

# 10 — YR

ANNIVERSARY  
REPORT



MOVING  
LONG BEACH  
AHEAD

2008—2018

**FOR**

**VIS**



**WARD**

**ION**



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*A young couple takes a selfie with Flippa the dolphin at Beach Streets.*



*A preschooler takes a break from learning at a Child Development Center at Tincher Elementary.*

## Forward Thinking

All students deserve an opportunity to succeed. This belief drives Long Beach to prepare all students for college and their careers, which then fuels the city's economic prosperity. A national model for student success, The Promise has helped thousands of youth achieve their dreams of higher education.

Developed in 2008, The Promise formalizes the guarantee of access to higher education for every student and promotes greater educational attainment in the community. Residents gain employment opportunities and are better equipped to engage in civic matters for a healthy and vibrant Long Beach.

The Promise partners work as one system to help students transition from each institution. They offer early childhood education opportunities, an excellent school system that links college and career preparation, internships, a tuition-free first year at Long Beach City College and guaranteed admission at Long Beach State University.





## OUR PROMISE

“The Promise transforms lives and the city’s economic future by placing higher education within reach for all.”





**Left**

*The executive team renews its commitment to The Promise at a welcome ceremony for new LBCC Superintendent-President Reagan F. Romali on Nov. 13, 2017.*

## A Message from the Executive Team

This year marks the 10th anniversary of The Promise, and we are excited to share its accomplishments with the community.

Research shows that more Long Beach students are meeting college eligibility standards, requiring significantly less remediation and enrolling in greater numbers in institutions of higher education.

A greater number of Long Beach students are entering STEM disciplines. More first-generation college students are obtaining postsecondary education, including two-year, four-year and graduate degrees. Graduation rates are increasing across all groups.

The Promise's success is rooted in a partnership that puts children first - ahead of the needs of any one institution. Partners collaborate across institutions with support from the community.

A deep recession, new leadership and typical large-city issues

have not slowed progress. The Promise is ingrained in our approach to education and policy-making. It is as much a part of the city as its sunny beaches and the Queen Mary.

In the next decade we envision developing our graduates into a force for innovation that promotes economic, cultural and civic vitality in Long Beach and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Steinhauser  
*Superintendent, Long Beach Unified School District*

Reagan F. Romali  
*Superintendent-President, Long Beach City College*

Jane Close Conoley  
*President, Long Beach State University*

Robert Garcia  
*Mayor, City of Long Beach*



**Right**  
Leaders meet to discuss new plans for an Educational degree pathway.

## Paving the Way

### CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION

Long Beach's educational institutions participate in ongoing collaboration and reciprocal learning. They share data across institutions to identify, prioritize and address the needs of students. This information helps to shape joint initiatives and activities aimed at preparing students for college and career.

Students are more likely to earn a college degree in a timely manner if they explore career options, identify a path and remain on the path. The Pathway Initiative seeks to help students navigate their way to college by aligning partner systems and removing barriers that block students' progression from one institution to another.

Faculty and staff focus on improving pathways across K-12 schools, the community college and the university in the following eight areas: business administration, education, engineering, health, liberal arts, life and physical sciences, English remediation and math remediation.



**Top**  
Students pose for a photo during the BtG 2017 Summer Transition program.

The initiative's aim is to promote more timely completion of degrees, increased college participation rates for underrepresented students, greater completions of associate's degrees for transfer, and growth in bachelor's degrees for LBUSD students. This work is supported by the state's Awards for Innovation in Higher Education.

The Promise collaboration helps students to plan their courses in high school and college to meet their career goals. Partners also host Future Teacher Clubs Day and a History Transfer Workshop and Tour.

A Bridging the Gap grant from the James Irvine Foundation funds educational partners to focus on enhancing dual enrollment, expanding major and career exploration, implementing a summer transition program and developing a data warehouse accessible to partners to expand data-driven decision-making.

The overall goals of the Bridging the Gap grant are to support the goals and mission of the Long Beach College Promise and become a regional model of K-16 partners.





**Right**  
Mathematics teacher  
Charity Rock leads a  
class at Washington  
High School.

## Cornerstones of Success

### TEACHER PREPARATION

More than two-thirds of teachers hired by the Long Beach Unified School District are graduates of Long Beach State University. The school district works closely with the college, providing a centralized process for placing student teachers earning their credentials at school sites. Currently there are 438 university students training in LBUSD classrooms.

