November 2020 Vol. 1 Issue 2



LEWIS CENTER POST



LEWIS CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

LEWIS CENTER'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH DOCUMENTARY AND FUNDRAISER

We are celebrating our 30th anniversary with a documentary and a fundraiser that carries a simple call to action: \$30 for 30 years of service to the local and global academic community.

The first half of the two-part documentary captures the story of how Rick Piercy, in 1985, began work to bring a new kind of educational experience to the High Desert based on hands-on science, according to a press release. Piercy's work paid off five years later when the Lewis Center, then called the Science and Technology Center, was dedicated on Oct. 19, 1990.

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Presented by PR Team:

PR and Marketing Coordinator - Jisela Corona PR Intern(s) - Melissa Mangold, Audrey Mayoros, and Brianna Tran



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NORTON'S GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

New Campus Coming Soon in 2021!

by Lewis Center PR Team

On August 12th, 2020, we celebrated Norton Science and Language Academy's official groundbreaking.

After many years of extensive planning, we are now able to fulfill our promise to the community to welcome students TK through 12. We are excited for this new expansion and look forward to providing more and more opportunities for our students for generations to come.

Joined by our Lewis Center board members and staff, San Bernardino Mayor John Valdivia, San Bernardino County Superintendent Ted Alejandre, and community members were all in attendance for the ceremony. This expansion will allow NSLA to serve many more students. Initially having 200 students, we have grown to have over 850 students ranging from TK through 8th and have outgrown our current site.

With construction already underway, NSLA students will be fully situated on the new campus by Fall 2021.







Norton Science and Language Academy will transition from a TK-8 school to a TK-12 institution.

"We will have a space where we can influence change and educate many more lives for years to come," stated a very excited NSLA Principal, Dr. Barragan, "This new campus will give us the opportunity to build on many more students' experiences and lives."

To watch the full Groundbreaking Ceremony video, click on the link <u>HERE</u>.



Result: The students LOVED it!

We were excited to be moving forward with our School Plan for Safe Reopening, but most importantly, we were so excited to finally see our kiddos in person; some for the first time!

Throughout the pandemic, we have prioritized the health and safety of our staff, students, and community. We were thrilled to welcome small cohorts of special education students back to AAE and NSLA in late September, and AAE elementary students in October.

Unfortunately, the surges in the High Desert community led us to difficult decision to transition our AAE elementary students back to full distance learning throughout the holidays and until local conditions are stabilized. We are committed to reopening our schools as soon as it is safe to do so.

We encourage our community members, staff and families to do their part to slow the community spread so that we can return our students to in-person instruction as soon as possible!

Please visit lewiscenter.org for more updates on Phase 2 and school reopening dates.

Welcoming AAE's TK-2 back to school as their first cohort! Watch video HERE.















OUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST RESULTS



In lieu of our Annual Fall Festival, we opted for a fun virtual Costume Contest that our entire Lewis Center family took part in from the comfort and safety of their homes.

For AAE, our first place winner was **Cameron Yates**, with an amazing costume as the "Headless Horseman".

At NSLA, our first place winner was **Alek Martinez**, with a hilarious costume called "It's a Dog-Eat-Dog-World".

VERY SPOOKY!!!

Last but not least, for our staff contest, our first place winner was **Nancy Dust** from NSLA, with an amazing costume as "El Sol (The Sun)" from the Lotería game.

Our student first place winners earned themselves a \$20 Target Gift card, that were graciously donated by both schools' PTO and PTA.

While we hope to resume with our Annual Fall Festival by next school year, we know one thing for sure: we are definitely turning our Costume Contest into a tradition for many years to come.

LEWIS CENTER'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 19, 2020

CONT. FROM PAGE 1



Join us in continuing the vision and building the future by raising \$30,000 in 3 months in honor of our 30th.

This fundraiser is ongoing and will last through December 19, 2020. By contributing a small amount of \$30 or more you can help support the Lewis Center's students, staff and amazing programs. We need your help to continue moving forward in being on the cutting edge of education in the 21st Century.

View full article <u>HERE</u>. Scan the QR code or visit <u>lcer30.givesmart.com</u> to donate today!



"\$30 for 30 Years of Service"





TOGETHER UNITED

MOVEMENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

After taking time to listen, to process, and to reflect on the recent events regarding the tragic death of George Floyd and the resulting national and local protests, Lewis Center for Educational Research had one message: We will not stand for racism in any shape or form. Our main priority is and will always be our students, staff, and families of all ethnicities and backgrounds.

We at the Lewis Center shared our statement for social change and awareness, just as our students expressed a desire for change as well.

The Lewis Center had three AAE students make a presentation to the Lewis Center Board in August in support of the Diversify our Narrative Campaign.

The mission of the Lewis Center is to ensure student success in a global society through data driven and research-based schools and programs that are safe, innovative and culturally inclusive. Diversity is crucial for innovation, rather than simply a matter of compliance. Our diversity is one of our key strengths, something we should embrace as a country, starting with our schools.

As we were stricken with grief for our nation, we formed our Together United committee. We also formed a subcommittee to look at our secondary literature curriculum in response to the comments and concerns of our students and staff.

