

Miami Dade College

Tuesday, June 15, 2021



The Daily News Clippings

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EDUCATION

Miami Dade College Hall of Fame Raises \$1.2 Million for Scholarships

2021-06-14

Miami, – Miami Dade College (MDC) honored ten alumni on the frontlines of the pandemic response and recovery during a special Heroes Edition of the MDC Alumni Hall of Fame. The annual event generated more than \$1.2 million to support scholarships for current and future MDC students. The socially distanced awards ceremony was held at MDC Wolfson Campus and livestreamed. A recording of the event can be viewed at mdc.edu/livestream. View photos on the MDC Alumni Facebook page.



The Miami Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame celebrates the achievements of outstanding MDC alumni who are the civic and business leaders of our community, while raising essential funds to support student scholarships for the next generation of Miami's leaders. Since 2003, the Hall of Fame has inducted nearly 400 distinguished alumni.

Top sponsors include the Mitchell Wolfson Sr. Foundation, City National Bank, Regions Bank and T&G Constructors, among others.

The 2021 MDC Alumni Hall of Fame Heroes Edition inductees are:

EDUCATION

Teresa Murphy

Elementary School Teacher Spanish Lake Elementary

Teresa Ellen Murphy, who was named Miami-Dade County Public Schools' 2022 Francisco R. Walker Teacher of the Year, got her start at Miami Dade College. During a year unlike any other, the 27-year veteran teacher found herself teaching a new grade level – 4th grade – virtually, amid a global pandemic and while going through chemotherapy. Teaching is a lifelong passion for Murphy, who believes that students must take ownership of their learning to reach their full potential. She wants to impact students' lives in such a way that 20 years later, they return grateful for the kindness, understanding and special attention they received.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Pete Gomez

Senior Director, Academy for International Disaster Preparedness Florida International University

Pete Gomez is one of two incident commanders at the COVID-19 testing site at Florida International University, where at the pandemic's peak they performed about 3,500 COVID-19 tests a day. A city of Miami firefighter for 35+ years, Gomez has also served as the city's emergency manager through hurricanes and has led one of the 28 Urban Search and Rescue teams that have responded to scenes at national and international disasters. Gomez completed his Associate in Science and paramedic and EMT training at MDC, as well as part of his firefighter and police training, and has returned for specialized training and as an instructor.



Battalion Chief, Special Operations Division
Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue

After 20 years of running 911 calls, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Brandon Webb was pushed to the frontline. Webb, who attended the fire academy at Miami Dade College, works as the program manager for Florida's Urban Search and Rescue Task Force, a team tasked with preparing and responding to state and national disasters that surpass the capacity of local authorities and resources. At the start of the pandemic, his team was initially tasked with testing large volumes of people and is now doing the same with vaccinations.

HEALTH CARE

Sheila Coakley

Nurse Manager

Nicklaus Children's Hospital

Sheila Jones-Coakley is the nurse manager of the dialysis unit at Nicklaus Children's Hospital where she is an anchor for the kids she cares for, especially during the pandemic where patients are often separated from family and loved ones. Jones-Coakley, who has been a nurse for more than 30 years, completed the LPN and RN programs at Miami Dade College, worked at a community hospital and returned as an adjunct instructor. Coakley now tells her students they have MDC as anchor for them today and always, like it has been for her.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Chief Brian Rafky

Chief, South Operations Division

Miami-Dade Police Department

With more than two decades of service under his belt, Chief Brian Rafky leads the South Operations Division for Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD). Most recently, he led the MDPD's Special Victims Bureau (SVB), protecting vulnerable members of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. After graduating and entering the police force, Rafky worked his way up, serving as lieutenant and sergeant in the domestic crimes unit, as well as director of the Southeast Florida Fusion Center. Rafky, whose mother was a professor at MDC, attributes his professional success to working hard, building relationships and seizing opportunities, skills he learned at the College.

MEDICINE

Shirley N. Codada, MD

Regional Medical Director

VITAS Healthcare

Dr. Shirley N. Codada, an internal medicine physician who specializes in hospice and palliative care, serves as regional medical director for VITAS Healthcare programs serving Northern Florida and Georgia. Born in Haiti, Codada brings to VITAS more than 20 years of experience as she oversees the medical care of hospice patients and families in four VITAS programs in Florida, including Citrus County, the Nature Coast, Pensacola, and Panama City, and Atlanta. She earned her undergraduate degrees at MDC and Barry University and medical degree from the University of Florida, and began her palliative care and hospice career in 2002 as assistant medical director at North Broward Hospital District.

MENTAL HEALTH

English ▼



Betsy Godoy-Rosado is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and mental health advocate who has dedicated her career to helping improve the lives of individuals and families in need. Godoy-Rosado, who studied psychology at MDC, attended the University of California, San Diego on full scholarship and completed her master's degree at Florida International University. Today, she is the Clinical Supervisor with the EPIC Team at 4Kids, one of the leading foster care agencies in the country, where she and her team have gone above and beyond to make emotional connections with their patients during the pandemic.

NONPROFIT

Jessica Gutierrez-Castillo

Co-Founder

Buddy System MIA

Jessica Gutierrez-Castillo was looking for ways to help her neighbors during the pandemic. Passionate about food access, she co-founded Buddy System MIA as a way to combat food insecurity in South Florida. The network of 400+ volunteers began by running errands like grocery shopping and picking up medicine for people with health complications to reduce their risk of contracting the coronavirus. Today, Buddy System MIA has 1,000+ volunteers and has since set up 10 community fridges filled with fresh foods in South Florida, from Homestead to Hialeah. Gutierrez-Castillo, a first-generation college graduate, credits solidarity and community for Buddy System MIA's success.

NURSING

Caridad Cuellar

Registered Nurse

Baptist Medical Center

Caridad Cuellar was a school nurse at a middle school in Hialeah when the pandemic forced schools to shut down in March 2020. She shifted gears to provide telehealth for a community health center and, shortly after, contracted COVID-19 herself. After recovering from COVID-19, in the spring, Cuellar went back to the frontlines, collecting samples from patients at testing sites during the pandemic's summer peak. When schools began to reopen in the fall, she returned to institute new protocols and teach students hygiene practices to prevent the spread. Cuellar, who now works as an urgent care nurse for Baptist Health, received her LPN, RN and BSN degrees at MDC and plans to complete her master's degree.

TRADE AND LOGISTICS

Cesar Larancuent

Head of LATAM Strategic Growth

DB Schenker

Since the start of the pandemic, Cesar F. Larancuent has focused his efforts on coordinating the transportation of face masks, cleaning necessities, and critical medical supplies around the globe. Larancuent, who received his bachelor's in supply chain management from MDC, has worked closely with both public and private institutions in the logistical planning and distribution of PPE equipment, hospital medical supplies, and essentials for our first responders. Larancuent and his team have worked tirelessly to route and deliver tens of thousands of day-to-day necessities, not just to homes, but also hospitals, pharmacies and retailers.



TROPIC

Promotion from Frost Art Museum FIU



& Exhibition Opening and Summer Lawn Party

Join Frost Art FIU in opening: Place and Purpose + Blueprint for a Good Life. Enjoy lawn games, music, spoken word, refreshments & more!

