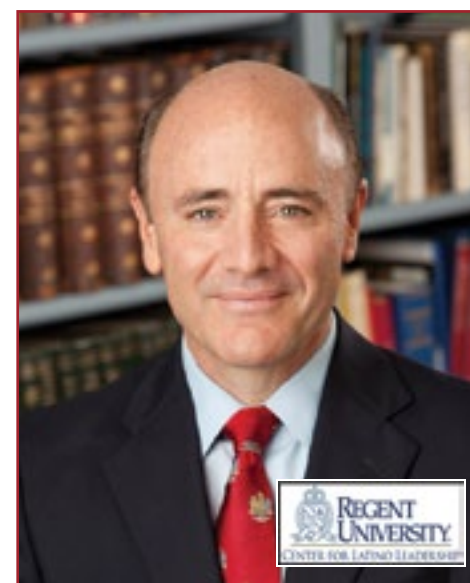
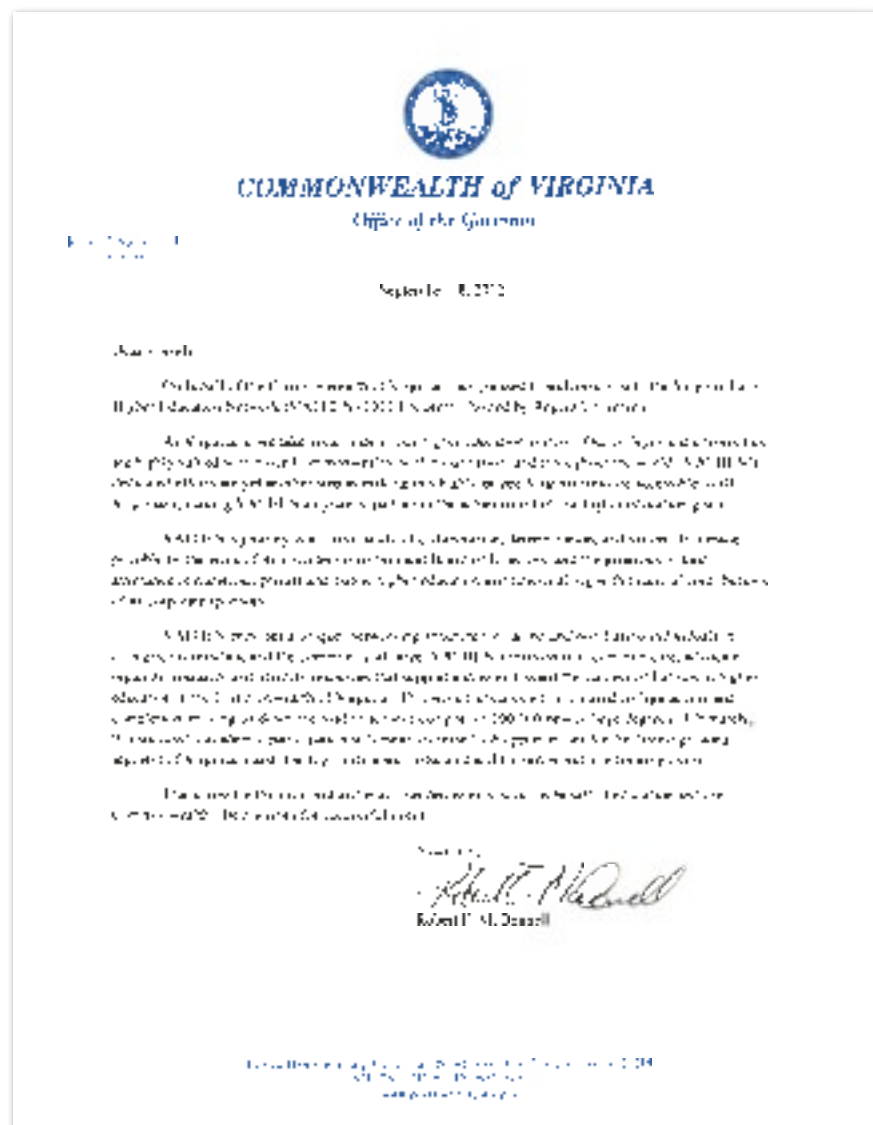


2012 Encuentro

Latinos in the Arts and Sciences: Past, Present and Future

Hosted by Regent University
Virginia Beach, VA
October 11-12, 2012





The Board of Directors and members of the Virginia Latino Higher Education Network wish to thank Dr. Carlos Campo, President of Regent University, for his generous support of our mission and for hosting the 2012 Encuentro.

Welcome from Virginia’s Senators

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Mark R. Warner United States Senator

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to the members of the Virginia Latino Higher Education Network (VALHEN) as you gather for your 2012 Encuentro, “Latinos in the Arts and Sciences: Past, Present & Future” which is hosted by Regent University.

