

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2009 ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Hispanic Council sponsored the 14th Annual Hispanic Education Conference, which was attended by - seventy high school students and their guidance counselors. This signature event took place on May 1, 2009 in Cleveland, Ohio, at the Metropolitan Campus of Cuyahoga Community College.

The conference, entitled *Career Pathways*, featured the following five workshops that introduced students to career opportunities.



Whose Business is this Business? This workshop was structured around an easy and fun hands-on activity. Groups of students competed in a five minute race, which goal was to build the highest tower with a deck of cards. Beyond the game, the activity led students to experience the value of professional skills and their potential to impact the business world.

Make a Difference – Save a Life. Students connected readily with this workshop that addressed the preparation of Emergency Medical Technology professionals, who regularly play important roles in action movies. Participants learned and asked many questions about the intense education and training required for these professionals, who are often called to save lives. Then they were further transported to the real work environment by going into the ambulance that is part of the classroom equipment.



Ingenious Engineers. The workshop leader introduced robots to the students by telling them about the passionate experience of Cleveland Metropolitan School District students, who annually compete internationally to build robots designed to perform specific tasks. Then students operated the six feet tall competition robot using a control panel. The workshop ended with a chat about the many uses of robots in today's world.

Finally, *Career Zone* was all about finding each student's pathway. Online exploration allowed participants to discover paths that lead to career opportunities that fit their individual personalities and interests.



This conference gave eager students time to inquire and develop a taste for knowing more about career paths. In the event's evaluation one of them wrote: "I really liked the Hispanic Education Conference; they should do it more often." Furthermore, students asked that next year the Council introduce them to career paths in journalism, veterinary technology, nursing, auto technology, computer technology, law enforcement and many others. The conference really expanded the students' vision!!

