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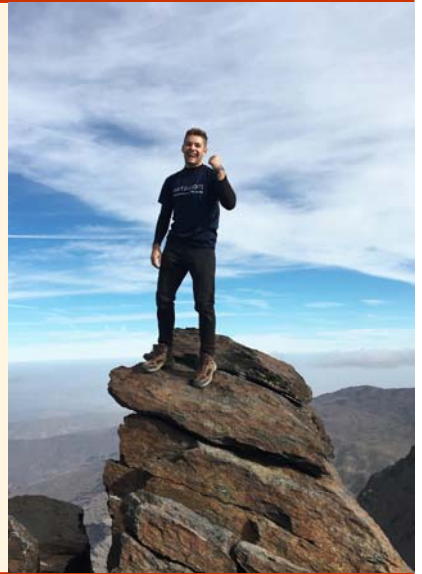


LALS Alumni Pursue Careers in Medicine

For more than a decade, LALS students have conducted LALS internships at the Kentucky Racing Health Services Center, where they put their Spanish language skills to good use and gain invaluable experience working with UofL School of Nursing NP's. In May, **Logan Zechella** and **Alice Darling** will graduate and attend Medical School like other LALS students before them: Naseem Ansari, Jhalak Dholakia, Taylor Forns, Neil and Akash Gupta, Ryan Jones, Stephanie Leonard, Matthew Smith, and Jerome Soldo. We reached out to our alumni and heard from some of them. **Neil Gupta** recently completed residency at Yale. He received Yale's Great Catch Award and now has appointments on the faculty for Yale's School of Medicine and Nursing. His brother Akash just completed Medical School at UofL and will be doing his ophthalmology residency at NYU.

Jerome Soldo Sends Greetings from Spain

I'm excited to write the UofL community from Madrid, where I'm teaching English through the North American Language and Cultural Assistants Program, along with LALS alum Jessica Williams. I'm taking full advantage of my "gap year" abroad by eating and hiking my way through Spain and Europe, enjoying it all the more knowing I'll be working hard in medical school come July 2017. Looking back on college, it's clear to me that one of the main reasons I'm pursuing medicine is my LALS internship as a medical interpreter at the Kentucky Racing Health Services Center. I look forward to four more years of education at the University of Louisville and a lifetime of service to the Spanish-speaking community. Go Cards!



Taylor Forns Serves Communities in the Amazon



I am currently in my 3rd year of medical school at UofL and I will be graduating in May 2018. Since finishing my studies in LALS as an undergraduate, I continued to serve as an interpreter at the Kentucky Racing Health Services Center, where I was able to use my Spanish and hone my skills as an up-and-coming physician. I have also been fortunate enough to continue to travel to Latin America, having gone to Costa Rica for a fishing trip as well as Ecuador, where I worked at different medical clinics in various communities in the Amazon that lack access to healthcare. I am planning on

applying for a residency in pathology next year. I look to hopefully continue to expand my horizons and work with the Latin American community both in the US and abroad! This photo was taken in Misahuallí, Ecuador, while on my trip there to work in medical clinics. That's me in the town square trying some sort of bug. It was not tasty! I think the locals got a kick out of my reaction after eating one.

LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES AT UOFL

CAMINOS

Latin American and Latino Studies Co-Sponsored Events

Dr. Gustavo Pérez Firmat Presents the 15th Annual LALS Heritage Lecture

Cuban-American poet and scholar, Dr. Gustavo Pérez Firmat, the David Feinson Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, visited the University of Louisville on October 27, 2016 to present the 15th Annual LALS Heritage Lecture and a poetry reading. At 11:00, a packed audience in Shumaker 139 listened to him reflect on the dilemmas of a life lived between languages, during his annotated reading, *Growing Old Bilingual: A Poetry Reading*, presented in English, Spanish, and Spanglish. Through readings from his first book of poetry, *Bilingual Blues*, to his most recent collection, *The Last Exile*, he shared moments in his life that involved the immigrant experience, and talked about being a 1.5 generation immigrant living in the United States. He explained that the birth of his son, which was the inspiration for his very first poem “Carolina Cuban,” also raised questions that echo those of many “hyphenated” American of bicultural backgrounds: “How will my son be like me? Will he be a more Americanized version of me? What will we have in common? What will we share? How much of my culture will I pass on and how much of it will he accept?” At the end of the poetry reading, Mr. Ben Ruiz presented Dr. Pérez Firmat with a certificate from Mayor Greg Fischer proclaiming October 27, 2016 to be Gustavo Pérez Firmat Day in Louisville. Later that day, Dr. Pérez Firmat presented the LALS Heritage Lecture, *Pirates of the Caribbean: Exoticism and the Aesthetics of Diversity*, in the Elaine Chao Auditorium, setting the mood by playing popular Latin songs from the 1940s and 1950s as the crowd settled in. In his PowerPoint lecture, he explored the use of the “destination image” found in vintage posters, travel brochures, and ads to beckon foreigners to the Caribbean. In particular, through a detailed analysis of a Pan American World Airways poster by Clipper (pictured left), Dr. Pérez Firmat revealed the dominant role of the female figure and the relationship between power and tourism that is involved with the American imagination of the Caribbean.



—Nely Sepúlveda, English Major and LALS Minor (pictured above)



Co-sponsored by: The Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research; The Department of Anthropology; The College of A & S Office of International, Diversity, and Engagement Programs; The Cultural Center Hispanic/Latino Initiatives; The English Department’s Lucy Freibert Endowment; First Year Initiatives; The Hispanic Latino Faculty and Staff Association; The Liberal Studies Project; and The Latin American and Latino Studies Club.

Graffiti and Anti-Graffiti in Brazil: Aesthetics of Sex, Death, and Class

On November 7th, Craig Schuetze presented a lecture on the prominence of graffiti in Brazil and contrasted it with an illegal art form called *pichação*, which differs from graffiti in that it does not consist of images or boldly drawn scripts, but rather is created using German-style block letters in a minimalist design. Its artists, known as *picadors*, are viewed by Brazilian police as radical gang members, although they insist that they’re not motivated by hatred. In order to depict their feelings of exclusion from society, the *picadors* create their own alphabet, rendering their art unreadable to all but those in their specific group. We enjoyed Schuetze’s presentation, particularly the stories he shared about the time he spent in São Paulo with the *picadors*, an experience that revealed that art is not just for aesthetically pleasing purposes, but can also serve a very important social and political cause. This lecture was co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, the Liberal Studies Project, and LALS. — Olivia Campbell and Jamie Gamble, LALS 310 Students

Latin American and Latino Studies Co-Sponsored Events

The 4th Annual SoFo Day of the Dead Celebration Attracted Record Crowds!



November's unusually warm weather brought lots of families and partygoers to South Fourth St. on First Friday Trolley Hop Night to shop at local businesses and enjoy authentic Mexican cuisine and live entertainment. Even Mayor Greg Fischer came out to show his support. Many arrived with faces painted and dressed to the nines in Katrina and skeleton costumes. Check out the gallery of photos posted on the LALS website. Dozens of volunteers, including members of the LALS Club, UofL students and faculty, and students from UofL alum Angela Nazarenko Katz's St. Francis H. S. Spanish classes, assisted with the many activities for children. A big thank you to all the volunteers who painted faces and helped the kids decorate sugar skulls and make skeleton puppets

and paper flowers. Pictured is LALS Major Alice Darling and Spanish M.A. student, Shannon Barnes helping children decorate South Fourth Street, literally! — Chelsea Flint, LALS Major and LALS Club President

LALS Students Study Abroad as World Scholars



My name is Raven Byars and I'm a junior majoring in LALS, PAS, and Spanish. This semester I'm studying in Lima, Peru with the CIEE Program and having

the time of my life! Lima is a giant city with Latin American, Asian, and African cultures. I have also spent my fair share of time outside of Lima to explore some of Peru's beautiful nature sites: coast, desert, mountains, and jungle. All are equally beautiful in different ways and I'm still discovering something new about this country everyday! If it weren't for the generous scholarships that I received, I wouldn't be studying abroad! I received support from four different scholarships, including the LALS Lewis Scholar Award and the CML Lewis Education Fund, the CML Modern Languages Fund, and the World Scholars Program. If you're considering going abroad, do your research, apply for all the scholarships you can, and go have the time of your life! Even though I learned about Latin American culture in the classroom, the lessons and experiences I've had in Perú are unparalleled and have enriched my college experience so much!



