



ISSUE NO. 2 | APRIL - JUNE 2023 | ERG YEAR 1

SOMOS CMU

THE LATINE FACULTY & STAFF ALLIANCE

NEWSLETTER

Join the Alliance!



March-April Recap: LACC and PRESENTE



The Latine ERG visited the Latin American Cultural Center in Oakland. March, 2023.

¡SALUDOS!

We are happy to share the newest installment of our newsletter! We share information about our employee resource group as it develops, feature our members and tell you about upcoming events.

2023 has seen our employee resource group continue to grow! Informed by the interests of our members, we share news and events that reflect on our impact within the CMU community and beyond.

Haven't joined our group yet? If you're a Latine/a/o/Hispanic member of the CMU faculty or staff, reach out and join your colleagues as we build community within CMU. We're establishing and strengthening ties to benefit future Latine CMUers, so they find a welcoming community when they arrive.

Have something to share with our fellow CMU Latines? Send mail to: latine-employee-resource-group@andrew.cmu.edu.

Join our ERG and check out our partner employee resource groups!
[Join today!](#)

Carnegie Mellon University Latine Faculty & Staff Alliance

March Event: A visit to LASA's Latin American Cultural Center

April Meeting Guest: PRESENTE's María Manautou-Matos

UPCOMING EVENTS

Carnival - April 14, 2023:
We will be at Carnival! Stop by and say, Hola!

May Meeting Workshop:
LinkedIn Learning in English and Spanish



ERG members enjoyed beautifully designed displays telling the stories of Latin American and Caribbean life and history.

It is these paintings and objects that are included in this exhibit, introducing the rich and complicated spiritual life of the contemporary Maya.

After enjoying the exhibition along with the permanent artifacts, art and instruments on display, our group had a chance to sit down and learn more about the center and their long-term goals for this powerful and inspiring initiative in Pittsburgh. The joy of seeing our cultures presented with such care and sensitivity is something we encourage you to experience, by visiting the LACC. Donations to the LACC are welcome and volunteering opportunities exist. For more information, visit <https://lacc.lasaweb.org/about/>.

Our cultures on display: A visit to LASA's Latin American Cultural Center

In the Oakland suburb of Pittsburgh, close to our own university campus is the home of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) and their museum and cultural center, the Latin American Cultural Center (LACC). LASA is the largest professional association in the world for individuals and institutions engaged in the study of Latin America. Milagros Pereyra-Rojas, Ph.D., executive director of the LACC, welcomed us to a beautifully renovated building which features space for events in addition to the 2 levels of exhibitions and displays.

Their currently featured exhibition which runs through July 2023, is titled Maya Spirituality: Indigenous Paintings 1957-2020. Joseph Johnston (artemaya.org) and Rita Moran (mayawomeninart.org) have collected paintings produced by self-taught Tz'utujil and Kaqchikel Maya artists from the Departments of Sololá and Chimaltenango in Guatemala. These paintings depict the daily life, traditions, and struggles of the indigenous Maya communities, and many of them strikingly portray Maya religious and healing traditions.



LACC displays included items from everyday life, traditional and musical instruments, each display grounded in history and highlighting the unique aspects of our respective cultures.

A message from the Latine Alliance Co-Leads

It is our pleasure to be the inaugural Co-Leads for our ERG, establishing the framework for what we hope will be an organization that will exist to welcome Latine and Hispanic members of the CMU community, as well as our allies, for years to come. In many ways, our ERG exists to establish community but also embody that which is important to us collectively.

If you're not yet a member, join! If you're a current member, share your ideas with us as we continue to build community. You play a vital role in helping shape future initiatives by becoming involved, providing your feedback and inviting others to join us. Your support means everything! ¡Gracias!

