



# EL GRITO DE PUEBTE

Fall Quarter 2008

De Anza College

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- Puente English Tutor: Jackie Escobar
- Puente Counselor: Alicia Cortez
- Puente English Instructor: Becky Roberts
- Puente Newsletter Editors: Luis Carrillo, Jackie Escobar, Maria Mejia and Alicia Cortez

## Welcome Puente Class of 2008

"Going to College is never easy, but for many it will be the step that enables you to have choices in life."  
- Loretta Sanchez U.S. House of Representatives



### "Once a Puentista, Always a Puentista"



Becky Roberts started teaching in De Anza's Puente program in 2002, when it was only a year old. She is excited to return to Puente as Co-coordinator and English Instructor this year after a few years as the English Department Co-Chair. Becky took an unusual path to teaching. When she was sixteen, she

dropped out of high school to attend community college, eventually earning a Bachelor's degree in Music and English at UC San Diego, then a PhD at UC Santa Cruz.

She believes that this experience has helped her understand differences in her students' preparation for college, since she felt very unprepared for college at sixteen. Still, as she says, "If you want an education, nothing that happened in high school can stop you." After finishing graduate school, she taught at several colleges in Southern California, finally returning to the bay area with her

husband Ron Dunn, who teaches music at De Anza. Always eager to soak up inspiration and ideas, Becky has attended two Puente Summer Institutes and several Puente conferences. She admires the way De Anza's Puente Program has grown and developed since it started, and she hopes to help the program and the students thrive in the coming years.



**Welcome Back!**

## Scholarship Winners: Congratulations Puentistas

*This year we are proud to announce several Puentistas who were selected as recipients of various scholarships based on demonstrated leadership, academic achievements, community service, and/or financial need. Adelante Puentistas! Si Se Puede!*

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| • Raul Bueno— <b>SSRS Scholarship</b> (\$500)                             | • Ana Franco— <b>Puente</b> (\$500), <b>DASB</b> (\$500) | • Maria Mejia— <b>Puente</b> (\$500), <b>SSRS</b> (\$500), <b>Univision Exito Escolar</b> (\$1000), <b>Stow Family</b> (\$1000) |
| • Israel Cervantes— <b>Campbell Community Service Scholarship</b> (\$500) | • Carlos Gutierrez— <b>Lam Research Lab</b> (\$500)      | • Cynthia Toscano— <b>APASA</b> (\$750), <b>SSRS</b> (\$500)  |
|   | • Abraham Huerta— <b>SSRS Scholarship</b> (\$500)        |   |

*"It was my first time winning a scholarship, feels really good!"* **Raul Bueno, San Jose State University Transfer, Psychology Major**



**Alicia Cortez**  
(At the SSRS, working hard)

"It was a fun and learning experience for me at the OSF 08 being with other puentistas, I also got a better understanding of Shakespeare" Cindy Martinez. 07



*Jorge and Jackie's rabbit on their way back from Oregon, Buenas Noches!*

"I really liked the plays because I had never been in a theater before and it was a new experience" Fernando Sanchez. 07

## "La Alicia": One of the Builders of the Puente Success

By: Luis Carrillo, Jackie Escobar and Maria Mejia

Alicia Cortez, is now going on her 2nd year as the Puente counselor and Co-coordinator of the program. She has managed to keep the Puente Project a great success here at De Anza College. But, before we go into too much detail about her accomplishments at De Anza, lets get to know a bit more about, "La Alicia."

Alicia was born and raised in Eastside San Jose, along with her 13 siblings. Yes, "All from the same mother and father!"

Coming from a farmworker *familia* nothing has ever stopped Alicia from obtaining an education. As a young girl Alicia recalls having to cut apricots, pick prunes and walnuts to help buy school clothes for the upcoming year.

After high school, Alicia was accepted to Saint Mary's College with a full scholarship. Then, Alicia later attended UC Berkeley where she received her Masters in Social Welfare and later a Masters in History

from San Jose State.

