CLA SUMMIT:

PLP members traveled to Denver to attend the Colorado Leadership Alliance Summit (CLA). There they listened to talk about various things surrounding the idea of leadership and deliberative debate. They then broke off into groups and discussed the subject of core curriculum. Following that was the Mentor Walk were Denver leaders in the field help students with career planning.

ANGEL PROJECT:

During the holidays PLP knows that it's more than just about receiving but giving. PLP members all pitched to pay for a present for a child in need. It is a great feeling knowing we can help make someone’s holiday!

GRAND THEATER:

PLP gets the chance to volunteer at the Rocky Ford Grand Theater once a month. The members work at the concession stand. It’s always good to see new faces and interact with people of the community.
January:
- 21st - La Junta Forensic Meet
- 28th - CLA Summit

February:
- 7th - FBLA districts (timers/judging)
- 10-12th - Grand Theater
- 15th - Rock Climbing
- 23-24th - NCLS at the Air Force Academy

March:
- 1st - Cesar Chavez 7th grade leadership workshop
- 4th - Girls in the middle
- TTO Radio interview

Look at a stone cutter hammering away at his rock, perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet at the hundred-and-first blow it will split in two, and I know it was not the last blow that did it, but all that had gone before. ~Jacob A. Riis
This month’s spotlight of a current PLP member is Andres Diaz. It was an honor for me, Chance Abert, to talk to Andres and ask him a few questions about how things are going in his first year in PLP. When asked about it, Andres responded, “I love it; it’s an experience I wouldn’t trade for the world.” Andres wants to go to a four-year college in the future, but it depends where because of his soccer career. He wants to major in either sports management or marketing and is trying to take acting and modeling more serious. A little more about Andres is he is from Firestone, Colorado and loves traveling with his friends and working out. So far, Andres and his friends have traveled all the way to Florida and Canada. When asked about his favorite memory of PLP thus far, Andres responded, “I really enjoyed doing the food drive. It was fun while giving and helping to a good cause.” Andres is a good guy and friend of mine. It was a pleasure knowing him at our tenure at OJC. He has a good head on his shoulders and any future college will be lucky to have him.
Q: What is your greatest memory of being in the program?

It is actually very difficult to choose one specific memory. I really enjoyed Kelly Barnes and the presentation he held for the local schools in the auditorium. I am so thankful that we were required to do an internship in the second semester. I learned so much about the accounting field and it truly helped me shape my career goals into perspective. But more than anything, I am most appreciative of the lifelong friendships I acquired from the program. Most are PLP members, and others I met from doing the service hours activities.

Q: Tell us about your experiences in the President Leadership Program?

Of course it was absolutely amazing! The only thing that could’ve made it better was if I could’ve been in the program for two years rather than just one. One of the coolest parts of PLP is I joined the program only knowing one other member. My class had five students from other countries and numerous students from other states. It’s amazing to get to taste such a variety of different cultures, languages and values by just being in someone’s presence. This program is life changing- but you get as much out of it as you put in- So make the most of it!

Q: What are you doing now that you’re out of the program?

I currently live in Pueblo, Co. and I just bought a house (Which I am pretty excited about)! I am 3 courses away from my Bachelor’s in accounting and I work a non for Profit Company called Crossroads Turning Points. The company I work for is a substance abuse rehabilitation facility that offers counseling and treatment to those individuals battling addiction in nine different counties across the state of Colorado. I can’t begin to explain the gratification I feel knowing that my work directly impacts the safety and well-being of the community that I love.
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Application deadline: April 1st

Contact: Samme Ormiston | Phone: 719-384-6850

Otero Junior College
President’s Leadership Program