



Friends of C.I.E.L.O.

Centro Integral Educativo Latino de Olympia

Promoting community, self-sufficiency and leadership

January, 2012



Plaza Comunitaria



Featured Program: Spanish Literacy

The Spanish Literacy Program at CIELO, which served 86 students in 2011, consists of the Plaza Comunitaria program and General Education Development (GED) preparation.

Plaza Comunitaria

The CIELO Project began a literacy and GED pilot program in Spanish in November 2005. The goal was to offer literacy and GED preparation classes to those whose first language is Spanish.

On April 1, 2007, the CIELO Project in collaboration with the Consular Section of the Embassy of Mexico and the Mexican National Institute of Adult Education officially inaugurated the Plaza Comunitaria or "**Community Learning Center**" program. This improved the effectiveness of the existing program by having access to the on-line curriculum and resources developed by the Mexican government for use with Mexicans living

The **C.I.E.L.O. Project** is centrally located in Olympia on a pastoral piece of property called **Radio Ranch**.

Operating since 1996, CIELO offers educational and family services to the Hispanic community.

CIELO, which means heaven, is a gathering place that fosters community through cultural exchange, learning and self-sufficiency training.

Our Mission, Vision, and Programs

VISION

We commit ourselves to be a vibrant, inter-cultural center for the Latino and wider community where all individuals are allies and resources for each other.

MISSION

C.I.E.L.O., Integral Latino Educational Center of Olympia, promotes community, self-sufficiency and leadership of Latinas/os and other under-served people in the south

abroad.

The Plaza Comunitaria program allows participants to complete their education in their native language and study subjects at the elementary and secondary levels.

*At the completion of this program, students receive a diploma from the **Secretary of Public Education from Mexico.***

It is very difficult for non-native speakers to grasp a second language if they do not have strong knowledge of their own language. Literacy in one's native language builds self-confidence and facilitates English language learning. Students study at their own pace via computer and have an opportunity to learn how to read and write in order to get better jobs and reach their fullest potential. Volunteer tutors help students navigate through the courses and offer support.

CIELO established a computer lab with donated computers. As we continue to upgrade and receive donated computers, they are sent home with students to increase their participation and allow their families to have access to technology.

Students attend sessions at two location, Radio Ranch and the Evergreen Vista Apartments on Olympia's west side.

GED Preparation in Spanish

The State of Washington issues a General Education Development certificate to students who successfully pass exams in five areas: Spanish reading/writing, Spanish literature, social studies, science, and math. Students are paired with volunteer tutors who have expertise in the different knowledge areas and provide support to our students through this process.

These programs are supported by fundraisers and the generous donation of our supporters.

María Teresa Rodríguez
Spanish Programs Manager

Upcoming Events:

Puget Sound area through educational and mental health services, and social and cultural activities.

CIELO strives...

*** to provide opportunities for people to acquire skills and resources to actively participate in the wider community and to realize their full potential.**

*** to be a space that welcomes the expressions and celebration of cultures and traditions and builds a strong multi-generational community with respect and dignity.**

*** to strengthen and create relationships between immigrants and their allies who are working together for justice.**

Our Programs -

English Language

helping students adapt their lives to their new culture

Spanish Literacy

offering educational credentials in Spanish

Computer Literacy

learning how to use technology

Proyecto Familia

providing family counseling services

Proyecto Esperanza

offering comprehensive

Board of Directors - Annual Meeting
Monday, January 16, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Announcements:

The **Literacy Project in Yelm** will once again receive funding from the **Nisqually 2% Fund Grant**. Their generous donation of **\$15,000** will support the English language learning classes in the Yelm community for 2012. Thank you so much for supporting this worthwhile effort in this rural community.

Our holiday **Adopt A Family** program was very successful. We were able to collect **\$700** to help **7 families** have a brighter Christmas. Thank you to both the **Pages Book Club** and the **Dog Lovers Book Club** for their generous donations.

A special thank you to **Ariana Dowell** and the **Hispanic Employee Resource Organization of State Farm Insurance** for selecting one of our families to be the recipient of their generous **\$200** holiday donation.

The first annual **Wreath Sale** fundraiser brought in **\$479** for the literacy program. Thank you to everyone who sold wreaths and garland on our behalf. A special thank you to **Mariana Heredia** for establishing this event.

Thank you to **Lakeside Industries** for their generous donation of **two truckloads of gravel** for our very long driveway. We appreciate your giving us this product to help us maintain our property.

CLASS SCHEDULES - Winter Session:

NEW Spanish Language Classes
at CIELO / Radio Ranch

services to sexual assault victims

Parenting Classes

conducted in Spanish

Sewing Program

teaching sewing & alteration skills with the goal of self-employment

Computer Repair Class

learning how to diagnose and repair computer problems

CIELO operates a **Sewing Cooperative** which provides **alteration services**.

The **Computer Repair** class is accepting computers that need to be fixed.

Radio Ranch is **available to rent** for classes, retreats, cultural activities and events.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Sherry Sullivan
chair

Carlos Aguilera
secretary

Mariana Heredia
founder

Frances Tanaka

Veronica Shriver

Ariana Dowell

Jane Villanueva

Paul Wohl

Wednesday
January 11 - March 14
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
\$150 tuition
\$20 non-refundable deposit applies to tuition
Registration Form

Spanish Literacy & GED Preparation
at CIELO / Radio Ranch
Monday & Friday
on-going, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
at Evergreen Vista Apartments
Monday & Friday
on-going, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

English as a Second Language
at CIELO / Radio Ranch
Tuesday & Thursday
January 10 - March 15
6:30 - 8:30 pm
at Evergreen Vista Apartments
Monday
January 9 - March 12
10:00 - 12:00 noon

**English as a Second Language
in Yelm**
Monday & Wednesday
January 9 - March 14
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Computer Literacy in Spanish
at CIELO / Radio Ranch
Wednesday
January 11 - March 14
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Computer Repair classes - Monday 6:00 - 8:00

Sewing Skills classes - Saturday 10:00 - 1:00
Wednesday 4:00 - 7:00

Attention!

La Cena, Spanish Conversation Group meets at Radio Ranch every third Friday. All levels welcome. Join them on **Jan. 20 from 6-8 pm.**

Combined Fund Drive

#456569

**VOLUNTEER,
SUPPORT, and
DONATE** to the
C.I.E.L.O. Project!

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Find us on
Facebook!



Ways to Help/ Current Needs:

- Board members wanted
- Child care volunteers needed
- Passenger or mini- van for Transportation Service
- Sewing machines, serger, materials & notions
- **Copy paper**, colored paper
- DVD player
- Presentation Projector
- 4 Laptops for classroom use
- Computers in need of repair for class
- Power surge strips
- Comb binding machine

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Please visit our web site: www.cieloproject.org

