

Front row left to right: Marc Cantu, Diego Camacho, Jacob Martinez, Taylor Buenrostro, Sariah Villarreal, Alex Gonzalez, Giovanni Esparza, J.R. Guerra, Austin Cates, standing Crystal Ramirez-Garcia, David Flores, Dr. Maria Casas, Raul M. Ramirez, Peggy Clark, Juan R. Galvan, Oscar Galindo, Mauro Garcia, Benny Martinez, Lavoyger Durham & Aaron Trevino. Not pictured Mariana Gaona, Joseph Garza & Esmeralda Ruiz.



Standing front left to right: Crystal Ramirez-Garcia, Edwin Montiel, Joey Garza, Robert Gonzalez, Juan R. Galvan and Oscar Galindo. Back row standing Raul M. Ramirez, Salome Diaz, Efrain Casas, Juan Mangel & Homer Mora

## Los Mesteños Career Academy Closes Out a Busy Summer with Graduation Celebrations

Los Mesteños Career Academy (LMCA) recently hosted graduation celebrations for its ninth annual Summer Youth Training and Employment program and its Welding III class. On hand for the summer youth graduation, Mauro Garcia, president of the Rural South Texas Economic Development Corporation, the non-profit parent organization of LMCA said, "We are very proud of the initiative taken by our students this year and appreciative of the support of our partners, BCISD, the Craft Training Center, and the Ed Rachal Foundation. I'd also like to thank the many community leaders who are in attendance and have also given us their support". Instructor Juan Galvan praised the youth for their hard work and accomplishments which included construction of large picnic tables and park benches enjoyed throughout the Falfurrias and Premont communities

The Welding III class, taught by Oscar Galindo, worked with the participants so each could construct his own barbecue pit, thanks to a donation of materials by Manuel Recio of Premont.

"I already knew how to weld, but now I have the skills to do some of the harder jobs that need doing at the ranch", said participant Homer Mora.

Los Mesteños Career Academy will soon begin advertising various classes for the fall. Go to losmestenos.org for information.