



## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF UNITE-LA IMPACT

- UNITE-LA hosted **Celebrating the Future of Collaboration** on September 29<sup>th</sup> to mark 25 years of improving education and workforce outcomes for youth from historically marginalized communities in L.A. and beyond. Partners, city and state leaders, community members, students and staff celebrated UNITE-LA's quarter century of groundbreaking work and our new, innovative efforts in policy, programs, and systems impact. Distinguished speakers included CA Senator María Elena Durazo; Speaker Emeritus of the CA State Assembly Anthony Rendon; Dr. Amy Loyd (U.S. Dept. of Education); Brent Parton (U.S. Dept. of Labor); Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond (Stanford University Learning Policy Institute) and more. Breakout sessions covered L.A. regional collaboration for sustainable, economic mobility; building pathways for an inclusive, clean energy future; and addressing workforce shortages. LAUSD Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho and NBC4 Reporter Darsha Philips closed the event with a fireside chat. Cheers to 25 years!

## PROGRAMS

- 19 opportunity youth successfully completed **My Pathway to Health** Part 1, where they explored careers and training opportunities in allied health, earned Red Cross Basic Life Support certifications, and UNITE-LA's WorkforceReady Focused and Work-Readiness program certifications. Participants have now progressed to Parts 2 & 3, where they are pursuing career/educational training; receiving job support and placement, mentoring, wrap-around supports, and stipends.
- The **Los Angeles Regional Cleantech Academy** 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort launched in September. In a 12-week program, 50 students (ages 18-24) are learning about essential skills, industry sectors, local employers and career pathways into the emerging, high-growth, high-demand clean energy economy. UNITE-LA hosted our launch event in partnership with the L.A. Cleantech Incubator (LACI), where students toured the facility and heard from cleantech startup entrepreneurs.

## POLICY

- In August, UNITE-LA co-hosted the **Regional Energy Policy Convening** on opportunities, barriers, and resources to realize energy independence and reliability, in partnership with CA FWD. We featured partners from Avantus, LACI and LACCD as speakers and facilitated a breakout on the energy workforce pipeline; other sessions focused on the hydrogen economy and solar energy. Session input will inform policy advocacy, building on CA FWD's Energy Call to Action and Infrastructure Acceleration Report to work across sectors in advancing energy solutions.
- UNITE-LA supported the **REAL Coalition Education & Workforce Committee** monthly convenings and facilitated the participation of expert speakers such as Calbright College VP of Government Relations, who shared impressive 2023 milestones. UNITE-LA provided an update on the Committee's legislative successes, including passage of five supported bills.

## SYSTEMS

- UNITE-LA's collaboration with Cal State Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) leadership is rapidly advancing **Equity-Centric Transfer Pathway Design**. By aligning with larger initiatives like the National Association of System Heads and the L.A. Region K-16 Collaborative, CSUDH and UNITE-LA are setting a scalable model for regional transfer success with a strong trajectory towards equity.
- UNITE-LA collaborated alongside its LAUSD and UTLA partners to build a new **Community Schools Steering Committee** (CSSC) for the 2023-24 academic year. In September, the new CSSC held its kickoff meeting/orientation for the 16 members. The new CSSC members are excited to expand the Community Schools Initiative by strategizing the recruitment of a fifth cohort of schools.

## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- UNITE-LA supported the Linked Learning Alliance and other partners to ensure this year's CA budget included full funding for the **Golden State Pathways (GSP) Program**, aimed to connect education and workforce systems. The \$500M GSP investment, \$200M for Dual Enrollment, and \$4B for Community Schools together support students and CA on a path towards a more prosperous and equitable future. UNITE-LA garnered significant business support opposing a proposed \$400M cut from GSP funding: 12 business partners signed on to a [letter](#) at our request.
- UNITE-LA created the **Equitable Credentials Toolkit**—a roadmap to help chambers of commerce, community colleges and community-based organizations drive the growth of credentialing and degree programs among BIPOC individuals and create mobility into well-paid jobs with opportunities for career advancement. The Toolkit highlights examples from the seven participating communities in cohort one of our programming and will help new communities launch this work.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Various November Dates Mock Interviews

Professionals are needed to help senior students from Santee Education Complex practice and prepare for summer internship interviews. Mock Interviews dates are throughout the month of November. Please follow the [link](#) provided to view dates and register.

## HIGHLIGHTS:



UNITE-LA celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 29<sup>th</sup> at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. Partners, community members, city and state leaders, students, staff and more celebrated the 25 years of past impact by UNITE-LA in our region and beyond, as well as our new, innovative efforts to advance education and workforce success into the future.