

MEChA de UC Irvine 17th Annual Raza



"Tu Vida, Tu Educación,
Tu Responsabilidad"

Saturday, November 18, 2000



17th Annual Raza Youth Conference



Mecha de UCI welcomes you to the 17th annual Raza Youth Conference! This conference has been designed by students From MEChA de UCI to provide you the students as well as your Parents with the valuable information and encouragement to Pursue higher education. The year 2000 marks MEChA's 31st year in the Chicano Movement. It has been 31 years of MEChA advocating for the needs of our community through out-reach efforts such as this youth conference. As a student organization, MEChA recognizes the role that you all play in the struggle for the betterment of our community.

MEChA de UCI les da la bienvenida a la 17th conferencia de la Raza Juvenil! Esta conferencia ha sido diseñada por estudiantes de MEChA de UCI por proveer a ustedes los estudiantes y a sus padres con la información y el empuje necesario para adquirir una educación universitaria. El año 2000 marca el trigesimo primero aniversario del movimiento estudiantil de los Chicanos. Desde hace treinta y un años MEChA a abogado las necesidades de nuestra comunidad atrovez esfuerzos unidos para al canzar nuestra meta. Un ejemplo es esta conferencia de jovenes. Como una organizacion de estudiantes, MEChA reconoce la importancia que ustedes tienen en el esfuerzo por la lucha de alcanzar una mejor comunidad.

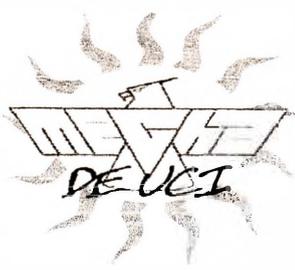
Tu Vida, Tu Educación, Tu Responsabilidad. Que significa la educación en tu vida? Para nosotros en MEChA y el mensaje que te queremos transmitir; la educación es el elemento mas importante y nesesario para el progreso de nuestra comunidad. Sin embargo este progreso no se puede alcanzar. Si nosotros y ustedes como estudiantes no tomamos responsabilidad con nuestra educación. Por eso es importante que en tu vida tomes responsabilidad de tus acciones y comprendas que sin educación no lograras un progreso para ti y para tu comunidad.

"Your Life, Your Education, Your Responsibility." Does education mean something in your life? For us Mechistas the message we are advocating through our conference is simply that, education is the most important and necessary element for the progression of our Chicano/Latino community. This progression can not be achieved if we as students do not take the initiative to take responsibility of our education. Which is why it is pertinent that in life one must take responsibilities for their actions and understand that without education one will not succeed to their fullest potential.



AGENDA

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 7:30–8:30 AM | BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION |
| 8:30–9:00 AM | XIPE TOTEC PERFORMANCE |
| 9:15–9:25 AM | WELCOME |
| 9:25–10:30 AM | MICHELLE SERROS
KEYNOTE SPEAKER |
| 10:30 –11:15 AM | WORKSHOP SESSION I |
| 11:20–12:05 PM | WORKSHOP SESSION II |
| 12:15–1:30 PM | LUNCH & ENTERTAINMENT |
| 1:35–2:20 PM | WORKSHOP SESSION III |
| 2:25–3:20 PM | WORKSHOP SESSION IV |
| 3:25–4:00 PM | CONCLUSION |
| 4:05 PM | DEPARTURE |



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WORKSHOPS

Session I & Session II

. A—G Requirements

. Financial Aid

. UC Application & Personal Statement
(12th grade ONLY)

Session III & Session IV

*MEChA 101

*Chicana/o History

*The Criminalization of a Generation

*Challenging the Racist Setup: Educational Justice Now!

*From the Claws of the Giant to the Belly of the Beast: Power
Poverty, and Resistance in las Americas

* Cultural Jeopardy

* Student Panel

* What's in a Name

*Professional Panel (only offered session 3)

*Acknowledging Our Past: Indigenous Contributions
(only offered session 4)

WORKSHOPS

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MEChA de UCI

Descriptions for Sessions I-IV

A-G Requirements: In this workshop, you will be exposed to the classes you need take in order to be eligible to the UC System. It will advise you on what you should do as a high school student in order to be competitive.

Financial Aid Workshop: Always Thought you couldn't go to college because your family can't afford to pay for it? Come and learn about the different opportunities that are out there for you and how you can get free money and loans to go to college.

UC Application & Personal

Statement: In this workshop, you will learn about the UC Application process, how to fill out the application, and how to write a personal statement.

MEChA 101: The MEChA 101 workshop is very important in order for new Mechistas and those wanting to know more about the organization to learn about the history and purpose of MEChA and what responsibilities a Mechista must assume. It is imperative that every Mechista maintain a firm understanding of MEChA's history, structure, and historical documents.