Register today!

Gas prices have Floridians feeling the financial heat

Plus, Allapattah may save its library and Gov. DeSantis courts controversy with new school rules.

By Zach Schlein

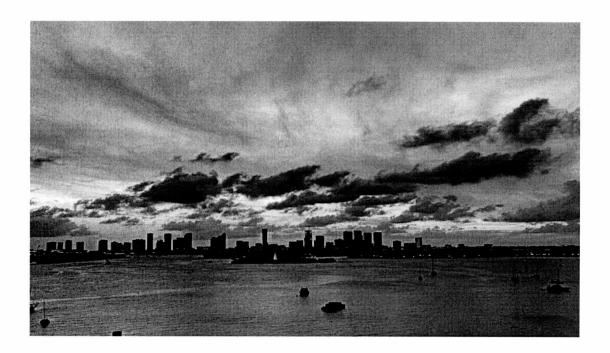
Welcome to Tuesday, Miami.

Monday was pretty gloomy, wasn't it? The clouds had been gathering on the horizon for a few days — resulting in a spectacular drizzle and accompanying sunset on Saturday, at least near my neck of the woods in MiMo — but they finally burst yesterday, leaving us with a dreary summer scene.

What's that ancient Atlanta adage? You know the one: <u>"You can plan a pretty picnic but you can't predict the weather."</u> Miami meteorologists say <u>there's a chance of additional storms in the days ahead</u>, but in the interest of starting the summer on a bright note, let's hope that doesn't come to pass. Fortunately, none of the tropical depressions brewing right now <u>are projected to hit South Florida</u>.

But enough about the weather and $\underline{\text{seminal Southern hip-hop}}$ — let's dive into today's newsletter...

*∆***What Miami is talking about**



Miami's beauty can be a lot to take in all at once. | Want to see your own picture in this space? Tag either #thenewtropic or @thenewtropic to be featured in our Instagram of the Day. (: @generationsgotravel)

A The State Board of Education has voted to prohibit critical race theory from being taught in Florida schools.

Last week's controversial move marked a policy win for Gov. Ron DeSantis, who decried the practice in a video before the decision was made.

As defined by a News Service of Florida report <u>shared by WLRN</u>, critical race theory "is based on the premise that racism is embedded within American society and institutions." <u>Per the policy itself</u>, educators are now prohibited from framing this country's history "as something other than the creation of a new nation based largely on universal principles stated in the Declaration of Independence." Among other claims, critics say the rule obscures the harsh, unfortunate reality that slavery was integral to the United States' development, growth as an economic powerhouse, and the catalyst for the Civil War.

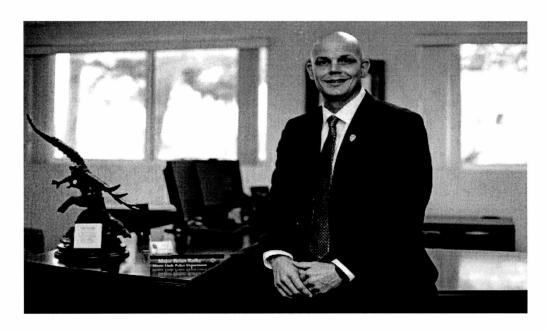
In other news...

Speaking of DeSantis and education in the Sunshine State,

the governor signed a bill yesterday requiring Florida schools to hold a daily moment of silence. The signing took place at the Shul of Bal Harbour, a Surfside synagogue with close ties to the <u>Trump</u> and <u>Kushner</u> families. The governor said the law will protect the religious liberties of students attending public schools and also signed a bill supporting volunteer, faith-based ambulance services. (<u>Local 10</u>)

- A new report says Floridians are paying much more for gas than usual. According to AAA, gas prices across the state are at the highest they've been since November 2014, with the state average rising 12 cents in the last week alone. As of writing, the state average landed at \$2.97 per gallon maybe now Miami motorists will think twice before slamming the acceleration at traffic lights. (Spoiler alert: No they won't. (**) You can see the prices for yourself at the following AAA link. (AAA / CBS Miami)
- Miami city commissioners have amended plans for an affordable housing project that's displacing the Allapattah library. The building's rentfree lease was terminated by the city last year, slating it to be torn down and replaced with a new residential complex. But after locals and Miami Jackson Senior High students spoke out and introduced an online petition to protect the library, officials changed course. Now, the agreement requires the developer to preserve a library on the property's first floor. (Miami Herald)
- Miami-Dade County has resumed accepting applications for its rental relief program. The Emergency Rental Program is meant to aid residents who fell behind on housing payments due to the pandemic. Axis Helps Miami is inviting anyone with questions about their eligibility to get in touch to learn more. Applications are open now through June 25 at 5 p.m. and can be submitted at the following county link. (CBS Miami / Miami-Dade County Emergency Rental Program)

Promotion from Miami Dade College Foundation



2021 MDC Alumni Hall of Fame: Brian Rafky

From early on in his studies, and now as a Chief for the Miami-Dade Police Department, Brian Rafky pursued his calling not just to lead, but to make a profound impact in the lives of others.

Rafky now leads the MDPD's Special Victims Bureau, where protecting the vulnerable in our community have been underscored during the pandemic.

"We take every step to ensure justice for victims, make sure they have a voice and a place to turn to where they know people are listening to them."

To honor Brian's ongoing work, he was selected as a <u>2021 MDC Alumni Hall of Fame:</u> <u>Heroes Edition</u> honoree. Miss last week's celebration? <u>You can watch it here</u>.

Watch Brian's story on The New Tropic's Facebook

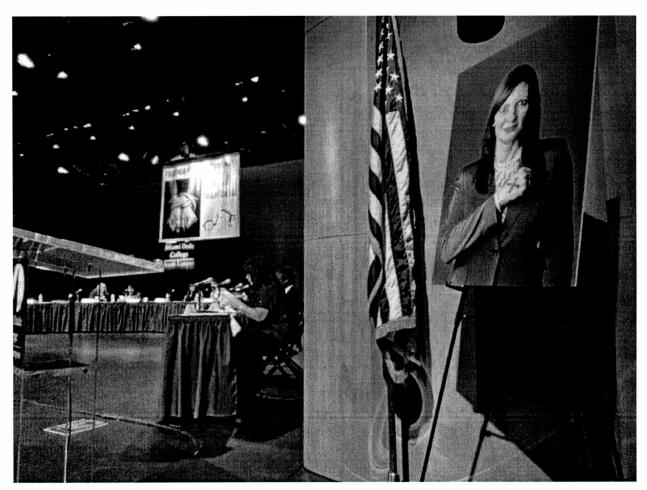
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Florida News

Florida Lawmakers Meet For Discussion About Human Trafficking

By Will Althoff Jun 14, 2021



A roundtable discussion in Miami looks at human trafficking and its impact on the Sunshine State.

Florida is one of the nation's busiest spots for human trafficking and lawmakers are trying to get ahead of the problem.