This past summer Alicia attended and presented at the Puente Summer Institute. Alicia has made it possible for students to visit Oregon, UCLA, Riverside, and other prestigious universities.

What is Alicia doing today? She currently lives in Morgan Hill with her husband Armando and her two children and happily working with Puente and the SSRS.

## Shakespeare Extravaganza

By: Luis Carrillo

This past summer De Anza PUENTE and SSRS programs were invited to attend the Oregon Shakespeare Festival 2008. An experience that we never will forget; friendships were strengthened, a better understanding of Shakespeare's work was gained, and a backstage tour of the production team was a highlight.

Throughout the three days in Ashland we saw four unforgettable plays, all with diverse professional actors/actresses, taking some negative feelings away from Shakespeare plays being an all Caucasian cast, I was proven wrong. We arrived on a Friday, the trip lasting all the way to Sunday, we stayed in the dorms at Southern Oregon University, a small campus located in the middle of a suburban town. After unpacking we met downstairs of the dormitory building, where we received our tickets to the dining hall and entrance to the theaters.

Our energy level was high, considering an eight hour bus drive from Cupertino to Oregon. We got picked up by the bus 7pm and driven downtown to our first play in the Elizabethan theater in the heart of Ashland.

Right at our arrival we were fascinated by the live hip hop performance, a mass of people gathered

"Our Town." The play skips around between the main characters of two young people, George and Emily who later fall in love with one another. We come to a concluding day, where the last play would be filled with magnificent costume design, sexiness, and laughter. "A Midsummer Nights Dream" by William Shakespeare was the closing of our weekend long



**Some of the De Anza faculty and students taking a quick picture in front of the new theater in Ashland, Oregon**

around to catch a glimpse of the young German musician I admit he had some skills.

We got to our seats for the first play of the weekend, which was a play about the lives of people in a small Midwestern town, called

trip to Oregon, and it did not disappoint us at all.

**Thank you Dr. Brian Murphy for generously funding this one of a kind opportunity and *gracias* to Lydia Hearn for giving the Puentistas the opportunity to attend a fabulous festival!**

# Si Se Puente!

By: Luis Carrillo and Jackie Escobar

**“We met Sal Castro... what an honor!!!”  
—Emanuel**

This year four Puentistas Claudia Bravo, Emanuel Muñoz, Yohanna Roldan and Sabrina Fernandez flew to Riverside, in Southern California representing De Anza College at the Puente Leadership Conference. As Claudia recalls, “I had a wonderful experience at UC Riverside. Going to the Puente Leadership Conference made me feel confident enough to make change in my community. I now feel that if I set my mind to something I can achieve it. I met a lot of wonderful people that I learned to admire for the enthusiasm and courage that they have, to

overcome many obstacles in their lives.”

Finding out that the trip had such an impact, we asked Claudia what her schedule was like once at Riverside, and she was excited to say, “Our schedule was packed with many motivational speakers. They were very energetic and put a lot of effort in their presentations. One of our speakers was really active during the Chicano movement, Sal Castro. Castro was a high school teacher who encouraged Chicano students to strive for equality in education.”

As we were finishing the interview Claudia expressed, “This was an experience that I will never forget and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to attend this confer-

ence. So always remember, Si Se Puente!”



**Emanuel, Yohanna, Claudia and Sabrina posing with other Puentistas from different parts of California.**

## “Making a Dream Come True”

By: Jackie Escobar

As you might all ready know Puente students are known to be a little bit spoiled, from a free Shakespeare experience to a week of excitement at Riverside. But, for me it can be said that this was not all true.

I had the opportunity to participate in SITE (Summer Intensive Transfer Experience) at UCLA. The only problem was that I did not have the

transportation to get to Los Angeles. But, luckily Alicia found funds necessary for me to attend the school of my dreams. Dr. Howard Irvin, the Dean of Counseling supported funding for my plane ticket. A great BIG gracias to Dr. Irvin!

