

GLOBAL CIVIS

Urban Diversity Conference

Executive Summary:

As the communities of Florida continue to grow, the influx of people from diverse backgrounds and cultures expand the ability for amazing events for our state.

Latino Leadership:

Latino Leadership as a non-profit, non-partisan, community-based organization, our mission is to guarantee the welfare of our children by pursuing the development of a model, strong and vibrant Hispanic community for Central Florida through leadership development and empowerment, education advancement, and economic community development.

We are a Learning Organization. In an ever-changing complex world, it is important that we engage in ongoing learning. We encourage the active participation of all community members, openness to dialogue, and clear communication.

We are Inclusive. We respect the rich landscape of individuals, organizations, cultures, and opinions that exist in our region. We believe that this diversity is an asset and that investment in this social capital will contribute to a more holistic and humane society.

We Strive for Excellence. We uphold high standards of professionalism and ethical behavior in the way we do business. We develop leadership that enables the character of those who touch the field of community service.

Global Civis:

Communication and events have empowered the people of the world to think not just locally but globally. What affects us here affects others around the world, forcing what we consider to be "our" community to grow.

In order to better understand and participate in this global community it is a necessity for its citizens to have first hand experiences in the many languages, cultures and lands that have developed. It was in this passion that the idea of "Global Civis" was born. Being a Global Civis or a global citizen is accepting the responsibility to practice the ancient Greek ideal of civic virtue, where a citizen places the needs of the community equal to or ahead of their own. Global Civis promotes this goal through the areas of world travel, individual enrichment and alternative assessments.

Global Civis was established as a path for global change through local education. As we entered the 21st century, too often education was being driven by textbook publishers and standardized tests. It is the hope of Global Civis to utilize creative instructional techniques and alternative assessments to create new challenges for our students to be the best global citizens. To accomplish this objective, it is the purpose of Global Civis to educate our students through the foundation of commitment, integrity, professionalism and scholarship.

Urban Diversity Conference:

Together with Latino Leadership and Global Civis will host the first of many conferences to address the changing environments of our world. The Urban Diversity Conference will be held in mid October 2007 to discuss the growing diversity amongst Florida's cities and what can be done to incorporate the strengths of all cultures in aiding the growth of our state.

Students and entire classes from any 7th-12th grade, public or private, educational institution in the state are invited to participate in the three day event. As this conference is currently in the infant stage and we are searching for sponsors the itinerary for the conference is very simple. Wednesday afternoon and evening is check-in and a welcome dinner for participants. All participants will be required to stay at the conference hotel and have a chaperone. Thursday morning will include a series of workshops on the different ethnic and cultural communities growing in Florida. Here students will become mini experts of the strengths and weaknesses of each community.

Our hopes are to have the Honorable Governor Crist as a speaker for our lunch. After lunch, participants will be divided up into teams where each team will be required to create a solution to the question: Teams will have the afternoon to create a presentation, similar to that of a science fair, where they will present to a series of judges that will walk through their exhibits.

At the official dinner the many groups will be acknowledged and the winners from the middle school and high school categories will be acknowledged.

Goals:

This is the first of many conferences Global Civis and Latino Leadership wish to partner and create. Our goal is to expand the understanding of the term community as it applies to the youth of the United States.