

WLP on African American Family Day Panel



On February 24, 2018, WLP students Cera Randle (11th), Zorrie Petrus (11th) and Ananda Johnson (12th) spoke at the LAUSD's annual African American Family Day at Gardena High School. Students participated in a panel entitled, "My Pathway to Greatness-If I Knew Then What I Know Now", which was moderated by Dr. Brenda Manuel of LAUSD's Parent and Student Engagement office. The panel focused on the strategies and resources students are using to achieve academic success, highlighting the importance of mentoring, college readiness development, civic engagement, and community support. Adult mentors provided insight on culturally responsive resources within the community and the district. Two hundred participants attended the event.

WLP and YMS in L.A. Students Deserve Coalition



During the fall-winter 2017-2018 semester, WLP and YMS students participated in ongoing sessions with the L.A. Students Deserve coalition, which is comprised of middle and high school youth from LAUSD and L.A. County schools. The coalition has launched a district-wide button and awareness campaign demanding an end to random searches, police presence on school campuses, the reduction of police and paramilitary-related budget funding, and the creation of community schools. Students co-facilitated classroom and community outreach at King-Drew, Gardena and Dorsey High Schools, attended school board meetings on school safety and budget funding, and participated in a citywide youth conference at Trade Tech College in February.

Blacks & Hispanics in STEM: UCLA National Society of Black and Hispanic Engineers Outreach



On February 1, 2018, WLP and YMS students attended a seminar and campus tour sponsored by UCLA's National Society of Black Engineers and its partner organization, the National Society of Hispanic Engineers. Students engaged with undergraduate and graduate engineering students from the chemical, aerospace and mechanical engineering departments and discussed UC college preparation requirements as well as racial/gender and class barriers for students of color in the UC system. The event was part of WLP and YMS' "Blacks in STEM" series which connects students with African American science, technology, engineering, and mathematics mentors in higher education and provides high school students with academic and professional resources for transition to college.