

# #UPYEC2016 :

# 4TH ANNUAL URBAN PLANNING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE



A project of the **Planners of Color for Social Equity**

ELARA STUDENTS



## OUR GOALS:

- (1) To expose underrepresented students to higher education at UCLA
- (2) For youth and grad students to engage in horizontal learning
- (3) To encourage healthy habits in East Los Angeles

## EVENT PARTNER

PCSE works with the East Los Angeles Renaissance Academy (ELARA) a pilot school located on the campus of Esteban Torres High School in unincorporated East Los Angeles. ELARA was founded in 2010 and is one of only three schools in the nation with an emphasis in urban planning and design. The students are predominantly Latino/a and East Los Angeles is one of the lowest-income neighborhoods in Los Angeles.

## BACKGROUND/FUNDING:

- The conference started in 2013 as a college exposure event, and has transformed over four years into a collaborative effort between PCSE and other student organizations at UCLA such as Bruins for Urban Design and Development, Bike Coalition, Built Environment and Public Health Council, and focuses on planning as a tool for social justice.
- We have obtained funding from: UCLA Healthy Campus Initiative (HCI), The Graduate Student Association Sustainability Resource Center (GSA SRC), and the UCLA Campus Programs Committee (CPC).

## A DYNAMIC DAY:

ELARA students will come to UPYEC on Friday May 6, 2016.

- (1) Students arrive at UCLA at 9:00 am, have a healthy breakfast and hear from a keynote speaker about the power of planning as a tool for social justice, and the UCLA Urban Planning Department.
- (2) Next they participate in a Planning 101 workshop led by PCSE members.
- (3) Later, grad students lead high school students on campus activism walking tours and share lunch with them.
- (4) Finally, students participate in topic workshops on planning's connection to food access, active transportation, creation of green space, urban design and environmental sustainability in East Los Angeles.

## WHY HEALTHY CAMPUS INITIATIVE?

UPYEC teaches young people the power of planning as a tool for sustainability, health and wellness in the following ways:

- (1) PCSE partners with health-oriented graduate student groups to deliver workshops about active transportation, food access, and urban gardening, we will **foster a high level wellness** by maximizing the potential of student participants to improve their health.
- (2) Horizontal learning **encourages personal responsibility**. Young people are responsible for taking these lessons back to their community on their own terms, and planners are better equipped to work with low income communities of color.
- (3) Because the event is tactile and participatory and the workshops will use techniques that position the youth as the expert on their community, the event will **respect diversity**.
- (4) By investigating how planning impacts health outcomes for low income communities, the conference strives to **reduce inequities in health**.
- (5) Because the conference first started to build a stronger pipeline to higher education and to more broadly expose students to the planning profession, the event is meant to **be integrative**, and acknowledges the journey these students are on.



PLANNING 101 WORKSHOP



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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### Additional acknowledgements:

- (1) UCLA GSA Sustainability Resource Center
- (2) D3 at UCLA Luskin



STUDENTS IN DESIGN WORKSHOP



STUDENTS MAKE SEED BOMBS IN A TOPIC WORKSHOP



UCLA PUBLIC AFFAIRS BUILDING



PCSE members at UPYEC con-