



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY, DR. ZULMARIS DÍAZ, AND MS. MADELEINE BAUZA AT THE ANNUAL TORNEO DE ORTOGRAFÍA IN THE UTRGV EDINBURG CAMPUS.

Center for Bilingual Studies Newsletter

MAY, 2017

“Porque hablo español, puedo oír los cuentos de mi abuelita y decir familia, madre, amor. Porque hablo inglés, puedo aprender de mi maestra y decir I love school. Porque soy bilingüe, puedo leer libros y books, tengo amigos y friends, disfruto canciones y songs, juegos y games, y me divierto el doble. Y algún día, porque sé hablar dos idiomas, podré hacer el doble de cosas, ayudar al doble de personas y hacer lo que hago el doble de bien.

-“Bilingüe”, a poem by Alma Flor Ada from her book *Todo es canción*

TORNEO DE ORTOGRAFÍA

The Center for Bilingual Studies supported Dr. Zulmaris Díaz, from the Department of Bilingual & Literacy Studies, in the planning and organizing of the Torneo de Ortografía that took place on Saturday, May 6, 2017. The Torneo de Ortografía del Valle del Rio Grande is an annual competition in which 2nd-12th grade students from across the RGV school

districts demonstrate their Spanish spelling skills. The purpose of the tournament is to have bilingual students feel proud of their language and culture, promote their use of Spanish, recognize their Latino roots, and give pre-services teachers a first-hand experience on working with Spanish-speaking students. This year the keynote speaker, Dr. Havidán Rodríguez, was in charge of welcoming the parents, teachers, and the more than 550 participants. Dr. Noe Moraida, former Bilingual Director for Edcouch-Elsa I.S.D, was the presenter for the parent conference offered during the Torneo for parents interested in learning more about bilingual education. Pre-service teachers participated in various roles during the Torneo, but most importantly experienced how essential it is to have students participate in culturally relevant events.

OUR COMMUNITY

CBS welcomed kinder and second grade students from Kelly-Pharr Elementary from the PSJA district to the center on Wednesday, May 10, 2017. The elementary students engaged in a conversation with Drs. Esquierdo, Weimer, and Guajardo on what is a university and what college they need to attend depending on their desire degree. They got to catch a glimpse of what a college



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Drs. Mirayda Torres, Zulmaris Díaz, Havidán Rodríguez, Nadeska Mayens-Robles, and Ms. Madeleine Bauza at the Torneo de Ortografía.

student's day looks like by walking through the building and sitting in a classroom. They also visited the community garden of UTRGV and learned the importance of respecting and caring for plants. Each student had the opportunity to plant and take home their own seed in a cup, thanks to the B.E.S.O members and CBS staff.

UPCOMING EVENTS



October 18-21, 2017

McAllen, Texas

McAllen Convention Center

If you are interested in participating and would like more information please feel free to contact the CBS office at 665-3213.

BILINGUAL STORY HOUR

Interested in learning how to use Spanish culturally relevant literature with children? CBS wants to continue to offer its Bilingual Story Hour during the summer. One of the plans for this summer is to partner up with the McAllen Public Library to provide this service to the parents and children of the community. Any updates on this event will be provided on the CBS website.

CBS WEBSTIE

You can visit us at utrgv.edu/center-for-bilingual-studies or www.utrgv.edu/cbs. You can find news of upcoming events, activities and programs, resources for teachers, and more.



Second and third graders getting ready to start their test in the 2017 Torneo de Ortografía.



Kelly-Pharr Elementary kinder and second grade students at the Center for Bilingual Studies.



Dr. Irasema González and Bilingual Story Hour guests making corn tortillas.

Have a fun and
safe summer!

