

Radical Research from BIPOC Scholars at UIC

Presented by the UIC Latino Cultural Center

Join us as *Bridge to the Faculty* (B2F) scholars share their experiences and respective research with the UIC community. Through an intersectional lens, these scholars reveal the complexity and specificity of their contemporary research and how the lives of those in the margins are impacted.

Dr. Carla Tejada from the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering will present her research related to Urban Freight Transportation and the diverse set of impacts that residential deliveries have on cities.

WHEN: WEDNESDAY MARCH 13, 2024
TIME: 2:00pm – 3:00pm CST
WHERE: Virtually on Zoom, RSVP: go.uic.edu/B2F13

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS:
 April 10, 2024 @ 2:30pm CST
 Dr. Asadrah Salazar, Department of Diversity and Human Development

Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino Cultural Center DIVERSITY Honors College

For access needs or questions, email lcc@uic.edu or call 312.996.3095. ASL interpretation services may be available by contacting the LCC 5 business days before the program. All audiences are welcome.

For access needs or questions, email lcc@uic.edu or call 312.996.3095. Free and open to all audiences.

CAGED DREAMS

Presented by the UIC Latino Cultural Center and Detention Watch Network

"Caged Dreams" details the stories of Johannes Favi, Beatriz Batres, and Felipe Diosdado, who were previously detained in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody and suffered long-lasting trauma due to their incarceration. The goal of the film is to paint a vivid picture of the emotional experience of immigration detention and the deep impacts on a person's mental health and their loved ones.

Join us for a short documentary screening followed by panel conversation featuring Director Johannes Favi and Antonio Gutierrez from Organized Communities Against Detention.

Light refreshments will be provided. Film Duration 12 min.

WHEN: TUESDAY MARCH 12, 2024
TIME: 12:00pm – 1:00pm CST
WHERE: LATINO CULTURAL CENTER LECTURE CENTER B2

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS:
 April 10, 2024 @ 2:30pm CST
 Dr. Asadrah Salazar, Department of Diversity and Human Development

Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino Cultural Center DIVERSITY Honors College ALIANZA AMERICAS

For access needs or questions, email lcc@uic.edu or call 312.996.3095. Free and open to all audiences.

Noche de Poetas My Village

Lāhūi · Barangay · Pueblo · دلب

Join Mexican Students de Acción (MeSA), Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), and Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS) with Anakabayán and Indigenous Student Alliance (ISA) this Spring 2024 Semester for an

→ OPEN MIC! ←

Don't miss out on the amazingly talented poets as they share their own poetic words on this month's theme: "How culture inspires self-governance."

Leading the night will be our featured poet: **Lena Salem**

Guiding Questions:

- How does your hometown affect your cultural identity and connection?
- What does self-governance look like in your culture?
- What does it mean to be indigenous to a land and how does this contrast the ways settlers define indigeneity?

WHEN: TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2024
TIME: 5:30pm – 7:00pm CST
WHERE: LATINO CULTURAL CENTER LECTURE CENTER B2

For access needs or questions, email lcc@uic.edu or call 312.996.3095. ASL interpretation services may be available by contacting the LCC 5 business days before the program. All audiences are welcome.

CHICAGO MONUMENTS PROJECT PILSEN LATINA LEGACIES

Presented by the UIC Latino Cultural Center and the Women's Leadership and Resource Center

Join us for an ARTivism workshop to honor and learn about the Festival de Mujeres 1978 and envision a monument to Latina legacies in Pilsen. This historic, Latin-led street festival was organized by the community group Mujeres Latinas en Acción in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago's West Side.

Participants will learn more about the Pilsen Latina Legacies Project, the Festival, and engage in a zine activity to gather ideas for a future monument that centers the history of Pilsen Latinas in Chicago. We will engage with Festival co-organizer, 2023 Latin Artist Fellow, and Pilsen Latina Legacies Lead Artist **Diana Solís**, and Professor **Minda Self, PhD** (University of Illinois at Springfield).

