



October 6, 2016

Houston Hispanic Forum
4635 Southwest Freeway, Suite 360
Houston, TX 77027-7193

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Greater Houston Partnership in support of the Houston Hispanic Forum's 31st Annual Career and Education Day on February 18, 2017. As a key business organization serving the 11-county greater Houston region, the Partnership is well aware that the success of our regional workforce depends on quality education and career preparedness programs that serve our entire community. Houston's continued economic growth, led by a capable, skilled workforce, depends on programs like Career and Education Day to reach all citizens across our region.

The Partnership represents a member roster of about 1,200 businesses and institutions across the Houston region. Regional business leaders collaborate at the Partnership to make Houston one of the best places to live, work and build a business by enhancing the region's quality of life and environment, education, infrastructure and economy.

Through the Early Matters and UpSkill Houston initiatives, the Partnership is an advocate for education and has made it one of our top priorities. The Early Matters coalition of business, civic, education, philanthropic and nonprofit organizations and volunteers works to raise awareness about the importance of high-quality early childhood education and to make a strong case for increased investment in this critical, high-return on investment area. Our UpSkill Houston initiative is the nation's first business-led, community-wide, integrated workforce effort, focused on closing the skills gap in the region by increasing the number of Houstonians trained for great careers that do not require a four-year college degree.

We at the Partnership strongly support the Houston Hispanic Forum's Career and Education Day and look forward to participating and helping to foster educational success in our region.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bob Harvey' in a cursive style.

Bob Harvey
President and CEO