



National **Hispanic** Institute

SUMMER 2008



TEXAS GREAT DEBATES

TEXAS GREAT DEBATE

June 12-15, 2008
Austin College
Sherman, Texas

TEXAS AMBASSADOR GREAT DEBATE

July 2008
Trinity University*
San Antonio, Texas

*Tentative

Nationally recognized leadership experience for Latino High School Freshman

The ultimate intense in your face experience!

The results speak for themselves...

- YLCers are the most highly sought Latino college bound candidates in the country!
- 98% gain admission to college
- 90% complete undergraduate degrees in 4 to 5 years
- 65% pursue graduate and professional studies

Picture Yourself...

...Sitting in an auditorium filled with over 400 people. The music is blaring; hundreds of balloons fill the environment, and a big silver trophy sits on the stage dead center. The cheers are overwhelming and somewhat unbelievable.

You pause for a second and think back to the first day you walked into your local training session and introduced yourself to "strangers" from nearby high schools.

You recall how quickly these strangers became your friends. Thinking back to the practices, you remember how hard you worked to become the best. The recent all-nighter that you spent with your friends and coaches is still fresh in your mind.

Now, after months of training at home, you hopped on a bus and traveled several hours. Following three intense days of competition, there you are sitting in an auditorium on a college campus, waiting. You and your teammates hold hands as you close your eyes in anticipation of the announcement.

Only one team is declared Champion of the Great Debate. The instant that the announcement is made, your teammates go wild. You rush the stage. Music plays louder and your team cheers engulf the ambiance. You hold up the coveted *Silver Cup* and hug those individuals who just a few months ago were strangers and who have now become like family.

Being crowned champion of the state of Texas' most prestigious leadership program, however, was not an easy journey. Achieving the top requires time and a commitment to personal excellence. In the end, those who gave it their all were the last ones standing, I was one of them.

"The YLC is an experience where young men and women master communications and realize they have the ability to convince others not only that they are right but that their ideas are the best."

**Tino Villarreal, National Director
Young Leaders Conference Great Debate**



Snapshot of the Great Debate

Established in 1982, the Great Debate is the culminating event of the Young Leaders Conference experience. In creating the YLC, the National Hispanic Institute wanted to begin training a new corps of highly motivated, high achieving leaders who would have the capacities to communicate at the highest levels. Participants in the YLC Great Debate join regional teams and compete for individual and team awards in a series of intellectually challenging communications debates. Once a student completes the YLC experience they return to school for their 10th grade year much more motivated, with an enhanced competency for reasoning, argumentations, critical analysis, and public speaking. As NHI's oldest program, the YLC Great Debate prepares students to compete at the highest levels.

The Big Show — the Great Debate — is where all of the local regions from Texas gather for an annual tournament. Come ready and prepared for the most in your face, raw competitive experience of your life! Only the best and brightest students are given the opportunity to participate in the YLC. Do you have what it takes? Will you be ready? Will you win against all odds? Only time will tell.

Your preparation at home will determine your success at the Great Debate. You will take part in a round-robin tournament where you will be asked to face off four times with strangers from different parts of the state. Your opponents will be like you — hardnosed, competitive and ambitious. In the end, your score will determine your destiny.

Those who advance will compete in a single elimination tournament the next day. Win, continue! Lose, go home! Eventually there will be only the top two standing. The finals will be held in a college auditorium in front of hundreds.

In the end, you will find out several things about yourself. Your ideas will be your backbone. You will eventually understand that it is OK for you to speak your mind, and to be aggressive in convincing others. At the same time, you will understand the proper procedures to win the game. Furthermore, you will sharpen your speaking skills to a master level.

Finally get ready to meet and become friends with some of the most amazing people you will ever meet. "By learning to compete at a highest level, you start demanding more of yourself and those around you," said YLC National Director Tino Villarreal, a 1996 Tip of Texas YLCer. "That's what leadership is...learning how to positively impact those around you and making them more effective."