A good education provides a solid foundation for future success for individuals as well as the communities where they reside. However, there is still work to be done to ensure that every Virginian who desires to pursue a higher education has access to the tools and resources he or she needs. As the recent Census tells us, Hispanics now make up 8.2 percent of the state’s population. Some of our fastest growing businesses are Hispanic-owned. VALHEN’s mission to support, promote and advocate for Latino success and advancement in higher education truly does and will continue to benefit the entire Commonwealth of Virginia for many years to come. VALHEN members are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of young Latinos through the Scholarship Program and other outreach. The Lecture Series and VALHEN Listserv serve as valuable resource to those who wish to assist you in these opportunities.

I commend the members of VALHEN on your continued hard work and wish you the very best for a successful 2012 Encuentro.



Jim Webb United States Senator

Please accept my greeting as you gather for the Virginia Latino Higher Education Network (VALHEN) 2012 Encuentro event taking place at Regent University’s campus in Virginia Beach, Virginia. I commend VALHEN for their service and commitment to the growth and development of young Latinos throughout America.

VALHEN is dedicated to ensuring that all Latinos have access to a high quality education and on promoting educational opportunities for all Virginians and Americans. I would like to thank all those who worked hard to make this year’s conference a great success.

Again, please accept my best wishes for a successful conference.



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Thursday, October 11, 2012, Library Building

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM **Registration, Networking, and Refreshments** (Lobby, 2nd Floor)

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM **Welcome and Opening Remarks** (Auditorium)

1:45 PM – 2:15 PM **Special Session** (Auditorium)

Entrepreneurial Science: A New Frontier in Bioengineering

Ms. Samantha Marquez, Junior

Maggie Walker Governor's School, Richmond, VA

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM **PLENARY PANEL I** (Auditorium)

Getting Latinos a Place at the Table: Importance of Science, Technology and Health Education

Dr. Karen D. Hendricks-Muñoz, Full Professor and Chief, Division of Neonatal Medicine, Children's Hospital of Richmond, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Manuel A. Pérez-Quñones, Associate Head for Graduate Studies and Professor of Computer Science, Virginia Tech

3:15 PM – 3:45 PM **Break** (Refreshments/Change Buildings) (Robertson Hall)

3:45 PM – 4:45 PM **Concurrent Sessions** (Robertson Hall)

SECTION A1 (MOOT COURTROOM)

Mentoring: Can it help Latinos Pursue Careers in STEM and Move Up the Ladder?

Presenter: Anitza M. San Miguel, Ed.D.

SECTION A2 (RH326)

A Case for Ethnic Studies: Hispanics and the Educational Curriculum

Presenter: Diana Risk, Ph.D.

4:45 PM – 5:00 PM **Break** (Change Rooms only) (Robertson Hall)

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM **Concurrent Sessions** (Robertson Hall)

SECTION B1 (RH101)

The Art & Science of a Latina's Rise in Business

Presenter: Martee Saldaña Pierson

SECTION B2 (RH326)

Engineers Are Nerdy and Boring: Changing Hispanic Attitudes about STEM Education

Presenter: Rebecca Jaramillo

SECTION B3 (RH205)

¡Bilingual is Better!: The Role of Bachata in 'La Obsesión' of Spanish/English Bilingual Pop Music

Presenter: Patricia Reagan, Ph.D.

6:00 PM – 6:15 PM **Break** (Change Buildings) (Communications Building)

6:15 PM – 7:15 PM **Adlan Cruz** (Concert Pianist) (Communications Building, Lobby)

7:15 PM – 8:15 PM **President's Reception** (Communications Building, Balcony)



Additional Concurrent Session for Presidents - By Invitation Only

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM **President's Summit** (President's Boardroom)

By special invitation from Regent University's President, Dr. Carlos Campo, other college and university presidents gather to discuss Latinos and higher education in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Special Guests:

Gumecindo Salas, Ph.D., Vice President, Government Relations at HACU (*Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities*)

Deborah A. Santiago, co-founder and Vice President for Policy and Research at *Excelencia in Education*

Friday, October 12, 2012, Library Building

Special Guests

7:30 AM - 08:30 AM	Breakfast	(Library Atrium)
8:30 AM - 09:00 AM	Special Guest IME Becas & Other Efforts <i>Mr. Aníbal Gomez-Toledo, Head of the Consular Section, Embassy of Mexico</i>	(Auditorium)
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	PLENARY PANEL II Literary Archaeologies: Latino/a Writers and the American Dream <i>Dr. John D. Riofrio, Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies, College of William & Mary</i> (Re) viewing Representations of Latinas in Film <i>Dr. Brenci Patiño, Assistant Professor of Spanish and U.S. Latino Studies, Mary Baldwin College</i>	(Auditorium)
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	VALHEN - ALL HANDS - Annual Meeting	(Auditorium)
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Break	(Library-2nd Floor Lobby)
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	PLENARY PANEL III Latin America and the Quest for the American Sound in Art-Music Composition in the U.S. <i>Dr. Pedro R. Aponte, Assistant Professor, Music History, James Madison University</i> Latin American—especially Cuban—Influence in American Popular Music <i>Dr. Carlos Campo, President, Regent University</i>	(Auditorium)
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Luncheon and Scholarship Awards Closing Speaker <i>Dr. Carlos Campo, President, Regent University</i>	(Library Atrium)
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM	Adjourn	(Library Atrium)

Aníbal Gomez-Toledo

Head of the Consular Section, Embassy of Mexico, Washington, D.C.