WHEN: THURSDAY MARCH 28, 2024
TIME: 12:00pm – 2:00pm CST
WHERE: LATINO CULTURAL CENTER LECTURE CENTER B2

For access needs or questions, email lcc@uic.edu or call 312.996.3095. ASL interpretation services may be available by contacting the LCC 5 business days before the program. All audiences are welcome.

DIAS DE LOS MUERTOS

UIC LATINO CULTURAL CENTER

Communal Altar Installation

WHEN: Monday, Oct. 30th, 2023
TIME: 1pm-3pm
WHERE: In-Person at the LCC, Lecture Center B2

We invite you to participate in our annual communal altar installation by bringing a photo or a remembrance item of a departed loved one to place on our altar, which will be on display until Friday, November 3rd.

Live Performance & Art Activities

WHEN: Tuesday, Oct. 31st, 2023
TIME: 4pm-6pm
WHERE: In-Person at the LCC, Lecture Center B2

Join us for *pasa de muertos*, sugar skull decorating, face painting workshop, and live music. Attendees are invited to contribute to our community altar as we honor our departed loved ones through storytelling.

Free painting workshop by *Isabely Andrade* (isabely_andrade) Live music performance by *Jose Alfredo* (@thepasafreddo)

Heritage Garden Harvest Festival: Rest, Reclamation, Rebirth

WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 1st, 2023
TIME: 1pm-3:30pm
WHERE: In-Person at the LCC, Lecture Center B2

Join us to celebrate the Heritage Garden's 10th year anniversary! Create skull-shaped seed bombs for your community's garden and research habitats, repurpose fabric scraps through creative expressions, and celebrate this year's unique harvest! We will be handing out teas, salsas, seeds and much more!

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS:
 November 8, 2023 @ 6:30pm
 Naomi Davis, *Journal of Black Women in Crime*, LIVE! UIC

Co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS), Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE), UIC Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE) Program.

Climates of Inequality

Fall 2023

Join the UIC Latino Cultural Center and the Social Justice Initiative for a series of virtual conversations with environmental and climate justice leaders from Chicago this fall. Their work reveals frameworks and strategies to address the disproportionate impacts of climate change and environmental pollution on communities of color, Black, Indigenous, and low-income earners. Students in the Environmental & Climate Justice course* will facilitate the conversations.

Alfredo Rame is the founding member and current Executive Director of Neighbors for Environmental Justice (NEJ). During his talk, he will discuss NEJ's work to hold polluters, like the MAT Asphalt plant, accountable to their threat to public health. He will also highlight efforts centered around environmental justice and public health campaigns at the city and state levels including co-publishing the recently published Cumulative Impact Assessment with the City of Chicago.

Auto-captions available

*LALS 495 / ANTH 494 / MUSE 400

WHEN: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18, 2023
TIME: 5:30pm – 6:30pm CST
WHERE: Zoom RSVP: go.uic.edu/COI18

Climates of Inequality Exhibition Opening Reception
 October 15, 2023 @ 5:30pm
 Chicago Justice Gallery | 1344 S. Halsted St. | RSVP at lcc@uic.edu or cmuse@uic.edu

Co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS), Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE), UIC Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE) Program.

CHALK ART 4 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Presented by the UIC Latino Cultural Center and Asian American Resource and Cultural Center

Chalk Art has historically been used as guerrilla art technique to bring issues of social justice in a temporary way to permanent institutions. This is an open studio where Chicago artist Cori Nakamura Lin will be creating their own Chalk Art piece while providing tips for creating illustrations and ecological art. Create your own design or write an environmental slogan for environmental justice along with the UIC community.

Create an Earth Month chalk art piece outside of the LCC related to one of the following themes:

- CLIMATE RESILIENCE
- COMMUNITY RESISTANCE
- CLEAN AIR, LAND AND WATER

No professional art skills necessary, everyone welcome! Materials for poster-making will also be available.

WHEN: TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2024
TIME: 1:00pm – 3:00pm CST
WHERE: LATINO CULTURAL CENTER LECTURE CENTER B2

For access needs or questions, email lcc@uic.edu or call 312.996.3095. Free and open to all audiences.

