



Latino Newsletter

Director's Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of the Latino Cultural Center's (LCC) newsletter. The LCC has been open since April, 2003 and I began my appointment as Director, in March 2004. The LCC is growing rapidly. Jessie Snaza has been the LCC Program Coordinator since June 2003 and we just had one more addition, Ramiro Cabral is our new Graduate Assistant. Thanks to the Graduate School and Dean Contreni, we are

happy to have Ramiro. Ramiro is in his second year of his MBA program. Ramiro and Jessie have coordinated a new Latino Cultural Center student volunteer group called *Embajadores*. This newsletter is a result of their contributions. We at the LCC firmly believe in being a strong support network to students, faculty/staff, alumni, and the community. In order to better serve you, we appreciate your

feedback on our programs, services, and in particular this newsletter. Since this newsletter is the first of many publications, we would like to give it a title (i.e. *Journal & Courier; Exponent*); however, since this newsletter belongs to you, we would like for you to name it. Please send your suggested titles to alva-radm@purdue.edu (by October 8th, 2004) and the next newsletter could have your title on it.

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Embajadores

Embajadores are volunteer student ambassadors for the Latino Cultural Center (LCC) at Purdue University. Embajadores help create and implement cultural, educational, and various other programs that the LCC sponsors. Our Embajadores commit at least one hour per week to volunteer service to the LCC. Participation in this program help Embajadores to increase leadership, team building, problem solving skills, and resume building. If you want to join us, just stop by the LCC!



Thank you Embajadores for our first LCC NEWSLETTER!!!!



EMBAJADORES
FALL 2004

Special points of interest:

- Latino Resources
- Voter Awareness Week
- Scholarships

Puerto Rican Students and Poets

By: Kermin Joel Martinez-Hernandez

The academic world provides the opportunity to acquire and share intellectual, cultural, and social experiences that enhance our life and make us better individuals. These experiences broaden our horizon for a more complete world vision, with an improved understanding of our reality, and prepare us to face a professional life full of challenges. The great diversity in fields of study, age, ideas and ideologies, and cultural and socio-economic backgrounds that the Puerto Rican students, as Latinos, may bring as future members of the Puerto Rican Student Association (PRSA), makes the organization one that will be able to confront the challenges of a multicultural society and that can respect and understand individual opinions and idiosyncrasies. THE ORGANIZATION WILL BE a key instrument in the adaptation process and integral development of Puerto Rican students, who face the academic and professional challenges in the United States of America (USA) and the rest of the world. This is the fundamental reason to develop the PRSA, and to start our duties at Purdue University in West Lafayette during this semester.

The purpose of the PRSA shall be the establishment and maintenance of a comfortable environment for students at Purdue University. The organization will provide different academic, professional and socio-cultural activities to encourage the discussion of Puerto Rican affairs. The PRSA will sponsor workshops, seminars, and conferences of professional development for undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, the association will promote links between the community, corporations,

and non-profit organizations in the Greater Lafayette area. The PRSA will also provide some social and recreational activities to their members. One example is the Boricuas Softball team, which finished fifth out of 16 teams in the summer slow pitch league at Purdue University. Currently, the team is playing in the Lafayette Area Softball league, as well as the intramural Friday Night



league at Purdue University. Boricuas, an affectionate national nickname that comes from the Taíno's (The Amerindian people who originally inhabited the island) name for Puerto Rico, also participated in the Food Bazaar sponsored by the International Center last Spring 2004 (see picture on the right). If you would like to be part of the Boricuas involved in the PRSA, you are welcome to join us; the callout will be posted soon.



The Latino Cultural Center (LCC) is sponsoring "Latin Soul Seductions", an event for which two Puerto Rican poets, Mayda del Valle and Guillermo Rebollo-Gil, will be present.

Mayda Alexandra del Valle is a misplaced-displaced Jíbara (Puerto Rican folkloric character) without a homeland. Born and raised on the south side of Chicago, she began performing her own writing while in high school and left the windy city in 1996 to attend Williams College in Williamstown, MA. She graduated in June of 2000 with a BA in Studio Art. She won the 2001 Nuyoricano (Puerto Rican born in New York, or individuals of Puerto Rican origin who were raised in the USA) Grand Slam Champion and 2001 National Slam Individual Champion.

Guillermo Rebollo-Gill, born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, is pursuing studies at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He published his first book "Veinte" (20, twenty) for which he won an award in the Puerto Rican Culture Institute Competition. Rebollo-Gil won the award as the best poet performer in the fourth competition of poetry at the "Ateneo" of Ponce. Recently, he published and presented his second book "Soneros", sponsored by "Editores Isla Negra". The LCC and PRSA hope to see you supporting these poets in October. It is free of charge, and all are welcome !!



