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15TH ANNUAL CESAR CHAVEZ CONVOCATION
Educación, Tierra Y Libertad:
Honoring our Past, Present and Future Activists

Wednesday, May 16th, 2018
7:00 PM • Colleges Nine & Ten Multi Purpose Room
Doors open at 6:30pm

Keynote Speakers:
1968 EAST L.A. WALKOUTS STUDENT ACTIVISTS

Co-hosted by: The Chicano Latino Resource Center and Colleges Nine and Ten Co Curricular Programs Office

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The Convocation honors the memory of Cesar Chavez, his achievements, commitment to social justice, civil rights, unrelenting efforts to cultivate grassroots leadership, and his successful formation of the United Farm Workers Union (UFW). Now more than ever, we must recognize that coalition, solidarity, social action, as well as the celebration of difference is key to social change and transformation. Given our current political climate and many policies that hinder the excellence and success of targeted communities, this evening gathering is timely.

Two-thousand and eighteen marks the 50th year anniversary of many student-led social movements and historical moments that have shaped the world today. Thus, this year’s Convocation featured speakers are key activists of the 1968 East L.A. Walkouts (also known as Blowouts). The evening will be a chance to listen from Bobby Verdugo, Yolanda (Yoli) Rios, John Ortiz, Margarita (Mita) Cuaron and Paula Crisostomo, high school student activists of the 1968 East L.A. Walkouts. You might recognize their names, as many were featured in the film, WALKOUT: Reading.Writing.Revolution, directed by award-winning actor Edward James Olmos. Students from Garfield High School, Belmont High School, Roosevelt High School, and Lincoln High School in East Los Angeles were key to the birth of Chicanx Studies, Bilingual Education, and other transformative educational changes. University students, teachers, administrators, community members, and families were key advocates and social agents of this social movement. This movement was led by students and teachers, working together to create a better educational system and ultimately, a better world for students of color. The legendary teacher, Sal Castro was fundamental to the social transformation and movement.

Social movements that called for educational opportunities, access to higher education, cultural and ethnic respect, and social justice were due to similar issues we are still witnessing
today, such as; pervasive educational inequalities, criminalization against youth of color, institutionalized racism, stereotypes, and outright bigotry. We are honored to host activists who paved the way for our current generations. They also bring a message of action, hope, and coalition. The Chicano Latino Resource Center and Colleges 9 & 10 Co Curricular Programs office hope you accept our invitation.

The Los Angeles Times recently wrote an article, 1968: ‘Walkout!’ The day high school students helped ignite the Chicano power movement, which captures university and teachers’ perspectives.

Past honorary guests for the Cesar Chavez Convocation include: Director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History and Associate Professor at the University of Florida, Paul Ortiz (2017), Executive Director of Dolores Huerta Foundation, Camila Chavez (2017); program director of the Day Worker Center of Santa Cruz County, Mireya Gomez (2017); Executive Director of The Gathering for Justice, Carmen Perez (2016); Co-Founder of Santa Cruz Barrios Unidos Daniel ‘Nane’ Alejandrez (2015); Co-Founder and Assistant Dean at the Harvard University Secondary School Program Cesar Cruz (2014); UFW Co-Founder Dolores Huerta (2004/2013); Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist, Jose Antonio Vargas (2012); Father Gregory Boyle, Executive Director of Homeboy Industries (2011); Journalist, managing editor of Latino USA, Maria Hinojosa (2010); Kent Wong, Director of the UCLA Labor Center (2009); performance artist Guillermo Gómez-Peña (2008); Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, Maria Elena Durazo (2007); United Farm Workers President, Arturo Rodriguez (2006); playwright, screenwriter, filmmaker and director, Luis Valdez (2005).

The event is free and open to the public. Carpooling is strongly encouraged and parking passes will be sold on-site at the College Nine and College Ten parking lot.

The Cesar Chavez Convocation is presented by The Chicano Resource Center (El Centro), the College Ten Co-Curricular Programs Office and The event is co-sponsored by: American Indian Resource Center; African American Resource and Cultural Center; Asian American Resource Center; Lionel Cantu Queer Resource Center; Women's Resource Center; Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Inc.; College Eight Senate; Porter College Senate; Oakes College Senate; Crown College Senate; Stevenson College Senate; College Nine Senate; College Ten Senate; Cowell College Senate.

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