

Wednesday, April 6th - Saturday, April 9th 2011



— The 7th Annual —
Empire Promise Summit

.....
Building Blocks
for *your* Future



“For our Youth, For our Future”





The 7th Annual Empire Promise Summit

Best Western Sovereign Hotel, Albany NY - April 6th - 9th, 2011

The seventh statewide **Empire Promise Summit: Building Our Economic and Intellectual Capacity** will bring together students from grades 5-12, alumni of the Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP), community and educational stakeholders, business and industry stakeholders, and higher education institutions in an opportunity to develop seamless and advanced strategies that prepare students for postsecondary education and the workforce.

"The Empire Promise" links the healthy development of youth as an integral part of the long-term strategy for growing New York's economy, creating a deliberate pathway to higher education and the high need careers in New York State. The two major objectives of Empire Promise are: [1] to improve strategies and resources for strengthening Pre-K-20 education outcomes, and [2] to improve strategies for addressing New York's current and future workforce shortages and other economic/social development needs.

Guiding Principles of the Empire Promise Initiative:

1. New York's higher education community working with shared statewide vision and articulation will provide a powerful and systemic assist to New York's economic and social agenda
2. Students attending New York public and non-public schools will complete postsecondary education in New York or return to New York after completing their studies elsewhere if they develop a personal commitment to invest in New York's advancement

Components of Empire Promise:

Statewide programs designed to prepare LPP students for employment in New York that address workforce shortages in areas such as but not limited to:

- High tech research and development aligned with New York's Centers of Excellence
- Regional initiatives for economic and community development
- K-20 Teaching and Educational Leadership
- Nursing & the Licensed Health Professions
- Law, Public Policy and Government Service
- Fine & Performing Arts

Statewide Recruitment & Admissions Program designed to offer pathways for admissions to the Colleges & Universities that offer LPP programs and services.

Scholarship program for graduating LPP students pursuing higher education and pathways into entry-level careers





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THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

Office of K-16 Initiatives & Access Programs
 Pre-Collegiate Preparation Programs Unit
 Education Building Addition, Room 965
 Tel. (518) 486-5202
 Fax (518) 474-0060

April 2011

Dear 2011 LPP Summit Participants:

On behalf of the New York State Education Department and the Office of K16 Initiatives and Access Programs, I would like to welcome you to the 7th annual **Empire Promise Summit: Building Blocks for Your future.**

This event gives us the opportunity to come together and recognize our successes, as well as focus on the issues that make our program so relevant: dropout prevention, workforce development, and closing the achievement gap. We gather to remind ourselves and the students of what makes our program so unique, as New York State's only state funded, dropout prevention program that is directly connected to higher education institutions.

Liberty Partnerships Program's purpose, as encapsulated by the founding visionary legislators and former Governor Mario Cuomo, is for students to truly capitalize on their opportunities to grow into productive and successful citizens of New York State. They specifically noted their hope for students to fulfill the American Dream, embracing a life of opportunity, promise, and fulfillment. LPP's role is to provide innovative programming in efforts to change the attitudes of youth and their outlook on high school graduation, careers and post secondary education. Furthermore, LPP would help students ensure life-long success by providing students mentorship from middle school through college.

Your experience at the summit these next few days will equip you with the Building Blocks for Your Future. So be prepared to embrace and expand upon the opportunities that you will encounter while in Albany.

On behalf of New York State Education Department's, Office of K16 Initiatives and Access Programs and the Empire Promise Youth Summit Planning Committee best wishes for an enjoyable and productive summit.