An Alumni Perspective:

Future YLCers: There is no time better than NOW to begin thinking about your future! Beyond what college football team you want to root for or where you want to live — what role will you play as a **WORLD LEADER?** You see, at the Young Leaders Conference we know you have the grades, the ambition and the competitive drive...but what the YLC will expose you to is unlike ANY other organization, program, camp, or experience — it is about how far you can push yourself! This program is **not** for the weak or the faint of heart, this program is for those that like a challenge, like to compete, love to win, and want to be tested unlike ever before — this is the **BIG SHOW** — the **BIG STAGE** — and when you leave, there is one question you will be able to answer for the first time in your life — **DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?** Do you have what it takes to be a cutting edge community leader in this new millennium? Join the YLC, and find out...

To the parents: This is a moment in your son/daughter's life in which the need for parental guidance and leadership is crucial to their future. This decision is as important as which college your son/daughter will attend. It's now time to invest in a **JOURNEY** that you and your entire family will embark upon with the National Hispanic Institute. The YLC is the first step—let's join together in ensuring that our youth is prepared for the constantly evolving challenges of this new age.

Luis G. González

NHI Alum. (CX Champion '98)
Stanford University ('05)
The University of Texas School of Law ('09)

H. Analco González

NHI Alum. and former NHI Staff Member
Rice University ('01); OLLU MBA ('07)
The University of Texas School of Law ('09)

Thanking our strategic partner:

Austin College has partnered with the National Hispanic Institute as a strategic partner for well over 15 years. This partnership makes participation to the YLC Great Debate affordable to parents. Through an institution like Austin College, parents are able to engage their children in learning experiences at one-third of the cost they would otherwise have to pay. We can never thank Austin College enough for doing their part in making leadership training possible for the caliber of young people who will contribute ten-fold in the future. More importantly we express our most profound gratitude for Austin College's willingness in helping restore and broaden the reservoir of skillful and intelligent leaders that the U.S. Latino community can draw upon.





Local Training Sessions

The Young Leaders Conference Great Debate combines the exposure and prestige of a statewide program with the convenience and atmosphere of local training.

The YLC Great Debate begins in your local region. For three intense months you will be pushed to your limits by a team of volunteers that includes your Project Administrator, college students, and, most visibly other high school students. The majority of training is directed by other teenagers who recently attended the program. The experience is nothing like school. The atmosphere is electric.

However, the local component consists of more than just training meetings. An Induction Ceremony kicks off the program. Social events, community service projects and other events fill up the calendar. Some regions finish off training with a Regional Great Debate and the season with a recognition banquet.

The local component is aimed at expanding your perspective. As the cliché goes, you get the roots so you can expand your wings.

“You jump into your community and find your place in it,” said Fernando Flor, a 2006 Rio Grande Valley YLCer and National Runner Up in Oratory. “You learn that there is more than just your little clique in high school. You become friends with individuals from across the country that are just like you.”

Deadlines

Texas Admissions:

October 15, 2007

\$75 Deposit:

30 days from acceptance notice

\$330 Registration Balance:

December 15, 2007

About the National Hispanic Institute

The National Hispanic Institute was established in 1979 and is known nationally and internationally for its work in Latino youth leadership development. Through various leadership experiences tailored for specific age groups, the Institute has developed a network of programs that enhance a young person’s readiness for leadership that begin in eighth grade and continue through college. A unique aspect of the Institute’s approach to leadership development is the emphasis on community equity building to train future Latino leaders. Rather than relying on social advocacy and reform, NHI prefers building the capacities within the Latino community — to find new answers to challenges and to become stronger, contributing partners of the American experience.

NHI Founders

For nearly three decades, Ernesto Nieto and Gloria de León (*below*) have been the principal architects of all NHI youth leadership initiatives. The husband and wife team have been the driving force behind an organization that today is both national and international. Ernesto Nieto is originally from Houston, Texas. He is a Distinguished Alumnus of Southwestern University and was recently named to its Board of Trustees. He is author of *Third Reality: Crafting a 21st Century Latino Agenda*. Gloria de León is originally from McAllen, in the Texas Rio Grande Valley. She is a Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Texas-Pan American. Both Ernesto and Gloria have been recognized by the National Association for College Admissions Counseling and were awarded Honorary Doctorates by Texas Wesleyan Universities among their many honors. They remain highly active in all NHI training programs.





