



INSTITUTE FOR  
LATINO STUDIES  
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

YEAR IN REVIEW

2018-2019



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# Letter from the Director



I am pleased to present the 2018–19 Institute for Latino Studies (ILS) Year in Review. Serving the past year as the Director of ILS, now in its 20th year of existence, has been exhilarating.

In this academic year, we supported the work of 30 faculty fellows, welcomed the second cohort of Latino Studies Scholars Program (LSSP) merit scholarship recipients, co-sponsored conferences, and organized three dozen events and lectures.

We hosted three impressive transformative Latina/o/x leaders—renowned award-winning author **Luis Alberto Urrea**, Latina legend of stage and screen **Rita Moreno** (winner of an Oscar, Tony, Emmy, Grammy, and Peabody), and

**Michael Olivas**, distinguished law professor and director of the Institute for Higher Education Law & Governance at the University of Houston—each drawing students, faculty, administrators, staff, and community members.

We began the year as lead sponsors of the Fornés Workshop in Chicago, in collaboration with the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre. In the fall, we launched the Hispanic Heritage Month cultural event series for the second time in the history of Notre Dame. This past spring, we hosted the Young Scholars Symposium, connecting seven up-and-coming Latino studies scholars from across the nation with distinguished mentors to inform and guide their current writing projects. Among our mentors was **Vicki Ruiz**, professor of history emeritus at the University of California, Irvine, and former president of the American Historical Association.

We also participated in the V Encuentro, a national meeting of over 3,000 leaders of Hispanic ministry from across the country that includes archbishops, bishops, directors of Hispanic ministry, youth coordinators, and others in Dallas, Texas.

Our Latino Studies supplemental major/minor grew to 59 students this year. We again had full participation in our summer enrichment Cross-Cultural Leadership Program (CCLP) that served 21 undergraduates in Washington, D.C.; Los Angeles; Chicago; and — for the first time — in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Through all these initiatives, the Institute continues to deepen our understanding of the ways that Latino communities and their leaders enrich all aspects of American society, the Catholic Church, and the world.

I want to personally thank the University administration for its support for our permanent move to the third floor of Bond Hall. We have new space that is welcoming, comfortable, and has beautiful views of some of the most special places on campus. Please come and visit our new Julian Samora Latino Studies Scholars Lounge which is open to all students, faculty, and staff to study, hold meetings, and further build our intellectual community. We are positioned between the Dome, Basilica, and Log Chapel. It goes without saying that we are blessed beyond measure!

None of the work contained in this report could have been accomplished without the efforts of our professional and student staff. I am fortunate to be able to work with colleagues so dedicated to the success of ILS.

**LUIS R. FRAGA**

Director, Institute for Latino Studies

Rev. Donald P. McNeill, C.S.C., Professor of Transformative Latino Leadership

Joseph and Elizabeth Robbie Professor of Political Science

Fellow, Institute for Educational Initiatives

## About the Institute



### MISSION

The Institute for Latino Studies advances understanding of the fastest-growing and youngest population in the United States and the U.S. Catholic Church.

ILS strengthens the University of Notre Dame's mission to prepare transformative leaders in all sectors—including the professions, arts, business, politics, faith, and family life—among Latinos and all members of our society.

### VISION

To foster a deeper understanding of Latino communities to empower faculty, students, society—all of us—to make better decisions as to what kind of a country we want to leave for our children and grandchildren.

### HISTORY

During the 1999–2000 academic year, the University of Notre Dame's Institute for Latino Studies was established as a center of research and teaching to foster a greater understanding of the U.S. Latino experience.

ILS will celebrate its 20th year in a beautiful new home in Bond Hall.

“Latinos are one of the fastest growing groups in the U.S. Catholic Church and in the U.S. population. It is imperative that Notre Dame's faculty and students are at the forefront of the best research, teaching, and leadership training on behalf of Latino communities.”

— Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.,  
*President, University of Notre Dame*



The Institute strives to achieve its mission by providing faculty and student support in the areas of:

- Research
- Academics
- Leadership
- Community Engagement
- Spirituality

## Research

ILS fosters and develops research in Latino studies by faculty experts from numerous disciplines, positioning them as thought leaders throughout the U.S. and the world.



“Diversity is a top priority of my deanship. The College of Arts and Letters values the development of future leaders working in collaboration with U.S. Latino communities to strengthen the social fabric of America. The research, teaching, and service provided by the Institute for Latino Studies guarantee that Notre Dame graduates will be at the forefront of the challenges and issues facing all Americans today and in the future.”

— Sarah A. Mustillo  
I.A. O’Shaughnessy Dean of the College of Arts and Letters

## OUR FACULTY FELLOWS



From left to right: David Cortez, Francisco Robles, Marisel Moreno, Luis Fraga, Anne Garcia-Romero, Jason Ruiz, and Sarah Quesada.

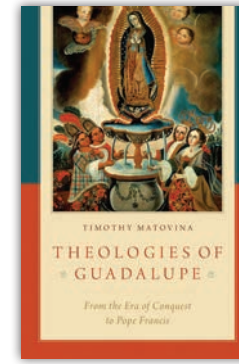
Superb faculty are at the heart of the Institute. ILS Faculty Fellows are leaders in their fields of study providing students with expertise and Latino studies-informed courses in a wide range of disciplines.

