Saludos, colegas!

Although it does get cold, there is nothing better than being wrapped in your blanket while enjoying a cup or two of champurrado, atole, ponche, egg nog, hot chocolate, tea, or coffee with a pan dulce, cookies, cake, bread, or pie. It is best enjoyed when you realize that final exams are done, the fall semester is over, and winter break is in full swing. We hope you enjoy the much deserved winter break doing what makes you happy (we hope that includes taking a break from work).

For having a shorter work month, we have many things unfolding as we approach our annual NASPA Conference in sunny Los Angeles, California. Don't miss out on the many events we have such as the Pre-Con Institute, the NASPA community service project, awards reception and ceremony, and Womxn of Color Gathering.

Remember, if you have any articles, announcements, job opportunities, recent awards, news to share, or want to give someone a shout out, please send these items to the LKC Communications Team, Leonel Diaz (ladiaz@unm.edu) and Rosa Hanco (hancor@stjohns.edu) and we will feature your information in next month's newsletter. Monthly submission deadlines are every 20th day of each month.

This month we feature:

- Annual Conference and PreCon
- Consejos y Consuelos
- Community Service Project
- Giving "Tuesday"
- Leadership Opportunities within LKC
- Mena/Valdez Awards
- Womxn of Color Gathering
- Scholar's Corner
- Shout-Outs
- UNM Alex Gonzalez Scholarship
- Why I

Make sure to scroll through the entire newsletter for all the updates for the Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community.

Follow Us On Social Media!

- Twitter: @tweetinglavoz
- Facebook: NASPA Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community
- LinkedIn: NASPA Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community
- Instagram: lkc_naspa

We wish you all happy holidays! Enjoy!

The Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND PRECON

Join us for the NASPA Annual Conference in Los Angeles, California! It will take place March 9 – 13. If you need some encouragement, you should consider attending the LKC Preconference Institute. This year's theme is "Testimonios of an Intersectional Latinx Community."

Description:
Latinx/a/o higher education professionals and graduate students will enhance their knowledge of current Latinx higher education scholarship, hear about new trends and promising practices in the field, curricula changes, programmatic updates, revamping of trainings and workshops etc. This space will highlight mid-level administrators who are implementing, executing, and supporting Latinx students and professionals, provide frameworks to consider when working in the field, and connect research to practice.

This session is presented by:

- **Berenice Sanchez, *Ph.D. Candidate, Indiana University-Bloomington***
- **Janett Cordovés, Ed.D., *Co-Curricular Partnerships Manager, Interfaith Youth Core***
- **Maria Genao-Homs, *Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion, Hamilton College***
- **Sandra Rodriguez, *Director, Center for Student Engagement, University of Nevada-Reno***

The PreConference rate has been adjusted from $130 to $90. If you already had registered for this, you should be receiving a refund for the price difference and will be notified by email.

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CONSEJOS Y CONSUELOS

The hottest show of 2018, Consejos y Consuelos Season 2, just had its mid-season finale. Consejos y Consuelos will return mid-January 2019. Stay tuned on our Social Media for details.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT – 2019 NASPA CONFERENCE

This year, we have the unique opportunity to have TWO community service projects to choose from:

The first opportunity is to participate in the restoration of the White Point Nature Reserve garden for wildlife habitat including the Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly and California Gnatcatcher birds. White Point Nature Preserve features restored coastal sage scrub habitat, hiking and handicap accessible trails overlooking the Pacific Ocean and Catalina Island. White Point Nature Reserve hosts many environmental education events such as Nature Preserve Walks, Education Programs for schools and the public about our threatened plants and land, as well as many volunteer

opportunities. Our work will include removing invasive weeds, watering native plants, and grooming trails for the next 100 years! We will be working outdoors, and need to wear closed-toed shoes, sun protection and be sure to bring drinking water and a snack, all other tools will be provided to us at the White Point Nature Reserve.

The second opportunity is a collaborative effort with nationally known Homeboy Industries who provide hope, training, and support to formerly gang-involved and previously incarcerated men and women in the community. We have the opportunity to work alongside the Educational Service branch of Homeboy Industries on a conference which strives to provide: (1) comprehensive, holistic, and engaging workshops to Homeboy Industries students in the areas of financial aid, re-entry services , hidden curriculum, and navigating higher education, (2) mentorship station, where potential mentors meet and engage with students (3) and provide tools to students as to how shift deficit model systems while navigating higher education. In addition, Homeboy Industries has offered to provide NASPA Community Service attendees with the first ever Previously-Incarcerated student ally training workshop at the beginning of the community service day. The day is geared towards creating a high impact, community building, transformational experience for homies preparing to enter higher education.

We believe that your previous commitment to community service at the NASPA Annual Conference and your lived experiences will make you amazing participants in one of these opportunities. Join us on Sunday, March 10th and be part of the change you want to see!

As part of the community service experience you will meet amazing colleagues in your field, touch and engage with dedicate staff and non-profit efforts in their fields, and receive a cool t-shirt to commemorate the experience.