Consul Aníbal Gomez-Toledo has been the Head of the Consular Office of the Embassy of Mexico in Washington, DC, since May 2009. He is a career diplomat, member of the Mexican Foreign Service. Before being appointed to his current position, he served as Deputy Consul General at the Consulate General of Mexico in Chicago, Illinois, and Director of Consular Protection for Mexicans Abroad at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mexico City. Consul Gomez-Toledo also collaborated at the National Institute of Mexican Radio and was Assistant-Professor of International Studies at the prestigious national Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). He holds a degree in International Relations from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and has successfully completed multiple graduate level courses on international migration, transnational security issues, international legal assistance, conflict resolution and Mexican culture.

Samantha Marquez

Maggie Walker Governor's School, Richmond, VA

Samantha Marquez is the U.S.-born daughter of Spanish and Venezuelan parents. Still in high school, she has already become an innovative scholar of bioengineering, biomaterials and biophysics, having developed a new process for the self-assembly of living cells in a new structure she named "Celloidosomes®." Her work has applications in tissue engineering, genetic engineering, and cell/drug delivery and other fields of science. The co-inventor of seven patent applications based on her bioengineering innovation and several trademarks, she has presented her work at international conferences, U.S. universities and scientific societies. The co-author of several scientific publications, Ms. Marquez is a member of the Alpha Eta Mu Beta Bioengineering Honor Society, the youngest member of the Sigma Xi Research Honor Society, and an inductee of the National Gallery of Young Inventors. In 2011, she was the winner of the Thomas Edison Innovation Award, and was selected that year by Poder360 as one of the "20 under 40" most influential and promising Hispanics in the U.S. Ms. Marquez serves as the Student Representative to VAHLEN's Board of Directors, and the National Museum of Education.

Overview: Special Sessions

SPECIAL SESSION

Thursday, 1:45 PM

Entrepreneurial Science: A New Frontier in Bioengineering (Auditorium)

Presenter: Ms. Samantha Marquez, Junior, Maggie Walker Governor's School, Richmond, VA

Ms. Marquez will share with us her journey and her experiences relating to her research work and academics, as well as her community work.

SPECIAL GUEST

Friday, 8:30 AM

IME Becas Program and Other Efforts (Auditorium)

Presenter: Mr. Aníbal Gomez-Toledo, Head of the consular Section, Embassy of Mexico

Consul Gomez-Toledo will address the importance of education and the academic preparation of the immigrant population in this country, especially from the point of view of the Mexican population, and talk about different programs sponsored by the Mexican Government which address this issue, especially those of the Institute of Mexico Abroad (IMA).

CLOSING SPEAKER

Friday, Luncheon, 1:00 PM

Images and Identity: Latin@s in a Visual World (Library Auditorium)

Presenter: Carlos Campo, Ph.D., President, Regent University

An overview of the power of visual representation and perception, with a special focus on Latin@s in the context of how these representations have shaped and still shape our understanding of identity. A particular focus on Latin@ students and how they deal with these lingering stereotypes on campuses and in society.

Overview: Plenary Sessions

SESSION I, THURSDAY, 2:15 PM

Getting Latinos a Place at the Table: Importance of Science, Technology and Health Education

Presenters: Dr. Karen D. Hendricks-Muñoz, Full Professor and Chief, Division of Neonatal Medicine, Children's Hospital of Richmond, Virginia Commonwealth University

Dr. Manuel A. Pérez-Quiñones, Associate Head for Graduate Studies and Associate Professor of Computer Science, Virginia Tech

Latinos could have an impact in U.S. economic growth and wealth but increasingly "Do Not have a Place at the Table" in decision making for the health and well-being of our communities. Latino students are more likely to attend our lowest-performing schools, more likely to drop out at higher rates and fewer than half take part in early childhood education. Only half graduate on time from high school. Those who do make it to college often find themselves underprepared for its rigors. In the STEM and Health fields, Latinos are dangerously underrepresented in all academic levels including faculty positions and industry. This presentation will reinforce the importance of education for Latinos in science, technology and health fields. Speakers will describe barriers and challenges we face in education. Education is of paramount importance to break the cycle of poverty, decrease disparities and improve economic, social status, and health in our community.