My name is Mariah Levine, and I'm a double major in French and Spanish, with a minor in LALS. This fall I'm studying abroad in the Dominican Republic through the CIEE Program. I'm living with a host family and attending university in Santiago de los Caballeros, the second largest city in the DR.

The Dominican Republic is a fascinating place. I'm learning a great deal about the country's history, culture, and politics. The food is wonderful and I'm eating vast quantities of avocado and fresh tropical fruit. The Dominican accent can be pretty tricky to understand, but my ear is gradually adjusting and my Spanish skills are rapidly improving. I strongly encourage you to pursue a study abroad opportunity. Studying about Latin America in the classroom is all well and good, but spending time in Latin America is a completely different; challenging, to be sure, but incredibly rewarding. My study abroad experience wouldn't have been possible without the support of scholarships, including the World Scholars Program, so I encourage you to take advantage of the many funding sources available through UofL to help make study abroad a viable possibility for you!

LALS Internship Research Forum

Monday, December 5, 2016
9:00-9:50 AM
307 Stevenson Hall



December 2016

Graduates

LALS Major
Vivian Doza

LALS Minor
Hayley Brown
Art Parola



¡Felicidades!

LALS Club's Winter Drive for Kentucky Refugee Ministries. Donations of coats, hats, gloves, scarves, blankets, and toys may be dropped off at the LALS Offices through December 6th for local Cuban refugees and other immigrants.

15th Annual Study Abroad Program in Panama

We are now accepting applications for the 15th Annual Study Abroad Program in Panama, which will take place May 3-27, 2017. Visit

louisville.edu/latinamericanstudies/panama-program for more information and to download an application. Panama Scholar Awards and other scholarships available. This program is co-sponsored by LALS, the Department of Communication, and the A&S IDEP Office.

Desde los Cuatro Caminos



From the Crossroads

¡Saludos amigos! As we come down the home stretch to the end of the fall 2016 semester, I'm happy to report that flowers are still blooming in the LALS Tranquility Garden and "Lucía" the Italian White Fig Tree has yet to drop her leaves. That tree was the last birthday gift I received from Lucy O'Farrill, who was the UBM for the Department of CML for 32 years, and after retiring served as the LALS Program Coordinator, Senior and helped us with the move from Humanities to Stevenson Hall in 2011. She made the colorful yellow curtains that grace the windows of our offices. We were very saddened to learn of her passing this past July. The picnic table next to "Lucía" is a welcome spot for studying or contemplation. It was the perfect place to enjoy the roasted corn and potatoes that were part of the spread served at the LALS/Disability Resource Center Cookout on October 25th. We began the semester by co-sponsoring "UndocuPeers: Liberating Campus Climate," a training program organized by the Cultural Center Hispanic/Latino Initiatives to increase the educational success of undocumented students by empowering and training educators. In addition to the 15th Annual LALS Heritage Lecture and the 4th Annual South Fourth Street Day of the Dead Celebration, LALS co-sponsored this year's Pride Week in October and the School of Music's New Music Festival, which featured a concert by Mexican guest composer Carlos Sánchez-Gutiérrez on November 9th. We also promoted the 15th Annual Study Abroad Program in Panama at a number of events: the Study Abroad Fair, Major Fair, and the Celebremos Hispanic Heritage Celebration, organized by the Spanish Section of the CML Dept. We wrap up the semester with a show of solidarity for our local immigrant community with presentations by LALS interns at the LALS Internship Research Forum and Poster Session, our Annual KRM Winter Drive, and the delivery of signed posters of support for our internship sites. *Felices fiestas!* Rhonda Buchanan, LALS Director



Latin American & Latino Studies



Latin American and Latino Studies Program
College of Arts and Sciences

Offices: Stevenson 304-306 & 401
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

Phone: (502) 852-2034
Email: rhondabuchanan@louisville.edu
louisville.edu/latinamericanstudies

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