Please consider registering for the opportunity, since space availability is limited to 50 people each.

If you have any questions about the White Point Nature Reserve opportunity you may email Deborah Miller-Calvert at dmiller-calvert@lbcc.edu and need further information regarding the opportunity with Homeboy Industries please contact Maggie Muñoz at mamunoz@riohondo.edu

Cheers,

Maggie

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GIVING TUESDAY

It's no longer #GivingTuesday, but take some time to be a part of moving the Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community forward. Your contribution will be used to provide professional development opportunities for our membership to continue doing great work in Higher Education! And if you need some more encouragement, remember that you can use it if you file taxes if you donate before the end of 2018.

Give today and remember to designate your giving to the Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community.

https://www.naspa.org/foundation/giving-tuesday

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LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking to fill in vacancies for the LKC Leadership team along with the Region IV-West and Region V representatives for the Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community.

The following positions are available on NASPA's Volunteer Central. For questions, please contact Maria Genao-Homs (mgenaoho@hamilton.edu) and Sandy Rodriguez (srodz@unr.edu).

Current board vacancies:

- Graduate Student Rep
- LKC Intern
- Undocumented Immigrants and Allies KC Liaison
- Region IV-West Rep
- Region V Rep
- Strategic Planning and Assessment Co-Chairs
- Public Liaison Co-Chair

Link: https://www.naspa.org/about/get-involved/volunteer

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MENA/VALDEZ AWARDS

Join us at the NASPA Annual Conference in celebrating the 2019 Mena/Valdez Award recipients. Help us in congratulating the 2019 award recipients.

Bri Serrano
Latinx Inclusion Award
California State Polytechnic University

Isamar Chavez
Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award
Oregon State University

Gustavo Molinar
Outstanding Masters Student Award
The Ohio State University

Cinthya Salazar
Outstanding Doctoral Student Award
University of Maryland

Hope S. Pacheco
Outstanding New Professional Award

University of Houston

Delmy M. Lendof
Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award
New York University

Marissa Vasquez
Outstanding Faculty Award
San Diego State University

Building Relationships in Diverse Gonzaga Environments (BRIDGE) Pre-Orientation Program
Outstanding New Program Award
Gonzaga University

Maria "Minita" Ramirez
Outstanding Student Affairs Officer Award
Texas A&M International University

Stephanie King
Amigx/a/o Award
NASPA

Joel Perez
Outstanding Service Award
Whittier College

The Mena/Valdez Awards Reception will take place on March 12, 2018.
Location: L.A. Live (Next to the Staples Center; exact location TBA)
Time: 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

We hope to see many of you there!

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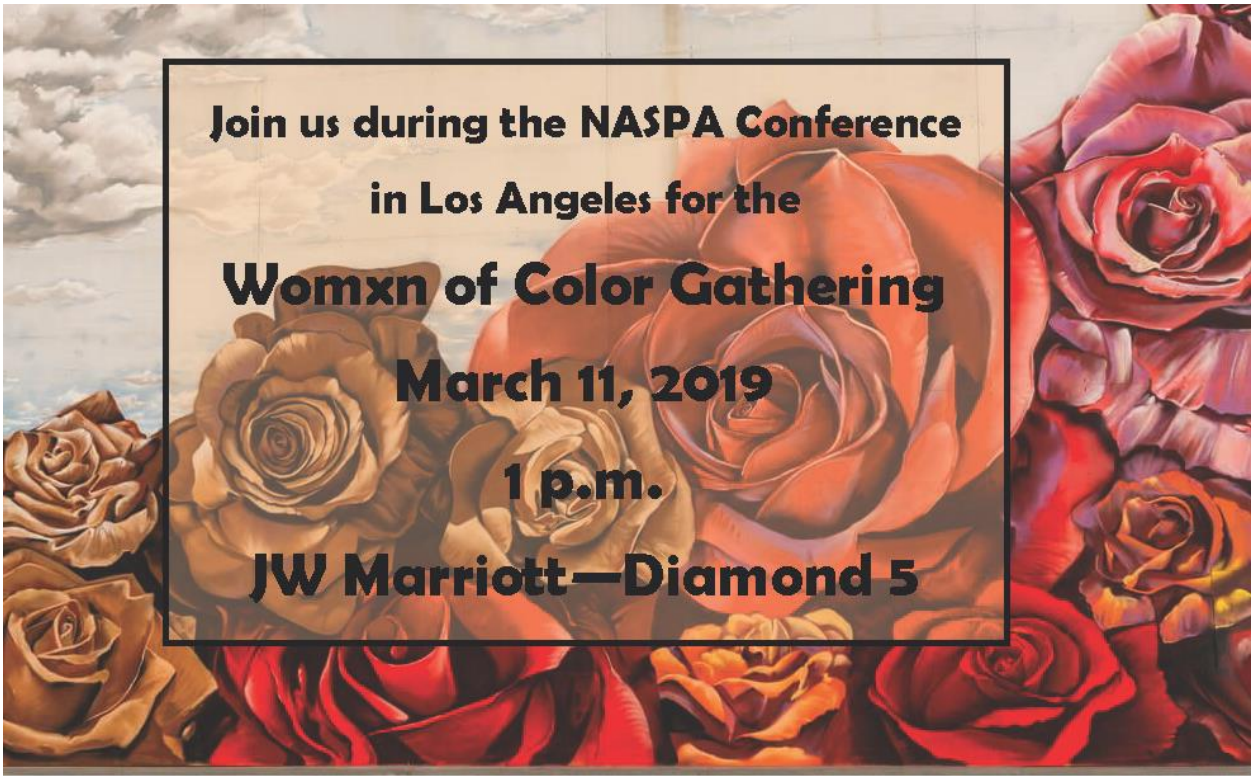
WOMXN OF COLOR GATHERING