SESSION II, FRIDAY, 9:00 AM

Literary Archaeologies: Latino/a Writers and the American Dream

Presenter: Dr. John D. Riofrio, Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies, College of William & Mary

As a recent winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the Dominican-American writer Junot Díaz's success has put him in a small but fabled group of Latino/a writers who have achieved a notoriety far beyond the confines of ethnic affiliation. Díaz, in particular, is being cast as an "American" writer in ways that beg careful, considered attention. What does it mean to consider Latino/a writers as "American?" What is gained and what is lost? This paper will examine the sedimented politics beneath the labeling of Latino/a writers and will explore the oft-ignored role of Latino/a writers in their assessment, critique and evaluation of the American Dream.

(Re) viewing Representations of Latinas in Film

Presenter: Dr. Brenci Patiño, Assistant Professor of Spanish and U.S. Latino Studies, Mary Baldwin College

Although the presence of Latina actors in Hollywood can be traced to the early 20th century, it is not until recently that they have been able to secure roles that more accurately portray the many facets of Latinas in contemporary America. All too often the roles available to Latinas have been those of the exotic vixen, as in the case of the "Mexican Spitfire" Lupe Velez, or that of the subservient young woman on the opposite side of the spectrum. In either case, however, Latinas have traditionally been represented as one-dimensional. In recent years, nevertheless, some Latina actors have been able to portray characters that show the complexities of being a woman. One of such complex aspects of women's life is the work they do outside the home. This presentation explores the representation of Latinas as it relates to issues of labor in border and Hollywood film.

Overview: Plenary Sessions (continued)

SESSION III, FRIDAY, 11:00 AM

Latin America and the Quest for the American Sound in Art-Music Composition in the U.S.

Presenter: Dr. Pedro R. Aponte, Assistant Professor, Music History, James Madison University

The history of Art-Music composition in the United States has been a history greatly shaped by the search for an American musical identity. The question of how to produce music that can be articulated using the conventions of the European classical tradition and yet being American in substance has occupied the minds of many composers for nearly two centuries. Some of the most notable American composers, including Louis Moreau Gottschalk, George Gershwin, Aaron Copland, and Leonard Bernstein, have tapped into Latin-American music in their quest for that substance. Their contributions are significant and worth considering not only because their efforts have elevated the musical traditions of many Latin-American nations to the art-music category, but also, because their pan-Americanism reflects the artists' view of a world without political borders.

Latin American—especially Cuban—Influence in American Popular Music

Presenter: Dr. Carlos Campo, President, Regent University

The overall session will cover Latin influences in American music, with Dr. Aponte focusing on popular music, while Dr. Campo will focus on popular music—with more of a personal narrative approach. Dr. Aponte will have a broader focus on historical impact, and Dr. Campo will concentrate on Cuba predominantly, with references to other types of Latin music and their impact.

Overview: Breakout Sessions

A1. Mentoring: Can it help Latinos Pursue Careers in STEM and Move Up the Ladder?

Presenter: Anitza M. San Miguel, Ed.D

The underrepresentation of Latinos in STEM has become an issue of national importance in higher education and the workforce. Latinos are now the largest minority on college campus. How can we get Latinos excited about STEM? This presentation will discuss how mentoring can be an effective tool to encourage Latinos to pursue careers in STEM and move up the career ladder. Emphasis will be given on mentoring and other factors that influence academic success.

A2. A Case for Ethnic Studies: Hispanics and the Educational Curriculum

Presenter: Diana Risk, Ph.D.

Commenting on the recent decision of the state of Arizona to cancel the Ethnic Studies Program in the Tucson Unified School District, I offer a reflection on the benefits programs like this one can bring to the nation's future educational curriculum. I discuss the impact that the African American Studies field has had on the change of perceptions of African Americans towards themselves, and review the books banned by the school board in order to highlight some of the disadvantages that insufficient knowledge about the History of Hispanics in this nation presents to the effort of acceptance and assimilation into American culture.

B1. The Art & Science of a Latina's Rise in Business

Presenter: Martee Saldaña Pierson

Discussion about the importance of a Latina's presence in the workforce, especially the business sector. Women, in general, have faced an enduring struggle for top management positions across all industries, specifically the corporate world, but that is changing due to emerging positive women role models. This session will offer valuable information and statistics about women in the workplace and will also discuss Latina's battle with racism, stereotypes, discrimination, and female bias. A lively discussion will follow the presentation for the opportunity to share personal commentary, input, and receive direct advice from a Latina with many years' experience in corporate America.

Overview: Breakout Sessions (continued)

B2: Engineers Are Nerdy and Boring: Changing Hispanic Attitudes about STEM Education

Presenter: Rebecca Jaramillo

STEM education is on the forefront of everyone's mind. Educators, business leaders, politicians, mothers and fathers – we are all stakeholders in our own future. In the 21st century, few endeavors rank as high as that of educating the students of today to create a STEM literate workforce and a society of critical thinkers who are capable of problem-solving, communication, collaboration and innovation. But when our young Hispanic students think scientists and engineers are boring, how do we overcome attitudes about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics?