Please take a moment to view our collective commitment to ensuring that all of our staff and students feel valued and safe in our schools with our staff and families HERE.



We make the commitment to ensure that all students, staff, and families feel safe, valued, and connected to our Lewis Center family.

AAE'S VIRTUAL MOCK TRIAL

Although 2020 has brought many challenges for schools, the AAE Mock Trial Team continues to work hard, practice, and participate in competitions.

Our students worked hard, practiced on Zoom as much as they would in person, and performed at exceptionally high levels during competition rounds. So far the defense team has competed against Los Osos High School, ranked #3 in the county, and narrowly lost, but still gave it their all. Our prosecution team also competed against Barstow High School this week and won.



When asked how he felt about the second round of competitions, Team Captain Winson Cheng stated "Nerves were high -- they always are -- but our team always performs above and beyond. We always know that no matter the outcome, we are able to grow and support one another," clearly proud of his team and how hard they work to make this team a success.

THE LEWIS CENTER: A STEM LEADER

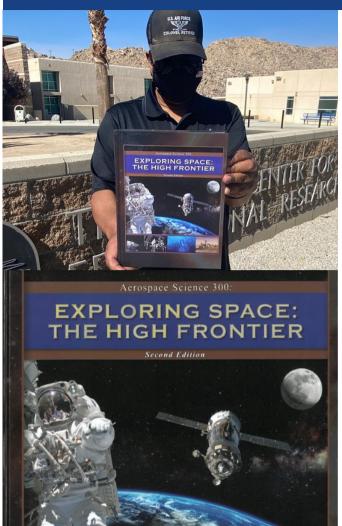
The Lewis Center has continued to support our schools and partners in virtual STEM learning. We have hosted two NASA in Your Neighborhood talks which were joined by students, teachers and citizen scientists around the world. We also supported a ten-week "Out of this World" space science series with the Town of Apple Valley for their day camp.

Additionally, we have created Space Academies at both of our campuses that engage students in hands-on engineering and science with our very own STEM Coordinator, Amy Ritter.



Finally, the <u>GAVRT Radio Astronomy Program</u> has continued to host sessions for students around the world interested in learning more about Jupiter, Black Holes and SETI. Just last week, we ran sessions with students from California, Texas, Florida, Chile, Japan, and Australia!

GAVRT AND AFJROTC FEATURED IN NATIONAL TEXTBOOK



On October 27th, it was announced on social media that our Air Force Junior ROTC was highlighted in the latest edition of the textbook, "Exploring Space: The High Frontier." Our cadets tracked NASA's Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite to study ice water on the moon. The cadets photographed the satellite's impact and sent the first viewed images to NASA.

First District Supervisor Robert Lovingood highlighted this achievenment in his newsletter as well, view HERE.

SILVER STAR COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD HONOR

Two of our class of 2020 graduates, Tara Izadi and Maxx Martyn, received the Silver Star Medal, the second highest award a cadet can earn.

After volunteering for a search-and-rescue mission for two AVHS cadets who were stuck out in the mountains of Fawnskin CA, Izadi and Martyn spent several hours courageously driving the narrow mountainous roads of Fawnskin in terrible condition. Izadi and Martyn along with other members of the search party found the missing students. Because of their bravery, our two cadets were awarded and recognized as true heroes.

The Silver Valor Award is awarded to a cadet for a voluntary act of heroism, self-sacrifice and personal bravery above and beyond the call of duty. The Awards consist of a medal, ribbon, and certificate.

NORTON'S FIRST LOTTERY

We are currently in an enrollment period where prospective families can register their student online or through a physical application. Lotteries keep admissions fair and equal through a random drawing process, either handling applications manually or using our school's computer program.

Our first lottery will be held on <u>December 17, 2020</u>. Apply before that date or share this information with others who are interested in your students attending NSLA. Let us also remind you that in addition to moving to a newer and bigger campus, we're also transitioning from a TK-8 school to a TK-12. institution.

We're rolling out many more programs, extracurricular activities and more! <u>Submit your students application today!</u>

For more information visit our website at nsla.lewiscenter.org or email enroll-nsla@lcer.org.



PRESIDENT/CEO'S MESSAGE



PRESIDENT/CEO, LISA LAMB

"This school year has been unlike any other. Although no one could have imagined that we would still be in full-distance learning in

November, the adaptability of our staff, students and families has been incredible. We are committed to continuing to provide our students with high-quality instruction, and have made many changes to meet the needs of both distance and hybrid instruction. This includes an investment of more than \$250,000 in educational technology to ensure that our students and teachers are able to stay connected."

PRINCIPALS' MESSAGE

AAE PRINCIPAL, Valli andreasen

"As we partner together, we can make learning much better for students as both our teachers and students continue to build their capacity through distance learning."

View full message <u>HERE</u>.

NSLA PRINCIPAL, Fausto Barragan

"Whether you are new or returning to our school, I want to thank you for joining us as we provide students and families with an exceptional Dual Immersion learning experience."

View full message HERE.

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