Registration Fee

Registration fee for the program is **\$425** and includes local training, food and housing at the Great Debate. This fee does not include transportation to and from the host university (will be determined locally). The \$20 application fee is part of the total tuition.

Fees charged by the National Hispanic Institute represent only a portion of the actual costs of the program. Amounts paid by students cover the national outreach and selection of applicants prior to participation in the program. NHI contributes the instructional training segments of the program along with its partners that include host institutions and volunteers. Once admitted, deposits and registration fees are not refundable should a student be unable to attend.

Upon acceptance, students receive instructions to secure sponsors beyond family contributions. Local business and individual sponsors are provided tax-deductible receipts for contributions made in behalf of students. Families may also reach contributors through the National Hispanic Institute Kintera online fundraising site. This site offers a simple website to forward messages to friends and family for contributions to attend the program.

Application Requirements

Space in the Texas Great Debate's are competitive and assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Students are encouraged to apply EARLY in order to gain additional time to find sponsors. Only complete applications are considered and must include:

- Completed, signed application
- School certification of grades including a recent report card or transcript
- Parental Release Signatures
- \$20 application fee
- Submitted or postmarked by the deadline

Students may apply online at www.nhi-net.org and submit parental release form and application fee by mail. All items must be received by the deadline in order to be considered.

Eligibility

- ▶ High School Freshman
- ▶ 85/3.2 or above grade point average
- ▶ Enrolled in a college bound curriculum
- ▶ Active participation in school and community activities

Confirmation Process

Once a student is accepted, space is reserved with a \$75 deposit due within 30 days. This secures a student reservation in a particular program. NHI will "hold" space in the program only until the December 15th confirmation deadline. Spaces not filled by this deadline will be opened to alternates on a "wait list".

NHI recruitment will conclude its national enrollment efforts by December 2007. It will not continue to recruit students once a program is filled. Please note that fees submitted by students and families represent a mutual agreement to attend and therefore, cannot be refunded. Financial policy and explanations are distributed to all students accepted into the program. Families are asked to conduct a complete review the policy prior to submitting any deposit or registration fees.

The December 15, 2007 registration deadline balance is \$330. Students may apply early and arrange monthly payments in advance of the deadline if necessary. Specific instructions are included in the acceptance package.

View NHI Online on YouTube!

Simply visit www.youtube.com/NHITV.

This will direct you towards multiple NHI videos.

For more information, visit NHI online at www.nhi-net.org

For program details, contact:

Tino Villarreal, National YLC Director

National Hispanic Institute

512-357-6137 X: 216

Or 512-573-0803



SECTION 1: PROGRAM SITES

Write a "1" to select your first choice; "2" to select your second choice.

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Austin College
Sherman, Texas
June 12-15, 2008

TEXAS AMBASSADOR GREAT DEBATE

Trinity University (tentative)
San Antonio, Texas
July 2008

SECTION 2: NOMINATED BY JR. COUNSELOR CANDIDATE:

Name:
Phone:
YLC Program/Yr.:
E-mail:

Apply online at www.nhi-net.org

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

AMT: DATE:
SPR: PM:
CK: RD:
DRG: DRF: DRGF:
CA: MR?: PR?: FA: PA:

SECTION 3: PERSONAL DATA (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name: Last First Middle
Mailing Address:
City: State: Zip: Stud. Cellular:
May NHI text you on your cell phone with important information?
Phone: E-mail Address:
Date of Birth: SS# (Optional):
Previous NHI Programs: T-Shirt size:

SECTION 4: HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

Fill out the section below with academic information. Have counselor sign or attach a copy of your most recent transcript or report card.