SAVE THE DATE! March 11, 2019
Location: JW Marriott – Diamond 5
Time: 1 PM

More information to come later.



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SCHOLAR'S CORNER

The NASPA Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community (LKC) strives to support the research and share stories of colleagues who are engaged in scholastic work, especially those who focus on Latinx/a/o educational issues. This year, the LKC co-chairs are highlighting the strength, resiliency, and tenacious nature of mujeres in the field who deliberately and wholeheartedly embrace both motherhood and their professional roles as scholars (#LatinaMamiScholar). We would love to feature your story on the NASPA LKC Scholars Corner!

If you would like to share with our *communidad*, please contact LKC Research and Scholarship co-chairs Claudia García-Louis (claudia.garcia-louis@utsa.edu) and/or Tracy Arámbula Ballysingh (tracy.ballysingh@uvm.edu).

As a first-generation transfer student, I felt I had to always take advantage of opportunities to advance my education. When I began my master's program, my daughter was just seven weeks old. The first time I ever left her with someone was to attend my first class as a graduate student. I remember when I was being interviewed for the program, I was approximately 4 months pregnant and desperately looked for an outfit that did not expose my pregnancy. I was afraid there would be misperceptions about how a new mother could handle the demands of a graduate program. Continue reading the blog post: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/scholars-corner-latina-mami

Missed last month's blog? Don't worry. We have the link here for you: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/scholars-corner-forging-spaces-of-transformation-for-latinamamischolars

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SHOUT-OUTS

After successfully completing her doctoral program, we would like to send huge congratulations to Dr. Constanza Cabello! Felizidades!

We also send a huge happy birthday/feliz cumpleaños to Rosa Hanco!

Do you have something or someone you would like to send a Shout-Out to? Let us know and we'll share it on the next newsletter. Contact the Communications Co-Chairs, Leonel Diaz Jr and Rosa Hanco.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO – ALEX GONZALEZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship was created to honor the memory of an amazing man that has made The University of New Mexico a better place for students. In his many roles with the university, from student to the Registrar, he put students first and changed policies in order to remove barriers and make the transition through the institution easier.

Alex and his twin brother Andrew arrived at UNM in the late eighties from Gadsden High School in Anthony, a small town in southern N.M. and served as Lobo for nearly three-decades.

Alex served as co-MC for the first El Centro Raza Graduation ceremony honoring Latina/o students as one family, 26 years later this celebration continues to grow and has become one of the largest graduation ceremonies at the University.

Even with the demands placed upon him as the Registrar of the University, he made time to meet with students and to help mentor young Lobos through his involvement in his fraternity Omega Delta Phi Fraternity. He helped to create the Latina/o Knowledge Community within NASPA a group dedicated to providing cultural awareness while building a sense of community in Student Affairs nationally.

He believed that UNM as the flagship institution in New Mexico was integral in helping students achieve their goals regardless of who the student was. He left a legacy of putting students in the middle that others at the institution will follow for many generations to come.

Donations can be made at: https://www.unmfund.org/fund/alex-gonzalez-memorial-scholarship/

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WHY I

The NASPA Latinx/a/o Knowledge Community is showcasing the LKC leadership team and members in this series that we call, "Why I." We want to share with our Latinx/a/o community who

members of the LKC leadership team are, our roles, and what inspired us to follow our career paths. Our goal is to increase the visibility of not just the LKC, but to the leaders who make the LKC what is to us all. For questions regarding the "Why I" series, please contact the Communication Co-Chairs, Leonel Diaz (ladiaz@unm.edu) and Rosa Hanco (hancor@stjohns.edu). To be featured on "Why I," fill out this form: https://goo.gl/forms/gptkaS3tr6YdL17M2

Check out the "Why I" stories of 2018:

Rosa: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/why-i-rosa-hanco
Leonel: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/why-i-leonel-diaz
Alex: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/why-i-alex-cabal
Missy: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/why-i-missy-dominguez
Danielle: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/why-i-danielle-quinones-ortega
Eddie: https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/why-i-eddie-martinez