- |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Thomas Anderson</b><br/>William M. Scholl Professor and Chair,<br/>Romance Languages and Literatures</p>                                                                              | <p><b>Agustín Fuentes</b><br/>Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C.,<br/>Professor and Chair, Anthropology</p>                | <p><b>Darcia Narvaez</b><br/>Professor, Psychology</p>                                                                                                                         |
| <p><b>Francisco Aragón</b><br/>Associate Professional Specialist,<br/>Latino Studies</p>                                                                                                    | <p><b>Anne García-Romero</b><br/>Associate Professor,<br/>Film, Television, and Theatre</p>                          | <p><b>Jaime Pensado</b><br/>Associate Professor, History</p>                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b>Kraig Beyerlein</b><br/>Associate Professor, Sociology</p>                                                                                                                            | <p><b>Rev. Daniel Groody, C.S.C.</b><br/>Associate Professor, Theology and<br/>Global Affairs</p>                    | <p><b>Sarah Quesada</b><br/>Assistant Professor, English</p>                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b>Tatiana Botero</b><br/>Associate Teaching Professor,<br/>Romance Languages and Literatures</p>                                                                                        | <p><b>Jimmy Gurulé</b><br/>Professor, Law</p>                                                                        | <p><b>Ricardo Ramírez</b><br/>Associate Professor, Political Science</p>                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Jorge Bustamante</b><br/>Eugene P. and Helen Conley Professor,<br/>Sociology</p>                                                                                                      | <p><b>Carlos A. Jáuregui</b><br/>Associate Professor, Romance<br/>Languages and Literatures</p>                      | <p><b>Tatiana Reinoza</b><br/>Assistant Professor, Art, Art History<br/>&amp; Design</p>                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Peter Casarella</b><br/>Associate Professor, Theology</p>                                                                                                                             | <p><b>Amy Langenkamp</b><br/>O’Shaughnessy Associate Professor<br/>of Education, Sociology</p>                       | <p><b>Karen Richman</b><br/>Professional Specialist, Latino Studies</p>                                                                                                        |
| <p><b>Alex E. Chávez</b><br/>Nancy O’Neill Assistant Professor,<br/>Anthropology</p>                                                                                                        | <p><b>David M. Lantigua</b><br/>Assistant Professor, Theology</p>                                                    | <p><b>Francisco Robles</b><br/>Assistant Professor, English</p>                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Yamil J. Colón</b><br/>Assistant Professor, Chemical and<br/>Biomolecular Engineering</p>                                                                                             | <p><b>Timothy Matovina</b><br/>Professor and Chair, Theology</p>                                                     | <p><b>Jason Ruiz</b><br/>Associate Professor, American Studies</p>                                                                                                             |
| <p><b>David Cortez</b><br/>Assistant Professor, Political Science</p>                                                                                                                       | <p><b>Orlando Menes</b><br/>Professor, English</p>                                                                   | <p><b>Maria Tomasula</b><br/>Michael P. Grace Professor, Art,<br/>Art History &amp; Design</p>                                                                                 |
| <p><b>Luis Ricardo Fraga</b><br/>Rev. Donald P. McNeill, C.S.C.,<br/>Professor of Transformative Latino<br/>Leadership and Joseph and Elizabeth<br/>Robbie Professor, Political Science</p> | <p><b>Marisel Moreno</b><br/>Rev. John A. O’Brien Associate<br/>Professor, Romance Languages<br/>and Literatures</p> | <p><b>Thomas Tweed</b><br/>W. Harold and Martha Welch<br/>Professor, American Studies, and<br/>founding director, Ansari Institute for<br/>Global Engagement with Religion</p> |



## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS:

For 20 years, ILS has been at the center of research that fosters greater understanding of U.S. Latino experiences, as well as home to some of the country's leading scholars. ILS participates in collaborative recruitment efforts with various departments to attract the nation's best talent.



### Timothy Matovina

Timothy Matovina's recent book, *Theologies of Guadalupe: From the Era of Conquest to Pope Francis* (Oxford University Press, 2018) is the first book-length examination of theologies of Guadalupe from the colonial era to the present. He explores the evolution of guadalupan devotion as a local and international phenomenon.



### Alex E. Chávez

Alex E. Chávez has earned numerous scholarly awards for his book *Sounds of Crossing: Music, Migration, and the Aural Poetics of Huapango Arribeño* (Duke University Press, 2017) including the 2018 Alan P. Merriam Prize from the Society for Ethnomusicology, the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology Book Prize, and the Victor Turner Prize in Ethnographic Writing from the Society for Humanistic Anthropology.

### Orlando Menes

Orlando Menes' recent book of poems, *Memoria*, vividly engages his teen years in Madrid. He read it alongside American poet Emilia Philips and Irish poet Cairtriona O'Reilly at the Unamuno Festival in Spain in May.



### Yamil Colón

Yamil Colón is the first ILS Faculty Fellow from the College of Engineering. He is working with researchers at Kyoto University in Japan to develop and engineer advanced materials for the capture of water from air.



### Marisel Moreno

Marisel Moreno was recently named the Rev. John A. O'Brien Associate Professor and awarded the University's Rev. William A. Toohey, C.S.C., Award for Social Justice. As co-creator of *Listening to Puerto Rico*, she has worked to elevate the voices of those impacted by Hurricane María and to generate increased support for their ongoing recovery efforts.



### Luis Ricardo Fraga

Luis Ricardo Fraga received the Lifetime Achievement, Excellence in Community Service Award from the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) in 2018.

### Jason Ruiz

Jason Ruiz was awarded the Whiting Public Engagement Fellowship to create a set of walking tours and digital tools to explore Pilsen—the changing neighborhood at the heart of Chicago's Latinx community—through its vibrant, historic murals.



## LATINO STUDIES SEMINAR SERIES

The **Latino Studies Seminar Series** examines new research projects of Notre Dame faculty in the collegial context of a community of intellectuals. Lectures span all disciplines and allow for thought-provoking conversations between ILS Faculty Fellows.



“America at its Best: Enacting the 1975 Voting Rights Act,” by Luis Fraga, ILS Director; Rev. Donald P. McNeill, C.S.C., Professor of Transformative Latino Leadership; and Joseph and Elizabeth Robbie Professor of Political Science



“Border Pop: Chicana Printmaking in the NAFTA Era,” by Tatiana Reinoza, incoming Notre Dame assistant professor of Art, Art History & Design

“I look at how a border pop aesthetic came to challenge the sublime frontier image of California. Through a close reading of Ricardo Duffy’s print *The New Order*, I examine how Manifest Destiny informs not only the popular imagery of Marlboro advertising, but also the aesthetics of West Coast pop.”

