

South L.A. Youth Job Fair

More than 140 young people looking for work experience and life skills attended the recent Hire LA's Youth Job Fair in South Los Angeles. It was an outstanding event that featured a broad spectrum of nearly 50 employers including Universal Studios, Verizon Communications, Starbucks, Albertsons, Wells Fargo Bank, City of Los Angeles Election Division, United Parcel Service and the Los Angeles Police Department.

Young job seekers were encouraged to come to the fair with their resumes and dressed for success. Over the last several weeks, job fairs have been held throughout the city in an effort to help young people find work. Employers are especially enthusiastic about the Work Readiness Component that is part of the Hire LA 18-24 jobs program. Job candidates who have participated in the program arrive for the application process demonstrating a level of enthusiasm for work and possess a strong foundation of critical skills to carry out responsibilities and learn on the job.

The Community Development Department along with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, the Los Angeles City Council, the State Employment Development Department (EDD), the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and a number of community organizations are promoting job opportunities for young people through the Hire LA 18-24 program. The Mayor's Hire LA's Youth goal is to put 10,000 young people in summer youth employment. Since the Program's inception in May 2006, more than 7219 young people have received jobs or work experience through the program. With more job fairs planned for July, and satisfied employers looking for young people ready to go to work, that goal is just a few applicants away from becoming a reality.

