



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Ten San Jacinto Elementary School students have been selected to attend the 2012 Junior National Young Leaders Conference this summer. From left are Cisely Sanchez, Briana Lopez, Kyndal Cook, Jocelyn Cardenas, Alexis Dominguez, Omar Ramos, Bryan Medellin, Raul Hernandez, Adrian Christian, and Agustin Loreda. With the students are San Jacinto Assistant Principal Loretta Salazar, left, and fifth grade teacher Daondria Wilson.

San Jacinto students selected to national young leaders confab

Ten San Jacinto Elementary School students have been selected to attend the 2012 Junior National Young Leaders Conference this summer.

Now, it's just a matter of raising the money to go. Right now, the students and their families are trying to find a way to come up with \$2,000 by a May 25 deadline to send them to the Washington, D.C. conference.

The fifth-graders invited to the prestigious conference are Jocelyn Cardenas, Adrian Christian, Kyndal Cook, Alexis Dominguez, Raul Hernandez, Briana Lopez, Agustin Loreda, Bryan Medellin, Omar Ramos, and Cisely Sanchez. The students were nominated by their teacher Daondria Wilson.

"I am fortunate to have a group of students who enjoy challenging themselves in the classroom and the community. Many of the students I nominated are clearly leaders of their class; however, I chose a few students that, I feel, do not see the greatest that lies within them," said Mrs. Wilson. "This trip will give them an opportunity to see a broader scope of what life has to offer beyond the boundaries of school and home. I am hopeful that all of my students will return to Baytown with enhanced perceptions of themselves."

Mrs. Wilson said that for most of her students the trip to Washington, D.C., would be their first airplane flight. "But I am certain that they will all return as pilots ready to navigate their futures with confidence and determination to succeed!"

The Junior National Young Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) offers mature, high-achieving middle school students the opportunity to learn about leadership by studying the leaders of the past and by focusing on social advocacy to make a positive impact in their homes and communities.

Through an examination of both different historical time periods and characteristics of leadership, students will gain a better understanding of what it takes to become an effective leader. Each session of JrNYLC is designed to educate, inspire, and motivate students by giving them the confidence and leadership skills that will take them through high school and beyond.

"The aim of the Junior National Young Leaders Conference is to inspire students to recognize their own leadership skills, measure their skills against those of current and former leaders and return home with new confidence in their ability to exercise positive influence within their communities," said Marguerite Regan, Dean of Academic Affairs for the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the organization that sponsors JrNYLC.

During the six-day program, scholars take part in educational activities and presentations and visit relevant sites, such as Harpers Ferry, West Virginia and Washington, D.C.'s monuments and memorials.

In addition to examining notable U.S. leaders and historic figures, students study the impact of leadership throughout critical periods of American history including the Civil War and Reconstruction, World War II, the Great Depression and the Civil Rights Movement. Upon completion of JrNYLC, students gain a greater sense of understanding of the role of individuals in American democracy, as well as the responsibilities of being a leader.

Students continue to raise money through candy sales, food-plate sales, and more. To help the students reach their fundraising goals, please call their teacher Mrs. Wilson at 281-420-4670.

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