The Urban Teacher Academy (UTEACH) offers yearlong, on-site teaching residencies that expose future teachers to diverse urban classrooms. Funded by SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union, UTEACH offers stipends and scholarships to help offset the hundreds of hours of unpaid training in the classroom.

The partners develop and improve university coursework, provide LBUSD teachers ongoing professional development and use school staff to teach university courses. SD Bechtel funds a Master Teacher Institute to ensure quality instruction.



### PROMISE PATHWAYS INITIATIVE

LBCC's Promise Pathways is an initiative to help students succeed in college. The college has long been at the forefront of breaking down student barriers. Students benefit from several innovations, including first-semester success plans and priority registration. LBCC supports students with enhanced transfer preparation as well as advising and career services. All students from LBUSD get a tuition-free first year.

For more than five years, The Promise partners have been using classroom performance factors like GPA and not standardized tests for more accurate placement of students in college courses. The alternative placement model reduces the need for remediation and time to earn a degree for many Long Beach students. The California State University system and many community colleges are following suit by eliminating unnecessary placement tests.

**Top**

LBCC students walk to  
class on the first day  
of school.



# By the Numbers

## 10-YEAR MILESTONES

### INCREASING ACCESS

#### LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY ENROLLMENT GROWTH

**71%** ↑  
**INCREASE** IN ENROLLMENT FROM LBUSD TO LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY

**55%** ↑  
**INCREASE** IN ENROLLMENT FROM LBCC TO LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY

#### RISE IN COLLEGE READINESS

**22%** ↑  
**INCREASE** IN LBUSD STUDENTS WHO ARE COLLEGE READY WHEN ENTERING LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY FROM **43% IN 2008 TO 65% OF THE ENROLLED COHORT IN 2017.**



#### INCREASED FIRST GENERATION STUDENT ENROLLMENT

**151%** ↑  
**INCREASE** IN LBUSD FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS ENROLLING AT LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY, GOING FROM **166 IN FALL 2008 TO 417 IN FALL 2017.**

**100%** ↑  
**INCREASE** IN LBCC FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS ENROLLING AT LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY, GOING FROM **98 IN FALL 2008 TO 196 IN FALL 2017.**

Data shows that the Long Beach College Promise is making big strides in helping students get to college. A greater number of Long Beach students are eligible and enrolling at Long Beach State University. More than ever before, students are prepared to attend college and successfully graduate.

*Top*  
 A student celebrates at an LBCC graduation ceremony.



## CLOSING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS

### UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES THRIVE

**60%** is the 6-year graduation rate of LBUSD underrepresented minorities\* enrolled at Long Beach State University, narrowing the achievement gap between non-underrepresented minorities and underrepresented minorities to only **3.88%**. The 6-year graduation rate is **59%** at public institutions, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

**82%** is the 4-year graduation rate of LBCC underrepresented minorities who transfer to Long Beach State University, an increase of **11%** from **71%** in Fall 2008 to **82%** in Fall 2013.

*\*Underrepresented minorities consist of American Indian or Alaskan Native, Latino, and Black or African American students.*

#### Top

*Two LBCC students strike a pose on their way to class.*



## STUDENT SUCCESS

Graduation rates in the Long Beach Unified School District increased for the fifth year in a row, again surpassing state and county rates. Students of color in Long Beach schools also outperformed their peers countywide and statewide.

LBUSD's overall graduation rate is **84.2%**, surpassing both Los Angeles County's rate of **81.3%** and California's **83.2%**. At the college level, **63%** of LBUSD students enrolled at Long Beach State University graduate in six years.

#### Top

*Long Beach State University students celebrate after graduation.*

Long Beach City College continues to help students succeed. In 2017, LBCC awarded nearly 1,700 associates degrees and helped 1,300 students transfer to four-year institutions. LBCC's persistence and graduation rates are increasing: **84%** of LBCC students enrolled at Long Beach State University graduate in four years.

