



# *Latin American Community Center* **Hispanic Student Recognition Program**

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Nominations due by **February 19, 2010**

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Hispanic Student Recognition Program (HSRP) is an effort by the Latin American Community Center (LACC) to recognize and acknowledge exceptional Hispanic students in both high school and middle school in the state of Delaware. The goal of the program is to open doors for Hispanic students to pursue greater opportunities, inspire pride in our people and our heritage, motivate students to work hard and motivate their families to support them. The program is now in its twenty third year and enjoys strong school, community and private sector support. Hispanic high school students from any public, private and religious high school can apply for achievement awards in (1) Academics, (2) Sports, (3) School/Community Service, (4) Science and/or Technology and (5) the Arts. High school students compete per county for these awards. In addition, a state-wide male and female high school student is selected as Outstanding Hispanic Students of the Year. Lastly, a male and female middle school student is selected as Outstanding Hispanic Students of the Year.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Nominees must be Delaware residents. Nominations are accepted from teachers, coach, family, community organizations, employers, mentors and adults familiar with the student. Nominees must be of Hispanic origin as defined as those persons whose family origins are from the Spanish-speaking countries of the Caribbean, Central South America and Europe such as Puerto Rico, Mexico, Colombia and Spain. All documentation must accompany applications by the closing date. (The HSRP nomination application may be photocopied, forwarded or downloaded, [www.thelatincenter.org](http://www.thelatincenter.org), for distribution during the application acceptance period.)

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

The HSRP committee recruits volunteers from the community, nonprofit agencies, and the private sector to serve on the selection committee. The HSRP committee evaluates and rates each application on its merit, and submits the candidate's documentation to the selection committee for interview. During the interview, students may present their art, perform, and/or present portfolios of their achievements. The selection of the awardees will be done by the selection committee and announced at the awards ceremony. All nominees attending the awards ceremony will be recognized and honored with a commemorative medal. All award recipients will receive a special award medal and a cash prize, in addition to these prizes the male and female outstanding students of the year will receive a special plaque. The ceremony is open to the public but reservations are required.



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## AWARD CRITERIA

### **I. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD**

The Academic Award is bestowed upon a student(s) who has demonstrated the highest level of academic performance. Rating is based on their academic honors/awards, number of advance placement classes, SAT scores, and advance placement grades.

### **II. SCHOOL / COMMUNITY SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM AWARD**

The School/Community Service award is bestowed upon a student(s) who has demonstrated consistent and ongoing involvement in community/school service. Rating is based on the type of community service, meaning of community service, service hours, service awards, and length of time serving the community.

### **III. ROBERTO CLEMENTE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Athletic award is bestowed upon a high school athlete whose achievements on and off the field exemplify the best qualities of sportsmanship. Rating is based on academic achievement, team player attitude, leadership, and awards received for their contributions.

### **IV. AWARDS IN THE ARTS**

The Arts award is bestowed upon a student(s) who has distinguished herself or himself in the visual arts, music, dance, and/or theater. Rating is based on honors/awards, creativity and talent.

### **V. SCIENCE AND/OR TECHNOLOGY AWARD**

The Science/Technology Award is bestowed upon a high school student(s) who has distinguished himself or herself in the field of science (biology, chemistry mathematics and physics) and/or technology (computer science, audiovisual science/technology and information systems). Rating is based on honors/award and accomplishments.

### **VI. OUTSTANDING HISPANIC STUDENT OF THE YEAR**

This award is presented to a male and a female high and middle school student who has high academic performance, leadership qualities, pride in heritage, taking initiative, creativity, talent, and has shown substantial overall achievement in all categories.

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nomination due by 2/19/2010**

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## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOMINATORS**

A successful nomination packet requires the completion of two parts. The first part of the application is the nominator's recommendation letter. The recommendation letter is a **narrative** telling us about your nominee and why he/she should receive an award. (Award categories are found on page three.) The second part of the application is biographical information about the nominated student.

### **Part I**

A successful application features a deep, strong and personal narrative advocating for the student's selection. A well crafted narrative are as specific as possible, provide actual examples of student's academic achievements, extracurricular activities, personnel qualities and character, and highlight the nominee's creativity or talent, demonstrated leadership abilities and articulates the personal barriers overcome by the student. Please type your essay and attach it to the application. (You can also handwrite the essay on the back of this application.)

