

Latinx Student Psychological Association



National Latinx Heritage Month

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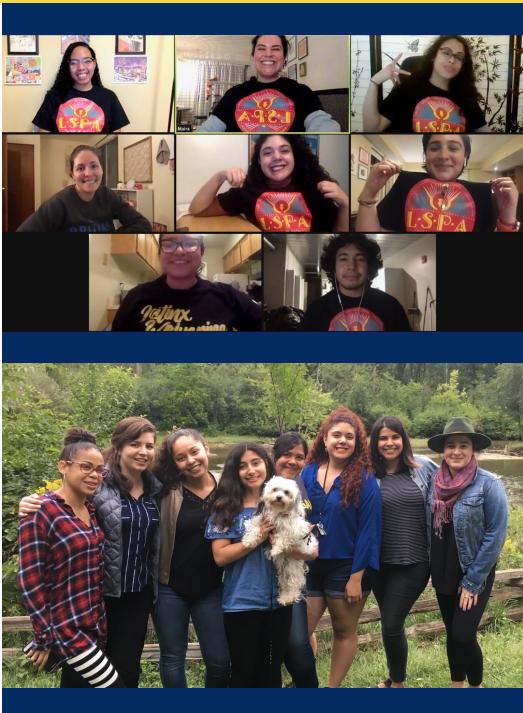
National Latinx Heritage Month

September 15–October 15

September 15th marked the beginning of National Latinx Heritage Month. This month is reserved to **honor and celebrate Latinx** cultures and their histories, as well as recognize the contributions and the important presence of Latinx in the United States. Within academia, Latinx continue to be largely excluded from higher education. While the number of Latinx doctorate recipients has increased 67% from 2006 to 2016, **the proportion of PhDs awarded to Latinx is only 7%** (NSE, 2016). Research demonstrates the important role that ethnic student organizations, such as LSPA, play among students pursuing higher education—these orgs not only assist and support students as they navigate educational systems, but they also foster bonds among group members, strengthen students' cultural heritage, enhance students' professional development, and make important community impacts.

The presence of our Latinx Psychology graduate students at UM is a **powerful** representation within the academy—we inspire, mentor, and have a profound impact on racial/ethnic minoritized undergraduate students completing their degrees and aspiring to join academia.

Please join us in celebrating the amazing academic accomplishments and community impact that our UM Psych Latinx graduate students are having!



Who is LSPA?

Latinx Student Psychological Association

The Latinx Student Psychological Association (LSPA) is a graduate student organization at the University of Michigan that strives to **increase the recruitment and retention of Latinx students** in the fields of psychology. As such, LSPA's mission is threefold:

- provide a supportive and diverse learning environment for its graduate student members,
- serve as advocates for the Latinx community, and
- educate the greater academic community on issues that affect Latinx and other ethnic minority groups.

Throughout the year, LSPA holds several events for its members and for the larger campus and Latinx community.

A Note from LSPA Co-Chair

Andy Pinedo

Latinx heritage month offers us the opportunity to celebrate our contributions to society, via our labor, cultural traditions, and social movements. It also allows us to reflect on how a pan-ethnic Latinx label can reinforce anti-Blackness and anti-Indigeneity. As an organization **LSPA is committed to celebrating and serving all Latinx people while challenging White Supremacy.** LSPA has incorporated discussions on anti-racism in general body meetings, conducted legal research to support exploited farmworkers and separated families, and engaged in community with other organizations in our department and broader campus. Individually, LSPA members mentor younger students, conduct research to support communities, and engage in activism to improve their local contexts. LSPA plans to continue to make the university a more welcoming place for all students.



LSPA Write-in



LSPA X BSPA Orgs-giving

Pioneer High School College Day

Winter 2018



Pioneer High School College Day

Erick Aguinaldo

Women & Gender Studies and Personality & Social Contexts

Research Area: gender norms, stereotypes, & socialization; masculinities and social media, i.e., how male celebrities can potentially use social media platforms to facilitate feminist/gender equitable beliefs among boys & young men

Academic Accomplishments:

- Who's Behind the Makeup: The Effects of Varying Levels of Cosmetics Application on Perceptions of Facial Attractiveness, Competence, and Sociosexuality; *Frontiers in Psychology*
- Research presented at APA Division 45, National Communication Association, and Society for the Psychological Study for Social Issues

Community Impact:

- Serves as an LSPA & Twitter mentor
- Served on several panels about graduate school
- Speaker at several Latinx events on various social issues/social justice issues (i.e., COVID, Black Lives Matter, Anti-Asian Hate)



Milestones/Celebrations:

- Passed preliminary exams!!
- Accomplished all this work with a NEWBORN baby!