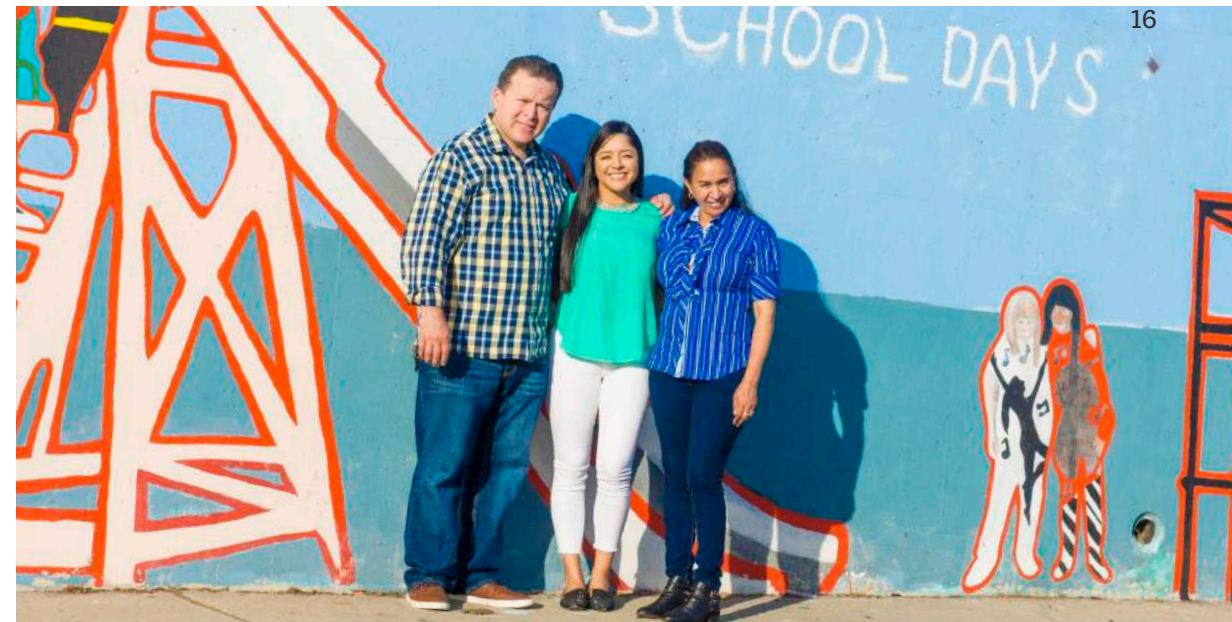


# Student Success

## MEET SANDRA

“Higher education gives me the opportunity to go as far as I want in order to accomplish my goals and dreams. **It means my parents' sacrifices will not go in vain.**”

Sandra Lopez  
B.A. Psychology, 2016



**A**t age 12, Sandra migrated with her family from Guadalajara, Mexico, to the United States in search of stability and opportunity. Like many students, she longed to attend college and leave her mark on the world.

### Top

*Sandra, with her father, Jose, and her mother, Amelia.*

Sandra graduated from Cabrillo High School with a 4.0 GPA and received admission letters to all of the universities for which she applied. However, she could not obtain scholarships to any of them because she did not have U.S. citizenship. Long Beach City College provided Sandra an alternative: a path to pursue her education and transfer to Long Beach State University, where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology in 2016.

She works as an administrative analyst in the Building and Safety Bureau of the City of Long Beach's Department of Development Services. Inspired by her parents' sacrifice, Sandra continues to embrace opportunity by pursuing a master's degree in public administration at Long Beach State University. She graduates in May 2018.





### Universal Access to Early Childhood Education

Long Beach commits to high-quality early education for all children. A new, 32,000-square-foot Educare facility will serve 200 infants, toddlers and preschool children and provide professional development for teachers.



### College Tours for All 4<sup>TH</sup> and 5<sup>TH</sup> Grade Students

Every year, all fourth- and fifth-graders tour LBCC and Long Beach State University. Students visit classes and learn about majors and how to pay for college. More than 50,000 elementary students have experienced college.

# THE PROMISE PATH



### A Middle School Pledge by Students and Parents

Preparing for college requires commitment from both parents and students. Online pledges encourage students to be college ready and commits parents to helping their children. More than 70,000 pledges have been signed.



### Middle School Future Fair

All seventh-graders learn about careers through interactive workshops and presentations from more than 50 companies. The fair helps shape career aspirations and aids middle-schoolers for entry into one of LBUSD's industry-themed high schools.





### Internships

The Mayor's Internship Challenge and Long Beach Career Linked Learning (LBCaLL) enrich student learning through internships and career-building activities. They offer middle school to college-aged students work-based learning.



### College Prep

LBUSD offers rigorous coursework that exceeds state standards. The district has added more Advanced Placement classes, low-cost AP tests, no-cost PSAT and SAT preparation and testing and free dual enrollment in community college.



