

2018 LLEAD STATE CONFERENCE

Friday, October 12, 2018
Lansing Center – Lansing, Michigan

Aquí Estamos: Its time!

7:30 a.m. Legislative Breakfast Governor's Room

This breakfast will bring together elected and appointed Latinx officials from across the state for the purpose of:

- *Establishing lines of communication with one another*
- *Sharing areas of concern within their communities*
- *Developing paths which Latinx officials can collectively utilize their influence to address Latinx concerns on a statewide basis*

8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast Main Floor

8:30 a.m. Welcome

*Alberto M. Flores, President - LLEAD State Board of Directors
Andy Schor, Mayor - City of Lansing*

Opening Remarks

Juan Flores - Advocates for Latino Student Advancement in Michigan Education

The Harm of Gerrymandering and Its Cure

Walt Sorg - Voters Not Politicians

2020 Census

Marilyn A. Sanders - Census Regional Director / Chicago

10:00 – 11:30 Morning Break-Out Sessions

Session 1: Youth College Prep – Governor's Room

Florenso Hernandez – Senior Admissions Counselor, Michigan State University, Office of Admissions and President, ALSAME (Advocates for Latino Student Advancement in Michigan Education)

Liliana Salas – Director, Western Michigan University – CAMP (College Assistance Migrant Program)

This workshop will provide Latinx youth information to assist in their preparation for enrolling in Michigan colleges and universities. Mr. Hernandez will include a discussion of the role of ALSAME, *Advocates for Latino Student* and Ms. Salas will provide information about the college-bound preparation process. She will also inform workshop participants of noteworthy colleges and universities with programs that assist students of color.

Session 2: 2020 Census – Room 102

Marilyn A. Sanders – Census Regional Director / Chicago

The 2020 Census workshop will provide information on the US Census Bureau structure to be in place in October 2018 and will comment on anticipated obstacles facing Latinos in the U.S. that will prevent them from being counted. The Census Bureau hiring process will also be presented to enable attendees to share this information with members of their Latinx communities. Conference participants will have the opportunity to discuss fears facing Latinxs documented and undocumented immigrants and their hesitancy to fill out the census forms.

Session 3: Immigration 101 – Room 103

Rebeca Ontiveros-Chavez, Staff Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
Tania Morris Diaz, Staff Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center

This workshop will provide a general overview of immigration law touching on topics such as how to become a resident, citizen, and discuss other forms of immigration status. Presenters will discuss the status of unaccompanied minors in the US, deportation proceedings, various public benefits, and provide federal and state policy updates. This workshop will also present information for those who may work with Latinos facing immigration issues and potential referral options.

Session 4: Gerrymandering – Room 104

Walt Sorg – Voters Not Politicians

This workshop will discuss the effects of gerrymandering. Discussed will include “the manipulation of borders and boundaries”, its potentially detrimental effects on people and communities of color, and how the points of concentration in districts can be diluted to the level of not having the voting power to influence elections. The other side of the discussion is how the Latinx community can become active and eliminate gerrymandering through the electoral process.

12:00 – 1:00

LUNCH



Keynote Speaker.....Jose Angel Gutierrez, PhD, JD

Jose Angel Gutierrez is a Crystal City, Texas native. He has degrees from University of Texas at Austin (Ph.D.), and University of Houston, Bates College of Law, Houston, Texas (J.D.). Gutierrez was a professor of Political Science at University of Texas-Arlington (UTA) until June 5, 2015 and designated Professor Emeritus on October 8, 2015. He was also the founder of the Center for Mexican American Studies at UTA. He has authored and co-authored 14 books; three of which are revised editions of a text on Texas politics. The most recent publication is *The Eagle Has Eyes: The FBI Surveillance of Cesar E. Chavez and the United Farm Workers Union of America, 1965-1975* (Michigan State University Press, pending release September 2018). Two other books are under contract, another in the

final stages of preparation. Dr. Gutierrez was a Chicano activist, community organizer, and educational reformer during the Chicano Movement. He co-founded the Mexican American Youth Organization (MAYO) and the Raza Unida Party of Texas. He was a key figure in the founding of the Mexican American Unity Council, The National Council of La Raza, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and The Midwest and Northwest Voter Registration and Education Projects. Dr. Gutierrez is featured, cited, and quoted in several encyclopedias, books, and various documentaries for his activism and contributions during the Chicano Movement era. Gutierrez is the recent recipient of the 20th International Latino Book Award for Best Biography in the Non-fiction Section for his book about San Antonio Chicano activist Judge Alberto A. Peña. It is published by the Michigan State University Press (JSRI Latinos in the United States Series.)
Author books for sale at conference: cash or check only.

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Afternoon Break-Out Sessions

Session 5: Youth Advocacy Training – Governor’s Room

*Paulo Gordillo, Associate Director, Educational Talent, Michigan State University
Aida Bozzo, Mid-West Regional Director, Center for Community Change*

The workshop will involve Latinx youth in discussions that will enthuse and entice them to begin their volunteer and activism roles in bettering their Latinx communities. Mr. Gordillo and Ms. Bozzo previously served as youth activists and continue contributing to their communities. They will present real life stories that illustrate how youth can make a huge difference by volunteering and becoming Latino Youth Leaders in Michigan.

Session 6: LGBTQ+ Issues *En Nuestra Comunidad* (In our Community) – Room 102

*Lorenzo Lopez, Latinx Community Activist
Jennifer Alzate Gonzalez, PhD Student, University of Michigan
Lilianna Angel Reyes, Youth Program Manager, Affirmations, Ferndale*

The overall focus of the workshop is to begin a movement towards acknowledging, educating and improving the lives of the Latina/o LGBTQ+ community in the State of Michigan. This workshop will provide information on issues of the LGBTQ+ community within media, movies and organizations to support learning. There will also be a discussion focusing on trans-Latinas in public **leadership**, specifically within the non-profit health sector. The intricacy of being LGBTQ+ within the Latina/o community will also be discussed.

Session 7: Immigration: Know your rights – Room 103

*Rebeca Ontiveros-Chavez, Staff Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Ann Arbor
Tania Morris Diaz, Staff Attorney, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Ann Arbor*

The *Know Your Rights* presentation will provide a general overview of rights for all. Presenters will discuss prevention, encounters with immigration, and their rights after being detained. The purpose of the presentation is to educate immigrants, their families, and community allies.

Session 8: Voter Education – (Room 104)

*Maria VanCore, President – Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk*

Melanie McElroy, Michigan Voices

This workshop will provide ideas for how Latinxs can become involved in projects that will enhance their Latinx community, will promote the basic elements and the importance of voter registration. Program development for other mobilization projects will be the heart of this workshop discussion.

2:25 – 3:00 p.m.

Session 9: How to Get the News Media to Cover Your Latino Community Accurately: Latino Media Professionals Share Their - Top Ten Tips

Moderator: Rosa Morales, Journalist, Educator

Theresa Rosado, Journalist

José Flores, Editor-In-Chief, La Voz “The Community Voice” newspaper

LLEAD Board Member Election Results

Bryan Crenshaw, LLEAD Elections Committee Chairperson

Evaluation

Dalia Smith, LLEAD Michigan State Board of Directors, President Saginaw LLEAD

Closing Remarks

Alberto M. Flores, President – LLEAD Michigan

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“Bringing together Latinx Communities in the state to exchange ideas on common issues so that Michigan Latinos can present unified solutions in resolving challenges confronted at the local, state, and national levels.”