DON'T TELL ANYONE

NO LE DIGAS A NADIE

A FILM BY MINGELA SILVER

Presented by the UIC Latino Cultural Center and University Library's Undergraduate Engagement Program

Join us as we watch the documentary *Don't Tell Anyone* (No Le Digas a Nadie), which shares an intimate glimpse into a young immigrant activist life as she shares her parallel journey of coming out of the shadows as undocumented and as a survivor of sexual abuse.

In her early 20s, Amy Rivera became an activist for undocumented youth with a popular advice blog "Ask Amy," a YouTube channel, and by becoming a leader with the New York State Youth Leadership Council (YLC). This film follows Rivera's remarkable journey from rural Colombia to the front page of *The New York Times*.

WHEN: TUESDAY OCTOBER 10, 2023
TIME: 11:00am – 1:00pm CST
WHERE: LATINO CULTURAL CENTER LECTURE CENTER B2

Free admission and refreshments! All audiences are welcome.

This program is co-sponsored by the Roberto Pedraza-Perez Undocumented Student Resource Center, the Faculty Undocumented Student Alliance (FUA), and the Campus Advocacy Network (CAN).



OUR MISSION is to engage the UIC campus and local communities to deepen understanding of the diverse cultural heritages and identities of Latines, issues affecting their lives, and creative solutions they are using to improve community life.

The Rafael Cintrón Ortiz Latino Cultural Center (LCC) continues to be a reservoir of cultural knowledge, artistic practices, and campus advocacy to support the academic, professional, and personal growth of our students through engaged co-curriculum opportunities that center Latine experiences and recognize diversity as an asset for collective action. The LCC (est. 1976) is an essential campus resource that helps our students shape a sense of belonging to reach their graduation milestone and navigate an increasingly complex world.

OUR MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS from Summer 2023 to Spring 2024 in collaboration with students, faculty/staff, and community partners:

The **Climates of Inequality (COI) Traveling Exhibition** began its Chicago tour at UIC in the Chicago Justice Gallery. The LCC partnered with the UIC Social Justice Initiative to expand the Chicago story “Resisting Cycle of Environmental Injustice in La Villita” to include all sacrifice zones: Altgeld Gardens, Calumet River area, Little Village, McKinley Park, Pilsen, and the Southeast Side. By featuring the voices of local leaders, artists, and residents, the exhibition spreads knowledge about local environmental & climate harms and affirms the work and dedication of frontline communities creating a more just future. More on the COI local story and partner exhibition sites at latinocultural.uic.edu/coi/our-local-story/

The **Chicago Latine Voices on Environmental & Climate Change Racism** research project aims to better understand and document how Latine communities have endured, confronted and/or adapted to systematic environmental injustices and extreme climate events in Chicago. The LCC research project involved local artists and community organizations Alianza Americas, Centro San Bonifacio, Enlace Chicago, Little Village Environmental Justice

(Top left to right)
Dr. Rosa M. Cabrera, Executive Director; Jorge Mena Robles, Associate Director; Lauren De Jesus, Senior Civic Engagement Educator

(Bottom left to right)
Natalie Ayala, Civic Engagement Educator; Sarita Hernández, Heritage Garden Program Director/Student Support; Alonzo Zamarrón, Graphic Designer

Organization (LVEJO), and Neighbors for Environmental Justice (N4EJ). It is one of three UIC studies alongside the University of California Irvine and the University of Texas Arlington under the Climate and Environmental Justice Crossing Latinidades project to expand research on the intersection of Latino Studies, environmental justice, and climate change. The project is supported by the Crossing Latinidades Humanities Research Initiative funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Access the research report at greatcities.uic.edu/research/crossing-latinidades/

The **Super Generation Monarch Oral History** project was the core assignment for the Lead.Create.Change (LCC) internship cohort. This project evokes the “super generation” monarch butterflies, also known as the Methuselah generation, as a symbol of human im/migration. Interns were trained to collect oral histories (interviews), analyze data, and report their findings through a creative tool. Access research report at latinocultural.uic.edu/internships/lead-create-change/f23-s24project/