— Tatiana Reinoza



Jimmy Gurulé is the faculty advisor for the Notre Dame Law School Hispanic Law Students Association, often collaborating with ILS and community organizations like the Indiana Latino Bar Association.

“Correcting Injustice in the American Criminal Justice System,” by Jimmy Gurulé, professor of law



“Hanigan and the Origins of the Immigrant Rights Movement,” by Maggie Elmore, postdoctoral research associate, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism

## YOUNG SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM

The Institute’s **Young Scholars Symposium** convenes junior scholars from across the nation who are working on research projects focused on Latinos in the U.S.



### YOUNG SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM PARTICIPANTS:

#### Rosie C. Bermudez

University of California, Santa Barbara  
“Doing Dignity Work: Alicia Escalante and the East Los Angeles Welfare Rights Organization”

#### David Cortez

University of Notre Dame  
“Broken Mirrors: Latinx, La Migra, and the Conflict of Being Both”

#### Maggie Elmore

University of Notre Dame  
“Apostles of the Desert: Mexican Immigrants and Catholic Advocacy in the Great Depression”

#### Sergio González

Marquette University  
“Strangers No Longer: Latino Communities, Social Movements, and Faith in 20th-century Milwaukee”

#### Rafael Solórzano

University of California, Los Angeles  
“Blogging Shock and Difference Across the South”

#### David-James Gonzales

Brigham Young University  
“Battling Mexican Apartheid in Orange County, California, 1900-1980”

#### Yuridia Ramírez

Miami University  
“Re-rooting Indigeneity: P’urhepecha Women’s Transborder Organizing at the Turn of the 21st Century”

#### Julie Torres

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
“The Crisis of Representation: Puerto Rican Women’s Electoral and Participatory Politics”



Young Scholars Symposium with U.S. Rep. Joaquin Castro, who was on campus to receive Notre Dame Law School's Graciela Olivarez Award, presented annually to an outstanding Hispanic lawyer or judge who demonstrates a strong commitment to community service, high ethical and moral standards, and a dedication to justice. His visit was co-sponsored by ILS.

## GRADUATE WORKING GROUP

ILS provides support for graduate students from multiple disciplines at Notre Dame to share their research on issues affecting Latino communities, provide peer mentorship, and develop a national professional network in a growing field of experts.

### PH.D. STUDENTS

- Mayra Cano, English
- Colleen Cross, Theology and Peace Studies
- Nancy Diaz, Sociology
- Homero Dominguez, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Velena Hernandez, Sociology
- Jessala Grijalva, Political Science
- Wayde Marsh, Political Science

- Chamara Moore, English
- Oliver Ortega, English
- Joyce Rivera Gonzalez, Anthropology
- Amir Sadeh, Political Science
- Carolina Santillan, History
- Ruth Solarte Gonzalez, Spanish
- Dominique Vargas, English
- MASTER'S STUDENT**
- Alejandra Herrera, Master's in Divinity

**“The ILS graduate working group is a rigorous and supportive community of interdisciplinary graduate student scholars. This group continues to enrich my academic life through thoughtful critique, diverse experiences, and encouragement. I know I am a better scholar and teacher thanks to this group!”**

—Dominique Vargas, English, Graduate Working Group Chair



Dominique Vargas, second from left, with renowned author/poet/translator Achy Obejas (third from left) and graduate students and faculty at a fall event.

Vicki Ruiz, our 2019 **Distinguished Visiting Scholar**, mentored eight emerging scholars from across the nation during the spring 2019 semester, concluding with the Young Scholars Symposium in April.

Ruiz is a distinguished professor emerita of history and Chicano/Latino studies at the University of California, Irvine, and a scholar-in-residence at Occidental College's Institute for the Study of Los Angeles. Her research has contributed to the reshaping of U.S. women's history, labor history, immigration studies, and the history of the U.S. West.



**“My time at Notre Dame would not have been the same without the Institute for Latino Studies. Having the ability to meet graduate students of various fields, with the goal of improving one another's work (be it grant proposals, conference papers, dissertation chapters, etc.) has been abundantly useful. The ILS graduate working group has afforded me the opportunity to read work outside my own academic perspective, as well as having the chance to better my own writing through the unique lens of our many accomplished graduate students. The graduate working group is one of the many programs that highlight the Institute's commitment to 'fostering a greater understanding of the U.S. Latino experience,' via diverse and academically rigorous conversations.”**

—Amir Sadeh, Political Science

## Academics

ILS is a premier teaching and curricular institute at Notre Dame and serves as a model and leader among institutes of its kind across the nation.



Graduating class of 2019.

## NOTABLE TALK



### LIFE'S LOTERIA: IMMIGRATION NARRATIVES IN ACADEMIA, JOURNALISM, AND MEDIA

Led by ILS Fellow and Associate Professor of Political Science Ricardo Ramírez, ILS hosted renowned Disney consultant and Chicano comics artist Lalo Alcaraz, scholar Adrián Félix, and award-winning journalist Gustavo Arellano for a discussion in fall 2018 on the misrepresentation of Latinos in different industries, as well as the importance of academic efforts to substantively reflect and explore their realities.

## SUPPLEMENTARY MAJOR & MINOR

The Institute's undergraduate studies program offers a supplementary major and minor to students of all backgrounds and interests who are committed to integrating a deeper understanding of Latino communities into their future careers as leaders in their chosen professions.


**6** community-based teaching + research partnerships 

**40**  courses offered, cross-listed with other departments

**18**  graduates in Class of 2019

**59**  undergraduates majoring/minoring in Latino Studies

 **21** summer internships

 **612** students enrolled in ILS courses



# LATINO STUDENT STORIES



**Alec Helmke '19**  
*History and Arts and Letters pre-health major;  
 Latino studies minor*

“The time I spent with Latino communities, fostered by my minor in Latino Studies, has been a defining aspect of my undergraduate experience and will help me to develop a more understanding and inclusive attitude going forward.”