Maira Areguin

Women & Gender Studies and Personality & Social Contexts

Research Area: understanding the experiences of, and advocating for, low-income workers, particularly Latinx farmworkers

Academic Accomplishments:

- Reaping More Than What They Sow: A Critical Race Perspective on Environmental Microaggressions Toward Latinx Farmworkers; *Social Psychological and Personality Science*
- 'Latina Farmworkers Experiences': Maintaining Dignity in an Oppressive Workplace; Forthcoming, *Journal of Gender, Work, & Organization*

Community Impact:

- Interned at Student Actions with Farmworkers where she partnered with the East Coast Migrant Headstart Project serving migrant farmworkers and providing comprehensive head start education to the children of migrant farmworkers

"Being Latina means showing up for one another as we are—tired, hungry, cranky, loud or giddy—but showing up"



Allura Casanova

Women & Gender Studies and Personality & Social Contexts

Research Area: studies marginalized men's experiences; including, (a) understanding how marginalized men conceptualize their own masculinity through the influence of race and culture, and (b) how sexual harassment manifests differently for men

Academic Accomplishments:

- An Online Behavioral Health Intervention Promoting Mental Health, Manhood, and Social Support for Black Men; *American Journal of Men's Health*
- "Sometimes You Just Need to be Heard": Forms of Social Support for Black College Men; Forthcoming chapter

Community Impact:

- Served on the 2020 admissions committee for GFP, admitting two BIPOC GFP students!
- Mentored 3 STARS scholars, creating an informal lab called *Chromatic* to represent the "colorful" ethnic background of each undergraduate STAR student
- Co-created a DEI video introducing the PSC & GFP area & East Hall tour for diversity recruitment weekend

"Being Latinx/e...we are diverse, beautiful, unique, empathetic, powerful and resilient. That is why I love my culture, my 3b curls, and my African and Taino ancestry. Nunca he sido más Boricua y Dominicana en mi vida."

Ana Patricia Esqueda

Developmental Psychology

Research Area: how systems of oppression impact the development of minorities/individuals in low SES communities and how protective factors can be employed to mitigate this

Academic Milestones:

- Completed 619
- Reached candidacy!

Community Impact:

- Mentor UROP students
- Serving on the Developmental Brown Bag committee



Isidro Landa

Research Fellow

Research Area: culture, identity, social equity, emotion regulation

Academic Accomplishments:

- Developing a Family Achievement Guilt Scale Grounded in First-Generation College Student Voices; *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*

Community Impact:

- Mentor through FirstHub—A mentorship program for professionals and first-generation college students



"I am proud to be queergender Latino and be able to connect and share space with such diverse folks that include Afro-, white-, and indigenous-Latinos"



"Being Latina means being in community and being there for your community, day in and day out. It means being proud of who you are, of your culture, and of your people."

Jessica Montoro

Developmental Psychology

Research Area: how ethnic-racial and social class experiences shape Latinx youth's academic adjustment and psychological well-being

Academic Accomplishments:

- Latinx Adolescents Facing Multiple Daily Stressors and the Protective Role of Familismo. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*; *Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology*
- Coping with Discrimination from Peers and Adults: Implications for Adolescents' School Belonging; *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*
- Chaired symposium at the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD) titled "Parent-adolescent dissimilarity in ethnic-racial identity exploration: Implications for adolescent family cohesion and depressive symptoms"

Community Impact:

- Co-authored, American Me, American We: Navigating Race, Diversity, and Identity, *Psychology Today Blog*
- UROP Mentor, Project titled: "Links between Proactive Discrimination Coping Strategies and Adolescents' Negative Affect"
- Served on the Developmental Area Curriculum Committee, and currently serving as LSPA Co-Chair & Psychology Departmental Associate



Andrea Mora

Social Work & Developmental Psychology

Research Area: community violence exposure & gender and sexual harassment among Latinx adolescents; parent-adolescent relationships as protective factors

Academic Accomplishments:

- Latino/a Adolescents Facing Neighborhood Dangers: An Examination of Community Violence and Gender-Based Harassment; *American Journal of Community Psychology*
- Collected dissertation survey data in a low-income, rural, indigenous community in Mexico with 200 parent-adolescent dyads, & individual interviews with 16 dyads

Community Impact:

- Mentored a SROP student & several UROP students during past & current academic year
- Supervising two undergraduate students through individual research projects that will be presented at the 2021 National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA) Conference
- Actively mentoring Latinx students through Instagram page dedicated to supporting future & current graduate students
- Co-facilitated panel titled, "Legal and Social Work Perspectives at the US-Mexico Border" discussing injustices in the criminal/immigration system and the psychological impact of separation & deportation on children & families
- Served on Developmental Area Curriculum Committee; currently serving on admissions committee for Joint SW/Psych Program

"There is un tremendo orgullo (tremendous pride) in being a Latina. It means having deeply rooted traditions that connect us to our past, and gives us the strength and knowledge to move forward."