Presentors: Eileen Bañuelos & Xochitl Reyes

Chicana/o History: This workshop examines the many years of struggle and experiences of Chicanos in the United States. Various episodes of history will be observed including the farm workers strikes and the Chicano student movement of the 1960's

Presentors: Beatriz Herrera & Joel Ruiz

The Criminalization of a Generation:

The wave of criminalizing youth is directly affecting our people. From the expansion of prisons, the war on drugs, to draconian measures such as Prop. 21, this workshop examines these and many other factors

that are causing great harm to our community. See how our government, police, politicians, and businesses instill fear to the public about juvenile crime while they benefit from putting our gente in prisons.
Presenters: October 22nd Coalition

Challenging the Racist Setup: Educational Justice Now! This workshop will give a historical background about racist policies against people of color throughout U.S. history—from the creation of the NO SPANISH Rule to standardized testing. A brief discussion will follow about racist legislation such as Prop 187, 209, 227, 21, and 38 that has lashed out against our Raza in the past 10 years. A new model of organizing will be presented for us to activate at our high schools, colleges, universities, and communities.

This new approach of organizing is intended to challenge the racist policies that exist in our public schools and universities. This is a think/act workshop!

Presenter: Esther Portillo MEChA de Cal Poly Pomona

From the Claws of the Giant to the Belly of the Beast: Power, Poverty, and Resistance in las Americas:

This workshop focuses on transnational capitol and its effect on poverty, environmental justice, and mujeres, youth indigenous people, and cultura in Mexico, El Salvador, y Los Angeles, through photos and music.

Slides of Zapatistas territories, the UNAM strikes in Mexico, the Salvadorneño guerrilla movements turned socialist party will be used to discuss the common social problems facing the region with the intent of developing transnational models for resistance.

Presenter: Alfonso Gonzalez MEChA de UCLA

Cultural Jeopardy: REACH is an educational outreach program of the Cross

WORKSHOPS

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Descriptions for Sessions I-IV

Cultural Center here at UCI devoted to increasing awareness and knowledge of important issues in today's multiethnic and multicultural society. Cultural jeopardy is an interactive exercise that tests your knowledge of many cultures.

Presenters: REACH Peer Facilitators

Student Panel: You learned how to get into the university and how to pay for it, now meet those who are living it. A panel of students here at UCI will share with you their experiences at the university and answer your questions about how college life really is.

What's in a Name: Chicano, Latina, Hispanic. With all these terms and many others, what do we call ourselves and what do they all mean? This workshop will examine the historical background and explain how these terms are used today.

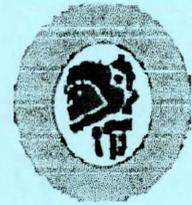
Presenter: Fernando Molina MEChA advisor Dominguez High School

Professional Panel: Come meet and ask questions to professionals such as a judge, a community worker and more varying from other fields to learn about their daily experiences and their accomplishments in attaining their careers.

Acknowledging Our Past Indigenous Contributions: The scope of this workshop encompasses thousands of years of the extremely advanced civilization of indigenous communities such as the Aztecs and the Mayans. We must be knowledgeable of our ancestors and their ways, for without knowing our own history we are incomplete.

Presenter: Carolina Sarmiento

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Statement of Purpose

El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan, at the University of California, Irvine, is a Chicano organization, which deals with the needs and concerns of Chicanos, both in the educational concerns of Chicanos, both in the educational system and in the community.

Each word in MEChA symbolizes something: **Movimiento** means that the organization is dedicated to the movement to gain self-determination for its people. **Estudiantil** identifies the organization as a student group, for we are part of our Raza's future. **Chicano**, a term taken as a badge of pride, are students committed to the return to the community and together struggle against the forces that oppress our people. **Aztlan**, the legendary birthplace of the Aztecs, which is today's Southwest.

UC Irvine MEChA above all is a social, cultural, and political organization with these primary roles in the Chicano Movement:

- ☞ To increase the number of Chicano students in higher education and to ensure that all necessary assistance is offered for successful completion.
- ☞ To take part in the direction of the movement towards Chicano self-determination and control over one's destiny.
- ☞ To socialize and politicize Chicano students on campus to the ideals of the movement.
- ☞ To establish close working relations in the community, assisting in all that has to be done to reach justice and equality for our people.
- ☞ To educate and mobilize Chicano youth towards self-determination and not self-destruction.

We are of the community and for the community we are Familia and we shall always remain. ¡Viva la Raza !

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We hope that this conference gives you the information and encouragement that you need to continue pursuing a higher education. The year 2000 marks MEChA's 31st year in the Chicano Movement. It has been for thirty-one years of MEChA advocating for the needs of our community through outreach efforts such as this youth conference. As a student organization, MEChA recognizes the role that you all play in the struggle for the betterment of our community.

We recognize that without a strategic use of education that places value on what we value, we will not realize our destiny. Chicanos and Chicanas recognize the central importance of institutions of higher learning to model progress, in this case, to the development of our community. But we go further, we believe that higher education must contribute to the formation of a complete man and woman who truly values life and freedom.

La Unión Hace la Fuerza



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- APSA
- ASUCI
- Chicano/Latino Studies Program
- Cross Culture Center Staff
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- El Gallo Giro
- Financial Aid Office
- Leo Chavez
- Janet Catellaños
- Jimmy Rudon
- Michelle Serros
- October 22nd Coalition
- Office of Admissions and Relations w/ Schools
- Oscars
- Paleros
- Pepsi
- Ralphs
- Relampago de Cielo
- Stella Ginez
- Student Outreach Committee
- Workshop Facilitators
- Xipe Totec
-

*And last but definitely not least to all of our wonderful
Volunteers and Youth Conference Committee Members.
Thank you very much for your cooperation and support!*

MEChA