**Kevin Perez Botello '19**  
*Finance major; Latino studies minor*

“While looking for classes to fill my schedule, I found Professor Ruiz’s Latinos in American Film course. I really love film and I’m Latino, so I thought it would be a great class for me. It was even better than I expected and ended up being one of my favorite classes at Notre Dame. At the end of the semester, Professor Ruiz handed out a flyer with more ILS classes, and I immediately wanted to take three of them! I am very grateful that I was able to learn so much from many wonderful professors and be part of the ILS community.”



## A SAMPLING OF LATINO STUDIES COURSES

**Latinos in the Future of America: Building Transformative Leadership**

*Luis Fraga, Political Science*

**Social Inequality and American Education**

*Amy Langenkamp, Sociology*

**Social Concerns Seminar: Border Immersion**

*Kraig Beyerlein, Sociology*

**American Migrant Communities**

*Francisco Robles, English*

**International Migration and Human Rights**

*Jorge Bustamante, Sociology*

**Mexican Immigration**

*Karen Richman, Latino Studies*

**Latinos, Literacy, and Gender**

*Erin Moira Lemrow, Education, Schooling & Society*

**Race and Racism**

*Agustín Fuentes, Anthropology*

**Landscapes of Urban Education**

*Maria McKenna, Education, Schooling & Society*

**Latinos in U.S. Politics**

*David Cortez, Political Science*

**Picaras and Outlaws**

*Sarah Quesada, English*

**Latino Catholicism**

*Timothy Matovina, Theology*



**Leslie Vergara '19**  
*Accounting and Latino studies major*

“Through the Latino Studies program, I was able to take classes across many disciplines—all through the lens of Latinos’ impact in the U.S. These opportunities for educational, leadership, and personal development are just part of what has made ILS an essential part of my college experience. I feel more prepared and even more committed to becoming a transformative leader in my community.”



## LETRAS LATINAS INITIATIVE

Now in its 15th year, the Institute's literary initiative carries out its mission both on and off the campus of the University of Notre Dame with an emphasis on programs that support newer voices, foster a sense of community among writers, and place Latino writers in community spaces.



### Fall 2018



Letras Latinas co-hosted a luncheon and colloquium with faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students in theology, English, and Latino studies to discuss with **Natalia Treviño** her collection of poems, *Virgin X*. Treviño also visited an undergraduate literature course, Latinx Poetry Now.



**Francisco Aragón**, associate professor of the practice, directs the Letras Latinas Initiative and teaches Latinx Poetry Now, Politics and Poems, and other courses on campus and in Notre Dame's Washington Program.

### Spring 2019

In partnership with the National Hispanic Cultural Center and the Program of the Poet Laureate in Albuquerque, Letras Latinas presented poet **Natalie Scenters-Zapico**, the centennial poet of New Mexico **Levi Romero**, and the poet laureate of Albuquerque **Michelle Otero**. This event was part of the Poetry Coalition's 2019 program, "What Is It, Then, Between Us: Poetry & Democracy."



Letras Latinas Initiative sponsored a Poetry Coalition program in Albuquerque, focused on poetry and democracy.

## ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Oral history interviews document and preserve Latino history. These offer students an in-depth look at culture and society. More than 100 interviews have been recorded with Latino leaders, writers, poets, artists, scholars, and Notre Dame alumni, with a particular emphasis on the Midwestern United States. The following interviews were recorded in fall 2018 on campus:

**Achy Obejas**, conducted by English professor and ILS Faculty Fellow Sarah Quesada.

**Farid Matuk**, conducted by creative writing MFA student Jahan Khajavi.

**Luis Alberto Urrea**, conducted by Letras Latinas director and ILS Faculty Fellow Francisco Aragón.

**Natalia Treviño**, conducted by undergraduate student and Letras Latinas student intern Therese Konopelski.

## JULIAN SAMORA LATINO STUDIES SCHOLARS LOUNGE

In March, the Institute for Latino Studies moved from McKenna Hall to its permanent home in Bond Hall. The books of the Samora Library are now housed at the Hesburgh Library in the Latino Studies collection. The archives, featuring over a dozen Midwest Latino artists' papers, are now housed primarily in Michigan State University's Cesar Chavez Library Collection, while the remaining archives are being housed in the Hesburgh Library Rare Books & Collections.



The move to Bond Hall has allowed ILS to host seminars and study hours in the new **Julian Samora Latino Studies Scholars Lounge**.



## Leadership

ILS shapes the future of undergraduates and graduate students as transformative leaders with a depth of understanding about the capacity of Latino communities to enrich all aspects of American society.



“Our conversation showed the Notre Dame community that Ms. Moreno is not just a practitioner of the arts but also a leading thinker on Latino and Latina media, demonstrated by her propensity for speaking out against stereotyping, ‘brownface’ and other problems associated with Hollywood’s representations of Latinos.”

—Jason Ruiz, associate professor of American studies, who conceptualized and led the effort to bring Rita Moreno to Notre Dame

## TRANSFORMATIVE LATINO LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES

The **Transformative Latino Leadership Lecture Series** brings prominent figures in politics, entertainment, arts, business, activism, the Catholic Church, and other fields who present both their personal experiences and a vision of effective leadership in their spheres of influence. ILS brought three speakers to campus last year through this series.

**LUIS ALBERTO URREA** is a prolific and award-winning writer and master storyteller who uses his dual-culture life experiences to explore greater themes of love, loss, and triumph. Collectively, his works have been chosen by nearly 100 different cities and colleges across the country for community-wide reading programs.



**MICHAEL OLIVAS** is the William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law and director of the Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance at the University of Houston.

He was instrumental in making innovative change in the field of undergraduate admissions, including the University of Texas’ Top 10% Plan and access to higher education for students with a designation through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).