NASA has a proud history of reaching out to Hispanic students and their families. Throughout the years, the team at Langley has worked with partners like the National Institute of Aerospace to develop STEM-engagement initiatives and bilingual education programs to inspire Hispanic students of all ages. Learn more about these K-16 Initiatives that reach out to the next generation of Hispanic students.

B3: ¡Bilingual is Better!: The Role of Bachata in 'La Obsesión' of Spanish/English Bilingual Pop Music

Presenter: Patricia Reagan, Ph.D.

Bachata, a musical genre from the Dominican Republic can be credited with the rise to popularity of bilingual songs. Specifically, this trend became prevalent when the Dominican-American group Aventura recorded their first hit 'La Obsesión' in 1999. Through video and audio clips, this presentation focuses on bachata's history, the innovations of Latino bachata groups, the effect of Latino immigration on the growth of the bachata genre, and the various contemporary genres of bilingual pop songs.

Conference Presenters

Pedro R. Aponte, Ph.D.

Pedro R. Aponte, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Music History at James Madison University. He was born and raised in Caracas, Venezuela, where he received most of his musical training through the world-renowned "El Sistema" program. Dr. Aponte earned a Ph.D. in Historical Musicology, and a Graduate Certificate in Latin-American Studies, from the University of Pittsburgh in 2008. His research brings together interdisciplinary approaches to the study of music and the processes of national formation in Latin America. His doctoral dissertation, *The Invention of the National in Venezuelan Art Music, 1930-1960*, has been regarded as a "thick cultural history, relevant to the scholarly interest of several fields beyond musicology." Currently, Dr. Aponte is co-editing a collection of essays on the topic of *Simón Bolívar as a Cultural Myth and a National Sign*.

Carlos Campo, Ph.D.

Carlos Campo, Ph.D., became the eighth president of Regent University in 2010 following a 22-year career in academia. He has been recognized in "Who's Who among American Teachers" and as an "Outstanding Educator" and "Educator of the Year" by local and national organizations. A much sought-after speaker, Dr. Campo has delivered commencement addresses at universities around the world, including the *International University in Vienna* and the *Universidad Tecnológica Indoamérica of Ecuador*. Other presentations include "American Higher Education's Greatest Challenge," delivered at the 2010 VALHEN Encuentro, held at Virginia State University; "Preparing for Latina/o Students in Christian Higher Education," delivered to the International Forum on Christian Higher Education; "Making College Completion an Expectation: How the Church Can Help" delivered at the annual board meeting of the NHCLC (*National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference*) in San Antonio, Texas; and "Jose Martí and Freedom in Cuba," at the *Regent University Library Series on Literary Traditions*. He has also been a featured speaker at the Templeton Foundation, the Dream Center in Los Angeles, the CCCU's 36th Annual Presidents Conference and the Faith & Freedom Conference and Strategy Briefing. Dr. Campo received the 2011 Excellence in Leadership Award from The National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference, the largest Latino Christian organization in America.



Conference Presenters (continued)



Adlan Cruz

Adlan Cruz, a Puerto Rican-born piano virtuoso is one of the world's most celebrated pianists. He began playing the piano by ear at the age of three and released his first album in 1989. A graduate of the Escuela Libre de Musica in Puerto Rico and the Hartt School in Connecticut, his studies were financed with a scholarship given to him by former Puerto Rico governor, philanthropist and pianist Luis A. Ferré, whom Cruz impressed early on with his talent. Also widely known for his philanthropic work, which is deeply rooted in the lives of Brazilian children,

Cruz sponsors a private foundation to benefit the youth of Brazil. He has also done benefit concerts for UNESCO and had the privilege of performing for S. R. Nathan, the sixth president of the Republic of Singapore, who honored Cruz for having offered a concert to benefit the tsunami's orphans. In December 2000, he performed live before 3.4 million people in Lagos, Nigeria.

Karen Dolores Hendricks-Muñoz, M.D., M.P.H.

Karen Dolores Hendricks-Muñoz, M.D., M.P.H., is the inaugural William Tate Graham Professor of Neonatal Medicine and Chair of the Division of Neonatal Medicine at Medical College of Virginia of Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz is a 1st generation Puerto Rican and native New Yorker. A graduate of Fordham and Yale Schools of Medicine and Public Health, she most recently served 22 years as Diversity Co-Chair, Chief of Neonatology and Associate Chair of Pediatrics at NYU School of Medicine before joining VCU as Professor and Chair of Neonatal Medicine. Recognized as America's Best Pediatrician, New York's Best Doctor annually since 2001 and U.S. News Top Doctor in 2012, she is a local and state leader in Maternal-Child health standards and an avid student mentor to address the impact of poverty on health outcome. Elected Alpha Omega Alpha, the highest honor of the Medical Honor Society in 2007 she is a scientist who believes that health improvements are driven by science linked clinical research and most recently served as co-lead for the NIH "Roadmap strategies for the NIH vision for the future", in 2011.