State Senator Manny Diaz Jr says hearing from the people on the front lines helps lawmakers better understand what's going on. He says their efforts led to a decrease in human trafficking activity over the last two Super Bowl weekends, in Miami and Tampa.

Diaz Jr, Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle and Lt Governor Jeanette Nunez speaking with community leaders and law enforcement officials about how to protect individuals during a roundtable today at Miami-Dade College's North Campus.

Photo credit: AFP

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Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez Says More Must Be **Done To Stop Florida's** 'Disturbing' Rise In **Human Trafficking** Cases

Mon, June 14, 2021, 6:57 PM

She said Florida ranks among the third highest in the number of human trafficking cases reported across the country.

Video Transcript

LAUREN PASTRANA: New at 6:00, the fight against human trafficking in South Florida taking center stage today. Florida lieutenant governor Jeanette Nuñez at a roundtable at Miami-Dade

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US Politics World Health Science across the country, and more must be done to put a stop to these crimes.

LT. GOV. JEANETTE NUNEZ: When you look at the impact it's having on our state in Florida, what I can tell you is that Florida ranks third in terms of calls to the National Trafficking Hotline. That is disturbing to me. That is something that we cannot, we cannot allow to continue. When you look at the number of human trafficking cases, they have more than doubled in four short years from 2015 to 2019.

LAUREN PASTRANA: If you or anyone you know has been a victim of human trafficking, you can call this number. It's 1-888-373-7888. Calls can be made anonymously.

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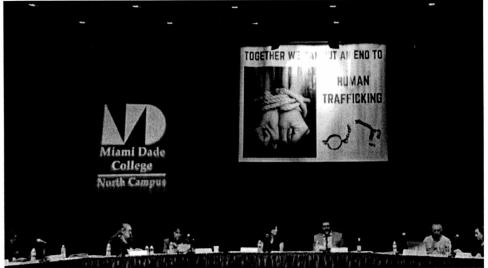


Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez Says More Must Be Done To Stop Florida's 'Disturbing' Rise In Human Trafficking Cases

By CBSMiami.com Team

June 14, 2021 at 6:58 pm

Filed Under: Human Trafficking, Jeanette Nunez, Local TV, Miami News



MIAMI (CBSMiami) – The fight against human trafficking in South Florida took center stage Monday.

Florida Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez, at a roundtable at Miami Dade College, weighed in on the alarming number of human trafficking cases on the rise in the state.

READ MORE: Retired Florida Teacher Swims 12 Miles Around Key West To Raise Scholarship Money

She said Florida ranks among the third highest in the number of human trafficking cases reported across the country, and more must be done to put a stop to these crimes.

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"When you look at the impact it's having on our state, in Florida, what I can tell you is that Florida ranks third in terms of the national trafficking hotline," she said. "That is disturbing. That is something that we cannot allow to continue. When you look at the human trafficking cases, they have more than doubled in four short years from 2015 to 2019.

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If you, or anyone you know has been a victim of human trafficking, you can call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-3737-888. Calls can be made anonymously.



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Florida State

Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez Says More Must Be Done To Stop Florida's 'Disturbing' Rise In Human Trafficking Cases

By CBSMiami.com Team

Posted by



CBS Miami 15 hours ago

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If you, or anyone you know has been a victim of human trafficking, you can call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-3737-888. Calls can be made anonymously.

https://www.newsbreak.com/news/2280870244055/lt-gov-jeanette-nunez-says-more-must-be-done-to-stop-florida-s-disturbing-rise-in-human-trafficking-cases

4Geeks Academy Secures \$10 Million in Incentive-Aligned Tuition Financing Capital to Grow Income Share Agreement Program



NEWS PROVIDED BY Leif → Jun 15, 2021, 08:00 ET

NEW YORK, June 15, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- 4Geeks Academy today announced the close of \$10 million in growth financing to drive the expansion of their tuition financing programs. The Miamibased company has an international footprint and global reputation for training elite employees in Python and ReactJS, two of the most in-demand programming languages in the industry, also they just recently launched a Machine Learning program which strives to train employees to develop the necessary tools to upskill for the future of AI work. 4Geeks plans to increase access to their programs through the use of Income Share Agreements, which will be more widely available to students in eligible geographies as a result of this capital infusion. These incentive-aligned financing products demonstrate 4Geeks's innovative ethos and dedication to delivering exceptional student outcomes.

4Geeks Academy has partnered with Leif, the ISA Management Platform. Leif works with industry leading education providers who deliver exceptional outcomes to students across a variety of fields. Leif's outcomes-aligned tuition financing solutions include Income Share Agreements which help education providers maximize their program's growth and impact potential.

Marcelo Ricigliano, co-founder and Managing Director at 4Geeks, commented: "Our mission is to transform students of all backgrounds into dynamic and highly skilled engineers and data scientists. Incentive-aligned financing embodies this mission. We chose to partner with Leif because they are the market's only full-service ISA Program Manager, enabling us to secure ISA

financing and leverage their best-in-class technology solutions to streamline our origination and program management workflow. Leif's expertise made structuring, launching and financing our ISA program a smooth experience for 4Geeks and our students."

"Leif is committed to partnering with the best education providers across the country and helping them maximize their impact by leveraging outcomes-aligned tuition financing in all its forms," remarked Jeffrey Groeber, CEO of Leif. "4Geeks shares this vision and has an extensive track record of delivering strong student outcomes. For this reason, we were thrilled by the opportunity to partner with 4Geeks and increase access to their education."

About 4Geeks Academy:

4Geeks Academy was founded in 2015 with campuses at Miami Dade College, Caracas, and Miami launching in 2016. What began as an internal project to train new developers flourished into a full-time passion for Marcelo and his co-founder Alejandro Sanchez. Today 4Geeks has +7 campuses spread over the United States, Latin America and Europe and over 1,000 graduates.

About Leif:

Leif is a technology company dedicated to increasing access to quality and affordable education. The company has developed an end-to-end platform that enables the design, origination, and program management of Income Share Agreement programs. As the infrastructure layer that powers the incentive-aligned tuition finance ecosystem, Leif partners with schools to provide students with an outcomes-oriented form of education finance. Leif enjoys the benefit as the market leader based on the following core metrics:

- 20,000 originations
- 200 partner schools
- \$300 million in arranged financing

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http://leif.org



EDUCATION

Miami Dade College Welcomes Inaugural Class of Rising Black Scholars

2021-06-14

Miami, – Miami Dade College (MDC) will officially welcome the inaugural class of its new Rising Black Scholars Program at 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, at the North Campus Conference Center. MDC's groundbreaking Rising Black Scholars Program promotes academic excellence and equity, providing financial assistance, support services and resources to Black students to ensure their academic success, as well as manifest a sense of belonging and preparedness for continued education or entry into the workforce.

While the nation evaluates equity and social justice in the Black community, MDC understands its responsibility to eliminate internal student success gaps and achieve equitable outcomes. A College study revealed an opportunity to increase student enrollment, retention, and completion in the Black community. While Black students at MDC graduate at higher rates than students at the national level, there is a 5 percent gap between their graduation rate and other students at the College. MDC will leverage its community networks, student support services, and esteemed faculty to close the gap.

