Meet the Newest CLS Doctoral Students

Erin Álvarez is a second-year PhD student. She received her BA in English literature and MFA in creative writing from California State University, Fresno. Erin’s research interests include Chicana literature, testimonio, and narratives of resistance in California’s San Joaquin Valley. In 2014, she presented her research at the Multi Ethnic Literatures of the US conference in Oklahoma City, and National Association of Chicano and Chicana Studies Tejas Foco in San Antonio.

José Martínez is a second-year PhD student. His research interest is the post-secondary education of children from migrant farm working families. He has worked in K-12 and higher education migrant education to expand opportunities for migrant students and families. José has also coordinated and directed multiple university programs at various institutions of higher education.

Max Monroy-Miller, first-year PhD student, holds a BA in social relations from MSU with a specialization in Chicano/Latino Studies. Over the last 12 years, Max has served as a middle and high school teacher and administrator in urban and suburban schools. He has worked in the Rio Grande Valley and Oakland, California. His current research interests focus on restorative practice in education.

Christian Ramirez is a third-year dual PhD student in CLS and sociology. His academic interests include migration, identity, and cultural production for people of Mexican descent in the US. Christian is a member of MSU’s Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professorate and the award-winning African Atlantic Research Team.

CLS Students Have Opportunity to get Politically Active

The presence of Chicano/Latino Studies and Migrant Student Services at Obama’s signing of the Farm Bill is a reminder of the indisputable and fundamental contribution of Mexican farmworkers to US agriculture, as well as testament to the fact that the children of those workers have arrived on the intellectual and political scene of this country. In the words of our beloved Betita Martinez, Adelante y arriba!

CLS Students attended the Farm Bill signing at MSU this year.

Students interested in pursuing a career in the political arena should attend a presentation by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. CHCI coordinates congressional internships and professional fellowship experiences in Washington, DC. CHCI provides an unmatched opportunity to engage with policy-makers at the forefront in Washington, DC. CHCI will be visiting MSU on Tuesday, November 4. Check out www.chci.org

Chicano/Latino Actor, Musicians Recognized

By Sam Saldivar
Hollywood has brought the life and times of legendary Mexican comedy actor Cantinflas, played by Spanish actor Oscar Jaenada, to the big screen. Released to a limited American audience on August 29, Cantinflas documents Mario Moreno’s rise in Mexican theater and film, and his most famous American film role in the 1956 film Around the World in Eighty Days. Cantinflas is currently showing in Mexico, Columbia, Bolivia, Brazil, and has grossed over 4.5 million dollars.

Also this year, Los Tigres del Norte, a regional Mexican Norteño band received a star on the Hollywood walk of fame. Together since the 1960’s, Los Tigres are one of the longest-running Norteño groups in Mexico and the US. In 2000, Los Tigres founded the Los Tigres del Norte foundation, which donated $500,000 to UCLA’s Chicano Studies Center to support the Frontera Collection of Mexican and Mexican American Recordings, the largest collection of Mexican music. Carolina Miranda of the L.A. Times notes “what makes the Hollywood star significant is that Los Tigres represent an aspect of culture that is omnipresent yet remains largely invisible to the mainstream. Mexican regional music is everywhere, but it doesn’t generate the headlines or the coverage of pop.”