Sincerely,

Sean B. Brown
 Program Officer



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6th

Time	Event	Location
3pm-6pm	Registration	Outside of Guilder Room
	Workshop Selections College Tour Registration	
6pm-9pm	LPP Statewide Dinner/ Awards Ceremony Keynote Speaker Senator Gustavo Rivera Presentation of Awards President's Award, Liberty's 10 Years of Service Award Retired Director's Awards, Liberty's Staff Exemplary Service Award Business Casual Attire Required	Guilder Room Loft Room Town Room
9pm-10:30pm	LifeSmarts Competition Round 1 Hosted by Laugh & Gasp Pro Calling all Liberty Teams!!! Who will win Round 1?	Loft Room
10:30pm	Lights Out –Room Check	

THURSDAY, APRIL 7th

6am-8am	Breakfast	Restaurant & Lounge
8am-12pm	College Tours SUNY Albany, Albany College of Pharmacy, The Sage Colleges, College of St. Rose SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering	Albany Area
12pm-1pm	Lunch	Guilder Room Loft Room Town Room
1pm-1:50pm	Discover Who You Are Workshop Presented by Monster Learn about yourself and define your future. All students required to attend.	Squire Room
2pm-4pm	Concurrent Workshops	Guilder Room Loft Room Town Room Squire Room
4pm-6pm	Free Time – Snacks	ExecutiveRoom
6pm-7pm	Dinner	Guilder Room Loft Room Town Room
7pm-8:30pm	LifeSmarts Round 2 Hosted by Laugh & Gasp Pro Which team will be victorious tonight?	Squire Room
8:30pm-10:30pm	Entertainment Options Pool, Movies & Games	Various
10:30pm	Lights Out –Room Check	



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FRIDAY, APRIL 8th

Time	Event	Location
6am-8am	Breakfast	Restaurant & Lounge
8:45am-9:50am	Define Where You Want To Go Workshop Present by Monster Dream big, aim high & build your plan. All students are required to attend.	Squire Room
10am-12pm	Concurrent Workshops	Guilder Room, Loft Room Town Room, Squire Room
12pm-1pm	Lunch	Guilder Room Loft Room Town Room
1pm-1:50pm	Identify The Skills That You Will Need Workshop Presented by Monster Explore "Winning Characteristics" employers look for and how to develop them.	Squire Room (HS) Town Room (MS)
2pm-4pm	Concurrent Workshops	Guilder Room, Loft Room Town Room, Squire Room
4pm-6pm	Free Time – Snacks	Executive Room
6pm-9pm	Student Awards Dinner LPP LifeSmarts Winner Announcement LPP All-Star Regional Awards Star regional Award, Star Alumni Award Business Casual Required. It's your night so impress us with your style.	Guilder Room Loft Room Town Room
9pm-10:30pm	Theatre Night Presented By Life Rhythm & Too Deep Entertainment Get ready to be entertained!	Squire Room
10:30pm	Lights Out –Room Check	

SATURDAY, APRIL 9th

6am-8am	Breakfast	Restaurant & Lounge
8am-9am	Check Out	
9am-10:30am	HUMOR Project Workshop Presented by the HUMOR Project Learn to use laughter as a way to ease stress.	Squire Room
10:30am-11:30am	LPP Raffle and Closeout	Squire Room



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KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

State Senator for New York Senate District 33

GUSTAVO RIVERA



Gustavo Rivera was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico. He graduated from the University of Puerto Rico in May 1998 with a B.A. in political science. Rivera came to New York, seeking educational opportunity and that fall began a doctoral program in political science at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

In 1999, Rivera was awarded the prestigious CUNY Graduate Teaching Fellowship in the department of political science at Hunter College, CUNY, where he taught courses in American and Comparative politics until 2002.

In 2005, Rivera joined the political science faculty at Pace University and continues to teach courses in state and local government. For the last ten years, Rivera has also served as a faculty member and mentor for "Somos el Futuro," the annual Model State Senate program sponsored by CUNY, SUNY, the NY State Assembly, and the Puerto Rican Hispanic Task Force. Senator Rivera is excited to continue to work with "Somos el Futuro," a program which has been a source of inspiration for Senator Rivera since 2000.