### A Tuition-Free Year at LBCC

Long Beach City College offers a free first year of tuition and enhanced supports for LBUSD students. With the passage of College Promise legislation, LBCC is looking at more ways to support students in their career path.



### Guaranteed Admission to Long Beach State University

All LBUSD students are guaranteed admission to Long Beach State University if eligibility requirements are met. Each year, the university receives a record-breaking number of applications—the most in the CSU system.



**Right**

*A student at Long Beach Polytechnic High at her 2017 graduation ceremony.*

# Academic Excellence

From preschool to college, Long Beach’s award-winning educational institutions provide a high-quality education and support for all students along the educational pipeline. Together, these institutions prepare youth for success in the ever-changing global economy.



## LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Long Beach Unified School District has earned a reputation as one of America’s finest school systems, winning many awards as a national and international model of excellence. The Global Education Study by the nonprofit Battelle for Kids organization lists LBUSD among five of the world’s highest-performing school systems. The school district was named a national winner of the Broad Prize for Urban Education, recognizing America’s best urban school system for increasing student achievement. LBUSD also earned the District of the Year award from the national

business news publisher Industry Dive and its publication, Education Dive. The honor is part of the Dive Awards recognizing education’s “top disruptors and innovators.”

- Recent state tests show that LBUSD achieved greater English and math gains than other large California school districts. Achievement gaps in 12 schools closed by 50 percent or more.
- State test scores rose among all groups, including all racial and ethnic subgroups, students learning English as a second language, special education students and homeless and foster children.
- Students are taking a record number of Advanced Placement college-level exams. Forty-six percent of 11th and 12th graders enrolled in AP courses in 2017.
- More students are meeting CSU and UC requirements. Completion of A-G requirements rose overall last year, with students of color closing the achievement gaps by significant margins. African-American students closed the A-G

**Bottom**

*A multimillion-dollar Educare Preschool will accommodate 200 children in North Long Beach.*





achievement gap by 7 percent, Hispanic students by 8 percent and Pacific Islander students by 12 percent.

- The school district offers more than 40 career-themed pathways at high schools, which use the Linked Learning approach to combine college-focused academics, work-based learning and integrated support for students.
- LBUSD graduates earned more than \$94 million in scholarships in 2017, a five-fold increase over the past decade.



### LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE

For 90 years, Long Beach City College has been at the heart of the community, providing educational programs with a commitment to excellence in student learning in a culturally diverse and vibrant environment. The two-year community college encompasses state-of-the-art, technology-rich learning environments, a broad range of academic and career technical instructional programs, strong community partnerships and economic and workforce development initiatives that prepare students to be successful in the 21st century.



- In 2017, Long Beach City College awarded nearly 1,700 associate degrees and helped 1,300 students transfer to four-year institutions.
- The Campaign for College Opportunity recognized LBCC for awarding the most associate degrees for transfer compared to all associate degrees awarded.
- In 2017, the Long Beach City College Foundation provided more than \$1.5 million in scholarships.

• Students received more than \$500,000 in Long Beach College Promise Scholarships in 2017.

• LBCC's multimillion-dollar building program has provided new facilities and modern learning environments to support new programs, allowing Long Beach City College to prepare its students to meet the changing demands of the global economy.

• Apple Inc. presented Long Beach City College with one of 10 grants distributed nationally for its extensive commitment to computer technology.



### LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY

Annually ranked among the best universities in the West and among the best values in the nation, the university's eight colleges serve more than 37,500 students. Long Beach State University values and is recognized for rich educational opportunities provided by excellent faculty and staff, exceptional degree programs, diversity



of its student body, fiduciary and administrative responsibility and the positive contributions that faculty, staff, students and more than 300,000 alumni make to society.

Long Beach State University is ranked third in the nation in conferring baccalaureate degrees to minority students, according to Diverse Issues in Higher Education.

- The university ranked fifth in the CollegeNet Social Mobility Index and received national recognition for student support as well as providing opportunities for students to further their professional achievements.
- Forbes and Kiplinger's recognized the university as one of America's Best Value Colleges.
- Payscale.com reports the average midcareer salary of Long Beach State University graduates is \$98,800.
- The Campaign for College Opportunity recognized the campus for enrolling the most associate degrees for transfer.
- In 2017, Long Beach State University received a \$2.7-million grant from the California Department of Education to prepare more Latino teachers.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked Long Beach State University among the top five nationally in freshman applications. The university received more than 100,000 applications for fall 2018.