Rebecca Jaramillo

Rebecca Jaramillo is a Senior Educator with the National Institute of Aerospace (NIA) Center for Integrative STEM Education and has 34 years experience in teaching. In 2005, she received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching for her innovative teaching methods. She has served as an Educator-in-Residence at both NASA Langley Research Center and the National Institute of Aerospace (NIA) where she developed and implemented award-winning STEM educational resources. Ms. Jaramillo and her colleagues develop curriculum, including video segments such as NASA eClips™ and NASA and You (*NASA y Tú*), to inspire today's students and deepen their understanding of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. She also leads the NASA Langley Pre-Service Teacher Institute and facilitates dozens of professional development sessions for formal and informal educators across the country to implement STEM curriculum.



Rose M. Nygaard, M.F.A.

Rose M. Nygaard, M.F.A., both painter and printmaker, is inspired by color. She builds layer upon layer of it in her paintings, her monoprints, and her collages. Originally trained as a nurse, she was always interested in art and had an eye for color. After serving a tour in the USAF Nurse Corps, marriage to an AF officer, four children, six moves, and while her children were in school, she decided to formalize her art education and enrolled at a local university. After twelve years of part-time study, she graduated with a B.A. in Studio Art and a Master of Fine Arts from American

University in Washington, DC. Her work has been shown in several galleries throughout Maryland, New Mexico, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Ms. Nygaard has won numerous awards and is a member of the prestigious Virginia Watercolor Society.

Brenci Patiño, Ph.D.

Brenci Patiño, Ph.D., an assistant professor of Spanish and U.S. Latina/o Studies is a native of Brownsville, Texas. She completed her B.A. at the University of Texas at Brownsville, and her M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests include cultural and literary representations of working-class women, U.S. Latina/o literature and cultural production, and contemporary Mexican narrative fiction. More specifically, her work is concerned with examining the ways in which working-class women and their upper-class counterparts negotiate power. Professor Patiño has taught Spanish language courses and Latin American literature and culture at the University of Illinois, Texas Lutheran University, San Antonio College, and the University of Texas at San Antonio. At Mary Baldwin College, she teaches intermediate- and advanced-level Spanish, U.S. Latina/o literature and culture, 20th century Latin American literature, and Latin American and Spanish culture, in addition to serving as the Academic Advisor to the Latino Culture Gateway.

Manuel A. Pérez-Quinones, D.Sc.

Manuel A. Pérez-Quinones, D.Sc., is Associate Head for Graduate Studies and Associate Professor of Computer Science at Virginia Tech. Pérez-Quinones holds a D.Sc. from George Washington University, Washington, DC. His research interests include human-computer interaction, personal information management, and educational/cultural issues in computing. He has published over 75 refereed articles, and co-authored 10 book chapters. He is a member of the editorial board for ACM's Transactions on Computing Education. At Virginia Tech, he has served as Chair of the Hispanic/Latino Faculty and Staff Caucus, Associate Dean and Director of the Office for Graduate Recruiting and Diversity Initiatives of the Graduate School, and a Multicultural Fellow. He was Chair of the Coalition to Diversify Computing (2010-2011), a CRA/ACM/IEEE-CS committee. He worked at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington DC (6 years) and at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez (4 years) before he joined VT. He was born and raised in Puerto Rico.

Conference Presenters (continued)

Martee Saldaña Pierson

Martee Saldaña Pierson, is the Director of Diversity Marketing of Liberty Tax Service. Ms. Pierson is a strategic marketing professional with over 30 years of experience, two graduate degrees in Marketing and Communications, and a baccalaureate degree in English, Secondary Education. She is fluent in Spanish and has studied French and Arabic over the years. She has led the marketing effort for many well known high tech and software firms nationwide, taking them through IPOs and/or sales and mergers. Ms. Pierson's focus with Liberty Tax is to lead the Hispanic initiative – *Una Familia Sin Fronteras* – to ensure it is providing the highest level of community service, education and commitment to Hispanic communities nationwide.

Patricia Reagan, Ph.D.

Patricia Reagan, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Randolph-Macon College, and has recently published *The Postmodern Storyteller: Donoso, Garcia Marquez, and Vargas Llosa* (Lexington Books, 2012). Dr. Reagan concentrates on Latin American literature, nineteenth-century Latin American literature and contemporary peninsular literature. She has published articles on Julio Cortázar's *El perseguidor* (The Pursuer) and Juan José Millás' *Dos mujeres en Praga* (Two Women in Prague). In addition, she has contributed articles to forthcoming books including a piece on *bachata*, a genre of music from the Dominican Republic, to be included in *Sounds of Resistance: The Role of Music in Multicultural Activism*, and an article on Jorge Luis Borges' *Pierre Menard, Autor del Quijote* (Pierre Menard, author of the Quixote). She is also a contributing editor to *The Encyclopedia of Latin Music* and *Celebrating Latino Folklore*, both forthcoming. Dr. Reagan joined the Randolph-Macon College faculty in 2008. She earned her B.A. from Hood College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia.