Now the only problem



was that I had never been on a plane, (Ahh!) I managed to get through my fear and spent a week sleeping in the dorms, eating in the cafeterias, getting a tour of the campus and learning about the UC system. I had the opportunity to meet people with similar economical obstacles, who had the same dream, of one day being a Bruin!

WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SITE PROGRAM :  
[WWW.UGEDUCATION.UCLA.EDU/AAP/CCCP/SITE\\_GENERAL\\_HO\\_2008.PDF](http://WWW.UGEDUCATION.UCLA.EDU/AAP/CCCP/SITE_GENERAL_HO_2008.PDF)

## Fall Events 2008-2009

- **Tuesday, Oct. 21st** 1:30pm-3pm Olga Loya, Storyteller “Dia de los Muertos” Performance @ WRC
- **Friday, Oct 24th**, Puente Night @ Teatro Vision “ La Casa en Mango Street” Cost: \$12-Scholarship Fundraiser Event
- **Tuesday, Oct 28th** College Transfer Day @ De Anza
- **Saturday, Nov 1st** Puente Motivational Conference @ UC Davis
- November **TBA** Field Trip to UCSC and CSUMB
- November **TBA** “Transfer Thursdays” Assistance with applications and Personal Statements



**Puente Motivational Conference @ UC Berkeley 2007**





## Hermanas and Hermanos

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**"Once a Puentista, Always a Puentista!"**

Transition to college can often be stressful for many college students which is why in Puente we strive to foster a feeling of *familia* to help ease the many challenges students face. This year we are proud to launch our new peer mentor program Hermanos and Hermanas. Hermanos and Hermanas are veteran Puente students who serve as role models and support new Puente students to assist them with adjusting to the new college environment. This summer 13 students assisted with the new Puente student orientation and parent information night by leading *conocimiento* and team building exercises, giving presentations, locating campus resources and participating in a campus scavenger hunt. A huge "shout out" to our new Hermanos and Hermanas- Luis Carrillo, Vanessa Colin, Maria Mejia, Jackie Escobar, Cindy Martinez, Emanuel Muñoz, Gloria Pascual, Jorge Garcia, Oliverio Alvarez, Veronica Alvarez, Fernando Sanchez, Perla Alcaraz, and Claudia Bravo.

Website coming soon!  
[www.deanza.edu/puente](http://www.deanza.edu/puente)

## Transfer Deadlines

- **CSU Fall 2009 application deadline:** October 1 through November 30, 2008. Website [www.csumentor.org](http://www.csumentor.org)
- **UC Fall 2009 application deadline:** November 1-30, 2008. [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions)
- **Santa Clara University Fall 2009 application deadline:** May 1, 2009. [www.scu.edu/ugrad/apply/transfer/](http://www.scu.edu/ugrad/apply/transfer/)
- **UC Santa Cruz TAG deadline:** Oct 7, 2008
- **San Jose State University TAG deadline:** Check Transfer Center Website @ [www.deanza.edu/transfer](http://www.deanza.edu/transfer)

- **New ! Transfer Thursdays:** From 11:30am-1pm on Nov. 6, Nov 13, & Nov 20, Puente Counselor will be available to answer questions regarding your application, tips for essays, and any transfer concerns. No appointment necessary.



Cindy and Jorge on their way to Ashland, Oregon

### College Representative Visits:

#### September 30, 2008:

- UC Merced- 10:00am to 1:00pm
- UC San Diego- 9:30am to 2:30pm
- UC Santa Cruz- 9:30am to 2:00pm
- San Jose State Univ.- 10:00am to 2:00pm
- October 8, 2008: San Jose State Univ. 10:00am to 2:00pm
- October 14: UC Berkeley 10:00am to 2:00pm
- October 30: UC Berkeley 10:00am to 2:30pm
- November 24: UC San Diego 1:00pm to 3:00pm
- November 6: UC Santa Cruz TBA