“What really, really empowered me was when I became a political activist. It’s a community service when you’re helping people. It takes you away from all the things that matter to you when you’re an actor or actress, when you’re so self-absorbed. It’s served me very well.”

— Rita Moreno

**RITA MORENO** is a Latino legend of stage and screen and one of only 15 entertainers ever to have achieved the EGOT (winning Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony awards).

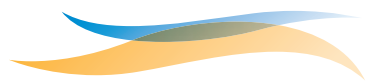
Moreover, the 87-year-old became the third person to achieve “PEGOT” status by winning a Peabody, joining entertainer Barbra Streisand and film director Mike Nichols in holding the distinction.

**Rita Moreno’s** career has spanned more than 70 years in Broadway shows, studio films, and multiple TV series with her best known being Anita in *West Side Story* — a performance that earned her an Academy Award for best supporting actress — and *The King and I*, as well as *The Electric Company* and *Oz*. Moreno currently stars in the TV series *One Day at a Time*. The critically acclaimed reimagination of the classic CBS sitcom features Moreno as the matriarch of a Cuban-American family, and episodes frequently tackle major issues like mental illness, immigration, sexism, homophobia, and racism.



“Rita Moreno is among the best examples of the rich cultural contributions made by Latinas to many aspects of the arts and entertainment industries. We learned from her commitment, professionalism, and unquestioned success.”

—Luis R. Fraga, ILS Director



*Latino Studies Scholars have privileged access to top leaders to engage them in issues that matter most to them.*

## THE LATINO STUDIES SCHOLARS PROGRAM

In partnership with the University of Notre Dame Enrollment Division and the Merit Scholars Program, the Institute for Latino Studies awards merit-based scholarships of \$25,000 per year (\$100,000 over four years). **The Latino Studies Scholars Program** also provides \$5,000 summer enrichment funds to support internships, conferences, and research in Latino Studies topics.

ILS selects merit scholars who demonstrate a commitment to the future of Latino communities in the United States and show an interest in Latino Studies courses. The program is open to applicants of Latino and non-Latino origin, and scholars are welcome to enroll in any college or major at Notre Dame.



**Kelly Liang '21**  
Accounting major; Latino Studies minor

“Being a Latino Studies Scholar has helped me develop a new definition of what it means to be Latino. It is also the way through which I stay connected to my roots and home. ILS is this hidden treasure on campus where you can find people who are genuinely interested in the politics, economics, and culture of Latinos who are so integral to the shape of the United States. I enjoy being instantly and deeply connected to this Institute, where I am able to find support for my endeavors and interests.”



**Yanik Ariste '22**  
Accounting and Spanish major

“Being a Latino Studies Scholar meant I had a support system of peers, faculty, and staff who believed in me and wanted me to succeed even before I arrived on campus. Attending the *Lideres del Mañana* Conference in Monterrey, Mexico, was a prime example. It was a week before Welcome Weekend, and I was already learning from speakers and peers alike at such a conference. I worked at the Hispanic Association for Corporate Responsibility in Washington, D.C., in summer 2019. LSSP has allowed me to do all of this and so much more; it is a support system beyond my wildest dreams.”



Due to the generosity of Notre Dame alumni, ILS awarded two additional scholarships in September 2019 to these sophomores who joined the first LSSP cohort:



**Diego Reynoso '21**

Political science and economics major; Latino studies minor

**“Growing up in Elkhart, Indiana, I’ve witnessed the lack of equal opportunities that are given to**

**Latinos domestically. My grandfather worked long, backbreaking hours in the California sun picking fruit. I watched my parents work the first shift at a factory for over half my life. My aunts, uncles, and cousins are still working there, and a few of my best friends just began working that first shift.**

**“College was never in the picture for me, let alone Notre Dame, but here I am. I understand that everything I do from here is a representation of my family’s hard work and I am trying to change the narrative for future generations. When I visit my old high school, I have teenagers that grew up exactly like me asking about college with a sparkle in their eyes — a sense of motivation for an education that will take them away from manual labor. I now work with Hispanic youth in South Bend, helping kids with reading, speaking English, and any homework that their parents do not understand.”**



**Alejandra Osorio '21**

Neuroscience and behavior and pre-professional studies major; Latino studies minor

**“The most important contribution I have made to Latino**

**communities is to help nurture and give voice to them. Given that I am Mexican-American and because I come from Santa Ana, a city that many people describe as being ‘mini Mexico,’ I have witnessed the challenges and struggles that many Latino people face in the United States.**

**“I have also seen the Latino community’s determination and ambition to excel in life in order to make a better future for themselves and their families. Through the health talks, club advertising presentations, healthcare fairs, citizenship classes, and tutoring that I have done in Latino communities, I always make sure to let people know they are important and that they do belong. I make sure to give them confidence and provide them with information and resources they need in order to help them succeed and better their lives. The Latino community is one that is growing at a fast rate and it is now the largest and youngest minority group. With some help and guidance, I know that we can reach our goals.”**

**LSSP CLASS OF 2023**



**Nathalie Garcia**

Lawrence, Massachusetts  
Presentation of Mary Academy  
Intended major: neuroscience and behavior

**“Individuals raised amidst two cultures don’t necessarily lose the**

**authenticity of either one; rather, we grow and develop with access to twice as many ways of understanding the world. The need for language is ingrained in us as social creatures with the need to communicate. The ways we speak construct pathways, not only with people in our own communities, but also with the stories of our past, and thus our cultural roots. ... I see myself leading children to a sense of purpose and an understanding that the power to make a change is never out of reach. I hope to encourage them to enhance their senses of purpose with education, putting the narratives back in their controls to keep them from retreating into our city’s bad reputation.”**



**Aaron Baez**

Bronx, New York  
Phillips Exeter Academy  
Intended major: Economics

**“Latino communities are very hardworking and diligent, making me want to strive to be just like**

**them in that fashion. They are a clear image of what happens when people are given a chance to be someone. Latinos break the boundaries that society has placed on them and have used their portrayal in the media as a form of motivation rather than an obstacle. I see this firsthand with my family and my tremendous Latino community.”**