John D. Riofrio, Ph.D.

John D. Riofrio, Ph.D., or "Rio" as he is called by just about everyone besides his parents, earned his Ph.D. in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The son of Ecuadorian migrants, Rio teaches courses in Latin@ studies at the College of William and Mary where he is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. Rio has published on the confluence of Latin American and Latino studies in *MELUS* and *LALR*; is at work on a book-length manuscript entitled "Continental Shifts: Hemispheric Migrations and the Struggles over Latino/a Identity in the Americas"; and occasionally finds the time and emotional energy to publish opinion pieces in Huffington Post on topics ranging from Arizona's ban in Ethnic Studies, to a media review of CNN's *Latino in America*, to cable television's obsession with big, white families.

Diana Risk, Ph.D.

Diana Risk, Ph.D., studied English Literature at Mexico's Universidad Nacional Autónoma, earned an M.A. from the University of Northern Iowa and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. In addition, she also taught in Wartburg College, Iowa. Her dissertation topic covered Postmodern Spain, and her research interests include Latin American poetry and Spanish Golden Age Literature. Currently Dr. Risk teaches courses on Peninsular Literature, Hispanic culture, and Modern Mexico at Virginia Wesleyan College. She has written about prominent Spanish and Mexican authors, indigenous issues, and the evolving nature of Hispanic culture in the U.S., presenting her work in the Hampton Roads area and numerous national and international conferences. Her article, *La nueva corriente revisionista del cine Mexicano*, presented in the Dominican Republic in December 2003, was published in *Diáspora*—a literary journal edited by Southern Arkansas University. Dr. Risk teaches in Mexico, both in Puebla and Mexico City for Virginia Wesleyan College summer and winter sessions.

Anitza M. San Miguel, Ph.D.

Anitza M. San Miguel, Ph.D., is originally from Puerto Rico, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras. She completed her M.S. in Biotechnology from John Hopkins University, and an Ed.D. in Higher Education from George Washington University. Dr. San Miguel is currently the Assistant Division Dean of Science and Assistant Professor of Biology at Northern Virginia Community College. Previously she worked as the Mentor Program Director for the Alcazando Metas Foundation, an organization that promotes academic excellence of young Latinas.

Upon finishing her undergraduate work in Puerto Rico, she was awarded a position to do research in a post-baccalaureate program at the National Institutes of Health, where she continued to work as a biologist for nine years. She also worked for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as Patent Examiner.

Our Sponsors and Supporters

This year VALHEN undertook a new initiative—the Hispanic College Institute (HCI). This endeavor could not have been successfully accomplished without the help of many amazing and incredible volunteers.

We'd like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to each and every individual who lent a helping hand in each of our signature programs: the HCI, the 2012 *Encuentro*, the 2012-2013 Lecture Series and our 2012 Scholarship Process.

We thank you for your support, assistance, encouragement and your faith in our mission during this past year. Without you, none of this would be possible.

VALHEN wishes to thank the following HIGHER EDUCATION ENTITIES for their support and encouragement during our journey thus far:

James Madison University
J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Northern Virginia Community College
Old Dominion University
Regent University
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
University of Richmond
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Virginia State University
Virginia Community College System

VALHEN wishes to thank the following organizations for their support of our mission:

Altria
Bank of America
Diverse Issues in Higher Education
Dominion
GEICO
Harrisonburg City Public Schools
Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education
Latinos in Higher Education
Liberty Tax Service *Una Familia Sin Fronteras Program*
Northern Virginia Community College
Regent University
Social Security Administration
VCCS/Workforce Development
Virginia Credit Union
Virginia State University
Wells Fargo

VALHEN Leadership

Maricel Quintana-Baker, Ph.D. (President)
Mirta M. Martin, Ph.D. (Vice-President)
Juan Espinoza, M.A. (Treasurer)
Tania Alvarez, M.A. (Board Member)
Monica Botta, Ph.D. (Lecture Series Chair)
Marcela Chavan-Matviuk, Ph.D. (Board Member and 2012 *Encuentro* Chair)
Diana Hernandez, M.A. (VALHEN Director)
Erin McGrath, M.Ed. (Board Member and Publicity Chair)
Manuel A. Pérez-Quiñones, Sc.D. (Board Member and Webmaster)
María Nieto-Shahsavarian, M.A. (Board Member)
Emily Sumner, Esq. (Board Member and Membership Chair)
Samantha Marquez (Student Representative)

VALHEN Membership

VALHEN Membership Form—one year \$30.00

What is VALHEN's Best Membership Benefit?