G.P.A. High School: Graduation Year 20
On a 4.0 scale or Percentage
H.S. Counselor Name:
H.S. Signature:
H.S. Mailing Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone: Fax:
H.S. Counselor E-mail:

SECTION 5: EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Name of Parent/Guardian #1:
Title/Occupation:
Place of Employment:
Work Phone: Cell:
May NHI text you on your cell phone about your child's file?
E-Mail Address:
Name of Parent/Guardian #2:
Title/Occupation:
Place of Employment:
Work Phone: Cell:
May NHI text you on your cell phone about your child's file?
E-Mail Address:

SECTION 6: TUITION, FEES AND DEADLINES

Total student tuition for the Young Leaders Conference programs is \$425. This includes a \$20 application fee, \$75 deposit, and \$330 final payment due according to the tuition deadline outlined in the student's acceptance packet. Your \$20 application is due on October 16, 2007, to reserve your spot in the program. Failure to meet the deposit deadline or other tuition deadlines might cause you to be transferred to a different program site or incur a late fee. All fees, deposits, and tuition are non-refundable.

SECTION 7: PARENTAL AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

MEDICAL TREATMENT AND HOSPITAL SERVICES CONSENT

This is to certify that we the undersigned parents, do in the event that our son or daughter _____ becomes a participant member of the National Hispanic Institute's Young Leaders Conference, hereby consent and grant permission should the necessity arise, to the furnishing of medical treatment and hospital services as ordered or recommended by a qualified physician, and including the administration of an anesthetic, laboratory procedures, medical treatment, x-ray examination, or other hospital services. Consent is hereby granted to the attending physician(s), hospital(s), and/or clinics to release necessary medical information to our local doctors and for use in claims for insurance coverage.

Our son/daughter is covered by Hospital Insurance: Yes No

Name of Family Doctor: _____ Telephone Number: (_____) _____

Name of Insurance Company: _____ Policy of Certificate Number: _____

Name of Parent (if group insurance): _____

WAVIER OF PHYSICAL EXAMINATION STATEMENT

This certifies that we the undersigned parents do waive the requirements for a physical examination of our son/daughter in the Young Leaders Conference. We understand our responsibility to fully inform the National Hispanic Institute of any precautions and have attached medical records for use and reference by local physicians or medical personnel should the necessity arise.

WAIVER OF CLAIM

This will further certify that we the undersigned parents, in consideration for the benefits to be derived by our son/daughter, do certify that he/she may participate in any normal and routine recreational or exercise programs of the Young Leaders Conference and hereby release and discard the National Hispanic Institute, its officers, agents, instructors, employees, and volunteers for any and all illness, injury or accident incurred or suffered by said son/daughter while traveling to, attendance at, or participation in the Young Leaders Conference from the time of his/her departure from home until his/her return thereto. This authorization acknowledges understanding and agreement to the stipulations of the student's application and participation in the program as stated in this release.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

I, we certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct. We understand and agree to the stipulations of the student's application and participation in the program as stated in this release. We understand the Young Leaders Conference tuition, fees, and financial policy as described in this application. We understand that the Young Leaders Conference is a fully supervised program of the National Hispanic Institute and that the program cost DOES NOT include transportation to and from the host university, unless otherwise stated. We further understand that program fees and costs are NOT refundable or transferable should the applicant be unable to attend the program.

Name of Father/Guardian: _____ Signature: _____

Name of Mother/Guardian: _____ Signature: _____

SECTION 8: APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Application is due **October 16, 2007**. Please make sure the following items are included:

- Sections 1-7 are complete Copy of most recent report card or transcript \$20 application fee

NHI accepts checks or money orders. Please DO NOT send cash. These forms of payment may be mailed to NHI. NHI also accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover credit and/or debit card payments. These forms of payments may be made at www.nhi-net.org or you may call these payments in to our business office at 512-357-6137.

Mail Application to: NATIONAL HISPANIC INSTITUTE, PO Box 220, Maxwell TX 78656-0220.

Physical Address for FedEx/UPS/DHL delivery is 472 FM 1966, Maxwell TX 78656-0220.