**Giselle Garcia**

Niles, Illinois  
Maine East High School  
Intended major: biological sciences

**“Ten years from now, whether it be amidst finishing medical school**

**or kicking off my research career with my first top-notch job, I want to be working with students ranging from middle school to high school and serve as a mentor for them. I want to show them that if they want to pursue a career in STEM, they can. That if this is what they desire to become, all it takes is a passion and a drive. I would hope that in 10 years from now, the line between Latinos and STEM becomes one not of trespassing, but rather one of crossing like after a victorious race.”**

The Latino Studies Scholars Program was established in 2016 with a gift from ILS Advisory Council member Ignacio “Nacho” Lozano Jr. This year, ILS Advisory Council member Joseph A. Power made a generous gift to the merit scholarship program. The Hispanic Alumni of ND (HAND) also designated its Julian Samora Scholarship Endowment to the program to fund summer enrichment experiences.

The scholarship attracts diverse leaders — often considering multiple offers from top universities — to make Notre Dame the place where they pursue both their commitment to their community and their career goals.

## THE CROSS-CULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The **Cross-Cultural Leadership Program (CCLP)** is a three-credit summer service-learning experience. Notre Dame students learn from and contribute to the challenges and opportunities encountered by Latino communities in one of four U.S. cities.

In 2018–19, the program grew from 15 students to 21. New summer immersion placements were developed for students at the National Museum of Mexican Art, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) D.C. office, MALDEF Chicago office, Century Housing LLC, Corporación ENLACE del Caño Martín Peña, and HealthProMed. A new partnership with Listening to Puerto Rico (founded by ILS Faculty Fellows Marisel Moreno and Thomas Anderson) and the University of Sagrado Corazón opened up placement opportunities in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as well.

Leadership is an important component of the Latino studies academic program, so supplementary majors and minors in Latino Studies receive first priority in the competitive application process for the CCLP summer program.

In June, these students began their immersion experiences in the following cities:

### SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

#### Lorena Morejon-Lasso '22

Biological sciences major  
ENLACE (water resources)

#### Diego Reynoso '21

Economics and political  
science major  
ENLACE (youth entrepreneurship)

#### Alejandra Osorio '21

Science pre-professional studies  
major, Latino studies minor  
ENLACE (water resources)

#### Vaishali Nayak '20

Neuroscience and behavior major,  
international development  
studies minor  
HealthProMed Clinic & diabetes  
research project

#### Mary Grace Phelan '21

Science pre-professional studies and  
Spanish major, Latino studies minor  
HealthProMed Clinic

#### Amber Grimmer '20

International studies, economics,  
and peace studies major  
HealthProMed Clinic

#### Tim Jacklich '20

Political science major, Spanish minor  
ENLACE (youth entrepreneurship)

#### Anna Pappas '22

Biological sciences and Spanish major  
HealthProMed Clinic

### CHICAGO

#### Jacob Fries '21

Environmental sciences and Latino  
studies major  
Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center

#### Armando Sanchez '20

Political science major,  
constitutional studies and  
Latino studies minors  
MALDEF

#### Ava Gruener '20

History and Spanish major  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant &  
Refugee Rights

#### Angela Rogers '20

Art history and Spanish major  
National Museum of Mexican Art

### LOS ANGELES

#### Maria Camila Leon Buitrago '22

Neuroscience and behavior major  
UNIDOS U.S.

#### Kassy Perez '21

Mathematics major  
UFWF Immigration

#### Luis Lopez '22

Biological sciences major  
UFWF Health

#### Nico Sanchez '22

Architecture major  
Homeboy Industries

#### Sarah Konkey '20

Anthropology major  
Self Help Graphics

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

#### Yanik Ariste '22

Management and Spanish major  
HACR

#### Cindy Giron '20

Political science and economics major  
MALDEF

#### Jebraune Chambers '20

Political science major  
LULAC

#### Jennifer Moreno '22

Management consulting, marketing  
and global affairs major  
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops  
Anti-Trafficking Program



### BRINGING ND TO PUERTO RICO

The CCLP-Puerto Rico program is a new and unique opportunity for Notre Dame students to learn about the island's history, culture, economy, and more in a post-Hurricane María context. Students take an interdisciplinary course— Sustainability, Community Initiatives, and Innovation— alongside University of Sagrado Corazon students, and afterwards they spend four weeks volunteering at grassroots organizations in one of the poorest areas of San Juan.

“Thanks to the support of ILS and the partnership with Universidad del Sagrado Corazón that came out of the Listening to Puerto Rico project, Notre Dame can finally offer students the opportunity to study and volunteer in Puerto Rico, in order to learn about the challenges that its U.S. citizens have confronted as a result of two disasters: the economic crisis and Hurricane María.

“CCLP-Puerto Rico marks a new chapter in terms of Notre Dame's commitment to Puerto Rico. This is not a one-time event, but the beginning of a meaningful and long-term relationship that will benefit both sides.”

—Marisel Moreno, Faculty Advisor



#### Mary Grace Phelan '21

Science pre-professional studies and Spanish major,  
Latino Studies minor

“I am incredibly grateful for being able to spend this summer doing the CCLP in Puerto Rico. It was truly the best learning and personal growth experience I have had. I am already planning on applying for some kind of grant through Notre Dame to hopefully return. ... I am hoping to participate in more upcoming events with Latino Studies in the future, and I am extremely excited for the group that will get to go on the CCLP to Puerto Rico next summer.”



