



Parent Engagement in Region 20

P-20 NEWSLETTER

October 2016

Dear Parents/Families,

Autumn is officially here! Encourage your child to “fall” in love with learning! October is chalk full of opportunities to help your child grow and explore learning together. As always, the UTSA Institute for P-20 Initiatives reminds you that your child can develop a love for learning that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely,

The UTSA Institute for P-20 Initiatives

UTSA to host CORE4 STEM Expo Family Day November 5th.

Register your family today for the FREE Annual CORE4 STEM Expo Family Day at The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Main Campus, from 9am-1pm. Open to families and students of all ages. Learn about STEM Careers in San Antonio and receive free resources about pathways to high-paying careers. Register for this free event here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/core4-stem-family-day-at-utsa-main-campus-at-1604-tickets-28164270090>.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with the San Antonio Public Library.

Throughout the month of October, the SAPL’s various branches will host activities to explore different facets of Hispanic culture and heritage. Check the SAPL calendar for additional events, which include poetry, art and history exhibits, lectures, dance demonstrations and lessons, short story readings, sessions and workshops on how to make tortillas, tres leches cake and more. Sept. 15-Oct. 15, various locations, <http://guides.mysapl.org/hispanicheritage>. Additional educational resources available through the SAPL: <http://www.mysapl.org/Services/ResearchDatabases/EducationalServicesPrograms.aspx>.

Stand up for your child’s right to read.

It’s National Banned Books Week. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community – librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types – in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular. Educate your child on the first amendment and the importance of intellectual freedom by visiting the ALA’s Office for Intellectual Freedom’s Frequently Challenged Children’s Books list and exploring the works here: <http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/childrensbooks>.

Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Festival, Saturday, October 20

Join the San Antonio community for three fun days of events to celebrate the majesty and learn the magic of Monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Events include Buen Viaje, Mariposa Monarca!, Climate Change and the Monarch Butterfly Migration Symposium, The People for Pollinators Parade, and much more. Saturday’s activities include two Monarch butterfly releases at 11AM and 1PM. Throughout the event, butterfly docents will hold demonstrations on “How and Why to Tag a Monarch Butterfly”. The Pearl Farmer’s Market will include Monarch- and pollinator-themed food and drinks, Monarch Jeopardy, native plant sales and more. Sponsored by the Texas Butterfly Ranch. To learn more, visit: <http://texasbutterflyranch.com/monarch-butterfly-and-pollinator-festival-october-20-22-2016/>.

Sign up for Michelle Obama’s Reach Higher Newsletter to learn about the new FAFSA changes and other valuable higher education information.

There are two major changes coming to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process this year. First, the 2017-18 FAFSA will be available to students and families earlier. Second, starting with the 2017-18 FAFSA, students will use previous income and tax information. Learn more about these important changes and much more through the Reach Higher monthly newsletter: <https://www.reachhigherchallenge.com/signup/>.

US Department of Education is stressing the importance of civic engagement in education.

HomeRoom, the official blog of the US Department of Education, provides insights on the activities of schools, programs, grantees, and other education stakeholders to promote continuing discussion of educational innovation and reform. *HomeRoom* featured article, *The Presidential Election: A Lesson on Civics*, discusses the importance of teaching students about their legal rights, our political system and how they can become engaged citizens. Read more on this topic and others at: <http://blog.ed.gov/2016/09/presidential-election-lesson-civics/>. Find additional civics engagement resources for parents and families here: <http://www.ed.gov/parent-and-family-engagement>.