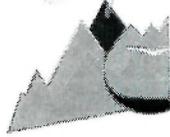


# The First Annual South El Monte High School Environmental Awareness/Career Day

Sponsored by the  
National Hispanic Environmental Council



## Fact Sheet

**Who: *South El Monte High School and the National Hispanic Environmental Council (NHEC).***

South El Monte High School opened its doors in September 1992 and graduated its first class in June 1995. The school is located in the suburban community of South El Monte, California, at the southern end of the Emerald Necklace Loop. The beautiful Whittier Narrows Nature Center and Recreational Parks surround South El Monte High. South El Monte High School Staff and students have utilized these surroundings to "Go Green." Currently, we use reclaimed water for our irrigation system that earned us the Golden Water Pump Award by the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District for leadership in water recycling. We also have student organizations that recycle aluminum cans and plastic containers daily. We have a fishing club that has partnered with Planet Green to recycle ink cartridges for financial support. We have also received an opportunity to work with The Southern California Consortium and United States Forest Service. This program will provide jobs, internships, and student exploration in the mountainous region of the San Gabriel Valley.

NHEC is a national, non-profit organization founded in 1996, with over 5,000 members, and located in Washington, D.C. **NHEC is the only national Latino environmental organization in the country.** NHEC seeks to educate, engage, and empower our community on environmental issues; provide a national voice for Latinos before federal, state, and green group decision-makers; and actively assist Latinos and minorities to pursue the many career, educational, and policy opportunities in the environmental and natural resource fields. We operate programs that fulfill this mission, and furthers our guiding credo: "**because it's our environment too**".

**What: *The First Annual South El Monte High School-NHEC Environmental Awareness/Career Day.***

The day will give South El Monte High School students an opportunity to learn about a wide variety of topics and careers associated with the environmental and natural resources fields. The event will feature exhibits by Los Angeles area environmental agencies (federal, state, city and county) as well as local green groups, corporations, and others. Students will follow their normal school day, with one period following another. However, during each period there will be classroom presentations by volunteer "role models" who will also assist teachers in discussing environmental issues and related careers. Elected officials and other key community leaders from across the district will also be invited to attend this event.

Many of the role models will be Latino/minority professionals, especially from the environmental arena, and recruited by NHEC. They will serve as mentors to the students, and by sharing their scientific expertise, career knowledge and life experiences with South El Monte students, they will help instruct and engage the next generation. Through the role models, students will have "their own" to be inspired by and interact with, and who have success stories to tell. This Career Day is one in a series under NHEC's national "High School Environmental Career Awareness Program."

***NHEC and South El Monte High School are seeking environmental professionals interested in volunteering to serve as role models at Career Day.***

While many of the mentors/role models will be South El Monte High School Community or NHEC members, everyone is invited and welcome to participate in this event. Depending upon your availability, role models may participate in some or all of Career Day. Role models and exhibitors may also set up information tables, at no cost, with materials about their agencies or organizations. Parking will be available at the school.

***How: Please use the attached "Role Model Volunteer Form" to sign-up.***

Please fax or email the volunteer form (attached below; page 3).

***When: Friday, May 8, 2009 from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm.***

***Where: South El Monte High School, 1001 N. Durfee Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733***

***Why: South El Monte High School and NHEC are both committed to helping build the next generation of environmental stewards and leaders.***

We are excited about collaborating together, for the benefit of the great students at South El Monte High. For the last 10 years, NHEC has run programs that educate and train minority high school and college students in an array of environmental fields. These include our Annual Conference and Career Fair, our Minority Youth Environmental Training Institutes, and our High School Environmental Career Awareness Program. NHEC's experience with these programs gives us the knowledge and passion to help Duarte High in their own vital mission, a mission that is complementary to our own.

The demographics of America, and especially of California, have changed dramatically. Minorities, especially Latinos, are now the majority in many cities. And as demographics have changed, so too have the environmental issues that face us all. Both Duarte High and NHEC know that California's environmental challenges will require a new generation of leaders. We seek to inform, educate, and train this emerging generation, and the First Annual South El Monte High School-NHEC Environmental Awareness/Career Day is a step in that direction.

***For Additional Information please contact:***

Sal Ramirez, National Hispanic Environmental Council at 626-627-1138 or email [sramirez@nheec.org](mailto:sramirez@nheec.org)  
Gabriel Flores, Assistant Principal, South El Monte High at 626-442-0218 or email [gflores@emuhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:gflores@emuhsd.k12.ca.us)

**South El Monte High School Environmental Awareness/Career Day  
Role Model Volunteer Form**

**May 8, 2009**

**ROLE MODEL VOLUNTEER FORM**

Name:
Employer & Title:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

**The Career Day is from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, on Friday, May 8, 2009.** You would be volunteering to serve as a "role model", for the purpose of mentoring the students by meeting/ talking with them in small group sessions, and discussing: your occupation, including what you do and how you do it; your career path and goals; and how students can pursue a similar path. The main goal of the role models is to provide information, especially in the environmental/natural resources fields, that will encourage students to learn more about the environment, especially key issues; how to pursue these careers; and in general, show that opportunities are available to them.

**Please indicate below what times** you would be available to participate.

**Fax this form to Sal Ramirez, NHEC, at 626-452-0950 or email the information to [sramirez@nheec.org](mailto:sramirez@nheec.org).**

Morning:	Afternoon:	Both:
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**There is also space available at South El Monte High School to have a free "information table" or booth,** should you wish to set one up at no cost, for the purposes of outreach, handing out materials, etc. about your company, agency, or organization. If you would like to do this, please indicate below.

Yes:	No:	Need electricity:
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If you have any additional comments/questions, or have suggestions to make to us, please do so:


Signature:	Date:
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