Los Angeles Times

A small distance, but a great feat: Foshay Learning Center sends more students to USC than any other high school

Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles' Fox News affiliate featured the USC Neighborhood Academic Initiative and two first-generation college students from Foshay Learning Center. Twenty-one students graduated from the NAI program at Foshay, a community school that was USC's top feeder institution for the 2016 freshman class.

For full story: **bit.ly/foshayadmits1, bit.ly/foshayadmits2**

> "Pay attention to the pipeline. Partner with K-to-12 schools. This is where you can make a difference."
>
> **C. L. MAX NIKIAS**
>
> *USC president in a Q&A with Douglas Belkin for* The Wall Street Journal, *"How USC became a leader in recruiting minorities."*

For full story: **bit.ly/nikiasQA**

KABC featured NAI gala, celebrating 25 years of college access, hosted by Alysha Del Valle, ABC-7 reporter

> "It touches my heart … it's really life-changing."
>
> **JEANIE BUSS**
>
> *2016 NAI Champion Award recipient, USC trustee and alumna & co-owner, president and governor of the Los Angeles Lakers*

For full story: **bit.ly/naigalakabc2016**

A dream come true, thanks to NAI

CNN en Espanol featured NAI and program graduate Mauricio Garcia. Garcia, who will attend Harvard this fall, and his mother attribute his success to the program. As one of four children, Garcia worked hard to honor the opportunities his family has sacrificed to provide for him and hopes to become a cancer researcher. The story also quoted NAI curriculum and instruction specialist Lizette Zarate.

For full story: **bit.ly/naimauriciogarcia**

USC's signature college access program, Neighborhood Academic Initiative (NAI), received notable media coverage in 2014-2016. Media placement highlights in major publications include Wall Street Journal, Huffington Post, Los Angeles Times, KPCC, Univision, ABC-7 and KCBS. The intensive seven-year academic enrichment program has recently expanded its reach to the schools of East Los Angeles at Murchison Elementary School, El Sereno Middle School and Nightingale Middle School as well as Lincoln and Wilson High Schools.

A four-year free ride to USC

Eric Rhodes, a sixth-grader at Foshay Learning Center, is hoping to complete USC's competitive, seven-year Neighborhood Academic Initiative, and earn a scholarship to USC. "This is a special program … this program will get me to a very successful college, and if I do go to that college, I know I will have a successful future."

"Really, it's six days of school for seven years, from 6th to 12th grade," said Kim Thomas-Barrios, the program's director.

For full story: **bit.ly/naiericrhodes**

THE HUFFINGTON POST

NAI graduate attributes success to 'The Academy'

Lillian Singh, associate director of the Racial Wealth Divide Initiative at the Corporation for Enterprise Development, was accepted into NAI at the age of 12 after her family moved to Los Angeles from Mississippi. "'The Academy' as we called it, worked to remove barriers to educational opportunities through enhanced classes at USC on weekday mornings, Saturday classes, afterschool tutoring and workshops on time management and study skills," Singh wrote. She was the second college graduate in her family and the first to receive a graduate degree. Singh calls her experience a "testimony to the fact that providing resources and investments to people from all backgrounds will strengthen their ability to create a positive future for themselves."

For full story: **bit.ly/naililliansingh**

Nightingale students on the road to USC

The Eastside Sun ran a story on USC's Neighborhood Academic Initiative, a seven-year program dedicated to preparing students in low-income neighborhoods to attend college. Nightingale Middle School in Cypress Park is the latest school to offer the program in the area surrounding USC and aims to create a college-going culture for the school's predominantly Latino student body.

For full story: **bit.ly/nainightingale**

89.3 KPCC

NAI and El Centro Chicano at USC partner with Community Coalition to host Freedom Schools

KPCC-FM and USC featured the partnership, which brought the seven-week Freedom School program to USC's University Park Campus. The nationwide literacy program aims to bump reading-grade levels in just a summer, especially among African-American and Latino kids from low-income families. "This is a concrete example of what USC can do to build ties with South L.A. community organizations like Community Coalition who have done award-winning work on education reform, youth organizing, civic engagement and so much more," said USC Professor Manuel Pastor.

For full stories: **bit.ly/naifreedomschool1, bit.ly/naifreedomschool2**

USC News

UNICEF honors USC president with Spirit of Compassion Award

UNICEF has awarded USC President C. L. Max Nikias with the Spirit of Compassion Award for his work shaping the minds of a generation of students to be philanthropic, globally minded and informed of the issues that are affecting the world's children.

The award was presented to him by Marvin Arias, a 2010 alumnus of USC who grew up in Los Angeles and graduated from the USC Neighborhood Academic Initiative. UNICEF honored Nikias in part for expanding USC's youth outreach and education programs such as NAI.

In presenting the award to Nikias, Arias described how NAI helped him on his way to his career as a film industry executive. "Thanks to the support of Dr. Nikias and his relentlessness in making higher education accessible, there are hundreds of others out there who can now also say that they are on their way," Arias said. "What Dr. Nikias is doing is life-changing for these kids and their families."

For full story: **bit.ly/naiunicef**

USC NEWS

President honors Leadership Circle for life-changing generosity
by Teresa Lara | September 29, 2015
For full story: bit.ly/naileadershipcircle

High-achieving, low-income students connect with USC
by Eddie North-Hager | January 19, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/naipellgrant2016

USC Neighborhood Academic Initiative celebrates 25 years of college access and success for local children
by Pamela Madrid | May 6, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/nai25years

USC releases student and faculty diversity numbers
by Lynn Lipinski | May 25, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/naidiversity2016

Freshman Sydney Turner has been preparing for USC since the sixth grade
by Joanna Clay | August 18, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/naisydneyturner

Earl Paysinger brings neighborhood knowledge to USC Civic Engagement
by Joanna Clay | August 24, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/naipaysinger

USC Caldwell Scholars share an extended family
by Lynn Lipinski | October 13, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/naicaldwellscholars

DAILY TROJAN

Nikias receives Academic Leadership Award, $500,000 grant
by Hawken Miller | September 24, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/nainikiasaward

Campaign gives back to local community
by Daily Trojan staff | October 9, 2016
For full story: bit.ly/naignc2016

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Social Media Impact