. The idea of incorporating Hispanic youth leadership development as a component to the programs represented by the educators and community leaders are addressed.

Workshop IV

Shaping the Future – This workshop will be a town hall meeting designed to discuss barriers, opportunities and strategies for helping our Hispanic youth. This session will be recorded and transcribed because we believe that the discussion can help to shape policy.

Immigration Issues – This session is a town hall meeting designed to stimulate finding solutions, creating opportunities and defining strategies that will help the Hispanic student get into college. This session will be recorded and transcribed because we believe that the discussion can help to shape policy.

The program recruits middle and high school students that surround the university or college as well as parents and educators and community leaders. Our goal is to enroll 100 students, 30 parents and 30 educators in the year long program at the following universities:

Host University Partners

Johns Hopkins University
University of Baltimore
Towson University

“Entrepreneurship education has become popular because it forges links between the business and academic communities. Entrepreneurship education is seen by business leaders as a useful, applied approach to the study of business and the economy.”

The Kauffman Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Final Report, May 23, 2000

Agenda Outline

Time	Event
8:30-9:00	Registration/Continental Breakfast
9:00-9:15	Opening Remarks
9:15-9:45	Motivational Speaker
9:45 -10:30	Educational Video “Novela”
10:30-10:45	Break and Transition to Workshops
10:45-12:00	Workshop I
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:00	Workshop II
2:00-2:30	Closing Remarks