



July 2023

CEO Update

It's summertime at BLCI and while our programming may look a little different, we continue to offer a variety of opportunities to reduce the learning gap for our students. BLCI is thankful to have strong community partnerships that enable our students to try new activities such as summer camp at the YMCA or a day of family fishing with our friends at Outdoor Outreach. Exposing our students to other organizations and experiences gives them a chance to grow and become more prepared for the transition to college.



Many students, like Victor who is featured in this month's student spotlight, use the summer to work on their Personal Insight Questions and kids from our Upward Bound Program use the summer to tour college campuses. The staff at BLCI use the time that is usually set aside for classroom instruction to get our students out into the community to participate in career exploration. Collins Aerospace provided a full day of career shadowing at their facility in Chula Vista, giving our kids a unique opportunity to envision a career in STEM.

All the activities are designed to fuel the spark for learning and help our students envision what their life can look like in college and beyond. School is back in session next month and I encourage you to stop in for a tour and see for yourself how your support is shaping the future for the next generation of college graduates.

Sara Boquin
Chief Executive Officer, BLCI

Community Partner Spotlight: Collins Aerospace

During summer break, students have the time for experiences that may not be possible during the



school year. Recently, 25 BLCI Upward Bound students and 4 staff visited the Collins Aerospace office to learn more about the various career opportunities within a global aerospace and defense company.

Click the link below to learn more about this great opportunity!

[Read More](#)

Interested in providing a career day at your place of business? Contact Megan@BLCI.org to learn more.

Summer Programs at BLCI

Rising senior, Victor, from our San Diego Promise Neighborhoods site at San Diego High School is using his summer break to work on getting feedback for his Personal Insight Question, “While I felt confident in applying, I wanted help with the application. I really appreciated the support the BLCI staff gave me by proofreading my answers to the essay questions. They helped me focus on tightening my messaging in essay writing. If it wasn’t for BLCI I would have never learned about these opportunities available to me and I’m grateful because I was accepted to the program.”



Click below to learn more about what summer looks like for BLCI Students!

[Learn More](#)

Donations Needed

BLCI Launches Back to School Drive

As our students prepare to return to school, we encourage you to join our efforts and support the class of 2024 Back to School Drive.

Back-to-school supplies cost an average of \$75-\$150 per student. Incoming freshman face even higher costs as students prepare to live away from home for the first time. For families already facing economic hardship, the additional cost is an added challenge.



Without the correct supplies, students start the school year already being behind. Help our efforts to support our students as they prepare for the coming school year.

We are also collecting books to be distributed through the second annual Barrio Logan Book Festival on September 21st at our Barrio Logan site. This event is a partnership with [San Diego Oasis](#) that will ensure students have access to reading-level appropriate books at home.

Donating is as easy as visiting our Amazon Wish List. Select your items and have them shipped directly to BLCI, or donations can be dropped off at any of our program sites. Gift cards are also acceptable if you prefer to let the students select their own items.

[School Supplies](#)

[Dorm Supplies](#)

[Book Festival](#)

Questions? Contact Darby@BLCI.org to learn more or to schedule a delivery.

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