The Rising Black Scholars program's structured experiences inside and outside the classroom will equip students with the skills, resources and support services to achieve their academic and professional goals. Participants will receive free tuition for up to 30 credits plus fees per year, book stipend, laptop computer, and scholarship opportunities. They will also have access to short-term, career-focused credentials that increase earning potential, degree options, internship opportunities, academic advisement, and resume assistance.

Several elected officials and community leaders will speak in the upcoming program and welcome the scholars.

A \$1 million donation from the MDC Foundation and the Mitchell Wolfson Sr. Foundation funds the Rising Black Scholars Program.

Watch the ceremony live via livestream at www.mdc.edu/livestream.

For more information, visit https://www.mdc.edu/risingblackscholars/

WHAT: MDC to Celebrate Inaugural Class of Rising Black Scholars Program

WHEN: Tuesday, June 15 at 6 p.m.

WHERE: MDC North Campus, Conference Center (Room 3249)

11380 NW 27th Ave.



News Lifestyle Facts



MDC Graduate Selected for Prestigious Station1 Frontiers Fellowship

Miami, June 14, 2021 – Miami Dade College (MDC) Padrón Campus graduate, Estefano Reyes, who earned a degree in computer science last month, has been selected to participate in the prestigious Station1 Frontiers Fellowship (SFF), a fully-funded, ten-week summer experience for undergraduate students that integrates education and research in science and technology, rooted in social inquiry, inclusion, and equity.

As part of the fellowship, Reyes will participate in a virtual internship with Deliberate AI (https://www.deliberate.ai/), where he will join a team of entrepreneurs working on software to support and enlighten mental health practices.

Born in Valencia, Venezuela, Reyes, 22, arrived in Miami in 2016 with his family in search of a better life. Due to his limited English, he wasn't able to begin his studies right away.

"It was a bit confusing at the beginning for me; I didn't know how things worked. I didn't even know how to complete an application for college," Reyes said.

But then he found MDC and his life changed. Not only did he become the first in his family to attend college, but he also found a community that helped him maximize his potential and eventually achieve a 4.0 GPA. He was accepted into MDC's Dual Language Honors College and became active with several student organizations and activities, including Sigma Zeta National Science & Mathematics Honors Society, where he served as president, TriBeta, Phi Theta Kappa and Student Government Association, to name a few.

"I am very happy I found MDC. It prepares you as a person and as a citizen and it also prepares you for the academic dream that you want to pursue. They made me feel like I was home," Reyes said.

In addition to receiving his MDC diploma last month, Reyes was also one of only four MDC students to receive a coveted Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, a highly competitive national scholarship that provides students with up to \$55,000 a year to complete their bachelor's degree.

"Estefano has been an important part of our community from day one, open to new ideas, not afraid of working hard, accepting research projects in areas not comfortable for him. He is very deserving of this selection and his JKC award. The HC provides every level of opportunity, but in the end the students must be willing – Estefano was always willing. He makes us very proud," said **Magda J**. **Castineyra**, Director, Dual Language Honors College at MDC's Padrón Campus.

Reyes, who enjoys encouraging fellow students and tutoring classmates, plans to pursue a career in either robotics for space exploration or artificial intelligence within the medical field. He will continue his studies in the fall at the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**.

Unique in the nation and in the world, the **Station1 Frontiers Fellowship (SFF)** includes an exciting research internship in emerging areas of science and technology, a cross-interdisciplinary shared curriculum on socially directed science and technology, and personal and professional advancement activities including inclusive leadership and collaboration, scientific and technical communication, networking, and more. The Fellowship was established by **Station1 (https://www.station1.org/)**, a nonprofit higher education institution that is paving a pathway of opportunity through a new model of learning and research – socially-directed science and technology. **For more information visit www.station1.org (http://www.station1.org)**.

BUSINESS WIRE

Baruch College Students Win 'Up to Us' National Policy and Advocacy Competition



Baruch College Students Win 'Up to Us' National Policy and Advocacy Competition

Innovative next-gen campaign raises awareness among college students, policymakers about the impact of U.S. fiscal and economic policy issues on their future

Students from Baruch College in New York are this year's winners of the Up to Us Campus Competition, recognized for their campaign to raise awareness and engagement on America's fiscal and economic future. Baruch's student team won the ninth annual Campus Competition held by <u>Up to Us</u>, a national, non-partisan initiative focused on building a stronger economy and a sustainable fiscal outlook.

Baruch's team leaders will receive a \$10,000 cash prize and be recognized during virtual events for their efforts alongside students from other top teams. Other guests will include speakers such as Kat Cole, former CEO and President of North America Focus Brands.

"As our nation continues to battle the health and economic effects of the pandemic, these outstanding young leaders from the Up to Us program are showing us how bright the future can be," said Michael A. Peterson, CEO of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, an Up to Us founding partner. "Through their innovative engagement campaign, the winning Baruch team connected with both peers and policymakers to ensure that their critical voices are part of the debate about America's fiscal and economic future."

The Baruch team, led by Nayancie Matthews, '22, built a campaign to drive fiscal change and address the policy priorities of their fellow students and New York City. Teammates engaged city and local officials, including establishing a partnership with the New York City Comptroller to discuss the city's budgeting and debt challenges. They generated over 5,000 interactions during the fall 2020 semester through targeted events, classroom presentations, campus partnerships and creative social media content. The team created an opportunity pipeline for two students to work with local city officials. Additionally, the Baruch Debate Team provided student participants with an opportunity to discuss policy issues and receive live fact checks and feedback from city officials.

"The Up to Us competition presented an important opportunity for our team to serve as a driving force for change," said Matthews. "Through Up to Us, we expanded our knowledge on the economy, developed new skills, and produced thoughtful conversations around our nation's economic hurdles."

The finalists and winner of the 2020-2021 Campus Competition were chosen by independent judges based on their ability to engage their peers, use of creative strategies, earned and social media efforts, and overall impact of their campaigns.

In addition to Baruch, the top 20 finalists, all of which executed campaigns during the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semester, include:

- Central Texas College
- Earlham College
- Florida International University
- Howard University
- Independence Community College
- Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus (Fall 2020)
- Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus (Spring 2021)
- Mount Mary University
- Northwestern University
- Oakland Community College
- Stony Brook University
- SUNY College at Old Westbury

- University of Delaware
- University of California, Irvine
- University of Florida
- University of Miami
- University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
- Wayne State University
- West Liberty University

In collaboration with one of the program's founding partners, The Clinton Global Initiative University, the top 20 Up to Us teams will be awarded with an exclusive invitation to launch their career at the Up to Us Mentorship Summit. Top 20 team participants will be paired with mentors in an industry of their choice, spanning business & entrepreneurship, public policy, economics and finance, marketing, public relations and other STEM-related fields.

"With the economy slowly rebounding after the pandemic, mentorship is one of the most powerful forces we can deliver to young people today," Hilary Allen, Up to Us competition program manager said. "We're grateful to our partners for their continued support of the campus competition and the goal to provide rising generations with the opportunity to learn about policy issues, good governance, and how to be effective advocates for their own future."

To learn more about Up to Us and about how to get involved in the movement, visit www.itsuptous.org.

