



Standing front row left to right: Sylvia Chavez*, Kylie Huerta, Danah Cruz, Denise DeAses, Pamela Saenz, Keerstin Garza, Marissa Tamez, Chelsea Gonzales, Lavoyger Durham*, Mario Hernandez III, Isaak Salinas, Crystal Ramirez-Garcia*, Juan R. Galvan*, Standing back row left to right: Raul M. Ramirez*, Martha Recio*, Carson Gates*, Ricardo Mireles, Carlos Cabrera, Thomas Garza, Nyles Perez, Taron Garcia, Jon Ray Pulido, Chris Longoria, Bryan Gutierrez, Enrique Ruiz*, Arnulfo Guerra*. (* denotes LMCA staff and board members & BCISD administration)

Los Mesteños Honors Graduates of 7th Annual Summer Work Training Program

Praise abounded for all involved with Los Mesteños Career Academy's (LMCA) seventh annual summer work training program, which is jointly sponsored by Brooks County Independent School District (BCISD), the Craft Training Center of the Coastal Bend, and Workforce Solutions. Juan Galvan, LMCA instructor, congratulated not only the student participants for their accomplishments, but also their parents for being an essential part of the process. "We have never had a better group of students", he said.

Participants are trained in safety and a variety of industrial and building skills and they also do a number of construction projects that benefit the community. The six-week program included five days of traveling to the Craft Training Center in Corpus Christi.

As part of the graduation ceremony, each participant was asked to tell the audience his or her favorite type of training. Their answers covered the spectrum, varying from pipe-fitting to welding to carpentry to electrical to plumbing and other industrial and building skills.

BCISD Curriculum Director Enrique Ruiz gave particular recognition to LMCA for "all that they do to benefit the district, not only with this program but many others". After the ceremony, Lavoyger Durham,

vice-president of the non-profit that oversees LMCA, said, “We are glad that we can be a part of the good things that the ISD, Workforce Solutions, the churches, the community colleges and others are doing to make this a better place for all of us”.