BIXEL EXCHANGE CONTINUES TO LINK START-UPS TO TECH SUCCESS

In just the two years since its inception, Bixel Exchange has made tremendous progress in helping L.A. tech entrepreneurs thrive. Launched in January 2013 as a partnership between the Small Business Development Center and the L.A. Area Chamber, Bixel Exchange offers programs and services that mentor, educate and connect new technology companies so that they continue to grow, produce jobs, commerce and new technologies here in L.A. To date, Bixel Exchange has:

- advised more than 150 companies/clients
- brought on 14 advisors to help foster growth
- secured more than $500K in capital infusion through advising and workshops
- hosted more than 20 events for more than 3,000 attendees

In addition, with its partners, Bixel Exchange has developed the first technology task force for the L.A. Fire Department, piloted SAP’s Startup Focus accelerator program in L.A., collaborated with Warner Brothers Media Camp and sent the Chamber’s first technology delegations to Washington D.C. and Sacramento to meet with legislators to advocate for important technological issues.

Want to be a driver in the high tech fast lane? Learn more or contact Kevin Lew, 213.580.7584.

L.A. Chamber appointed to Covered California SHOP Advisory Council

Covered California has
OVERHEARD

“There is a great divide between what is actually going on in the classroom and what Sacramento thinks is happening in the classroom.”

Assemblymember Patrick O’Donnell (AD 70), Chair of the California Education Committee, speaking at the Education & Workforce Development Council meeting.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The State We’re In: California Leading the Nation?
CSUF News
April 15, Read more

All in favor of raising the minimum wage, start marching
Los Angeles Magazine
April 14, Read more

From small farming to urban agriculture: El Monte and subsistence homesteading
KCET
April 14, Read more

LA Plans to go green
News24.com
April 9, Read more

---

Leadership L.A. focuses on education

On Friday, Leadership L.A. focused on the City’s public education system. During the seminar, the Fellows heard from leaders from LAUSD and local nonprofit organizations working to increase graduation rates and improve college access for all students. They also had the opportunity to join the Chamber’s Education & Workforce Development Policy Council meeting, featuring Assembly Member Patrick O’Donnell, chair of the California Education Committee. Afternoon excursions explored different educational models and programs to help bridge the gap to increase graduation rates. The night before, Fellows attended a special workshop with Christopher Thornberg, founding partner, Beacon Economics, LLC, to gain a deeper understanding of the local economy. Contact Erin Tanenbaum, 213.580.7526.

Leadership L.A. Fellow sworn in as mayor of South Gate

On Tuesday, Leadership L.A. Fellow, Jorge Morales, was sworn in as mayor of South Gate. The oath of office was administered by Leadership L.A. alumni and California State Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens).

Upon being sworn in, Mayor Morales told his companies like Uber and Lyft will soon be able to pick you up at LAX. Currently, vehicles from ride-share companies are not allowed to pick up passengers at the airport. Read the full article.
constituents, “I want to work on developing an informed and engaged constituency. I want to go out and meet with our businesses and help them become engaged in the community.” Contact Nancy Olson, 213.580.7577.

Photo L to R: Southern California Leadership Network Executive Director Nancy Olson, Mayor Jorge Morales, Sen. Ricardo Lara

GOD NEWS FROM CHAMBER MEMBERS:
Cal State L.A. advancing the University’s priorities and goals with new council

Cal State L.A. recently convened its first meeting of the new President’s Council, which is comprised of accomplished business and civic leaders from the Greater L.A. area who will help strengthen the University’s role as a premier public comprehensive university. The 42 council members will work closely with Cal State L.A. President and Chamber board member William A. Covino, offering input and advice as the University solidifies community and corporate partnerships, launches innovative academic and research initiatives and pushes forward with an ambitious branding campaign. Read more.

Ribbon cutting for a cutting-edge member

Last Thursday, Environdental celebrated its grand opening at its location on South Olive St. in downtown L.A. Environdental practices a new kind of dentistry that provides oral healthcare in an atmosphere that applies environmentally friendly methods, including paperless charting and waterless vacuum system that saves over 300 gallons a day. Learn more. Contact Brenda Valiente, 213.580.7559.

Member makes coffee a part of morning commute

The Barista Society coffee shop opened its doors on Tuesday. Located in the East Portal of Union Station, the concept includes high quality coffee specialities and a wide variety of unique pastries. Stephanie Wiggins, Interim Deputy CEO of Metro, addressed the crowd and welcomed the new addition to the growing development in Union Station. Learn more. Contact Brenda Valiente, 213.580.7559.

Click here to submit your member news.

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information, visit lachamber.com.