Community Achievements

Professor Oswaldo Estrada’s “Las Guerras Perdidas” won first place for "Best Collection of Short Stories in Spanish" at the International Latino Book Awards 2022.

Graduate Student Dailihana Alfonseca’s short story “Spanish Soap Operas Killed My Mother” was recently nominated for the prestigious Pushcart Prize.

Past Events...

Kino Corner Collaboration: The LSP recently collaborated with Kino Corner to highlight LatinX Heritage Film: “I’m No Longer Here,” taking on the conversation of cultural displacement, identity, and the effects of transmigration in the lives of immigrants and migrants.

For LatinX Heritage Month —

“Vivir Mi Vida” (Live my Life) was the theme of the LatinX Heritage Month Kick-Off which took place on September, 15th, 2022 in The Pit.

Olympic Gymnast Laurie Hernandez presented a Keynote Talk at the Frank Porter Graham Student Union’s Great Hall. The talk covered her struggles with imposter syndrome, crippling anxiety, and depression.

The Department of English and Comparative Literature held an Ice Cream Social to highlight the many programs and opportunities within the ECL Department such as the LSP,
Upcoming opportunities

- Latina/x/o Studies Association just announced their 5th biennial Latinx Literary Theory and Criticism conference is calling for papers due January 9th (see CFP here) for their conference in New York in April 2023. Submit abstracts here.

- The Latina/o Studies Association’s Nominations Committee invites nominees, including self-nominations, for election to its four officer positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All officers serve and vote on the LSA Executive Council. Nominations should be submitted to lsassocinfo@gmail.com by December 2, 2022.

- The Carolina Latinx Center, Latin American Business Association, UNC Latina/o Studies Program, & the Institute for the Study of the Americas held Sones de México Ensemble Concert & Workshop; to "promote a greater appreciation of Mexican folk and traditional music and culture through innovative performance, education, and dissemination."

- Scholar and Writer Joseph Pierce held a virtual talk titled "Naked Indians: 'Not as Revolting as One Might Think'"— to discuss and think through how nakedness, the colonial gaze, and indigenous bodies represent gender and flesh dichotomies.

- “Native Gardens” Discussion Panel
  - PlayMakers staged a Play! The production took place from Oct. 12th-30th, the final evening included a panel discussion with former LSP Program Coordinator Geovani Ramirez & current LSP Undergraduate Student Ambassador Talitha Moniz McMillion.

- The UNC Latina/o Studies Program Annual Graduate & Undergraduate Symposium “Coastal Voices”

  - With presenters covering topics that dealt with water as a form of body within culture, migration, and coastal survivability.

- The LSP, CLC, CSS, and WGST hosted LatinX Literary Scholar Mary Pat Brady for a hybrid seminar that discussed her monograph Scales of Captivity: Racial Capitalism and the Latinx Child. Touching on how the material consequences of scale render the bodies of indigenous and enslaved peoples as perpetual children, the child in relation to violence, capitalism, and the arc of development, as well as the categorical ways in which our complicity within this structure creates “child tropes” for behavior seen as “negative.”
Community Updates:

- Prof. María DeGuzmán gave an invited multi-media presentation titled “Straight Photography’ Experiments with the Queerness of Water & Light” for Dr. Geovani Ramírez’s Literature and environmentalism(s) September 14th class at Virginia Tech.

- Dr. DeGuzmán has been invited to participate in a literary careers alumni mentorship program for undergraduate and graduate students from Harvard University’s Department of English. And, she has been invited to be a consultant for James Madison University on the establishment of Latinx Studies programs.

- UndocuCarolina is building a new network for students directly affected by undocumentedation. Started by and for (un)documented student storytellers, many of whom are first-time orators, with a purpose of forging bonds through shared experiences, empowering each other, and providing resources.

  - Goals Include: 1) identifying with and supporting one another; 2) holding UndocuCarolina and UNC accountable to our needs; and 3) building a more robust and diverse pool of storytellers to speak up about our own lived experiences.

Recent Publications

- Sarah Quesada’s new book was just released The African Heritage of Latinx and Caribbean Literature: https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/african-heritage-of-latinx-and-caribbean-literature/92CA287F943DB223D856BF09D913FAA4