Thursday, October 14th, 2004

Latin Soul Seduction! Two poets - Two worlds, united by their culture

Mayda del Valle & Guillermo Rebollo-Gil

8:00 pm at the Civic Theatre: 313 N. 5th Ave, Lafayette

LCC Shows Off a New Piece of Art

By: Stephanie Bradley and Ryan Allen

The Latino Cultural Center is honored to display the beautiful artwork of Eileen Garcia. She has volunteered her time and her amazing talent by creating a mural to display to all visitors of the LCC. Eileen graduated from the Theatre Program in the School of Liberal Arts. She first became interested in contacting the LCC in order to express her own creativity. The mural was inspired by her own interest in Latin dances such as the Salsa and Flamenco. The mural entitled Latin Dance, Music,



Art, and Rhythm includes numerous influences from all over Latin America. Eileen began the mural at the beginning of last semester and is hoping to complete it by this October. Her mural will forever be a reminder of her great generosity to the Latino Cultural Center and to all who visit it. We strongly encourage volunteering of your time and talents to the LCC or any other organization.

Put on a Guayabera

By: Alex Jiménez

There seems to be a revival of the vestments that natives of the tropics used to wear. You can just imagine how hot it can get in Latin America and the Caribbean! In the 1800's, Spanish immigrants designed shirts that were both formal and comfortable. They aren't much different than many of the shirts you wear. The difference is in the material, which is much thinner than your regular shirt. There are also two pockets, one on each side of the shirt, which are similar to what you would see in a suit jacket. The tropical shirt has become popular within Hispanic communities. On October 6th, the Latino Cultural Center will host a "Show us your Guayabera" night from 6-9pm. We are encouraging professors, and graduate and undergraduate students to come by and meet some of the Latino Boilermakers.



"Show us your Guayabera" Night: Faculty/Staff Appreciation
Wednesday, October 6th at 6-9pm at the Latino Cultural Center

Latinos Resources

Grocery Stores

La Fiesta Produce Market - 608 Sagamore Pkwy., 448-4538

Jalisco Groceries - 3635 E. State Rd. 38, Lafayette; 446-8488

La Tapatía - 3100 Cincinnati St., Lafayette; 446-0317

Churches

Baptist Church 1st Hispanic - 504 N. 28th St., Lafayette; 449-0225

St. Boniface Catholic Church - 318 N. 9th St., Lafayette; 742-5063

(12:15 p.m. Sunday Mass in Spanish)

Travel Agencies

Lafayette Cruise and Travel - 200 W. State St., West Lafayette; 743-9626 (Special fares to Latin América) Servicio Bilingüe: Olga Segó

Maria's Travel - 5630 W. Washington St., Indianapolis; In Lafayette call 447-5474 (Special fares to Latin America.)

Miscellaneous

Las Novedades (Artículos Religiosos): 1440 Sagamore Parkway North #8, Lafayette, 47904

YWCA of Greater Lafayette - 605 N. 6th Street, Lafayette, 47901; 742-0075

Centro Hispano del CFRC (www.cfrc.org) - 330 Fountain St., Lafayette; 742-5046

Latino Leadership Retreat

By: Dioselin Gonzalez

On August 28th, the LCC organized the first annual Latino Leadership Retreat. Students from hispanic-interest organizations such as "La Milonguera" Argentinian Tango Club, HBSA (Hispanic Business Students Association), Delta Phi Mu, Sigma Lambda Gamma, LCC Embajadores, LSU (Latino Student Union), and SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) met for a full day event.

In the morning, we gathered at Purdue's Horticulture Park to take the Boiler Challenge Low Ropes Course. What a fun and enriching experience this course is! Facilitators provided us with 'challenges' that made us think and learn about topics like team building, communication, and leadership through very interactive (and sometimes physically demanding!) activities. It was an awesome feeling when we were able to make more than 10 people stand on a huge log and balance it for a few seconds!



For the second half of the day, we met at The Burton Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship. We held the first Latino Student Council meeting, joined by Prof. Angelica Duran, to discuss and make decisions about topics like organization of the Hispanic Heritage Month and integration of the Latino population at Purdue. We closed the day by playing 'Star Power', which raised very interesting and intense discussions. I cannot describe the game, because it would ruin the experience for those who don't know it!

Marketplace 2020 : Learning Communities Class Encourages Students to Volunteer

By: Ross Larimore

Marketplace 2020 is a learning community in Purdue University, where the student's learn about the future of the business world. The student's have to think outside the box to decide what they think will be the new fashion styles, businesses techniques, sports and technology changes in the year 2020.

The student's of marketplace 2020 were put to the task of choosing a non- profitable organization to do volunteer work. They had five options of different organizations to choose from. The organizations were the Trinity Mission Center, Latino Cultural Center, Black Cultural Center, Lafayette Transitional Housing and the Hope Mission Store. There were six students that chose the Latino Cultural Center for their volunteer work. The students chose the Latino Center because they were interested in finding out more about the culture and customs of the Latino people. The student's will have to complete a total of twenty hours throughout the semester for credit. During the first fifteen hours of work the student's will do whatever they are told to. However, the last five hours they will work as a group to complete the task presented to them. This volunteer work will be very beneficial to the student's because they will take the experience of being thrown into a situation and apply it when they are at their jobs in the future.