#### Sabrina Victor '19

Political science major; Latino Studies and business economics minor  
Senior thesis in Latino Studies

“As a second-generation Haitian-American from South Florida, I found my home away from home in the Institute for Latino Studies. The Latino Studies minor enabled me to take classes in which I discussed matters of diversity, inclusion, and social justice, a rare experience at Notre Dame. Furthermore, the opportunities provided to me through ILS have been essential to my Notre Dame experience, and instrumental to my overall academic and personal success. During the summer of 2016, I participated in the Cross Cultural Leadership Program and interned with Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, a public interest law firm. During my internship I served the

Latino community through health advocacy and was even able to shadow U-Visa and domestic violence cases. After my experience with CCLP, I decided I wanted to spend my life practicing immigration law and providing pro-bono services to unaccompanied immigrant children. In the fall, I will be in a law school with a strong immigration focus — the University of California, Irvine.”



## Community Engagement

ILS forms partnerships with student groups, university departments, and local human services agencies that serve Latino communities. This collaboration empowers students, faculty, society — all of us — to make informed decisions as to what kind of a country we want to leave our children and grandchildren.



ILS hosted the fourth annual **U.S. Naturalization Oath Ceremony**, swearing in more than 100 new U.S. citizens.

Washington Hall was “federalized” for a day on the Notre Dame campus.

Collaborators included La Casa de Amistad, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ Indianapolis Field Office, and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.

Notre Dame Vice President for University Relations Lou Nanni delivered the keynote address.



## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH EVENTS SERIES



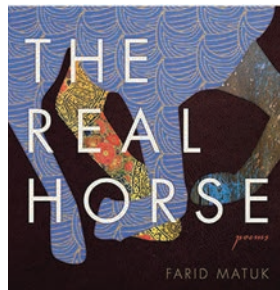
*Latino Film Series at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center: Selena*

“The whole purpose of Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 to October 15, is to celebrate the way in which America at its best has the capacity, through its institutions and its political leaders, to see and celebrate difference and know that it doesn’t in any way threaten our common destiny and linked fate with one another.”

—ILS Director Luis Fraga



*Achy Obejas, writer and translator*



*Farid Matuk, poet and associate professor of English at the University of Arizona*



*Sounds of Crossing: Music, Migration, and the Aural Poetics of Huapango Arribeno panel discussion with Alex Chavez, Charles Briggs, and George Lipsitz*



*Transformative Latino Leader Luis Alberto Urrea, poet, novelist, and essayist*



*Clínica de Migrantes documentary & discussion with Steve Larson, executive director, Puentes de Salud*



*Performance of Bi-Teatro Milagro of Portland, Oregon*

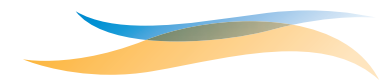
## ARTS & CULTURE

### THE GALERÍA AMÉRICA @ ND

The Galería, located on the third floor of Bond Hall, was founded alongside the Institute in 1999 with the purpose of showcasing contemporary Latino art that provokes thought; poses challenges to staff, students, and visitors; and presents facets of Latino life so as to complement the research produced by other initiatives of the Institute. This year, the featured artist was Lalo Alcaraz, a renowned Latino political cartoonist, consulting producer, and writer.



Assistant professor Alex E. Chavez led a sound-design workshop project for students enrolled in his Ballads to Hip-Hop: Music, Migration, and American Latinos course last fall. With a Teaching Beyond the Classroom grant and ILS support, he incorporated students from the youth-produced “Wattz up!” podcast series of the Yollocalli Arts Reach organization in Chicago.



### FORNÉS PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP

ILS Faculty Fellow Anne García-Romero coordinated the third annual Fornés Playwriting Workshop, exploring the legacy of award winning playwright María Irene Fornés (1930–2018). Taught by Fornés protégée and playwright Migdalia Cruz, the seven-day workshop included 14 professional and emerging writers from across the U.S., as well as Canada and Africa, who spent a week in Chicago last summer learning Fornés’ innovative playwriting methods. The workshop culminated in a staged reading of scenes, directed and acted by Chicago theater professionals and presented at the Goodman Theater.



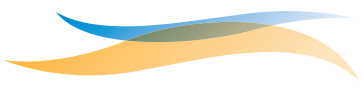




**WALK THE WALK PANEL DISCUSSION:**

*American Identity Crisis? The Current State of Racial and Ethnic Relations in the U.S.*

Professors Dianne Pinderhughes (not pictured), Darren Davis, Ricardo Ramirez, and David Cortez convened to discuss how identity politics across ethnoracial groups are manifested in the U.S. politics of today and the foreseeable future. This January event was part of the fourth annual Walk the Walk Week, a University-wide effort to promote inclusivity in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



**DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS ALTAR DEDICATION**

ILS partners with the Latino Student Alliance and Multicultural Campus Ministry each year to put on a series of events and exhibits around this holiday. Students from Holy Cross School contributed miniature altars with handmade objects favored by family members they have lost. Additionally, ILS partnered with the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center to present the movie *Coco* on November 1, 2018.



**YOUTH ENGAGEMENT**

ILS brings the community to Notre Dame, and Notre Dame to the surrounding community.



**HACIA EL FUTURO PROGRAM**

ILS supported 20 Notre Dame undergraduates who hosted 18 Hispanic high school students from St. Anthony's High School Academy in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The September 2018 visit marked the fourth year of this partnership.



**SUEÑOS SIN FRONTERAS**

*Sueños sin Fronteras* brings St. Joseph and Elkhart County 8th- to 10th-grade students to the campus of Notre Dame for a daylong visit to learn more about college. The conference is planned and run by Notre Dame students and focuses on leadership, community, and university life.



Lalo Alcaraz, a renowned artist who visited Notre Dame this year, donated the use of his art for this program.



**LA CASA STUDENTS**

This year, ILS sponsored students from La Casa de Amistad to attend a performance by Teatro Milagro. La Casa is a local nonprofit organization geared towards providing educational resources and services to help the local Latino community grow and prosper.

## LATINO SPIRITUALITY

ILS builds bridges between the University and Hispanic Catholic leaders across the nation.



### HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

For three years, ILS has collaborated with Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) to develop programs that respond to and support the increased enrollment of Latino students in Catholic schools across the country.

Together, ILS and ACE's English Language Learners Program developed a successful two-way, Spanish-English immersion program at Holy Cross School in South Bend.

