

Media Release

For Immediate Use 9/27/06

Hispanic Youth to be Honored By QCC

WORCESTER—Quinsigamond Community College will celebrate the 21st annual Hispanics Achieving and Celebrating Excellence (H.A.C.E.) awards reception and ceremony on Wednesday October 4th at QCC's Harrington Learning Center at 5:30pm. Tickets for the celebration are \$10.00 and are available by calling 508-854-4368.

29 Hispanic youth will be honored this year from various Worcester Public Schools-- Accelerated Learning Laboratory, Burncoat, Doherty, North, South, University Park Campus School, and Worcester Vocational. Students were chosen for their outstanding efforts in one of the following areas: academics, the arts, athletics, community service, and leadership.

The evening will feature guest speaker David Morales. Widely known for his expertise in health care police and state finance, he is currently the Senior Advisor to the President of the Massachusetts Senate. Locally, Morales is President of El Jolgorio de Massachusetts, Inc., a non-profit organization Morales helped establish that is dedicated to fostering leadership, civic engagement, and educational attainment among Latino youth.

The H.A.C.E. was created in 1985 by faculty and staff at QCC, along with business and community leaders of Worcester, to raise community awareness of the richness of Hispanic culture. H.A.C.E. encourages youth to focus on education, recognizes achievements of young people of Hispanic heritage, and provides positive role models through inspirational speakers and exposure to community leaders.

Students are nominated by their school principals, guidance counselors, teachers, and community leaders and/or agencies. In addition to being recognized, each will receive a monetary award to help defray the costs of future educational needs. **Recipients this year include:**

ACADEMICS:

Shanice Ashmore - A.L.L. School

Maria Carranza - North High School

Briana Munoz - St. Peter Marian High School

Tania Perez - University Park Campus School
Alba Quezada - Burncoat High School
Stephanie Rivera - A.L.L. School
Christina Santana - Doherty Memorial High School
Anthony Zelayandia - South High Community School

ARTS:

Marielys Alejandro - Burncoat High School
Kervin Cintron - A.L.L. School
Lemuel Lopez - North High School
Efrain Malave - Doherty Memorial High School
Jorge Ramirez - University Park Campus School
Diana Ramos - South High Community School

ATHLETICS:

Jorge Castillo - South High Community School
Maria Chafoya - North High School
Gabriel Colon - A.L.L. School
Angel Gonzalez - Burncoat High School
Jessenia Gonzalez - A.L.L. School
Edgar Perez - Doherty Memorial High School
Belmaris Torres - University Park Campus School

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Camila Ochoteco - Doherty Memorial High School
Carol Pacheco - University Park Campus School
Fatima Rivera - South High Community School
Katherine Rodriguez - Burncoat High School

LEADERSHIP:

Mirka Diaz - Worcester Technical High School
Marely Marie Garci - North High School
Janily Lopez - Worcester Technical High School
Edlin Ortiz - University Park Campus School

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*For more information contact Meredith Galena, Marketing Assistant at 508-854-7498, mgalena@qcc.mass.edu;
or Victor Somma, Director of Marketing and Public Affairs at 508-854-2729.*