When Gustavo moved to New York to study political science, he decided he wanted to apply what he had learned in the classroom to real life and became involved in politics, working hard for progressive candidates and elected officials. Gustavo worked as a community organizer for several local and state candidates including Jose Serrano Jr.'s and Andrea Stewart Cousins' campaign for state senate as well as Fernando Ferrer's campaign for Mayor of New York City. In early 2008, SEIU hired Rivera to manage their activities on behalf of Barack Obama in several crucial primary states. Rivera ultimately traveled to Indiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Texas – even to his home of Puerto Rico – on behalf of Senator Obama. Senator Obama then tapped Rivera to serve as his Hispanic Vote Director in the crucial swing state of Florida. Obama rode a huge Hispanic turnout to victory in Florida, which effectively handed him the presidency. Rivera then returned home to New York State to serve as Director of Community Outreach for US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand as well as an adjunct professor at Pace University. He left that position to run for the New York State Senate.

In November 2010, Gustavo Rivera was elected State Senator for New York Senate District 33, which includes neighborhoods of the Northwest Bronx including Kingsbridge Heights, Riverdale. The New York Times called Rivera's victory a "clear message calling for change in Albany."

As a State Senator, Gustavo Rivera will work to change way business is done in the legislature and ensure that the families of the 33rd Senate District have a voice in Albany. Senator Rivera is the ranking member of the Crime Victims, Crime and Corrections committee and is also a member of the Health committee, Finance committee, Higher Education committee, Banks committee and Labor committee.





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This Year's Summit Presents



Making It Count, a division of Monster Worldwide, is the industry leader in "edutainment" delivering more than 11,000 free educational presentations to high school students, college students, and parents nationwide. Making It Count speakers offer motivation and information to students on how to make the most of their high school experience, succeed in college, and best prepare themselves to maximize their opportunities upon graduation.



LifeSmarts is an educational opportunity that develops the consumer and marketplace knowledge and skills of teenagers in a fun way and rewards them for this knowledge. LifeSmarts topics have been chosen to encourage and reward knowledge in the areas that matter most to consumers and workers in today's marketplace: personal finance; health and safety; the environment; technology; and consumer rights and responsibilities.



Too Deep Entertainment (TDE) is an African American theater group located in Albany N.Y. Their mission is to educate and entertain the community, using the Performing Arts as a prevention and awareness tool. TDE is a creative performing arts group committed to empowering the community as well as strengthening the academic performance of the students, peers, and the people in the community.

Liberty Partnerships Program Scholarship Information

Institution	Contact Person	Scholarship/Discount Available	Qualification Requirements	How to Apply
Clarkson University	Agnes Grant 315-386-7080 granta@canton.edu	50% Tuition Reduction Scholarship (renewable for 4 years)	Must meet academic requirements of regular admissions process	Clarkson University LPP Scholarship Application
College of Staten Island	Shawn Laundry 718.982.2157 shawn.landry@csi.cuny.edu	1 Scholarship for student participating in the College of Staten Island LPP program		
Marist College	Admissions Office 845.575.3226 admission@marist.edu	2 - 4-year 50% Tuition Scholarships	Must meet academic requirements of regular admissions process	Marist College LPP Certificate of Participation
Suffolk County Comm. College	Nina Leonhardt 631.451.4607 leonhan@sunsuffolk.edu	LPP students encouraged to apply for STEM scholarships (30 available)	Must be enrolled in a qualified science related major; see application for more details	NSF-STEM Application
Syracuse University School of Education	Kara Cables, Coordinator of Opportunity Programs, Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship Programs (315) 443-1513	50% Tuition Reduction Scholarship (renewable for 4 years)	Must meet academic requirements of regular admissions process	Syracuse University LPP Scholarship Application
SUNY Canton	Agnes Grant 315-386-7080 granta@canton.edu	2 - \$1000 Work related scholarships	Cannot be eligible for work study	Contact Agnes Grant for more information
SUNY Potsdam	Agnes Grant 315-386-7080 granta@canton.edu	2 - \$1000 Work related scholarships	Cannot be eligible for work study	Contact Agnes Grant for more information
St. Lawrence	Agnes Grant 315-386-7080 granta@canton.edu	50% Tuition Reduction Scholarship (renewable for 4 years)	Must meet academic requirements of regular admissions process	St. Lawrence University LPP Scholarship Application



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