About Up to Us

Up to Us is a non-partisan movement of a generation, for a generation that lets policymakers know that young Americans are committed to addressing the nation's fiscal challenges. Since 2012, Up to Us has created a groundswell of student leaders who've engaged and empowered more than 470,000 of their peers towards a more prosperous fiscal future. Created in partnership with the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U) and Net Impact, Up to Us provides the opportunity for students to build a movement to raise awareness and engagement on America's fiscal challenges, and hosts an annual competition that takes place on college campuses nationwide.

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Jun 7, 2021













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INDUSTRY KEYWORD: OTHER PHILANTHROPY PHILANTHROPY UNIVERSITY TRAINING

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Mental Health Expert Launches Online Program to Address Growing Mental Health Crisis in Children

Bv: Mentally STRONG via PR Newswire

June 03, 2021 at 08:00 AM EDT

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., June 3, 2021 /PRNewswire-PRWeb/ -- With a national increase in youth depression and suicide, Dr. Cristi Bundukamara, a Colorado Springs psychiatric nurse practitioner, is addressing these mental health concerns by not only acting as a mental health resource and care provider, but by building a stronger foundation for future generations with the launch of an online program, Raising Mentally STRONG Kids. The program is designed to help parents support their children through mental health concerns, in conjunction with mental health treatment by professionals.

Developed to teach parents how to support their children through common challenges that we all struggle with at some point in our lives, Raising Mentally STRONG Kids is a course created by a team of mental health professionals and parents with a Cognitive-Behavioral approach, using the Mentally STRONG Method to help parents learn how to effectively handle their child's emotions and behaviors.

"Parenting is such a rewarding and yet challenging journey. As parents, we all struggle to keep up with our children, and often experience feelings of stress, anger, and frustration," said Dr. Bundukamara. "You may be overwhelmed and unsure of what to do to help your child navigate their own life, but you are not alone. Raising Mentally STRONG Kids is a parenting course that is designed to help anyone raise their child to be Mentally STRONG so that they can then carry these skills into adulthood. Just like practicing for a sport or studying for an exam, this program helps those who partake in it become stronger by practicing these skills and training their brain to process what life throws at them differently so that they're better equipped to face these challenges when they do arise."

Raising Mentally STRONG Kids is designed to teach parents how to use the Mentally STRONG Method to support their child in organizing their thoughts, managing their emotions, and making positive life choices. Parents will also learn how to support their child in developing healthy relationships, strong communication skills, and enduring and overcoming feelings of sadness, fear, or worry. "This is a proactive and lifelong approach to teaching mental strength in children. Our method helps these individuals resolve conflicts, become empowered to take action, break through barriers, strengthen relationships, control emotions, overcome depression and overwhelm, and strengthen their mental stamina using mental strengthening tactics," said Dr. Bundukamara.

If a child is experiencing mental health symptoms or any suicidal thoughts, seek professional help immediately. This program is supportive and educational in nature and is not meant to replace mental health treatment by mental health professionals. The course is available online at http://www.MentallyStrong.com/RaisingMentallyStrongKids and includes the addition of an online community with other parents for continued discussions and learning around Raising Mentally STRONG Kids.

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About Dr. Cristi Bundukamara

Dr. Cristi Bundukamara (Dr. B), a Board-Certified Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, founded Mentally STRONG in 2018. She is the creator and developer of the cognitive restructuring technique called The Mentally STRONG Method. She is a published author of two books, "Mantally STRONG: Against All Odds Mechanics Mentally STRONG Mentally

6/4/2021 Mental Health Expert Launches Online Program to Address Growing Mental Health Crisis in Children | thepostandmail.com | Proudly Servi...

a teacher, consultant, and public speaker for The Mentally STRONG Method. Dr. B's Mentally STRONG Private Practice provides comprehensive mental health services and medication management across the lifespan using a medical model in conjunction with The Mentally

STRONG Method. She focuses on the importance of education and precepts Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Students at her private practice.

Dr. B attended nursing school at Florida International University. During her time as an RN, she worked in various nursing positions including medical missions work in Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru, and Romania. She continued at FIU and obtained a master's in nursing as a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. She then attended Nova Southeastern University and obtained a Doctorate of Education. Dr. B is a member of the NEI Neuroscience Education Institute enrolled in Master Psychopharmacology. Dr. B's military career began as an Active Duty Combat Medic.

Dr. B also received a JPME Joint Professional Military Education at the Air University. She currently serves as a Commander in the US Navy Reserves as a Psychiatric Evaluation and Treatment provider. Dr. B has extensive experience as an educator. She was Associate Senior Professor at Miami-Dade College School of Nursing. She developed courses for Foundations of Professional Nursing and Complementary and Alternative Medicine for the RN-BSN program.

Dr. B also served as the educator at the Realm of Caring, consulting for the largest group of individuals using cannabidiol (CBD) as a treatment option. She has been the guest speaker at the Autism One conference in 2016 and the Abilities Expo in Chicago, IL in 2015. She was a panelist at the Epilepsy Summit and the NYO Cannabinoids in Epilepsy conference. She also presented at the Movement Disorder Conference in Nice, France in 2019.

Media Contact

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SOURCE Mentally STRONG



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While both San Diego and Miami boast miles of coastline and beautiful weather, there are some stark differences between these two cities. Located on opposite ends of the country, Miami and San Diego have several differences that help designate one city superior to the other.

San Diego is a better city to live in because of the much higher quality of life and better earning potential. This city offers terrific schools, fantastic entertainment opportunities, and some of the most diverse cultures. Plus, compared to other major urban centers around the country, San Diego has about half the crime, making this the perfect location for a family.

Of course, not much can compare with the incredible Cuban cultural influence in Miami, making this town a different location all its own. If you are trying to determine which city is best for you

and your family, try to reach out to the respective chamber of commerce for each town, to get a real feel and better understanding of the aspects that make each city so unique.

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San Diego?

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Which City Is Better: Miami or San Diego?

Deciding which city is better between Miami and San Diego is a difficult decision that requires several considerations. Our research wants to consider how the average person lives in a city and focus on how a normal person works, looks for entertainment, and feels safe within their surroundings. Our research looks at both measurable and intangible elements of each city.

Quality of Life

Determining the quality of life for an individual city looks at how an individual will live and move throughout the city. Often, these metrics are intangibles but just as important as measurable components. San Diego has a much higher quality of life compared to Miami.

Residents in San Diego will have more purchase power in this city, better healthcare, a better climate, and an easier commute. Some features in the quality of life between the two cities are the same, though. The cost of living is relatively close, and pollution is just about the same in the two cities.

Winner: San Diego

Cost of Living

Being able to afford the city you live in a massive decision-maker for many. In general, Miami will be about 23% less expensive compared to San Diego. A large portion of this expense is housing, which is about 49% cheaper in Miami. Further, food will be 22% less expensive, and utilities 7.1% less in Miami.

Not entirely more expensive, residents will be able to save some money on day-to-day costs in San Diego. Residents can expect to pay about 20% less on transportation and 11% less for healthcare.

