

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 15 2020



WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

OMSE

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

NATIONAL HISPANIC/LATINX HERITAGE MONTH

CELEBRATING | LEARNING | CONNECTING VIRTUALLY



ABOUT HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

"Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402. The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period." [READ MORE](#)

CENTER FOR LATINO/A AND LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVING THE WAYNE STATE COMMUNITY

Written by: **Melissa Miranda Morse**

Next year, the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies will celebrate a milestone 50-year anniversary. The center's comprehensive programs include student services, campus advocacy, community outreach, research, two learning communities, and an academic minor in Latino/a and Latin American Studies. Each year, it serves several hundred students on campus through its activities. Over its history, more than 2,000 students have directly participated in its learning communities, and numerous leaders, educators, and other accomplished professionals are among its alumni.



2019 Nuevo Comienzo Latina/o/x and Native Student Graduation, an event hosted annually by the center.

A legacy of the Civil Rights Movement and the student movements of the 1960s, the center was established in 1971 as the Latino en Marcha Leadership Training by community organizations Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development (LA SED) and New Detroit, Inc. Its goal was to develop leaders among Latino/a youth in Detroit by helping them to attain a college education. In 1972, the program was incorporated into Wayne State University, becoming a full-fledged academic center, and was renamed the Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies, reflecting the two Latino/a ethnic groups that had worked side-by-side to create the program. In 2011, the center's name changed to the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies, celebrating its current multi-ethnic community.

The center is a resource for the entire Wayne State University community and welcomes all students to take an LAS course or participate in its annual events. For more information visit las.wayne.edu.

WSU gets OK to train 51 Latin leaders

By JOHN E. PETERSON
News Staff Writer

Wayne State University's Board of Governors has approved a new program designed to provide leadership training for 51 young adults from Detroit's Latin-American community.

The program, called Latino en Marcha (Latinos on the March), is believed to be the first of its kind at any U.S. university outside the Southwest and California.

The youths were selected for participation, not by Wayne State, but by a com-

mittee representing a broad spectrum of the area's Spanish-surname population.

THE APPLICANTS were selected on the basis of their dedication and scholarship.

Since well over 90 percent of the estimated 95,000 Latinos in the metropolitan area are Mexican-American, the overwhelming majority of scholarship recipients are from the "Chicano" community.

But Gumercindo Salas, program coordinator, stressed that Cubans, Puerto Ricans and other South and central

American ethnic groups will also be included.

THE \$38,500 program provided for 25 of the youths to study in Wayne's prestigious Montclair College, 10 in the regular liberal arts course and 16 others in the university's adult education extension program.

All will be offered a wide variety of courses and seminars stressing the special role Latinos have played in American history.

Courses include Spanish-American Cultural and Social

Processes, Pre-Columbian Times to the Present; Social and Economic Realities for Spanish-Americans, Seminar in Chicano Urban Problems, and Cooperative Self Education.

"Hopefully our classroom work will provide the students with more knowledge and pride in their origins . . . something of value that they can pass on to others in the community," Salas said.

"FIELD TRIPS and work in the community will develop

further awareness by the student of his own cultural and social position," he said.

Each student will be required to write a short personal history of the family, neighborhood and community as part of the year-long program.

Preparation of the program was initially funded last May by New Detroit Inc., which made a \$3,000 grant to the Latin-Americans for Social and Economic Development (LASED) Center. The grant was used to outline the program, recruit students and draw up the initial curriculum.

1971 article from the Detroit News announcing the incorporation of the Latino en Marcha program (now the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies) to Wayne State University.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL HISPANIC/LATINX HERITAGE @ WSU



"I have been blessed with the opportunities to travel to Puerto Rico and Mexico to be with my family and experience all of my culture. Being a part of a community bigger than myself is what makes my heritage so important to me. From the music to the language, being Latina has shaped me into the person I am today."

LELA JIMENEZ

SENIOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES



"Wayne State has made it easier for me to get in touch with my LatinX side with various orgs I am apart of such as Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc and the Latino/a American Studies program. They have helped me embrace my LatinX side and taught me about my culture in which I will continue to educate others on."

MELISSA TORRES

JUNIOR, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING MINOR - LATINO/A AND LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

"I was admitted to WSU as a student in the Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies (now the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies). I believe representation is very important and know that I was fortunate to learn from faculty and staff that experienced similar barriers while earning an education. I am proud to work at my alma mater while serving as a role model for the next generation of Latinx students."

NATHAN CHAVEZ

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR ACADEMIC APPLICATIONS | COMPUTING & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



"Being a first generation Mexican American college student and obtaining the outreach chair of the LatinX Student Association has helped me embrace my LatinX heritage and education. I am proud to be a LatinX at WSU in search of higher education and mentoring students in business, Spanish, and English who are to come. Viva WSU! (Long Live WSU)"

GERARDO GUADALUPE GUADIANA JR

SENIOR, GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT



SAVE THE DATE!
9/25 | NOON - 1 P.M.
THE INTERSECTION OF IMMIGRATION STATUS & LGBTQ+
Join us as we learn from former WSU student Adonis Flores about the intersection of varying immigration status changes and being active in the LGBTQ+ community. RSVP [here](#).

VOICES FROM THE AFRO-LATINX EXPERIENCE



LATINO OR HISPANIC? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



WATCH | READ | LEARN

Check out the WSU Libraries Subject of the Month page that highlights eBooks, videos, and websites that explore topics related to Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month!

<https://guides.lib.wayne.edu/somd>

REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS @WSU

Association of Latino Professionals for America, Wayne State University Chapter

The Destino Movement at WSU

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Incorporated

Latino Medical Student Organization/ Amigos Medicos

Latinx Law Students Association

LatinX Student Association

Multicultural Greek Council

Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

THIS LIST IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE! IF YOUR ORG IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE CONTACT

OMSE@WAYNE.EDU



To learn more about any of these organizations, visit:

