

STUDENT APPLICATION 2016



LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

**HISPANIC STUDENT
RECOGNITION PROGRAM**





ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- The Hispanic Student Recognition Program (HSRP) is an effort by the Latin American Community Center (LACC) to recognize exceptional Hispanic students in both middle and high school in the State of Delaware. The program has been a signature event since 1979 and maintains strong school, community, and private sector support. The goal of the program is to open doors for Hispanic students to pursue greater opportunities, inspire pride in our people and our heritage, motivate students to work hard, and motivate their families to support them.
- All nominees attending the awards ceremony will be recognized and honored with a commemorative medal. All award recipients will receive a special award medal and a cash prize. In addition to these prizes, the outstanding students of the year will receive a special plaque.

ELIGIBILITY

- Hispanic middle and high school students from any public or private school can apply for achievement awards.
- Nominees must be Delaware residents (i.e., primary residence must have a Delaware address).
- Nominees must be of Hispanic origin, defined as those persons who have at least one parent of Hispanic/Latino heritage.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS

- Part 1: A nomination form is completed and submitted online. Nominations do NOT have to come from teachers. We accept nominations from teachers, coaches, family, community organizations, employers, mentors, and any adults familiar with the student. Upon receipt of the nomination form, the student nominee receives this student application.
- PART 2: The student nominee completes the online application as instructed below. Note: If you are unable to complete the application online, contact Tya Pope at (302) 655-7338 for alternate instructions. A successful application features a strong personal statement and supplemental materials / information highlighting the relevant award categories: examples of student's academic achievements, awards and certificates, extracurricular activities, community service, personal qualities and character, the nominee's creativity or talent, and/or demonstrated leadership abilities. Be sure to complete all the requested information and include photo/scanned copies of the required documents (such as transcripts, test scores, awards, etc.).
- High school students compete by county for awards in five categories: academic excellence, community service/volunteerism, athletics, the arts, and science/technology/engineering/math (STEM).
- Two state-wide high school students, male and female are selected as Outstanding High School Hispanic Students of the Year. Two state-wide middle school students, male and female, are selected as Outstanding Middle School Hispanic Students of the Year.
- The HSRP selection committee evaluates and rates each application on its merit and submits the candidate's documentation to the selection committee for review. This committee is comprised of community leaders and educators from both the public and private sectors.
- The selection of the awardees will be done by the selection committee and will be announced at the awards ceremony. The ceremony is open to the public but reservations are required. Winners must be present to receive awards.
- April 9, 2016: The HSRP Ceremony will take place at Cab Calloway School of the Arts, 100 N. Dupont Road, Wilmington, DE 19807

AWARD CATEGORIES

The following awards are given to High School Students only. Nominees will submit a portfolio of documents and relevant examples that support achievement in the award category.

- **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD:** The Academic Award is bestowed upon a student(s) who has demonstrated the highest level of academic performance. Rating is based on submitting a portfolio that supports academic achievement such as academic honors/awards, number of advanced placement classes, standardized test scores, GPA, advanced placement grades, and personal statement.
- **AWARDS IN THE ARTS:** The Arts award is bestowed upon a student(s) who has distinguished herself or himself in the visual arts, music, dance, and/or theater. Rating is based on honors/awards, creativity, talent, submissions*, and personal statement.
- **ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AWARD:** The Athletic award is bestowed upon a high school athlete whose achievements on and off the field exemplify the best qualities of sportsmanship. Rating is based on academic achievement, team player attitude, leadership, awards received for their contributions, and personal statement.
- **SCIENCE AND/OR TECHNOLOGY AWARD:** The Science/Technology Award is bestowed upon a high school student(s) who has distinguished himself or herself in the field of science (biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics) and/or technology (computer science, audiovisual, science/technology, and information systems). Rating is based on honors/awards, academic performance in related courses, science/technology projects, notable accomplishments, and personal statement.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM AWARD:** The Community Service award is bestowed upon a student(s) who has demonstrated consistent and ongoing involvement in community/school service. Rating is based on the type of community service, meaning of community service, service hours (must provide documentation for hours completed), service awards, length of time serving the community, and personal statement.

The Outstanding Hispanic Student of the Year Award is given STATEWIDE to Middle and High School Students:

- **OUTSTANDING HISPANIC STUDENT OF THE YEAR:** This award is presented to a male and a female high and middle school student who have shown substantial overall achievement in most/all categories (Academics, Art, Athletics, STEM and Community Service). This student is well-rounded and demonstrates excellence across the board, balancing a variety of activities successfully.

