

LEAD *cont. from front*
force will help our society.”
While space does not allow for inclusion of all participants and issues discussed, there were a few highlights to the event. This year’s Madrina De Honor was San Bernardino County Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales.
Congressman Raul Ruiz (36th Congressional District) gave a very inspiring talk that lit up Facebook status messages. The son of farm workers from the Coachella Valley, Ruiz, 40, was the first Latino to receive three graduate degrees from Harvard University. He is senior associate dean at the UCR School of Medicine and founder and director of the Coachella Valley Healthcare Initiative.

The special panel discussions focused on educational media and impact of Dora The Explorer. Since its debut in 2000 on Nickelodeon, Dora The Explorer has become one of the most watched pre-school television shows in the US and around the world. Featured speakers for this panel included Chris Gifford, creator and executive producer of Dora The Explorer and Go, Diego, Go!, Dr. Mariana Diaz-Wionczek, senior director of research and development for Dora The Explorer and Go, Diego, Go! and UCR History Professor Emeritus and cultural advisor for Dora The Explorer and Go, Diego Go! Dr. Carlos E. Cortés.
Producer and entertainment executive Moctesuma Esparaz, who produced the 1997 film Selena, starring Jennifer Lopez, was one of the panelists in the discussion on PBS’s Latino Americans. Towards the end of the discussion he shared a few words of wisdom with the audience.

“I own my failures,” he said

about the importance of no shrinking away for mistakes. “I am jealous of my failures. They are the platform on which I build my success.”
One of the most highly anticipated guests of the day was San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro. At 38, Castro is the youngest mayor of a Top 50 American city.
Prior to heading to the main conference room, Castro granted the media a one on one interview opportunity.
Castro said he was excited that the LEAD Summit would take place in San Antonio in 2014 and said that San Antonio had really “grown up” in the last few years and that it was recently named one of the “best places to start a small business.”
In San Antonio, 63% of the population is Latino.
“It’s a laboratory of what will happen in Texas and the U.S.,” Castro said about the Latino population in his city. “Across the nation, Latino communities are blossoming. Whether in Des Moines, Iowa or San Bernardino, the fate of Latinos is the fate of America.”
Castro closed with a few words of wisdom for youth.
“Believe in yourself and surround yourself with people who believe in you,” he said. “Always reach for more than you think you can get.”
According to CSUSB, there were more than 1,500 registered viewing spots in 28 countries that tuned into the summit. There were four million listeners from NBC Talk Radio through local channel KCAA 1050AM, one million listening through Inland Insider and 2.5 million viewing through Time Warner Cable
For more information on LEAD visit <http://lead.csusb.edu>.



PHOTOS/CYNTHIA MENDOZA

SAN ANTONIO MAYOR JULIÁN CASTRO, RIGHT, WAS ONE OF THE FEATURED SPEAKERS AT THE LEAD SUMMIT AT CSUSB ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27. HE IS SEEN HERE, ARRIVING ON CAMPUS, LEFT, TAKING PHOTOS WITH ATTENDEES, INCLUDING LEAD FOUNDER DR. ENRIQUE MURILLO, AND DOING A TV INTERVIEW FOR HISPANIC LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE PRIOR TO HEADING TO THE MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM.



PHOTOS/CYNTHIA MENDOZA

AARON SANCHEZ OF KCAA 1050 AM AND “LIVE WITH AARON & KELLY” INTERVIEWS ENTERTAINMENT GREAT MOCTESUMA ESPARZA DURING THE 2013 LEAD SUMMIT AT CSUSB.

Community celebrates groundbreaking on H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School, which honors the founder of the Vanir Group of Companies



PHOTO COURTESY/SBCUSD

Chairman of the Vanir Group of Companies and daughter of the late Frank Dominguez, Dorene Dominguez joins in the celebration of the groundbreaking for the new H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School, named after her father, in San Bernardino on Friday, March 29. From left to right: SBCUSD Superintendent Dr. Dale Marsden, SBCUSD Board members Danny Tillman, Margaret Hill, board president Dr. Barbara Flores, Dorene Dominguez and Assemblymember Cheryl Brown.

On Friday, March 29 the community celebrated the groundbreaking for the new H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School, named for founder of Vanir Group of Companies. Dominguez passed away in 2004, leaving behind a legacy of achievement and philanthropy. At the age of 25, Dominguez founded Vanir, which has grown into Vanir Development Company, Inc.; Vanir Energy, LLC; and Vanir Construction Management, Inc. As a way to give back to his community and all of the communities where Vanir employees lived, Dominguez was a frequent supporter of underprivileged youth and schools, including the former Burbank Elementary School in San Bernardino. The H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School site is located at 135 S. Allen Street in San Bernardino. It is scheduled to open to students in 2014.



PHOTOS/CYNTHIA MENDOZA

Mr. Cardinal Miguel Renteria, with Miss Cardinal Sandra Castro, second from left and her court, along with a another “queen”, Dr. Margaret Hill, an SBCUSD Board member. They are shown here at a San Bernardino Council meeting in 2012.

Cardinal *cont. from front*

community as a role model and representative for his school at various events.
On Saturday, April 6, San Bernardino High will host the pageant once again where a new Mr. Cardinal will succeed Renteria in this role, but not before Renteria shared a few memories and words of wisdom from his experience.
“One of my favorite memories from this year was reading to elementary school kids,” Renteria reflected. “They were fascinated with my crown and seeing their faces was priceless. It’s a huge honor to think that I may have positively influenced their life.”
Renteria says that the most rewarding part of his role was meeting the great people of the community.
“It was been great and memo-

rable year with memories that will last forever,” he said.
Apart from the fun and positive activities he got to participate in, the role of Mr. Cardinal did not come without its share of challenges though. For Renteria, public speaking was one of those challenges but one that he faced head on to overcome.
“I have learned that challenges can be difficult to face at first, but once they are faced they become a lot easier to deal with,” he said.
Renteria also gained insight and wisdom about life itself; one of the biggest lessons he learned was that everyone has problems to deal with.
“That is why it is important to be kind to one another because simple good deeds can make someone’s day,” he said.
With a wealth of happy memories and lots of learning and

growth, Renteria, who plans to attend UC Irvine and earn a masters degree in chemical engineering, parts with a few words of wisdom for the future Mr. Cardinal.
“Enjoy the year and relax,” he says. “The year will go by faster than you think. This is an important time of your life where you can learn a lot. I’m glad I competed.”
The Mr. Cardinal pageant will happen on Saturday, April 6 at the auditorium at San Bernardino High School at 6 p.m. Tickets Pre-Sale \$5.00 and \$7.00 at the door. All Title Holders are welcome. Director For more information on the pageant contact Bilingual School Outreach Worker Jamie Rios at (909) 881-8058 or by email at jamie.rios@sbcusd.com. San Bernardino High School is located on 1850 North E Street.