

HARBOR

Summer Interns 2009

Harbor completes another of its successful summer internship programs, partially sponsored by the Club.

Martin Chavez, Harbor, congratulates the 49 interns and thanks the employers for opening their doors to the students.



The summer intern class of 2009.

Story and photos courtesy Harbor

On Sept. 3, Harbor celebrated the culmination of the International Trade Education Program's ninth Summer Internship class, attended by 202 families, friends and supporters. The event was held at Banning High School in Banning.

During the nine-week summer program, 49 students from Banning High School in Wilmington experienced jobs involved in commerce and the maritime industry. Martin Chavez of the Port's Human Resources Division, who formalized the Summer Internship Program in 2000 under the motto, "Opening the World Today and Preparing for Tomorrow," hosted the event.

This year's 49 students successfully completed the preparation process, which began in December under the direction of the Port's college intern, Cynthia Jaime. Cynthia, who grad-

uated in May with a Bachelor's degree in mathematics from Cal State/Dominguez Hills, is working toward her teaching credential, also from CSUDH. Cynthia worked with the students, conducting sessions on preparing their résumés, personal statements and interviewing skills. She even did a workshop on how to properly knot a tie. Cynthia also interacted with potential employers and coordinated their requirements with potential students to interview for their organizations.

Students had to invest preparation time before they could interview with an employer. Each student was required to compose a personal statement; write a résumé; have maintained competitive grades; and achieved a good attendance record in school. After completing these tasks they then had an assessment interview with Martin.

Each Friday afternoon, this year's interns attended workshops on professional communication, time management, peer pressure, finan-

cial management, and college admission requirements.

During the culmination reception, the interns were recognized for their efforts by Los Angeles Unified School District Eight Administrator Karen Saunders, who told them, "This is about the connection to the real world." Ricardo Hong from the Mayor's Office reminded the students of their obligation to become leaders in their community.

Students were also recognized for their achievements during the summer. The City Employees' Club sponsored the 2009 Outstanding Student Award, presented to Greta Armenta, who received two Dodger game tickets. "It takes only one person with dedication to make a difference in this world," Greta said in her speech.

The Club also sponsored Workplace Professionalism awards that were presented to: Liliana Garcia, Angela Kinney, Eloy Ruiz and Geovanna Valenzuela, who each received a pair

of AMC movie tickets. Awards for outstanding professional development, sponsored by the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union, went to Robert Callanan, and the Workshop Excellence Award was earned by Flor Torres. An amazing 23 students were recognized for perfect attendance from the first prep class in December through the last day of the program.

In his closing, Martin Chavez told the students of their remarkable development during the program and how determined they were to do well. He reminded them they were more than students. "They are young adults who would be the leaders of their program and be the adults emulated by other students," he said later. "They took the responsibility to complete the requirements to be in this program, and they are proud examples of what they can do when they are committed to achieve."

Congratulations to the 2009 ITEP interns!
And special thanks to Martin Chavez, for providing the information.



From left: Diane Dyche and Jacqueline Gonzalez worked with Chrizelle Quevedo in the Port's Risk Management Division.



From left: Lt. Matthew Arnold presented Jacqueline Iniguez with a special commendation for her work with the U.S. Coast Guard.



From left: Intern Brianna Alvarez with Elias Reyna and Gina Alvarado of Tesoro Refining. Alvarado was a past participant in the intern program.



From left: Mark De La Torre and Maria Gonzalez, representing first-year employer Juanita's Foods, with their two interns, Karen Rascon and Nancy Garcia.



From left: Amy Arnold and Rhonda Wheelwright, Harbor Real Estate Division, with their intern, Eloy Ruiz.



From left: Banning High alumna Wendy Mendoza, of the Port's Community Relations office, with intern Meripa Leaea.



From left: Martin Chavez, Harbor, presents Robert Callanan the Outstanding Personal Development Award.



From left: Diane Alps, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, and her intern, Diamond Enriquez.



Cynthia Jaime, Intern Coordinator, thanked the supervisors for helping the students gain valuable work experience during their internships.



From left: Contract and Purchasing Division's Emmanuel Garduno, a former summer intern, with Ana Peredia and Ruby Miramontes, whose older sister also had been a summer intern participant.



From left: Cynthia Jaime, Intern Coordinator, presented the Workplace Professionalism Awards to Liliana Garcia, Geovanna Valenzuela, Eloy Ruiz and Angela Kinney.



From left: Martin Chavez presents Greta Armenta the Outstanding Student Award. Greta spent her summer interning in the office of Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Club Member.