## CITY OF LONG BEACH

- The Mayor's Fund for Education was recently launched in collaboration with local partners to identify student needs at all levels of education and assist in fundraising, capacity building and program development.
- In 2018, the Mayor's Fund launched Ready Rosie, an

online platform that provides at-home learning activities for parents of children in early education. Ready Rosie will be in every Long Beach Unified School District preschool and every Long Beach City Library branch.

- In December 2017, the city collaborated with Long Beach City College and Blankspaces to create an entrepreneurial hub for students and rising entrepreneurs.
- The Long Beach Internship Challenge, in conjunction with the work of the Long Beach Collaborative for Advanced Linked Learning, has provided internship opportunities to more than 4,000 students.
- The city and Long Beach State University announced plans to develop a student community in Downtown Long Beach. The Long Beach State University Village will provide unique cultural and learning experiences for students and local businesses.

### Bottom

Plans for a new Long Beach State University village in downtown Long Beach. Renderings courtesy of City of Long Beach.





*Right*  
Representatives from  
the Federal Aviation  
Administration talk  
to students at a  
2018 Spring Job &  
Internship Fair.



## Building a Strong Workforce

In Long Beach, students have opportunities to explore college majors and strengthen their path to a career. Partners collaborate with the aim of helping students select a major by the time they arrive at college and focus on the courses needed to complete their degree on time.

Long Beach Unified School District follows the Linked Learning model, turning high schools into industry-themed learning communities. Linked Learning is a successful approach to K-12 education that promotes early career exploration by introducing academics, technical skills, work-based learning and comprehensive support into student learning experiences.

The non-profit Long Beach Career Linked Learning (LBCaLL) supports Linked Learning by engaging and connecting businesses and industries to student learning. LBCaLL works with employers, teachers and administrators to provide youth a wide array of work-based learning opportunities, such as guest speakers, job shadowing, career fairs and internships.

In 2015, the James Irvine Foundation and Jobs for the Future selected Long Beach as a Regional Hub of Excellence to grow the Linked Learning approach regionally. Partners work to increase the number of young people who achieve a postsecondary credential and are prepared for career success.

The Mayor's Office joined these efforts with the launch of the Long Beach Internship Challenge, committing additional resources and support to expand student work experiences. Since launching, the Internship Challenge has more than doubled the number of paid internships for high school and college students.



*Right*  
A student in the  
Culinary Arts Depart-  
ment at LBCC hones  
her skills in one of  
the college's state-of-  
the-art kitchens.

# Accolades

## LONG BEACH LEADS THE WAY

PRESS-TELEGRAM

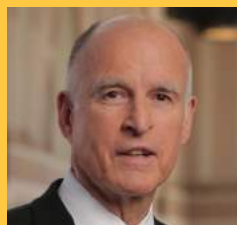
“The College Promise is an ambitious plan to upend the effects of poverty, race and limited educational opportunities. The nationally recognized effort does a lot of things right, like bringing together all levels of education for a common goal.”

—Editorial Board

The New York Times

“This guarantee has been a game-changer for a city whose economy was battered by the closing of the naval base, the decimation of the local aerospace industry, and, more recently, the Great Recession.”

—David L. Kirp, Contributor



“Your award reflects your willingness to set ambitious goals, imagine creative ways to solve seemingly intractable challenges, cultivate deep support to try a different approach and then actually implement the innovations.”

— Gov. Jerry Brown upon the announcement of the Awards for Innovation in Higher Education



“I hope that when the modern history of California is written that there is at least one chapter on Long Beach and its approach to public education.”

—Former Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg upon receiving the College Promise Champion Award

**Below**

Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia and a young student celebrate with a high-five.

“The Long Beach Miracle. How the working-class California city saved its schools.” *The Atlantic*







# Advancing Community

## THE ROLE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

All parents in Long Beach - no matter what neighborhood they live in - understand the important role college plays in their children's future. However, getting into college and paying for it are major challenges.

In 2016, the Governor's Award for Innovation in Higher Education helped fund a public engagement team to strengthen the city's awareness of The Promise. The office launched a multi-year campaign to ensure that all students and their families know about The Promise's tuition-free first year at Long Beach City College and guaranteed admission to Long Beach State University.

**Top**

*The public engagement team meets students at the Cambodian New Year Festival.*

This campaign uses research from focus groups and surveys to guide its community outreach at the neighborhood level. The office recruits and trains a robust volunteer corps to engage families at more than 60 community events a year,



including local resource fairs, backpack giveaway events, festivals, celebrations and conferences.