Valeria Ortiz Villalobos

Combined Program in Education & Psychology

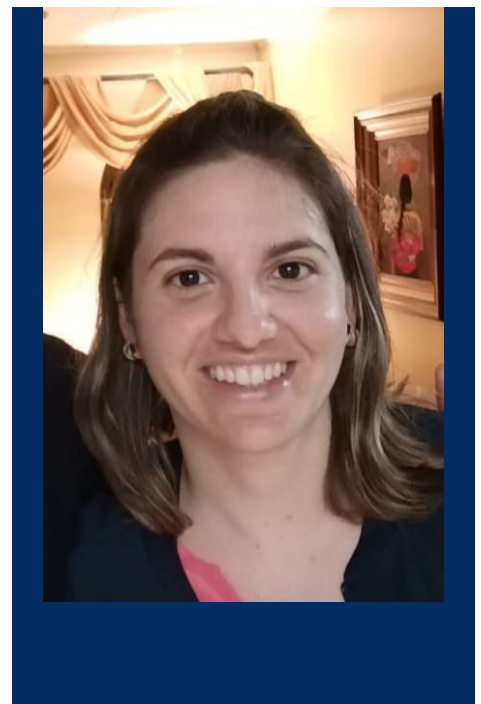
Research Area: early childhood and education, particularly early literacy development and family practices

Academic Accomplishments:

- Symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Virtual Biennial 2021 Meeting, titled "The relationship between the Home Literacy Environment in Costa Rican Families and children's vocabulary"

Community Impact:

- Collaborated with En Nuestra Lengua Literacy and Culture Program



Andres Pinedo

Combined Program in Education and Psychology

Research Area: examines how youth of color understand, critique, and disrupt systems of oppression that produce inequality

Academic Accomplishments:

- Critical pedagogy and children's beneficial development. Policy Insights from the Brain and Behavioral Sciences; *Policy Insights from the Behavioral and Brain Sciences*
- Awarded TWO grants to support a school-based research partnership for dissertation:
 - SPSSI-Applied Social Issues Internship
 - Institute for Social Research Sarri Family Fellowship
- Awarded the ICPSR Summer Quantitative Methods Program Diversity Scholarship

Community Impact:

- Serving on the CPEP Recruitment Committee
- Serving as LSPA Co-Chair



"As a Latino, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to those who've paved the way for folks like us, and plan to keep paying it forward."



Bernadette Piñetta

Combined Program in Education and Psychology

Research Area: investigates the intersection between the ethnic-racial identity (ERI) and critical consciousness (CC) development amongst youth of color, highlighting the ways parents, educators, & community members cultivate youths' pride in their racial & cultural background, & foster awareness of their community's political resistance history

Academic Accomplishments:

- Inherently Political? Associations of Parent Ethnic-Racial Socialization and Sociopolitical Discussions with Latinx Youth's Emergent Civic Engagement; *American Journal of Community Psychology*
- School-Based Social Emotional Learning and Ethnic-Racial Identity Among African American and Latinx Adolescents; *Youth and Society*
- Research presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2021 Biennial Meeting, titled "Lessons from the Community: Civic Socialization and Ethnic-Racial Identity among Latinx Early Adolescents"

Community Impact:

- Collaborating with a non-profit organization that focuses on strengthening the political, economic, and academic potential of Latinas across California, using youth participatory action research methods (YPAR)

Milestones/Grants:

- William T. Grant Foundation, *Mentoring and Career Development*
- Institute for Research on Women and Gender Award, *¡Orgullosas y Poderosas! Strengthening Latinas' Civic and Political Capacities*
- Completed dissertation prospectus, now ABD!



Solangel Troncoso

Women & Gender Studies and Personality & Social Contexts

Research Area: broadly interested in issues related to gender and race

Milestones:

- Completed 619
- Reached candidacy

"Latinx Heritage month is an opportunity to continue learning from and about our communities"

Carlos Vivaldo

Biopsychology

Research Area: understanding how sounds guide behaviors; specifically, how auditory cortical neural networks process sounds in different behavioral states and how these networks change over time to allow audiomotor learning and behavior

Academic Accomplishments:

- Awarded the NIH Hearing Balance and Chemical Senses (T-32) training grant for a second year to examine the role that acetylcholine has on auditory cortical networks during audiomotor behavior and learning

Community Impact:

- In UM Psych Department:
 - Serving as Departmental Associate
 - Serving on the Diversity Committee
- Serving as a Bystander Intervention Facilitator for the College of Engineering and Psych Departments
- Mentoring undergraduates from Occidental College through Oxy Latino Alumni Association, & at UM Rothschild Lab



Milestones:

- Formed dissertation committee!