The Politics of Labels: Latino, Latinx, Hispanic and What Else: The View from the Heartland
7 p.m., September 12
McLean County Museum of History
Moderator
Raylene Gómez,
Illinois Wesleyan University
Presenters
Nicolte Rivadeneyra-Braswell, Illinois State University (geology major)
Mario Jasso, Illinois State University (business administration major)
José Patrilla, Normal Community High School
Sonny García, activist, community organizer and artist
Micaela Harris, McLean County Museum of History
Sponsored by McLean County Museum of History, Organization of Latinx Employees (OLE), Latin American and Latinx/o Studies Program

Book Launch: Ships in Houston by Nadia Villafuerte
7:30 p.m., October 5
Publications Unit, Williams Hall Annex
Nadia Villafuerte’s Ships in Houston offers a profound exploration of life along Mexico’s southern border, shedding light on characters navigating the challenges and uncertainties of this shared yet often overlooked reality, as translated into English by Julie Cupp O’Donnell, inviting readers to engage with the indomitable human spirit amidst adversity.
Sponsored by Illinois State University’s Publication Unit, Latin American and Latinx/o Studies Program

Conversando Entre Nosotros: Dominican Art Education and the Myth of Racial Democracy
Dr. Félix Rodríguez Suero, assistant professor of art education at Illinois State University
3 p.m., October 13
Williams Hall 214
Sponsored by Latin American and Latinx/o Studies Program, Organization of Latinx Employees (OLE)

Ecological Knowledge and Sustainable Practices in Afro-Puerto Rico
Dr. Milda Lloréns, associate professor, University of Rhode Island
7 p.m., October 17
Felmley Hall Annex 133
Dr. Lloréns will discuss how Afro-Puerto Rican women, at the forefront of their communities, combat various challenges, including climate change and racism, drawing on local ecological knowledge and cultural practices essential for their survival, highlighting the intergenerational wisdom that enables them to not just survive but thrive.
Dean of Students Office, Latin American and Latinx/o Studies Program, African American Studies, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Tickets
Students with a meal plan can get a ticket for one meal swipe. Must purchase online in advance. Please visit Housing.IllinoisState.edu for more information. $25 for Illinois State University alumni, staff, and faculty without a meal plan and non-ISU community members. Tickets are non-transferable.

Latino Cultural Dinner
Laurie Hernandez, Olympic Gymnast
5 p.m., October 30
Brown Ballroom, Bone Student Center
Laurie Hernandez is a second-generation American, as her grandparents are from Puerto Rico, making her the first U.S.-born Latina to make the U.S. team since 1994. As a fierce mental health advocate, she has partnered with multiple campaigns and initiatives to encourage support and awareness for all.

Art Curator: Carla Acevedo-Yates, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Noon, November 1
University Galleries
Sponsored by University Galleries and Latin American and Latinx/o Studies Program

Joe Cardona ’99, Category management analyst, Chicago Pepsi Co. Treasurer of Latinx Alumni Network
Sponsored by Latinas Alumni Network, Latin American and Latinx/o Studies Program, Organization of Latinx Employees (OLE)

For more information, please visit mchistory.org or contact Micaela Harris.

Illinois State University’s Latin American and Latina/o Studies Program invites you to reflect and celebrate the contributions of Hispanic/Latina/o immigrants and their families in U.S. society.

Visit the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture.