

**LUNCH & LEARN SERIES**  
**2018 Lunch & Learn Series**

**The Next Generation of Hispanic Leaders**  
Tuesday, May 15, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.  
Tickets \$10 at [lunchandlearnhispanicleaders.mivoz.com](http://lunchandlearnhispanicleaders.mivoz.com)  
**Panelists Include:** Griselda Aldrete, Hector Colón, Ivan Gamboa, Patricia Contreras, Alberto Maldonado, Laura Gutierrez

**Arts & Culture in Contemporary Cuba**  
Friday, July 27, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.  
Tickets \$10 at [lunchandlearneuba.mivoz.com](http://lunchandlearneuba.mivoz.com)

Led by local Cuba expert & Latino Arts board member Raul Galvan



**Community Support Critical to Ensure a Bright Future**

With our student body reaching more than 1,500 total students on campus next year, and joined by hundreds of alumni who come back daily, we rely on the support of our community, volunteers, and staff to help ensure we stay focused on a bright future for every child. As you read this newsletter, you will learn about the support of those who help us achieve this goal and for that we are grateful.

Our current statistics show that 80% of our alumni are enrolling in college, and our current college enrollment includes 266 alumni who, over the last seven years, have earned \$5.5 million in college scholarships. These students are future lawyers, bankers, doctors, engineers, teachers, nurses, and CEO's.

It takes a community to help these students, so in addition to broad support, we have the highest quality staff who work with these students day in and day out to guide them as they pursue their dreams. They are inspiring and motivating them to do their best.

This past spring, we honored one exceptional staff member, Mrs. Shannon Olson, with the Excellence and Innovation in Education award. Currently the science and math teacher at our new UCC Acosta Middle School, she has been with UCC for five years. Mrs. Olson was nominated for the award by several of her peers because of her unending dedication to the students and school. She was one of the first teachers to transition to our new middle school to help create the educational culture and ensure the school started with the best possible foundation. Mrs. Olson demonstrates passion and desire to motivate and energize her students through pursuing unique partnerships and projects with other agencies and thinking outside of the box of how best to teach the students new material. Most importantly, she develops positive relationships with her students, putting their needs first and making a personal connection to help them academically, socially, and emotionally. She truly cares about the students as individuals and is driven to make sure each one has a successful future.

Thank you Mrs. Olson, all of our staff, and all of our volunteers and community supporters for putting the future of students first!

- Ricardo Diaz

**Immerse Yourself in Art this Summer at Latino Arts!**

This summer, Latino Arts is excited to offer its first summer workshop series – inviting guests to learn new skills, and build upon existing ones! Courses are offered for all ages and skills levels.

More information available at [www.latinartsworkshops.mivoz.org](http://www.latinartsworkshops.mivoz.org).

- **Latin American Guitar for Adults:** In this guitar class, students will have the opportunity to develop basic guitar technique – chords and strumming, through the use of Latin-American music. *Mondays/Wednesdays, 5 - 7 p.m., June 18 - July 20 (no class July 2 and 4)* \*Students must bring their own guitar.
- **Mariachi for Young String Players:** This week-long intensive workshop is for youth interested in learning mariachi and other Latin American genres of music. Students will learn several pieces of mariachi repertoire and will give a performance with the Latino Arts Mariachi Juvenil. *June 25 - 29, with a concert on Friday 6/29, 1 - 5 p.m. \*Open to youth ages 12 - 17 who already play a string instrument: violin, viola, cello, bass or guitar.*
- **Manouche Guitar Workshop:** This workshop for intermediate players will focus on the technical and conceptual demands of the jazz manouche or 'gypsy swing' genre. The workshop culminates in a group-wide 'jam' of the famous Django Reinhardt tune "Minor Swing." *Tuesdays/Thursdays, 5 - 7 p.m., June 18 - July 20 \*Open to all ages of intermediate players, participants must bring their own guitar.*
- **Exploring Surrealism through Still Life Painting:** Using still life painting by Mexican surrealist Frida Kahlo as inspiration, participants will explore surrealism and create their own surrealist still life. This hands on class touches on basic drawing skills, color theory, and composition. *Adult session: July 23 - 25, 9 - 11:30 a.m. Family session: August 6 - 8, 9 - 11:30 a.m. Open to all ability levels.*



**Leading through Learning**

United Community Center Celebrates 48 years

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## Bruce-Guadalupe Alum Wins \$50,000 College Scholarship from Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation

This February, BGCS graduate, Daniel Marrero, received the prestigious 2018 National Cal Ripken Foundation Scholar Award! Daniel graduated from BGCS in 2014 and is now a senior at University School of Milwaukee (USM). While he enjoys playing baseball, academics have always been a priority for him and he currently maintains a 3.5 GPA at USM. In the coming years, Daniel will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship to put towards tuition at the university of his choice. He has applied and been accepted to 11 different schools including Pennsylvania State University, Marquette University and Santa Clara University. We are so excited to see what his future holds!



Daniel was presented his award at the Annual Aspire Gala in Baltimore, MD where he met numerous famous athletes including Cal Ripken Jr., Jonathon Ogden, and Garry Williams.

## Career Day Opens Doors to Future Possibilities

This March, the United Community Center hosted its biannual Career Day for over 300 students at Bruce-Guadalupe Middle School and UCC Acosta Middle School. More than 70 volunteers from various organizations throughout the Milwaukee area joined us for this daylong event that included unique classroom presentations and interactive booth exhibits. This event provided students with insight into various occupations including engineering, finance, health care, arts, criminal justice, and so much more. Students not only learned about these different organizations and businesses, but also witnessed the passion and enthusiasm of each volunteer as they shared their careers and the hard work it takes to obtain them. It was an amazing opportunity for our students to be exposed to an abundance of career possibilities. Many thanks to every volunteer that participated!



## UCC Acosta Middle School Partners with WaterMarks Initiative Educating Community about Milwaukee's Water Systems

"WaterMarks: An Atlas of Water and the City of Milwaukee" is a city-wide public art project developed by artist Mary Miss that invites community members to explore and understand Milwaukee's water systems. Miss' art practice, known as City as a Living Laboratory (CALL), utilizes art installations to call attention to issues related to social, cultural, and environmental sustainability.

Currently being coordinated through Marquette University's Haggerty Museum of Art and in collaboration with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) School of Freshwater Sciences, the Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers, and UCC's Acosta Middle School (UCC AMS), WaterMarks has developed a series of neighborhood walks and workshops to engage citizens with artists, scientists about water issues, infrastructure, and conservation.

WaterMarks walks departed from UCC Acosta Middle School, and were free and open to the public. The walks took place on March 28 and April 22 and were led by a variety of distinguished community members including Dr. Carmen Aguilar, Associate Scientist at UWM School of Freshwater Sciences and Paige Peters, environmental engineer and founder of Rapid Radicals Technology.

Following the series of walks, UCC AMS will host a workshop in May that creates an opportunity for walk participants and facilitators to more deeply explore questions raised during the walks about water, the environment, and sustainability. Workshop participants will reflect on the places they visited, brainstorm ways to take better care of the shared environment and discuss what the inaugural WaterMarks marker at UCC AMS would represent. Finally, UCC AMS students will share water stories that they collected from family and community members.

Coming up in the fall, the first WaterMarks marker will be installed at UCC AMS' new building. This marker that was developed in collaboration with school staff and teachers, will provide opportunities for our students to make real-life classroom connections, explore their neighborhood through the lens of local artists and scientists, and become active partners in recognizing water as a resource that is vital to the well-being of the community and region.

UCC is thrilled to be a part of this innovative community project and excited to see where this next year takes our students!



A large crowd gathered at UCC Acosta Middle School to start the March 28th Walk.

## UCC Volunteers Go Above and Beyond!

The 13th Annual Volunteer Celebration, held on February 15th, honored some of the most notable volunteer efforts at United Community Center throughout the last year. UCC is grateful for the support of more than 1,000 volunteers who help us serve the community each year. The event gave special recognition to this year's volunteers who go above and beyond at UCC.



**Athletic Coach of the Year: MARCO AYALA**  
Over the past five years, Marco has been dedicated to building and carrying out the athletic program at UCC. Marco has led elementary and middle school teams in volleyball and basketball.

**Volunteer Group of the Year: MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

For the past two years, the Marquette University Police Department has spent countless hours in our Reader Leader program, reading to our preschool students on an on-going basis. This exceptional group of volunteers brings a unique and positive energy that plays a huge role in the lives of our youth.



**In-Kind Volunteer Group of the Year: BADGER MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY**

Badger Mutual has generously donated time and resources to UCC for many years. They inspire students with their annual scholarship award, ensuring students know that the community is supporting their excellence in education. Badger Mutual also supports the BGCS art department and extends their generosity through holiday donations.



**Corporate Volunteer Group of the Year: WELLS FARGO**

Wells Fargo has continuously supported UCC in a wide variety of volunteer projects and contributions. They have facilitated fun projects with our seniors such as spa day as well as helping our elementary students with homework and tutoring afterschool.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who go above and beyond every day! We appreciate your contributions and enthusiastic efforts!

## Students Drive Learning with 20% Project

Created by the 3M Company in the 1950's to encourage innovation and creative thinking, the 20% project yielded widely used products such as Post-it notes and masking tape. Google has continued this trend allowing employees 20% of work time to explore unique projects, which is where Gmail originated! Now, BGCS students have the opportunity to learn and explore new ideas with their own version of the 20% project.

Teachers, Haley Gerber and Felicia Lumpkins, posed the question, "If you could learn about ANYTHING, what would it be?" Students had the opportunity to explore their interests (endangered animal conservation, coding, electric cars, Mayan history), and learn how to work through obstacles as a member of a team. Students discovered how they learn best, a skill that will last a lifetime.

The idea of 20% can be daunting to students who thrive in a more structured environment, but with the correct support, every student is capable of success. Overall it allows students to be innovative.

Teachers noted that students struggled at first to find resources but learned how to ask for help and overcome challenges.



Some of the projects have included creating a modular car company, creating mechanical toys, engineering of a dolphin tail (from the movie Dolphin Tale), prehistoric creatures, spray paint art, making a hydraulic arm, and understanding the foster care system.

Students presented their projects with confidence and enthusiasm to other classmates, showcasing their new found knowledge and skills. We look forward to new discoveries from BGCS students in years to come.