The program now boasts a waiting list for enrollment in pre-K through first grade, making this school one of the most sought-after grammar schools in the city.

### RELATED COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING COURSES AT HOLY CROSS SCHOOL



#### Once Upon a Time

Rachel Parroquin, director of Spanish community-based learning, teaches a course cross-listed with Latino Studies and the Center for Social Concerns.



#### Immigration and the Construction of Memory

**“Learning the issues firsthand can be a real eye-opener to Notre Dame students. Their final reflections on getting to know the families are really powerful.”**

—Tatiana Botero, professor of the practice

## NATIONAL ENCUENTRO

In September 2018, ILS led a Notre Dame delegation to participate in the V National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry, where more than 3,000 participants from 300 dioceses convened in Dallas, Texas.

The Encuentro is a four-year process to discern ways in which the Church in the United States can better respond to the Hispanic/Latino presence, and to strengthen the ways in which Hispanics/Latinos respond to the call to the New Evangelization as missionary disciples serving the entire Church.

Latino Studies Scholars Kelly Liang '21 and Aaron Benavides '21 attended a dinner with the 100 bishops present and participated in sessions to promote a vision of the Church in mission that develops effective pathways to invite, engage, and form Hispanic Catholic youth to live out their baptismal vocation.

Theology professor Tim Matovina, ILS director Luis Fraga, and graduate students in Latino theology also joined to promote Notre Dame's role in preparing the future leaders of the U.S. and the U.S. Catholic Church.



**“Being a part of the inaugural cohort of the Latino Studies Scholars Program has been a great blessing. Through the Institute for Latino Studies, I have found a family. The support of the ILS staff and fellow students has been essential to my Notre Dame experience. In particular, the ability to intern in Washington, D.C., with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was an incredible opportunity that allowed me to participate in the V Encuentro, an important moment for Latino Catholics throughout the U.S. I am very grateful for the work of the Institute for Latino Studies and look forward to continuing to be a part of their efforts.”**

— Aaron Benavides '21, *Latino Studies Scholar, political science and theology major and journalism minor*



### NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CATHOLIC HISPANIC MINISTRY

ILS was proud to host the Third National Symposium on Catholic Hispanic Ministry, which gathered major stakeholders from across the U.S., including bishops, theologians, leaders from national organizations, and pastoral leaders from parishes and dioceses. The symposium's theme, “Hispanic Ministry in the 21st Century: Mercy as Justice,” brought 55 leaders to the University of Notre Dame from June 30 to July 3, 2019.

The goal of this meeting was to analyze the connection between Hispanic ministry and Catholic social teaching, particularly at a time when Hispanics and other underrepresented groups are being affected by social and political movements that undermine their dignity and rights. The Catholic Church in the United States, through its Hispanic ministry efforts, needs to be at the forefront of the conversation of how to work to support Hispanic Catholics in conditions of vulnerability.

## ILS People



Lauren Melancon, Paloma Garcia-Lopez, Rita Moreno, Luis Fraga, Idalia Maldonado, and Maribel Rodriguez

**Luis R. Fraga**  
Director

**Paloma Garcia-Lopez**  
Associate Director

**Maribel Rodriguez**  
Staff Accountant

**Lauren Melancon**  
Communications Coordinator

**Idalia Maldonado**  
Senior Administrative Assistant &  
Events Coordinator

**Karen Richman**  
Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Professor of the Practice

**Francisco Aragón**  
Director, Letras Latinas Initiative  
Associate Professor of the Practice

## ILS ADVISORY COUNCIL



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Advanced Medical Computing  
South Bend, Indiana

**Rev. Tim Scully, C.S.C. '76**  
Institute for Educational Initiatives,  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana

**Irma Tudor '84**  
Tuder Investments, LLC  
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**Art Velasquez '60**  
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Naples, Florida



Longtime ILS Advisory Council member **Dorene Dominguez** was elected to the University of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees in May 2019.

Dominguez, who earned her bachelor's degree in finance from Notre Dame, is the chair of the Vanir Group of Companies, a California-based leader in real estate development, construction and construction management, financial services, and renewable energy. She is also a part-owner of the Sacramento Kings, the first and only Latina owner in the NBA.

Dominguez, who served on the Institute for Latino Studies Advisory Council from 2007 to 2018, is active in a wide array of community improvement projects, commissions, and corporate boards, including CIT Bank and KB Home. She was also honored as a 2019 Cardinal Award recipient in Los Angeles, California, for her work with The Dominguez Dream initiative.



## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANTS

**Daniela Cabada '19**

*Political Science and Economics major*

**Valerie Caamaño Pichardo '19**

*Psychology major, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages minor*

**Thomas Doran '19**

*Theology major, Latino Studies minor*

**Jebraune Chambers '20**

*Political Science major, Latino Studies minor*

**Therese Konopelski '20**

*English major, Latino Studies minor*

**J.P. Hernandez '19**

*Political Science and Economics major*

**Estefan Linares '21**

*IT Management major, Latino Studies minor*

**Dulce Macias '19**

*Economics and Latino Studies major*

**Angela Rogers '21**

*Art History and Latino Studies major*

**Jinelfry Rodriguez '19**

*Psychology and Romance Languages major*

**Amelia Trevizo '20**

*Political Science major*

**Andrés Walliser Wejebe '20**

*Mechanical Engineering and Design major, Latino Studies minor*

ILS fosters a deeper understanding of Latino communities by empowering students, faculty, society — all of us — to make informed decisions as to what kind of a country we want to leave to our children and grandchildren.



INSTITUTE FOR  
**LATINO STUDIES**  
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

CONTACT US

**Institute for Latino Studies**

University of Notre Dame  
Bond Hall, 3rd Floor  
Notre Dame, IN 46556

574.631.4440  
latinostudies.nd.edu  
latino@nd.edu



@LatinoStudiesND



ARTS AND LETTERS