



Carlos Rosario International PCS Newsletter

Winter 2014

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Upcoming Events

DC Health Link Enrollment Events

Thursday, March 20

Saturday, March 22

Carlos Rosario School Green Fair

Thursday, April 10

Asian Pacific Islander Festival

Friday, May 30

Graduation

Thursday, June 19

Introducing the New Carlos Rosario School Website!

Dear Friends,



The Carlos Rosario School is brimming with energy and activity. Walking through our two campuses, the headquarters Harvard Street Campus and the new, workforce development Sonia Gutierrez campus, you will see GED teachers working together to plan next week's Math Olympics; a student presenting to her classmates on an ESL resource blog she

has created in her intermediate level English class; Ethiopian students sharing a traditional coffee ceremony at our Black History Month celebration; Culinary Arts students whipping up a mango mousse cake in the Baking and Pastry laboratory; and a group of Nurse Aide trainees discussing their reactions to the Affordable Care Act Town Hall while eating lunch in the cafeteria.

This newsletter is a snapshot of the many initiatives happening at the Carlos Rosario School. We appreciate your taking a moment to see what our School community is doing. I also invite you to visit our brand new website, which enables us to share the most up-to-date activities and celebrations of the School and, most importantly, our students' successes.

I write this letter as our President and Founder, Sonia Gutierrez, is recovering from knee replacement surgery, and while she recovers I have had the honor of serving as Acting President. On behalf of Sonia, our students, Board, and staff, I would like to say we so appreciate your part in supporting the community served by the Carlos Rosario School. We cannot do this alone, and it is through partnerships and individual friends like you that the Carlos Rosario School succeeds in its daily work to transform the lives of individuals and families in the District of Columbia.

Warmly,
Allison R. Kokkoros



Checkout www.carlosrosario.org for easier navigation and more dynamic content about the School!

Quick Links

[About the School](#)
[Class Registration Information](#)
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Congratulations Samiel!

On December 20th Samiel passed the official GED exam!



Samiel would like to thank his Carlos Rosario School ESL teachers who taught him how to write. He said, "Now I know the secret to writing

essays!" Samiel is using his writing skills to comment through social media about what is happening in his home country of Eritrea. Looking ahead to the future, Samiel plans to complete the Computer Support Specialist training this spring and to take his A+ certification exam later this month.

Recognized as a National Leader in Immigrant Integration

The Carlos Rosario School received the Migration Policy



Institute's national E Pluribus Unum prize, recognizing its exemplary work around immigrant integration.

"Carlos Rosario's cutting-edge programming has allowed tens of thousands of immigrants to pursue

the American Dream and go on to successes as bankers, pharmacists, chefs and business owners," said MPI Senior Vice President Michael Fix.

Since 2008, the MPI has recognized organizations that provide integration initiatives, with the goal of inspiring and providing models for others who are working to help immigrants and their children pursue and achieve their life goals.

The other winning organizations are the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, the Neighborhood Development Center, and Kaiser Permanente.

Thank you to everyone at the School who made this award possible, and a special thanks to the Educational Foundation for putting the application together.

Various media outlets covered the news. Follow the links to read what they had to say.



EDUCATION WEEK

Informing Students about Healthcare Options

We are committed to ensuring our students understand the new Affordable Care Act and options available with the DC Health Exchange.

If you'd like to learn more about what's happening at Carlos Rosario School, please check out our Facebook page!

Like us on Facebook 

Thanks for all your hardwork Sunny!

Thanks to Carlos Rosario ESL 5 student Hui (Sunny) Xian who volunteered in Lisa Walker's ESL 3 class last semester.



During this time, Sunny worked full time as a cashier in the evenings, took English classes every afternoon, worked part time on the weekends, and volunteered in the ESL 3 class three times a week.

Sunny enjoys helping other students practice their English. "When I first came here, I didn't know how to speak English. Now I want to help my classmates learn English like me," she said.

Sunny first enrolled in the Carlos Rosario School ESL Level 3 class in the winter of 2013. She learned quickly and skipped ESL Level 4.

This hard-working student hopes to finish studying English and open her own business.

Check us out on Youtube!

View our videos on 

Recognized in the NCLR National Photo Contest

Earlier this month students from the Carlos Rosario School Nurse Aide Career Training Program and citizenship class attended a town hall meeting where President Barack Obama highlighted the importance of healthcare for Latinos around the country.



In October Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton hosted a town hall meeting at the School to share information with the more than 350 students and staff in attendance. Presenters included Congresswoman Norton; representatives from La Clinica del Pueblo, the director of the DC Health Exchange, and a representative from the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Also this semester 105 Carlos Rosario students attended Health Insurance Options Workshops coordinated by the School and hosted by La Clinica del Pueblo. These workshops helped students understand application timelines and processes as well as qualifications and benefits. Students were also able to sign-up for one-on-one assistance provided by representatives from local health organizations: La Clinica del Pueblo, Andromeda, and Mary's Center.