The **Heritage Garden** celebrated the tenth year anniversary of its founding as an internship program collaborating across the UIC cultural centers with a curriculum that connects horticulture with environmental sustainability, cultural diversity, and social justice. The celebration brought together current interns and leaders, program alumni, campus wide students, faculty/staff, and community collaborators working on social and environmental justice. The student interns highlighted their famed seed library toolkit and newly created tea library composed of dried flowers and herbs harvested from the garden satellites for garden and tea lovers to enjoy. More on the Heritage Garden at heritagegarden.uic.edu/



OUR IMPACT reached **7,837** students, faculty, staff, community members, and the broader Chicago public through **30** public programs; **64** environmental & social justice dialogues and mural tours; **2** internship programs with **20** student interns and **2** graduate assistants; **3** grant-based projects and research with faculty and community leaders; and collaborations with **21** local schools and community partners, and **17** UIC student organizations.

How participants engaged with the LCC:

- 2,021** attendees at LCC public programs **26%**
- 1,222** Environmental & Social Justice Dialogues and Tours **16%**
- 2,360** gallery space visits and used as study space **30%**
- 2,080** guest hosted for meetings/events via space reservations **27%**
- 154** additional guests via programs held at community partners' locations **1%**

CCUSC The Latino Cultural Center is one of seven **Centers for Cultural Understanding and Social Change (CCUSC)**, under the [Office of Diversity, Equity & Engagement](#) at UIC. Founded as a direct result of campus activism, the Centers work collectively to produce knowledge and shift university culture, validating the multidimensional lived experiences of historically and currently excluded communities. Informed by social justice frameworks, the Centers support students, faculty, and staff as they build a strong identity and sense of belonging, becoming change agents for a more just campus and society. The Centers connect our communities and design intercultural and engaged-learning opportunities, student mentorship programs, cultural programming, advocacy, collaborative research, and community partnerships. Through these efforts, the Centers expand the educational and transformational mission of UIC.

A total of 1,222 attended the Environmental & Social Justice Dialogues and Tours

UIC Courses & Seminars	Participants
Summer Semester 2023	
UIC Summer Institute on Climate & the Environment (SICE)	31
UIC School of Public Health	20
UIC UH Early Outreach Program	16
Cultural Immersion in Monarchs and Milkweeds Advancing Science Education (CIM2AS)	30
Fall Semester 2023	
DES 357: Integrative Design Studio III	9
EPSY 150: Human Development & Learning Academic Success	27
S J 201: Theories and Practices	17
Lead. Create. Change. Interns	7
ED 151: College Connections x4	90
ENGL 071: Introduction to Academic Writing x4	56
ANTH 595: Graduate Professional Practice	9
CI 475: Teaching and Learning of the Natural Sciences	9
CHEM 222: Analytical Chemistry x4	71
CI 470: Language, Culture, and Learning in Urban Classrooms	15
Spring Semester 2024	
CHEM 222: Analytical Chemistry x4	86
UIC University Library x2	45
LALS 109: Introduction to Latino Cultures x3	44
LALS 274: Politics of Blackness in Latin America	17
EPSY 150: Human Development & Learning Academic Success	10
ENGL 071: Introduction to Academic Writing	17
UIC Office of Undergraduate Research and External Fellowships	9
Delta Xi Phi – Delta Chapter	6
LALS 495: Latinx Urban Inequalities	13
LALS/POLS/GWS 275: Gender in Latin America x2	20
UIC Heritage Garden	30
TRIO Upward Bound	20
Tours	
L@S GANAS – Connecting STEM and Cultural Heritage Dialogues	40
Heritage Garden Tours, Classroom Engagement and Workshops	162
Self-Guided Virtual Mural Tour Inquiries	7
General Public & Community Org Tour & Dialogue	185
Climates of Inequality (COI) Tours	104
Total	1,222



OUR PROGRAMMATIC PILLARS draw on the assets of cultural heritage and the power of art and storytelling to engage and support individuals and communities and collectively advance environmental and social justice.



Environmental & Social Justice Dialogues and Tours

Dialogues facilitated by LCC staff and tours facilitated by LCC student educators. Reference page 2 for attendee breakdown.