### **Part II**

Complete all the requested information and include photocopies of the required documents (such as transcripts, SAT & PSAT scores, awards, recognition). Write candidate's name on the bottom of each page.

ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE SHREDDED AT END OF SELECTION PROCESS. HOWEVER, ALL OF THE STUDENTS' DEMOGRAPHICS AND CONTACT INFORMATION WILL BE SAVED BY THE LACC. THIS WILL ENABLE US TO UPDATE THE STUDENTS' INFORMATION ON A YEARLY BASIS AND FOLLOW-UP WITH SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

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## **Part I**

Nominator's essay submitted on separate piece of paper or handwritten on back of this form.

## **Part II**

### **1.) Nominator's Information**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_  
School/Org./Corp.: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

### **2.) Nominee's (Student) Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School level: (Check one)  
 High School  Middle School  
Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ School District: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ County:  New Castle  Kent  Sussex  
Hispanic Origin: \_\_\_\_\_ Total # of years in school in the USA: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

### **3.) Parents' Information**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 4.) Subject-Specific Award Categories

- For high school students only.
- **All applications received on time will be reviewed by the selection committee.**
- Select all that apply:
  - Academics
  - School or Community Service or Volunteerism
  - Arts
  - Science and/or Technology
  - Athletics

## 5.) Outstanding Hispanic Student of the Year Award

- Minimum un-weighted 3.5 GPA required.
- High school students can be nominated for both this award and the subject specific award categories in the above section.
- Middle school students can only be nominated for this award.
- One male and one female will be selected from high and middle school.
- **All applications received on time will be reviewed by the selection committee.**
- Outstanding Hispanic Student of the Year (High School)
- Outstanding Hispanic Student of the Year (Middle School)

## Interview Preparation

All high school students who are nominated will be invited to interview as part of the selection process.  
**(Middle school students will not be interviewed.)**

All high school students will be asked to answer the following question during the interview: **“Please, describe the most difficult challenge you have faced in being a Hispanic student in the US education system? Describe the challenge, your response to the challenge and what lessons have you learned from it.”**

If a student prefers to answer this question in writing they may do so and bring the essay with them to the interview.



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## Academic Scores

Complete the following information and submit photocopies of the original documents to validate the information provided below. (Photocopies may also be brought at the time of the interview.)

	GPA TERM 1	GPA TERM 2	GPA TERM 3	GPA TERM 4	Cumulative GPA	Class Rank
9 <sup>th</sup> grade						
10 <sup>th</sup> grade						
11 <sup>th</sup> grade						
12 <sup>th</sup> grade						

SAT Total	SAT Math	SAT Reading	SAT Writing

PSAT Total	PSAT Math	PSAT Reading	PSAT Writing

## Application Check List

Please, take a moment to confirm that the nomination packet is complete. Also understand that some of the required information (grades) and additional information may be presented at the time of the interview, such as trophies, plaques, awards, recordings of performances (musical instruments, voice, dance), and portfolios of art or science projects.

- Recommendation Letter (nominator's narrative about the student)
- Report Card (most current)
- Cumulative GPA (covering all the grades in high school that the student has completed)
- Class Rank (sometimes found on the report card)
- SAT Scores, or PSAT Scores
- AP Class Listing (sometimes found on the report card)
- AP Scores (if taken)
- Honors Class listing (sometimes found on the report card)
- Additional trophies, plaques & awards
- Art or Science project portfolio
- Recordings of performances (music, voice, dance)
- Musical instrument(s) & recordings of performances (music, voice, dance)

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## NOMINATION APPLICATION SUBMISSION

BY

### 1. E-MAIL

Complete the nomination application form, save the file, attach it and e-mail it to:

**sortiz@thelatincenter.org**

*Remember to submit all pertinent documents (narrative, transcripts, etc.) via mail or at the time of the personal interview.*

### 2. FAX

Complete the nomination application form and submit along with pertinent documents (transcripts & narrative) by fax to:

**302-655-7334.**

*If some pertinent documents (narrative, transcripts, etc.) cannot be faxed submit them via mail or at the time of the personal interview.*

### 3. MAIL OR IN-PERSON

Complete the nomination application form and submit along with pertinent documents (*narrative, transcripts, etc.*) to:

**HSRP  
C/O SINDY ORTIZ  
LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
403 NORTH VAN BUREN STREET  
WILMINGTON, DE 19805**

*If some pertinent documents (narrative, transcripts, etc.) are not available at the time of submission please bring them to the personal interview.*

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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