CENTER NEWS

Tonight: Cuban Visions Film Screening, LGBTQ Politics and Gay Marriage

The Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (CLLAS) invites you to this evening’s Cuban Film Screening: LGBTQ Politics and Gay Marriage. The program will consist of the screening of four short documentary films by Afro-Cuban Queer filmmaker Damián Sainz (Batería, Homenaje, De Agua Dulce, Close Up). The documentaries are in Spanish with English subtitles. The film screening will be followed by a presentation by director Damián Sainz and Norge Espinosa, LGBTQ activist, playwright and author. We hope to see you this evening (February 28) in Cole Hall 100 at 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by CLLAS, the Latino Resource Center, the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center, and Media Studies Faculty.

Applications for CLLAS Undergraduate Student Scholarships Due Tomorrow, March 1

The Robert Marcelin Memorial Scholarship ($500.00). Eligibility criteria: must have a 3.0 GPA or higher, must be enrolled full time at NIU, must be able to demonstrate progress towards degree completion, and must have at least one Latino/a parent.

The Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (CLLAS) Undergraduate Scholarship ($500). Eligibility criteria: must have a 3.0 GPA or better, must be enrolled full-time at NIU, must be able to demonstrate progress towards degree completion, and must have a declared minor in Latino and Latin American Studies. Scholarship applications can be found at: https://niu.edu/latino-studies/resources/scholarships.shtml

Applicants, please submit a hard copy of the application with its respective supporting documents (unofficial transcript, statement of interest, and one letter of recommendation) no later than March 1, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. to: Ann Nelson, Office Manager, CLLAS, Latino Center 515 Garden Rd, DeKalb.
Course Prefix Change: ILAS 100 will be LATS 100

When our students are looking to register for the Fall semester, please make sure to direct them to LATS 100. This will be a General Education course and will serve as one of the core courses for the minor in Latino and Latin American Studies.

LATS 100 - Introduction to Latin American Studies
Introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Latin American Studies. Latin America and the Caribbean from the colonial period through the present day with focus on the political, cultural, social, economic, and geographic differences and commonalities that have shaped the region. Emphasis will be on changes and continuities in everyday life, including the role of race, ethnicity, and gender in society. Credits: 3

Now Accepting Proposals for Faculty Associate & Graduate Student Research/Travel Grants

Faculty Associate Research and Travel Grants. CLLAS awards up to $2000 in grants each fiscal year to support faculty associates conducting research or presenting at a conference on a topic in the fields of Latinx or Latin American Studies. Applicants must indicate if the proposed project has already been invited or accepted for publication or where they are seeking to publish the finished work. Those applying for support for conference travel must indicate if their proposal has already been accepted.

Graduate Student Research and Travel Grants. CLLAS also awards up to $500 in grants each fiscal year to support Graduate Student Research and Conference Travel. Applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria: the graduate student is conducting research or presenting at a conference on a topic in the fields of Latinx or Latin American Studies, or the graduate student is a teaching assistant or instructor of record of a course that meets the requirements for the Latino and Latin American Studies minor. Graduate Students applying for support for conference travel must indicate if the proposal has already been accepted. Graduate Students applying for support for research travel must indicate if the proposed project is intended for their thesis/dissertation or for publication elsewhere.

All grant recipients are expected to use the funds to cover research or conference-related expenses, such as travel, lodging, registration and per diem. Original receipts must be presented for reimbursement and only those expenses incurred during the award period will be honored. A completed application will include a 1000-word proposal explaining the project as well as an itemized budget, a travel itinerary and a current curriculum vitae. Grants recipients are expected to share the results of their research or their conference paper with CLLAS by presenting at a Brown Bag talk open to faculty and students within a year of their award. Email proposals no later than April 12, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. to:
Dr. Christina Abreu, Director, Center for Latino and Latin American Studies cabreu@niu.edu
Latinx Graduate Student Panel

On February 6, the NIU Latinx Law Student Association facilitated "Latinx Graduate Student Panel: The Grad School Journey." Five students from four different NIU Graduate Programs served as panelists and shared their diverse experiences while making the decision to attend graduate school, transitioning from undergraduate to graduate studies, and overcoming barriers found along the way. Thank you to the NIU Latinx Law Student Association for organizing an important event for our undergraduate students and to the graduate student panelists for sharing their experiences. CLLAS was glad to collaborate as a sponsor of the event.

Invited Lecture: Ricardo Rámirez, Ph.D.

On February 21, Dr. Ricardo Ramírez, Associate Professor of Political Science from the University of Notre Dame, delivered a lecture titled “A Mobilized Election? The Latino Vote in the 2018 Midterm Elections” at the Latino Center. Dr. Ramírez analyzed different data sets related to the Latino vote in the United States, focusing specifically on the most recent midterm elections.

Dr. Ramírez concluded that although there is still an untapped Latino electorate, Latino voter turnout increased 174% in the 2018 midterm elections (mainly through self-mobilization). Eight of the states with the largest Latino populations flipped 20 districts from Republican to Democratic. It is clear from his research that Latinos did have an impact in the 2018 midterm elections. Dr. Ramírez also suggested that through the implementation of reactive and proactive mobilization, there is potential for Latinos to have a stronger impact in election results in the future.
STUDENT NEWS

Senior Latino and Latin American Studies minor Sandra Puebla presented her research on the history of the 1954 mass deportation known as "Operation Wetback" at the Undergraduate Research Lightning Round of the 2019 American Historical Association Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Latino and Latin American studies minor Ainsley Galvez and CLLAS Huskie Service Scholar Pablo Valencia-Garcia were selected as two of this year’s Forward, Together Forward Scholars. This honor is given to five students who demonstrate academic excellence and strength of character, motivation, inspiration, integrity and high regard for others.

Sophomore Latino and Latin American Studies minor Jacqueline Contreras led the planning and implementation of the Second Annual Latino Dinner which featured DELICIOUS dishes from Central America and Mexico. She did this through her work at the Latino Resource Center and in collaboration with Campus Dining Services.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cuban Visions Film Screening
LGBTQ Politics and Gay Marriage
2/28/19 - 7PM - Cole Hall, 100
Business Passport Approved

Applications due for CLLAS Undergraduate Student Scholarships
3/1/19 - 4:30 PM - Latino Center

Applications due for Faculty Associate and Graduate Student CLLAS Research and Travel Grants
4/12/19 4:30 PM - Latino Center

Film Screening Jogo De Corpo
A film about the Afro-Brazilian Martial Art Capoeira Angola
4/16/19 - 7PM - Cole Hall, 100
Business Passport Approved

Latin Jazz Dance Party
4/17/19 - 7PM - Boutell Memorial Concert Hall

Spring Reception
4/25/19 - 5PM - Latino Center
FEATURED STUDENT ORGANIZATION

DREAM Action NIU

DREAM Action NIU works to increase awareness about the experiences of undocumented students on our campus and in the United States, more broadly. As a politically-centered student organization, DREAM Action advocates for undocumented students and the immigrant community at the campus and state levels. DREAM Action has made significant impacts on the NIU campus, receiving the support of the NIU Student Association, hosting DACA renewal workshops and fundraisers, and working to build a supportive community for undocumented students and allies. On April 10, DREAM Action will host Coming Out of the Shadows, an annual event that makes more visible and shows support for undocumented students on campus. The members of the organization want to extend an invitation to all students to join their efforts as they work to support all undocumented students on campus regardless of country of origin or other factors.