Members tell us the chance to network with other members is one of their most prized benefits!

Dr./Ms./Mr. First Name:
Last Name:
Title:
Institution/Organization:
Address:
Address (line 2):
City:
Phone: () Cell: ()
E-Mail Address:
If faculty, please identify your discipline:
Department/School:
What would you like to help VALHEN with? (Check all that apply)
Membership ____ Scholarship Fund ____ Research ____ HCI ____ Outreach ____
Website Content ____ Encuentro 2013 ____ Lecture Series ____ Other ____
IF Other?—Tell us about it!
To PAY* membership fee by credit card go to: www.valhen.org/membership *via secure PayPal

Membership Benefits

Get Recognition for Your Work—The Lecture Series

VALHEN's innovative **Lecture Series** (begun Fall 2010) features the research and work of our **members**. This effort is a win-win for everyone!

Enjoy Free Membership in the Virginia Credit Union

- The **Virginia Credit Union** (www.vacu.org) has designated VALHEN as one of its *Eligible Companies and Groups*.
- Join the Virginia Credit Union and enjoy the benefits of membership.
- Open your VACU membership with a \$5 deposit. To join, go to http://www.vacu.org/About_VACU/Membership/How_to_Join.aspx

Enjoy Complimentary Subscriptions

- Each member will receive a one-year subscription to **Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education** (<http://www.hispanicoutlook.com/index.htm>).
- Each member will receive a one-year digital subscription to **Diverse Issues in Higher Education** (<http://diverseeducation.com>).

Help Develop and Grow Our Scholarship Process

- One of VALHEN's priorities has been to grow a **Scholarship Fund** for deserving students of Latino origin who are either graduating from high school or already in the first three years of college.

Help Design and Deliver VALHEN's Hispanic College Institute (HCI)

- One aspect of VALHEN's three-sided mission focuses on members performing **Outreach** efforts designed to improve access to higher education for our Latino students. Help us plan and participate in the **2013 VALHEN Hispanic College Institute (HCI)**, scheduled for the third week in July. Stay tuned!

For additional information about VALHEN Membership and its Benefits, please go to www.valhen.org/membership

WHAT WE DO EVERY DAY, POWERS YOUR EVERY DAY.®



www.dom.com

VALHEN's Signature Programs



Hispanic
College
Institute

HISPANIC COLLEGE INSTITUTE (HCI)

VALHEN wishes to thank all the 2012 HCI volunteers, including members of VALHEN, its Board of Directors, and many community members for the many hours spent helping make our first HCI a reality. VALHEN also wishes to thank our generous HCI sponsors for their support and faith in our mission. Without these individuals and sponsoring organizations, this endeavor would not be possible!

Applications for the 2013 VALHEN Hispanic College Institute will be available in January 2013. In the meantime, please contact hci@valhen.org for additional information.



LECTURE SERIES

VALHEN's **Lecture Series Program** encourages and promotes the research activities of our VALHEN members and shares these with our higher education community. Four lectures, each at a different institution throughout the Commonwealth, attract interested audiences who, with their attendance, express their support of the effort.



VALHEN's Signature Programs

SCHOLARSHIPS



*Thank you to Liberty Tax's **Una Familia Sin Fronteras**
for your Scholarship Donations*



*Thank you to all those State employees who donated to
VALHEN via the CVC Campaign.*

*Every CVC dollar that you contribute to VALHEN
goes into our Scholarship Fund.*

When the CVC Campaign starts . . . donate to #3702 - VALHEN

Please Join Us for the 2013 Encuentro

Co-hosted by J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College (JSRCC)
and the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA)
October 10th and 11th, 2013



*On behalf of our Board of Directors and members,
we wish to thank President Gary L. Rhodes for his generous
support of our mission by hosting the 2013 Encuentro!*



Dear Friends of VALHEN,

We are delighted to welcome you to our 2012 Encuentro! Thank you for taking the time to be with us; we trust you will find the content inspiring and informative.

Please join me in conveying our most sincere appreciation to President Carlos Campo and to Regent University for hosting VALHEN's 2012 *Encuentro*. We also must thank all our friends and sponsors for their generous support throughout this past year.

Two thousand and twelve has been a year of growth and bold development for VALHEN: our first Hispanic College Institute; a full year of Lectures throughout the Commonwealth; seven scholarships; and this *Encuentro*.

Today, Hispanics make up 8.2% of Virginia's population but only 5.1% of the college students. Our job is clear: to advocate and promote access and completion to higher education for Virginia's Hispanics. By doing so, we ensure that they enjoy the inherent benefits education brings to the individual and his/her society.

Thank you for your support. We encourage you to enjoy the rewards of traveling this road with us.

Maricel Quintana-Baker, Ph.D.
President