COMPLETE STUDENT APPLICATION STARTING NEXT PAGE

STUDENT - NOMINEE INFORMATION

FIRST NAME <input type="text"/>	LAST NAME <input type="text"/>
EMAIL <input type="text"/>	PHONE CONTACT <input type="text"/>
Do you consider yourself Hispanic / Latino: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Why? <input type="text"/>	

AWARD CATEGORIES

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY (MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS MUST SELECT FIRST OPTION ONLY)

- ☐ MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTSTANDING HISPANIC STUDENT OF THE YEAR
- ☐ ACADEMICS
- ☐ ATHLETICS
- ☐ SCIENCE/TECNOLOGY
- ☐ ARTS
- ☐ COMMUNITY SERVICE/VOLUNTEERISM

CONTINUE NEXT PAGE

PERSONAL STATEMENT

All applicants, regardless of nomination category, are required to respond to **one** of the following essays. High School students must select from the ones not designated for Middle School students. Middle School students may choose the option designated for them or made choose any of the others. **The response is limited to 7500 characters.** Criteria for judging the statements include:

Grammar Spelling and sentence structure	Clear theme or topic
Supporting details	Personal or People Impact
Effective use of words	Organization of thoughts
Relevant Content and Examples	Strong introduction and conclusion

- Syria is currently facing a devastating civil war which is displacing millions of Syrian citizens. These citizens, now refugees, are fleeing their country for safety and to start lives in new places. The US has become polarized on the issue of allowing refugees from Syria to enter the country. Some political leaders believe it is our obligation to help as they see it as a humanitarian crisis. Others believe we would be creating a crisis in the US and allowing in possible terrorists. Where do you stand on this issue? How does it relate to your own immigration experience or that of your family or friends?
- Standardized testing happens in schools across all 50 states as a result of No Child Left Behind. These tests have been used to determine funding for schools, evaluate performance of students and teachers, and even decide whether or not students pass to the next grade. Some believe having a standardized test holds students accountable for what they learn each year and makes sure teachers are doing their job. Others believe the tests are not an accurate representation of a student's abilities or a teacher's ability to teach the material. Where do you stand on this issue? How do you feel – is taking standardized tests making you smarter and prepared to lead a successful life? Do you want to know where you stand compared to other students? Are your test scores an accurate reflection of who you are as a student? How do you feel about having the option to 'opt out'?
- Election season is upon us. We are hearing from Democrats and Republicans on a wide range of issues. They are talking about issues such as gun control, the economy, immigration, abortion, religious freedom, education, and the list goes on. As a young person, you are faced with many of these same issues and you have to navigate them every day. If you had a chance to get all the candidates in a room and talk to them about which issue is most important to you, what would it be and why?
- **OPTION FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS:** Bullying is a major epidemic facing today's schools and children. From stealing someone's lunch money to spreading rumors online, bullying takes place everywhere. Do you think bullying is more prevalent online or in the classroom? When you see or know that someone is being bullied, do you feel comfortable going to a teacher or adult for help? Why or why not?

PERSONAL STATEMENT: For best results, type your personal statement in your choice of text editor (example: Microsoft Word) and paste to online application. Maximum characters = 7500.



Checklist of Required and Supporting Documents:

Nominees must submit the appropriate attachments as listed below. Documents may be scanned or sent as a graphic. Upon submission of this application, please submit your videos, recordings, photos, projects, and/or portfolios as an email attachment to HSRP@thelatincenter.org in JPG or PDF format. Be sure the email identified the name of the student and school.

If necessary, supporting documents may be sent by mail with the Supplemental Documents Form provided on the website.

Please note all videos, recordings, photos and/or portfolios submitted become the property of the Latin American Community Center (LACC). The LACC reserves the right to use these submissions in any form, including but not limited to the agency website, agency publications and during the Hispanic Student Recognition Program ceremony.

All Nominees must submit:

- ☐ Resumé - Include a resume listing your achievements. Honors received could include trophies, plaques, and certificates. Activities could include extracurricular activities, community volunteer service hours, and any employment.
- ☐ Personal Statement – copy/paste to section above.
- ☐ Report Card or transcript – most current complete year and semester.

Acceptable support materials for submission by award categories: You must provide a portfolio that demonstrates your achievement in the award categories. The following descriptions provide some relevant suggestions but you must present yourself as you deem most appropriate for the award.

* **Academics:** GPA (indicate weighted or unweighted), class rank, standardized test scores (e.g. SAT), AP course listing and scores, honors course listing, honor society membership, academic awards, etc.

* **Art:** Multiple submissions of your art (visual, performance, etc.) are required.

- **VISUAL ARTS:** All Visual Artwork (drawings, paintings, graphic art, photographs, etc.) must be either photographed and printed or submitted electronically.

- **PERFORMING ARTS:** Must submit a video clip or web link (e.g. YouTube), minimum length of 1 minute, and maximum length of 5 minutes. Examples of performing arts may include: Singing, Dancing, Acting, Musical Instruments, Spoken Word, etc.

* **Science/Technology:** Multiple submissions of something related to science, technology, engineering, or math is required. Examples of previous submissions include: science projects, Computer Aided Design (CAD) architectural drawings, and awards in these fields.

* **Community Service:** Documentation of your service hours is required. This can be submitted in the form of letters, certificates, awards, media clippings, recognitions, etc. *Also, submit the additional form for Community Services Verification Form provided the website.*

* **Athletics:** Examples of document submissions might include: certificates of participation or accolades and letters of recommendation from coaches, newspaper clippings, pictures with trophies / awards, etc.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All of the information that I have provided in this application and additional documents are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand and acknowledge that providing false or misleading information may disqualify the nominee from being considered for HSRP awards. If you are under 18, your parent or guardian must also agree to the terms and conditions.

☐ **Nominee/Student Accept**

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME

☐ **Parent/Guardian Accept**