Winner: Miami

Housing Costs

The most significant difference between these two cities is the cost of housing. Miami is 49% less expensive than San Diego for rent and the purchase price of a new home. Curious though, despite the lower housing costs, about 70% of the population rents in Miami. In San Diego, only about 53% rent, despite sky-high housing prices.

	Miami	San Diego
Median House Price	\$329,900	\$645,300
Average Rent 1 Bedroom	\$1,183	\$1,695

Winner: Miami

Job Market

Defining success for the job market is difficult when comparing two cities. While Miami has a much higher unemployment rate, it also has more significant projected job growth in the next ten years. However, Miami also has a lower income median, which would indicate that San Diego may have a better job market.

In Miami, primary industries include aviation, banking, and tourism, with Royal Caribbean being one of the biggest employers in the city. San Diego has strong defense research, manufacturing, and trade industries. Sanyo, Sony, and Cubic Corporation are all based out of San Diego.

	Miami	San Diego
Unemployment	8.2%	6.9%
Projected 10-Year Growth	42.7%	34.9%
Median Household Income	\$39,049	\$79,673
Median Personal Income	\$28,804	\$41,112

Winner: San Diego

Culture

Heavily influenced by the incredible diversity, San Diego has a beautiful blend of cultures. The culture is strongly influenced by a fusion of American Indian and Mexican culture. There is a robust outdoor vibe that is relaxed and content to enjoy nature simply. The strong military presence throughout this city is also felt through the culture and feel to the town.

If there is one word to describe Miami culture, it is Cuban. This town has 35% Cuban origins and infuses Cuban art, music, and food into every aspect of Miami life. The city is relaxed and casual during the day but lively and entertaining at night.

Winner: Miami

Leisure/Entertainment

Nature lovers will surely take advantage of the beautiful weather in San Diego, enjoying as much time spent outside as possible. This city has endless parks and nature centers which allows people to enjoy the great outdoors. Plus, there are many museums, botanical gardens, and famous beaches to visit like La Jolla Beach. San Diego is also home to the famous San Diego Zoo and is close to Legoland. History buffs will enjoy visiting the USS Midway Museum as well.

Miami lives and breathes outdoor life with its endless, famous beaches. There is also a lively nightlife scene, plenty of shopping, and fantastic cuisine to sample from countless bars and restaurants throughout the city. Animal lovers will enjoy a visit to the Miami Zoo.

Winner: San Diego

Transportation

Although 80% of the residents in San Diego rely on a personal car for transportation, there are plenty of public transport options. There is an Amtrak station that services the city and a trolley and limited light rail system that reaches most of the top locations throughout the city. There is also a great highway system that connects San Diego to other large and popular cities throughout California.

Miami far outperforms San Diego when it comes to transportation. About 72% of the community will rely on personal vehicles for transport, while the remaining 28% use public transport options. This city is laid out in an easy grid that is simple to follow and has several rail options that connect the city to the international airport and the residential areas.

Winner: Miami

Demographics

San Diego is a diverse and exciting city with a range of demographics. Most of the people living in this city, about 20%, are between 25 and 34. This city is a highly educated area with 19% of the residents possessing a Master's degree, 27% a Bachelor's degree, and 27% an Associate's degree. In this city, 45% of the population self-identifies as White, 6.7% Black, 29% Hispanic, and 16% Asian, making this a very diverse city.

Comparatively, Miami's average age is more spread out, with 30% of the population over retirement age. This city is also highly educated, with 12% owning a Master's degree and 18% having a Bachelor's degree. This city has a population that is 60% Hispanic, 12% White, 19% Black, and 1% Asian.

Winner: San Diego

Education

The very best of the best public and private schools are found in San Diego, with student test scores outperforming the rest of the country. Both public and private schools offer loads of opportunities academically and athletically for students. San Diego is also home to many top

universities and colleges, including the University of San Diego, the University of California, and San Diego City College.

Still incredibly competitive, Miami has some amazing schools at the public level. There are several private school options available, but test scores prove public schools are a better route for students. There are many colleges and universities in Miami, including the University of Miami, Miami Dade College, and Florida International University.

Winner: San Diego

Weather

Is it even really possible to compare the weather in these two amazingly warm and temperate cities? San Diego has some of the best weather around, with summers reaching the mid-70s and winters staying in the high 60s. There is barely any rain or humidity, and the weather stays beautiful for most of the year.

Miami also has some fantastic weather for residents to enjoy. Summers usually hit the high 80s, while winters are never below 70 degrees F. Unfortunately, Miami is home to some powerful storms and can be prone to hurricanes. Not only can this make living conditions difficult and dangerous, but it can increase the price of insurance for your home and property.

Winner: San Diego

Crime Rates

For a major city, San Diego is incredibly safe. Looking at violent crime statistics, this city routinely falls well below the average number of murders, assaults, and rapes in the country. Not surprisingly, property theft and burglary are also well below the national averages and are only about 50% of what the rest of the country experiences.

Unfortunately, the same is not valid for Miami. This town has significantly higher violent crime rates that are nearly double the national average. Both assault and murder statistics are painfully high, yet rape is slightly below the national average. Property crimes luckily are on par with the average number of criminal cases in the United States.

Winner: San Diego

Related Questions

How high are HOAs in Miami?

Because there are so many condos in Miami, many locations charge a Homeowners Association Fee. These prices range from \$0.57 per square foot to \$0.97 per square foot. Although these fees certainly include valuable assets like access to a gym, pool, or the opportunity to live a maintenance-free life, they can be an added expense to your housing costs. The average HOA fee in Miami is about \$415 per month.

Is \$150,000 per year a good salary in San Diego?

Determining if your salary is "good" in San Diego really comes down to what is important to you and your family and how you will spend your money. Keep in mind that housing is extremely expensive in this part of the country, and living in a desirable neighborhood will take up a large portion of your income. A house in a nice neighborhood will average \$700,000 and will be in a very competitive market.

Verdict

Choosing just one city between these two beautiful locations is difficult, but the winner in this city-to-city battle in San Diego. Not only is this a wonderful city to live in because of the endless job opportunities, amazing school system, and low crime rate, but the city offers something for everyone to enjoy. As a bonus, the infused culture, diverse demographic makeup, and high quality of life make this an enjoyable and entertaining city to call home.

The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Colleges

LSU's Mainieri gets emotional as he heads into retirement



LSU head coach Paul Mainieri looks on during an NCAA college baseball super regional game against Tennessee Sunday, June 13, 2021, in Knoxville, Tenn. (AP Photo/Wade Payne)

By Eric Olson | AP

June 13, 2021 at 7:53 p.m. EDT

Paul Mainieri couldn't contain his emotions while his team batted in the bottom of the ninth inning Sunday.

His team down nine runs to Tennessee in Knoxville, the retiring LSU coach looked straight ahead from his spot in the dugout, swallowed hard a couple times and took off his sunglasses to wipe away tears.

When Jake Wyeth lined out to end the 15-6 loss in the NCAA super regionals and the Volunteers began to dogpile, Mainieri shook hands and shared a word with Tennessee coach Tony Vitello and headed back to the dugout for hugs with players and staff.