ARTivism

Flower for You, Flowers for Our Liberation, February 14, 2024, Presented with Heritage Garden and UIC Student Organization Sigma Chapter of Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Inc.; **Chicago Monuments Project: Pilsen Latina Legacies**, March 28, 2024, Presented with the Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, the Museum and Exhibition Studies Program, and the Gender and Women's Studies Program; **Earth Month at the LCC**, April 2024, supported by the Sustainability Fee; **Help This Garden Grow**, April 18, 2024, Presented with the Black Cultural Center and People for Community Recovery; **Chalk Art 4 Environmental Justice**, April 23, 2024, Presented with Asian American Resource and Cultural Center, Lead artist: Cori Nakamura Lin; **Art Making for Environmental Justice**, April 25, 2024, Presented with the Social Justice Initiative, Lead artist: Marimacha Monarca Press.

Zona Abierta (Open Zone)

Climates of Inequality Series, September 20, 2023, Presenter: Oscar Sanchez, October 18, 2023, Presenter: Alfredo Romo, November 8, 2023, Presenter: Naomi Davis; **Radical Research from BIPOC Scholars at UIC series**. February 21, 2024, Presenter: Dr. Celso Mendoza, March 13, 2024, Presenter: Dr. Carla Tejada, April 10, 2024, Presenter: Dr. Azadeh Safaeian.

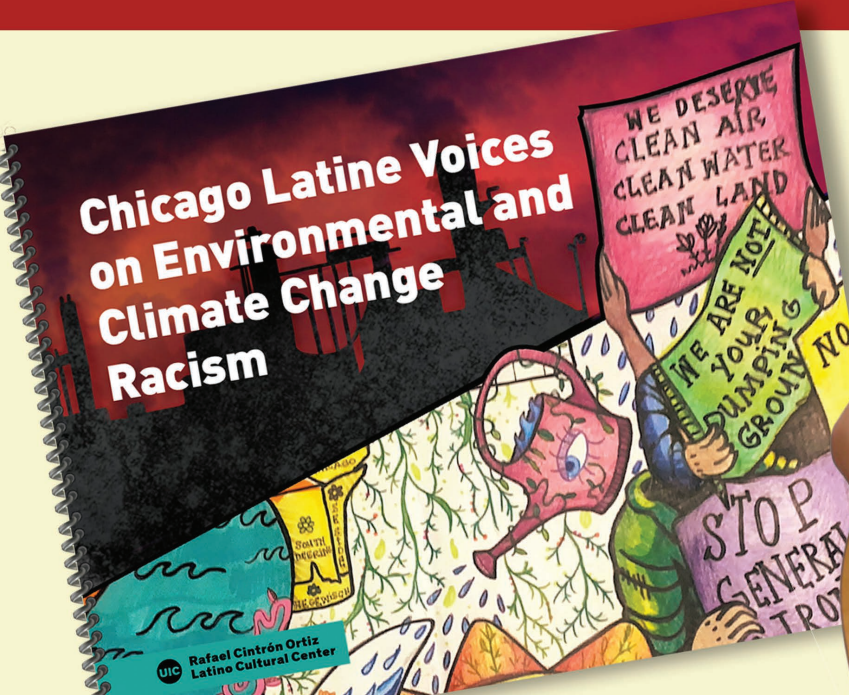
Civic Cinema

Don't Tell Anyone/No le digas a nadie, October 10, 2023, Presented with UIC University Library's Undergraduate Engagement Program; **Caged Dreams**, March 12, 2024, Presented with Detention Watch Network; **Lorena, Light-Footed Woman**, March 26, 2024, Presented with the Gender and Sexuality Center; **Double Feature: Teaching Environmental Justice**, April 24, 2024, Panelists: Briana Urena, Bee Rodriguez, and Luis Cabrales.

Noche de Poetas (Poetry Night)

Mālama la mente mo: Decolonizing Belleza, Amor, حوج [English Translation: Take care of your mind: Decolonizing Beauty, Love, and Spirit], November 7, 2023, Featured Poet: Lupita Carrasquillo; **My Village, Lāhui, Barangay, Pueblo, بلد**, April 23, 2024, Featured Poet: Lena Salem. Both programs presented with Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), Mexican Students de Aztlán (MeSA), Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS), Anakbayan, and Indigenous Student Alliance (ISA) at UIC.