Luis Alberto Urrea and *The Devil's Highway*

By: Massimiliano Giorgini

Luis Alberto Urrea is a critically acclaimed author known as much for his revealing portrayals of the harsh conditions of life along the US-Mexico border, as he is for his abilities to reveal the power of the human spirit to overcome even the bleakest situations. Born in Tijuana, Mexico to a Mexican father and an American mother, Urrea draws on his own bi-ethnic and bilingual background to illustrate the cultural misunderstandings and social injustices at the root of much of the border tension.

A winner of the National Book Award,

the *ForeWord Magazine* Book of the Year Award, the American Book Award, and a member of the Latino Literary Hall of Fame, Urrea has won commendations for multiple literary genres, including works of non-fiction, fiction, short stories, essays, and poetry. His first book, *Across the Wire*, was designated a *New York Times* Notable Book, and has become a landmark text in the discussion of life in garbage dumps of Tijuana.

Fresh from an appearance on *the Los Angeles Times* Bestseller list, and nu-

merous glowing reviews from publications as diverse as *Entertainment Weekly*, *the Washington Post*, *Men's Journal*, and *the Chicago Tribune* for his latest book *The Devil's Highway* (Little Brown, 2004), Urrea is set to appear in two separate events at Purdue University as part of the Latino Cultural Center's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Currently a professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Urrea has previously taught at Harvard University and the University of Colorado.

Señorita Extraviada

Señorita Extraviada (Missing Young Woman), a new documentary by Lourdes Portillo, unfolds like the unsolved mystery that it examines—the kidnapping, rape and murder of over 230 young women in Juárez, Mexico. Visually poetic, yet unflinching in its gaze, the film unravels the layers of complicity that have allowed these brutal murders to continue. Relying on what Portillo comes to see as the most reliable of sources—the testimonies of the families of the victims—*Señorita Extraviada* documents a two-year search for the truth in the underbelly of the new global economy. The result is a shocking and brutal portrait of Ciudad Juárez, "The City of the Future."

Juarez, Mexico has been identified as a major portal for Mexican immigrants to cross into the United States. Many Mexican families in Indiana are from the Juarez and surrounding area. Other Indiana Mexican families have traveled through Juarez in their journey to relocate to Indiana. Juarez also serves as a major destination for undocumented Indiana residents being deported to Mexico.

Cultural norms and taboos have created challenges for addressing sexual and interpersonal violence in the Latino community in the United States and Mexico.

National statistics indicate that migrant women are the least likely to report sex-

ual assault and rape due to numerous barriers. Many Indiana communities lack culturally appropriate sexual assault/rape prevention and crisis services for the Latino/Migrant community.

During this event, participants will have the opportunity to view, "Señorita Extraviada."

There will be a discussion/platica held immediately after the film. Participants will also have the opportunity to review the Latina Alliance Against Sexual Aggression position statement, "Eliminating Barriers to Services for Latin@ Survivors of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence," co-authored by Kimber Nicoletti.

Support Voter Awareness Week

Wednesday, September 29

"Farmingville"

BRNG 2290 at 7:00 p.m.

Documentary and Discussion

www.pbs.org/pov/pov2004/farmingvill/about.html.

Thursday, September 30

"Señorita Extraviada"

Krannert G-16 at 7:00 p.m.

Documentary and lead by:

Kimber J. Nicoletti, MSW; CARE
Minority Outreach Coordinator

Cesar J. Alvarado; INCSAPP
Coordinator

Friday, October 1st, 2004

"The Hummingbird's Daughter"

Krannert Auditorium At 1:00pm

Friday, October 1st, 2004

"The Devil's Highway"

East Faculty Lounge at 7:00pm

www.luisurrea.com

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Latino Cultural Center

South Campus Courts, Building B
503 Harrison Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906-2025

Hours: M-TH 8am-9pm
Friday 8am-5pm

Phone: 765-494-2530
Fax: 765-496-1774
E-mail: Latino@purdue.edu

We're on the web!
www.purdue.edu/LCC

Spanish Conversation



Free!!

Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Scholarships

By: Audrey Lee and Lindsay Benedyk

There are a lot of scholarship opportunities available to Latino students. These are just a few of the possibilities:

UW-L Foundation

<http://www.foundation.uwlax.edu/schprocess.html>

Deadline: March 1, 2005, by 4:30 p.m.

ACS Scholarship Program

<http://collegeapps.about.com>

--Click on Five Essential Elements

of a Great Scholarship Application, then click on

Scholarship for Minorities

Deadline: March 1, 2005

Toll free number: 1-800-227-5558

CHCI

<http://www.chci.org/chciyouth/index.html>

--Click on Scholarship Awards, then click on Other Programs/Scholarship Programs

Deadline: April 15, 2005

Toll free number: 1-800-EXCEL-DC

This scholarship is only available to college juniors!

NAHJ Ruben Salazar Scholarship Fund

<http://www.nahj.org/student/scholarshipformation.html>

This scholarship is only for students pursuing careers in photo, broadcast, or journalism!

Deadline: January 28, 2005

BANK ONE

Special Thanks to our news letter designer
Abelardo Molina!

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