

LA VOZ ESTUDIANTIL

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THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

The spirit of Christmas is finally here! But what exactly does that entail? Many of us have become consumed by the capitalistic ideals that this society has put forth. Ideals such as shopping and spending money. Has the meaning of Christmas become diluted in some sense or do we still hold the same values and traditions as our ancestors did many decades ago? Of course it's not going to be the same, but we

must work at preserving the meaning of Christmas and remember what it is really about. Its about spending time with family, friends, people you love and care about. Look beyond the materialistic aspect of the holiday season and enjoy the ambiance of Christmas and truly enjoy the significance of it. Remind each other that it is not about the tangible presents we give or receive, but rather the non-tangible gifts.

Gifts such as love, family, faith, friendship, and unity.

The importance of giving whole-heartedly must not be forgotten.

We must teach our youth to look beyond materialistic things and try to be role models to help change the world.



Traditions of Christmas

- *Setting up the Christmas tree on the 13th to start the count down for the 12 days of Christmas*
- *Opening one present on Christmas Eve*
- *Putting cookies and milk out for Santa*
- *Tamales for Christmas dinner*

EL CENTRO'S NEW LOCATION

It's a challenge getting students to come into our office since it has relocated. Many students have shown a liking for the new location because of the separation barrier between the actual office and the "Sala." A down side is the lack of space which makes the office crowded.

El Centro will reclaim its original location, hopefully, by the fall of 2006.

The construction of a new transit center is the reason for the relocation of El Centro for this academic year.

Since November 15th the stairway leading to the plaza level from the parking lot near the Lory Stu-

dent Center and the Engineering Building has been closed. Access to the Plaza will be available through the Engineering Building. The transit center is a collaborative effort between Colorado State University and the City of Fort Collins. No student fees, tuition dollars, or university funds are being used for this project.



Here is what the new transit center will look like when complete in Aug. 2006.

Lyssa Zambrana



My name is Lyssa Zambrana and I am a Junior Speech Communications major, graduating in May 2007. My parents, Jorge and Carmen were born and raised in Villabla, Puerto Rico, but I was born in Fort McClellan, Alabama on April 11, 1985. I am an ex-army brat and have lived all over the world. My family currently lives in Colorado Springs, where my father retired from the Army. I have a younger brother and sister, Jorge and Sheila, who are a

senior and junior at Rampart High School. I have a wonderful boyfriend named Tyler, who is a student at the United States Air Force Academy (talk about school rivalry!) and have the best friends in the world. I also have three dogs, two Boxers, Artemis and Apollo, and a Boston Terrier named Duke. The most important things in my life are my family, boyfriend, and graduating in May 2007.

Nicole Anna Salazar

I'm Nicole Anna Salazar, I'm currently a freshman in college, majoring in psychology, in hopes of one day becoming a child psychologist. I want to go to grad school so that I can receive my doctorate in psychology. I'm the first person in my family, ever, to attend college, and I want to show everyone that I can go all the way with my academics. My family heritage stems from Spain and Portugal. I grew up in Colorado Springs, Colorado. My family sent me to private Catholic schools so that I could receive the education they felt they had not.

Colorado State University was a big change for me, including culture, size, classes, and in general personalities. I am part of the Key Academic Community here at CSU, and that really made the transition smooth. I actually credit my smooth transition into college on Key. I truly believe that it wouldn't have been the same experience that I have enjoyed so far without it. El Centro also played a big role in my transition. It's great to be able to come in everyday and see common faces around you, and it reminds you of home.



LATINA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

This year's Latina Youth Leadership Conference (LYLC) was another great success!

Close to 200 hundred girls attended. LYLC is a national community service event put on by the women of Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. The event is held in the Lory Student Center to give the girls a better feel of a college atmosphere. LYLC consists of a variety of workshops dealing with leadership, body image, self es-

teem, health, and team building. The conference strives to

LYLC's goal is to teach young Latinas about becoming leaders and pursuing a higher education.

teach things that are not normally taught in our school systems.

LYLC's goal is to teach young Latinas about becoming leaders and pursuing a higher education. The women of

Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc. aim to teach young ladies the importance of leadership and to serve as role models. Not only do the workshops teach leadership, but they also help build the girls' confidence and self esteem. They also motivate the girls to pursue a higher education by giving them the tools and resources that are needed.



CONGRATS DECEMBER GRADUATES!!

All of the hard work has finally paid off. Good luck in your future, strive for your dreams and never settle for less. Don't forget to use the Career Center if you need help with your resumé or job searching, they are a great resource.

WINTER BREAK!

The semester is finally coming to a close. Don't begin to celebrate too soon because classes are still in session. Finish the year off strong and give it your best shot. Make smart decisions over the break. Get the well needed rest and just enjoy it!



What does Leadership mean to you?

I asked students what leadership meant to them and the responses I got were very diverse. Here are my favorite responses:

- "A leader is a motivator of ideas and energy and formation of people. They advocate people striving for a common goal." —Student
- "Leadership is reaching towards a common goal trying to make a difference." —Student
- "Leadership is taking a stand. Standing up for what you believe in. Taking initiative. Making the right decisions even when no one is watching. Leadership is not being afraid to be different."

—Zulema Sierra