Mainieri choked up again in the final postgame news conference of his coaching career. "I think I'm the luckiest guy in the world," he said. "Thirty-nine years I got to live out a childhood dream and got to do what I wanted to do with my life. Who could ask for more? These are not tears of being upset. These are tears of happiness and gratefulness."

Mainieri announced after the Southeastern Conference Tournament that this would be his final season. The 63-year-old coach has battled nagging neck pain and said it was

time for him to step away.

He leaves as one of five coaches to win 1,500 games and a national championship. His last team finished 38-25, won four of its last five SEC series to position itself for an NCAA Tournament at-large bid and then staved off elimination four times in regionals to knock out Oregon on its home field. Tennessee swept the all-SEC super regional and went 5-0 against LSU this season.

"A lot of people didn't expect us to get here," Mainieri said. "We had a tough ballgame last night, one bad inning. And then today we just didn't do what we needed to do. So we're going to put the bats away and call it a year — in my case, call it a career." Asked what was going through his mind in the last inning, Mainieri said he was thinking about his father. Demie Mainieri was head coach at Miami Dade Community College for 30 years and the first junior college coach to win 1,000 games in a career. Father and son were extremely close. A 6-year-old Paul was in the dugout when Miami Dade won the 1064 national title, and the Mainieris were the first father and son to be

Dade won the 1964 national title, and the Mainieris were the first father and son to be inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Demie died in 2019.

"My dad got to live a long life and got to share it with me for most of the time," Paul said. "I miss him and I miss talking to him."

Mainieri coached six seasons at St. Thomas, six at Air Force, 12 at Notre Dame and 15 at LSU. He amassed 1,505 wins, ranking him No. 7 all-time among Division I coaches. His national championship at LSU came in 2009, one of five CWS appearances he made with the Tigers. He also reached the CWS once with Notre Dame.

Mainieri said he and his wife plan to remain in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for the rest of their lives. He said he would make himself available to the next coach to answer questions or give advice, but only if asked.

"I think we're leaving the program in very good shape," he said. "I feel very, very good about where the program is. And it's been 15 wonderful years. I've loved every second of it. I'll cherish it forever."

More NCAA baseball tournament coverage: https://apnews.com/hub/college-world-series

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COLLEGE SPORTS

LSU's Mainieri gets emotional as he heads into retirement

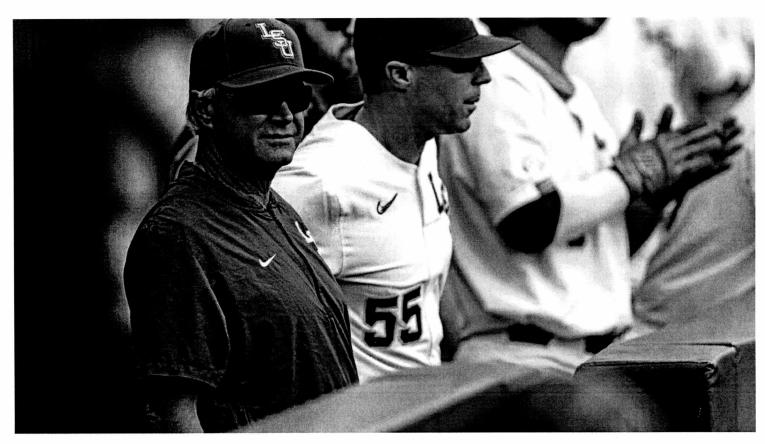
BY ERIC OLSON *AP SPORTS WRITER*JUNE 14, 2021 11:01 AM











LSU head coach Paul Mainieri looks on during an NCAA college baseball super regional game against Tennessee Sunday, June 13, 2021, in Knoxville, Tenn. (AP Photo/Wade Payne) WADE PAYNE AP



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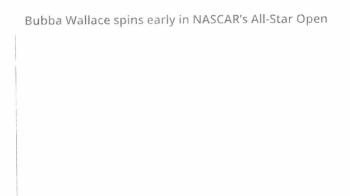
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○ COMMENTS ✓



THE NEWS TRIBUNE



MLB BASEBALL-INACTIVE

Brian Goodwin becomes latest player to step up for White Sox in 15-2 romp over Tigers

LAMOND POPE *CHICAGO TRIBUNE*JUNE 12, 2021 05:39 PM, UPDATED JUNE 12, 2021 06:01 PM





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SPORTS

Brian Goodwin is the latest player to step up for the Chicago White Sox — hitting a home run and driving in 5 in a 15-2 rout of the Detroit Tigers

By LAMOND POPE

CHICAGO TRIBUNE | JUN 12, 2021







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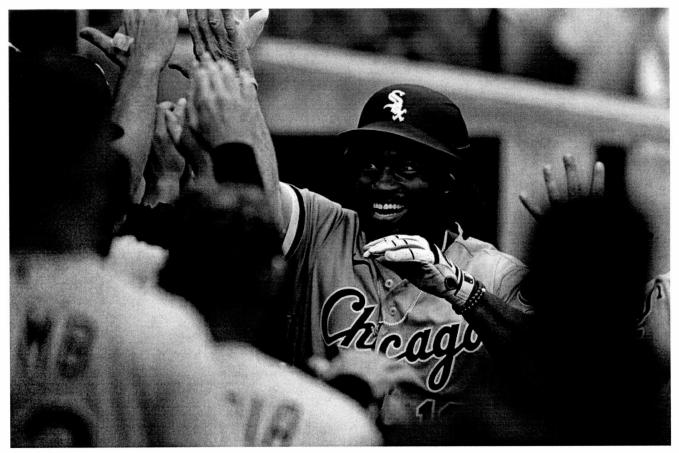
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"He put his talent on display for us, and we enjoyed it," La Russa said after the game.



White Sox center fielder Brian Goodwin is greeted in the dugout after hitting a three-run home run during the second inning against the Tigers on Saturday in Detroit. Goodwin went 2-for-5 with five RBIs in the Sox's 15-2 victory. (Carlos Osorio / AP)

Despite injuries to key players, the Sox (40-24) are a season-high 16 games over .500 and have a $4\frac{1}{2}$ -game lead in the American League Central over the second-place Cleveland Indians.

Goodwin's double came in a three-run first. His three-run homer came during a five-run second. He walked and scored during a five-run fifth.

"You want to come out and give the fans something to see," Goodwin said.

"Unfortunately they had some big dogs go down. Some spots opened up. It looked like a place I could fit in and help a winning ballclub."

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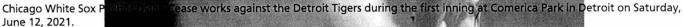
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Brian Goodwin becomes latest player to step up for White Sox in 15-2 romp over **Tigers**

LaMond Pope, Chicago Tribune on Jun 12, 2021 Published in Baseball (/sports/baseball/)



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Discuten "perturbadoras" tendencias de trata de personas en el sur de Florida

por MiamiDiario JM junio 14, 2021



En una mesa redonda realizada este lunes, se buscó generar una lluvia de ideas sobre formas de prevenir mejor la trata de personas, ya que los líderes locales notaron tendencias preocupantes en el estado.

