



# CASA

Center for Academic and Social Advancement  
Liberating and Empowering Communities of Learners



## Se ha dicho . . . It's been said . . .

SPRING 2010 Vol. VI

### Celebrating 20 years of Innovation

#### A Note From El Maga's Blog

For those of you who have heard of me, but don't know me, I am El Maga, La Clase Mágica's all-knowing entity. I am back from my travels and just wanna let all the kiddies (and grown-ups) know that you can now find me at my Blog!  
(<http://elmaga1.blogspot.com/>)



A blog is just a new way for us to stay in touch on the computer. I created my Blog at the beginning of the year and it's off to a great start. The blog will help children from all our sites communicate with each other and share helpful tips from their site's expertise such as Financial Literacy or Health and Nutrition. Speaking of sites, at San Pasqual there will be a blog especially for Shuulluw Shuuluk (Thunder and Lightning in Ipai). So be sure to give my friend Shuulluw Shuuluk a big welcome!

So remember, I have entered the digital world and want you all to be a part of it too!

*-El Maga*



### The El Maga Blog Inspires New Bloggers!

Manuel Lara, age 11, has quickly adapted to his new role as an LCM Wizard Assistant at the Solana Beach Digital Literacy site where he spreads his passion for video making to his peers.

We asked Manuel about our new El Maga blog. He happily reported that it has inspired him to create his own blog! Blogging is a great way for participants to learn 21st Century networking and communications skills. For Manuel, blogging is also a fun activity that helps him reflect on his daily activities as he posts videos about himself and his interests.

Inspired by popular YouTube personality Fred Figglehorn, Manuel has recorded several videos of his own that he hopes will also make people laugh. Manuel



has also undertaken a project from home to capture an image of a ghost by using a motion-sensitive camera recording system on his computer. We look forward to more exciting work from Manuel in the future!

### Planting Seeds of Community Collaboration

The community garden project at our Los Robles Environmental Sustainability site is on its way! Through multiple gardening sessions we've selected the garden design, constructed garden beds and walkways, and learned to double dig to prepare the soil for planting. It's truly been a community undertaking where kids as young as four helped mark off the walkways and spread the compost! And now, the families are in the process of choosing what fruits and vegetables they would like to grow in order to begin planting. The garden project will be digitally documented and shared, turning this hands-on endeavor into a technology activity as well.

We can't wait to reap the harvest of this true community collaboration between CASA's La Clase Mágica staff, Victory Gardens, Palomar College student volunteers, and Community Housing Works' Los Robles Board Members and Residents—including A LOT of kids! A very special thanks to Victory Gardens for their leadership!



#### Ways you can help:

- Be a part of a community advisory board
- Be a part of our CASA board
- Volunteer at one of our sites
- Make a monetary donation
- Facilitate a workshop

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