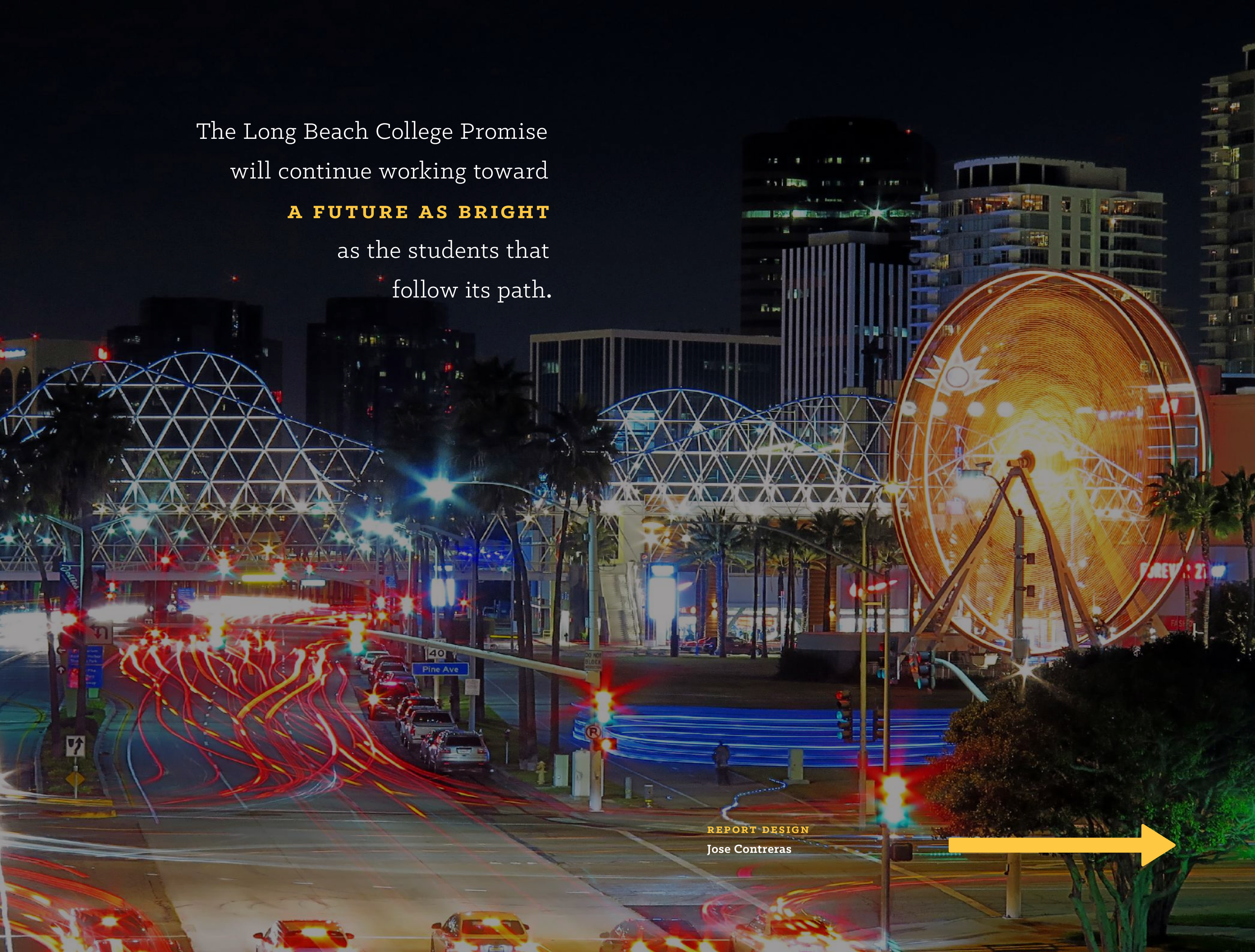
**Top**

*A young family enjoys Beach Streets in North Long Beach.*

The public engagement team presents to local nonprofit groups and implements a train-the-trainer model to amplify The Promise' benefits. Staff and volunteers present for student groups, parent meetings and policy makers at the state and national level. To address Long Beach's diversity, culturally and linguistically appropriate campaign materials are developed and distributed widely.



The Long Beach College Promise  
will continue working toward  
**A FUTURE AS BRIGHT**  
as the students that  
follow its path.



REPORT DESIGN

Jose Contreras

