

Latino/Diversity Day Draws 550 Students from Area High Schools to Stockton

Students See Campus Life, Learn About Opportunities

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Galloway, NJ - Latino and other minority students from high schools in Atlantic, Cumberland, Camden and Union counties on Thursday were told to support each other in the quest for a college degree, during Latino Visitation and Diversity Day at Stockton University.

by the limitations that are put onto us by others, or more importantly, by

Teneya Sanders, of Cherry Hill, a senior at LEAP Academy, said her sights are set on law school because she wants to be a district attorney. Her strengths are talking, reading and writing.

Kelvin Taveras, of Camden, a senior at LEAP Academy, said, I envision myself in a detective

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schools, Vineland High School, Camden Academy Charter School, the LEAP Academy in Camden, Upward Bound from Camden, Pennsauken High School and Plainfield High School.

He told them that his mother lost their home in Pennsauken and they

elevators, smelling urine in the stairwells and even waiting for the cops to unlock the elevators

the student who had potential but did not strive to reach it. Until that day that I attended he Latino Visitation Day at Stockton., After hearing the speakers and visiting the school, I started to

Heather Medina, assistant director of Admissions, organized the event, which has been running since 1987, and growing each year. Students who attended would not have to pay a fee to apply to Stockton, she said.

-knit community - very much a family atmosphere, which is something that the Latin communi

Zachiely Cruz, of Camden, a senior at LEAP Academy, said that Stockton is her top choice school. She is used to a city lifestyle, but is so excited about college and feels as though she can adapt to the Stockton environment.

Cruz grew up in Puerto Rico and moved to New Jersey at age 5

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urged them to get involved in projects in their home communities now, a rewarding experience that also would help them stand out when applying to colleges and fit in at Stockton.

Jessica Grullon, of Galloway, attended Latino Visitation Day in 2005 as a senior at Egg Harbor Township High School at the encouragement of Yamilei Socorro, who was her teacher, advisor in the Hispanic American Club and later a mentor.

Grullon has since graduated from Stockton with a Communications degree in 2009, earned a
es.

Grullon gave a special presentation to attendees remembering and honoring the life of Yamilei Socorro, who recently passed away from cancer at just 34 years old. Socorro students and colleagues were sitting in front of Grullon as she spoke. the students to continue her legacy by furthering their education beyond high school, setting an example to their peers and the generation that follows, and most importantly, to constantly encourage one another to strive

The 2015 eve th visit with her students. She was an Atlantic endorsement program and taught at Egg Harbor Township High School for 13 years.

Jeannie Romano, of Sea Isle, a junior Business major, was one of the Stockton student volunteers who led a tour for the high school students to see the campus. She shared her experiences and tips with the visitors, who may be students at Stockton one day.

The day also included information on how to apply