OUR PRAXIS APPROACH supports student success through artistic practices and cultural responses to improve social and environmental conditions in our communities.



Special Public Programs

LCC Open House, August 30, 2023; **Climates of Inequality: Exhibition Opening Reception**, October 11, 2023, Presented with Social Justice Initiative (SJI) and in partnership with community organizations Alianza Americas and Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO); **Día de los Muertos 2023**, Presented with student organizations: Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA), Mexican Students de Aztlán, and Latine in Law; **Communal Altar Installation**, October 30, 2023; **Live Performance & Art Activities**, October 31, 2023; **Finals Week at the LCC**, December 4 to 8, 2023; **LCC Affiliated Student Organization Open House Spring 2024**, January 31, 2024, Featuring UIC Student Organizations; **Finals Week at the LCC**, April 29 to May 3, 2024.

Heritage Garden

Heritage Garden Presented with the Centers for Cultural Understanding and Social Change; **Volunteer Days Fall 2023**, October 13, 2023, October 20, 2023; **Día de los Muertos 2023; Heritage Garden Harvest Fest: Rest, Reclamation, Rebirth**, November 1, 2023; **Volunteer Days Spring 2024**, March 29, 2024, April 3, 2024; **Seed Swap**, April 13, 2024.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS

UIC Campus Units

Anthropology Department; Arab American Cultural Center; Asian American Resource and Cultural Center; Biological Sciences Department; Black Cultural Center; Chemistry Department; College of Education; Cultural Immersion in Monarchs and Milkweeds Advancing Science Education (CIM2AS); Department of Curriculum and Instruction; Department of Disability and Human Development; Department of Educational Psychology; Department of History; Department of Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS); Disability Cultural Center; English Department; Freshwater Lab; Gallery 400; Gender and Sexuality Center; Gender and Women's Studies Program; Great Cities Institute; Heritage Garden; Honors College; Jane Addams Hull-House Museum; Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES); Latin@S Gaining Access to Networks for Advancement in Science (L@S GANAS); Museum and Exhibition Studies (MUSE) Program; Office of Diversity, Equity & Engagement; Office of Undergraduate Research & External Fellowships (UREF); Richard J. Daley Library; Rigoberto Padilla-Perez Undocumented Student Resource Center; School of Design; School of Public Health; Social Justice Initiative (SJI); Summer College Seminar; Summer Institute on Climate and the Environment (SICCE); Sustainability at UIC; UIC TRIO; University of Illinois Press; University of Illinois Springfield; Urban Health Early Outreach Program; Women's Leadership and Resource Center.

UIC Student Organization Co-Sponsors

Alpha Chi Chapter of Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.; Anakbayan; Association of Latino Professionals for America (ALPFA); Beta Chapter of Gamma Phi Omega International Sorority Inc.; Beta Iota Chapter of Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Caribbean Club at UIC; Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.; Fearless Undocumented Alliance (FUA); Indigenous Student Alliance (ISA); Latine in Law; Latine Student Coalition; Latino Pre-Medical Student Association (LPMSA); Mexican Students de Aztlán (MeSA); PRIDE at UIC; Sigma Chapter of Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc.; Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP); Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS).

Community, City-Wide, and Global Engagement

Alianza Americas; American Bar Association; Blacks in Green; Chicago Cultural Alliance; Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE); Centro San Bonifacio; Chicago Park District; Detention Watch Network; Enlace Chicago; Ford Calumet Environmental Center; George Washington High School; Latino Outdoors; Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO); Manuel Perez Public School; Marimacha Monarca Press; National Museum of Mexican Art; Neighbors for Environmental Justice (N4EJ); Northern Illinois University; People for Community Recovery (PCR); Pilsen Arts & Community House (PACH); Pilsen Latina Legacies; Project VIDA; Shedd Aquarium; Southeast Environmental Task Force (SETF); Field Museum; Unity Junior High School; Young Cultural Stewards.

Funders

Crossing Latinidades/the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Humanities Action Lab; National Science Foundation for Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs); USDA Forest Service International Programs; and UIC Sustainability Fund.



latinocultural.uic.edu