As the March 31 deadline to sign-up for healthcare quickly approaches, we are confident our students are getting the information needed to make informed decisions.

Season of Giving

This past holiday season, students and staff took their work outside the school walls with three events that showcased the importance of giving.



The morning student government at the Harvard Street



Check out the photo that received honorable mention in the NCLR nationwide photo contest highlighting the work of affiliates like our school from around the country.

Share Your Story!

Has your life been touched by the Carlos Rosario School? We'd love to hear about it! Check out our new online [storytelling form](#).

New Career Training Classes!

We are offering two new Career Training classes this semester. The Baking and Pastry Class, offered mornings and evenings, covering baking concepts and practices, such as equipment, decoration, mixing methods and bread preparation.

The Nurse Aide Training program has also expanded to offer evening classes. With the new class, more students will receive over 200 hours of instruction and prepare for the Certified Nurse Assistant exam.

Campus collected more than 1,000 toys for children at CentroNía and Family Place, two nonprofits serving families in the District. About three truckloads of toys were donated to the centers just before holiday celebrations. Meanwhile, the Resource Center at the Sonia Gutierrez Campus organized a separate toy drive that collected some 200 items, which went to Mary's Center, a local nonprofit that provides social services to families.

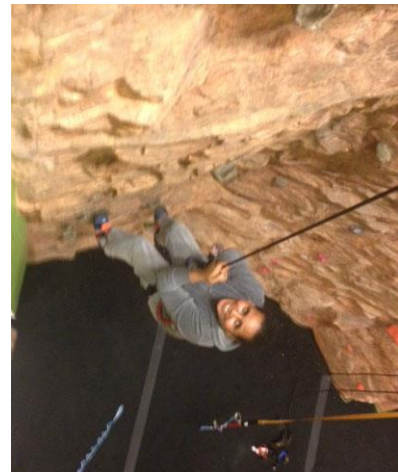
School staff also coordinated a fundraising campaign, following the destruction of Hurricane Haiyan in the Philippines. Overall, the school community donated \$5,391.26 to disaster relief efforts by the Red Cross.

Putting Healthy Living into Practice

This winter four ESL Health classes took field trips to the new YMCA in northwest DC. More than 40 students toured the new facility, learned about financial aid options for using the Y, and stayed to use the gym's equipment. One class even tested their skills on the climbing wall.

"We're interested in introducing our students to new community resources related to healthy living," said teacher Laurel Anderson.

The new center, which opened in the fall of 2013, includes 100 pieces of cardio and strength training equipment, a six-lane indoor pool, a culinary studio, and a two-story rock climbing wall. Services include personal training, individual wellness plans, health and nutrition seminars and more.



Whole Wheat Chocolate Chip and Citrus Scones

The Carlos Rosario School culinary arts students are enjoying learning in the new Sonia Gutierrez



Campus kitchen. This winter Culinary Arts Fundamentals students prepared a delicious breakfast snack.

- 1 cups whole-wheat flour
- 2 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon iodized salt
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/3 cup cold butter
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 2 oranges - zested and minced
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- Milk for brushing
- Extra sugar and cinnamon to sprinkle

Directions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. and lightly grease a baking sheet. Sift together wheat and all-purpose flours, baking powder, salt, sugar and cinnamon into a large bowl. Rub butter into dry ingredients until it resembles fine bread crumbs. Stir in chocolate chips and orange zest. Mix in the milk until blended and form dough into a ball.

Turn the dough out onto a floured surface. Roll into a circle about 1/2 inch thick. Dip a round cookie cutter into flour (to prevent sticking) then cut out scones. Place scones on a greased baking sheet. Brush with milk and sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar mixture.

Bake in preheated oven until risen and golden brown, 10 to 12 minutes

Sharing Books: Sonia Gutierrez Campus Resource Center Offers New Activity

The Hunger Games, The Five People You Meet in Heaven, and Ideas on Starting a Business: these are just a few titles students at the Sonia Gutierrez Campus have discussed with peers as part of the SG Reads extracurricular activity.

Every Friday, students and staff gather at the Resource Center to share their thoughts on books and articles they've recently read.

"Participants, particularly students, benefit from this program as it provides them with an extra opportunity to develop their language, presentation, and analytical skills," said Fidel Eshetu, one of the organizers.

The activity has been well-received by students, and Sonia Gutierrez Campus staff are hoping to have even more participants in the new semester.



News From the Carlos Rosario Educational Foundation

Did you know that since 2010, The Carlos Rosario Educational Foundation has given out almost \$45,000 in scholarships to 33 students? This wouldn't have been possible without the generous support from all of our donors. Join these amazing individuals and companies and help transform the lives of our graduates this June.



Together we are changing the lives of our students and helping them become productive citizens and members of American society.

Warmly,

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