Priscilla and Christian
Latine Faculty and Staff Alliance ERG Co-Leads

We are PRESENTE in Pittsburgh:

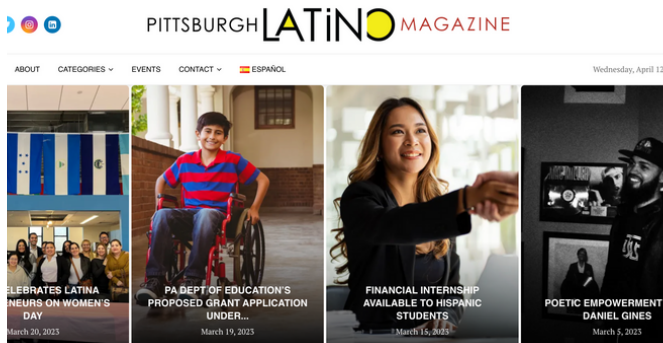
CMU alum María Manatou-Matos shines a light on Pittsburgh's growing Latine and Hispanic communities and their impact on the region.



Originally from Puerto Rico and while holding her heritage close to her heart, María Manatou-Matos considers herself a Pittsburgher, through and through. As a student and member of the Spanish and Latin Student Association, she helped found the Latin American Food Festival, a kind of invitation to the community to come explore different cultures through food. Since graduating from the College of Fine Arts in 2001, María embraced Pittsburgh, but also wanted to showcase her culture, and this is evident throughout her career. After completing her degree in communication design from the CFA School of Design, she went on to work as a Marketing Communications Consultant, Marketing Comms and Design Program Manager, Marketing Director, and eventually did consulting work throughout Pittsburgh.

Throughout her career, María has sought out the kind of work that speaks to her, and often this aligned with the Latine/Hispanic community in Pittsburgh. Her non-profit work brought her to help organizations like Casa San José and the Latin American Cultural Union (LACU) in developing their organizational identity. In 2018, María founded Pittsburgh Latino Magazine, and was a speaker at engagements such as the National Latino Leadership Conference and The Frick Pittsburgh's Latina Creative Community Roundtable - Frida Kahlo Exhibit Series.

A needed central resource



Pittsburgh Latino Magazine's homepage: [PresentePGH.Com](https://www.presentepgh.com)

You can visit Pittsburgh Latino Magazine at <https://www.presentepgh.com>

In 2020, she founded Presente Pittsburgh Media, LLC., a digital media company amplifying Latino connection in the region. It is through PRESENTE that the work she began with Pittsburgh Latino Magazine grew to become central to the community. As she said in a 2020 CMU interview, “PRESENTE fills a gap, in a news desert for Latinos in the region. While there are and have been Spanish news providers in the past, nothing has been done to this scale and vibrant format with a mission to celebrate, connect and empower our regional community.”

We are grateful for María's presence at our April meeting, where she shared her experience as a Puerto Rican in Pittsburgh, and how her upbringing and culture play a central role in her career. When asked, María expressed optimism in the future for our community and is excited about our continued growth in Pittsburgh.



April Event: CMU ERGs at Spring Carnival

April 14th, 2023 - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM ET

Between Purnell and Cohon University Center, East/West Walkway

(Alternate rain location: under CUC loggia)

Open to Faculty and Staff

May Meeting:

LinkedIn Learning Workshop



May 4th, 2023 - 12:00 Noon - Zoom (Remote)

LinkedIn Learning provides thousands of training videos and tutorials covering web languages, online technologies, website best practices and more. Carnegie Mellon University students, faculty and staff members have unlimited access to the entire library. The best part? LinkedIn Learning provides courses in Spanish! We will be providing an overview of the platform. A Google Calendar invite is sent automatically to our entire membership.

Did you know? CMU offers faculty and staff excellent online training resources for free.

There's never been a better time to grow your skillset and bolster your resumé. For more information, visit:

<https://www.cmu.edu/hr/service-center/training/>

Tartan Salsa

Have you always wanted to dance salsa or bachata?



Join the Tartan Salsa Club or Tartan Connect! Learn from Sammie Walker Herrera, who serves as instructor and promoter for the club.

<https://www.tartansalsa.com>