La discusión en el campus norte de Miami Dade College fue dirigida por el senador estatal Manny Diaz Jr., republicano por Hialeah, y reunió a legisladores, representantes electos y activistas locales, reportó Local10.

Además de la fiscal estatal del condado de Miami-Dade Kathryn Fernandez Rundle, quien ha sido franca sobre el tema, la vicegobernadora de Florida Jeanette Núñez, oriunda del sur de Florida, también asistió por un breve tiempo.

Dijo que, si bien la mayoría de la gente solo piensa en la trata de personas en torno a grandes eventos como el Super Bowl, eso debe cambiar, y agregó que esta es una pelea que dura todo el año, especialmente en el sur de Florida.

"Florida ocupa el tercer lugar en términos de llamadas a la línea directa nacional de trata de personas", señaló Núñez. "Eso es perturbador para mí. Es algo que no podemos permitir que continúe. Cuando se observa el número de casos de trata de personas, han crecido a más del doble en cuatro cortos años, de 2015 a 2019".

Algunos de los elementos específicos sobre la mesa incluyen educación sobre la trata de personas para niños en edad escolar, así como una mayor capacitación para las fuerzas del orden.

https://miamidiario.com/discuten-perturbadoras-tendencias-de-trata-de-personas-en-el-sur-de-florida/







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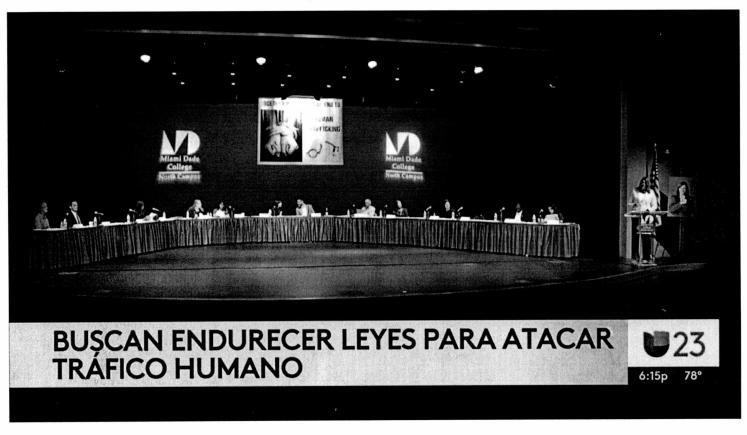
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Opinión

Los voluntarios de las Escuelas de Miami-Dade predican con el ejemplo

POR VINCENT DAWKINS

urante los tiempos de crisis, el arte de dar se ejemplifica en las personas que se esfuerzan por servir a la comunidad: los voluntarios. Aunque donar tiempo durante una pandemia tiene desafíos, también define quiénes somos.

Cada año, las Escuelas Públicas del Condado Miami-Dade (M-DCPS) reconocen a los voluntarios escolares que han hecho todo lo posible para ofrecer su tiempo y talento a nuestras escuelas. ¡Los nominados de este año no dejaron que COVID-19 se interpusiera en su camino!

Durante la pandemia, se adecuaron y se orientaron siguiendo las pautas de seguridad de los CDC para continuar sirviendo a nuestros estudiantes y escuelas.

Muchos se ofrecieron como voluntarios durante más de 150 horas durante el año escolar para brindar apoyo en actividades que incluyeron la tutoría virtual a los estudiantes, la coordinación de eventos para la recaudación de fondos y actividades motivadoras del personal; además, realizaron tutorías a los estudiantes a

través de las artes y tuvieron una presencia positiva relevante en la escuela para apoyar a los maestros, estudiantes y padres.

Nicole Torres es la ganadora en la categoría de Estudiante Voluntaria Escolar Sobresaliente. Estudiante de la School for Advanced Studies -Wolfson Campus, ella identificó la necesidad de un mecanismo de tutoría entre iguales durante la pandemia de COVID-19. La plataforma de tutoría entre iguales que creó, "Learn to Express", fomenta la expresión, promueve la construcción de relaciones y es una herramienta para fomentar la creatividad de los estudiantes. Como resultado, los estudiantes voluntarios han acumulado colectivamente más de 2,400 horas de apoyo entre iguales y, lo más importante, es que han adquirido un reconocimiento más profundo por la enseñanza y el aprendizaje.

Como presidenta de la Asociación de Padres de Alumnos (PTA) en Ruth K. Broad / Bay Harbor K-8 Center, Sol Colom es la ganadora del premio al Voluntario Escolar Destacado en la categoría de adultos. Ella es la fuerza detrás de muchos progra-

mas de aulas y proyectos de embellecimiento escolar. También administró la tienda de uniformes y suministros de la escuela; coordinó actividades de recaudación de fondos para la compra de dispositivos y equipos deportivos. En total, dedicó más de 300 horas de servicio voluntario. La cálida personalidad y la ética de

trabajo de la Sra. Colom motivaron a otros padres a participar como voluntarios

Mercy Collazo es una proveedora para todos en G. Holmes Braddock Senior High y es la ganadora al Voluntario Escolar Sobresaliente en la categoría de la tercera edad. Aportando más de 125 horas de servicio voluntario, trabaja diligentemente para hacer que Braddock SHS sea la piedra angular de su comunidad. Ella nunca dice que no cuando está en la posibilidad de ayudar. Una gran oyente y consejera, apova las necesidades académicas de todos los estudiantes de Braddock SHS.

En los años anteriores a la pandemia, miles de voluntarios de las M-DCPS compartieron su tiempo y talentos para enriquecer, influir e inspirar a los estudiantes. Estos voluntarios de la escuela apoyaron a los maestros, abogaron por los estudiantes y facilitaron una gran cantidad de eventos escolares. Entonces, ¿cómo logramos este indispensable aporte?

Un ejemplo es el Capítulo Sigma Alpha de la Fraternidad Omega Psi Phi, que está tomando la iniciativa de crear confianza en la comunidad para que podamos volver a la

percepción de normalidad. En asociación con la ciudad de Miami Gardens, estos defensores de la comunidad trabajan como voluntarios y mentores. Recientemente, acudieron por docenas a vacunarse en el Centro de Salud Comunitario Jessie Trice. "Hay que educar a las personas sobre el impacto que tienen las vacunas en la comunidad para volver a la normalidad", dijo el vicealcalde de la ciudad de Miami Gardens, Reggie Leon.

Paul V. Wilson, mentor de 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, quien también recibió su vacuna ese día, explicó: "Quiero inspirar a otros mentores. Nuestros niños han enfrentado dificultades emocionales; la necesidad de que participen, sean guiados y escuchados en persona por modelos masculinos activos es mayor que nunca."

Aunque las plataformas virtuales han proporcionado un medio adicional para conectarse, nada reemplaza la conexión cara a cara para facilitar relaciones sólidas entre los miembros de la comunidad solidarios y nuestros estudiantes. Elogiamos a nuestros voluntarios de la escuela por sus continuos esfuerzos de servicio, y esperamos ver a más de ellos en persona el próximo año.

Vincent Dawkins, director del Programa de Voluntarios Escolares e Iniciativas de Tutorías de las Escuelas Públicas del Condado Miami-Dade.