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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



April Newsletter

We're almost at the finish line!

With only a few weeks left of the semester we have so much going on!

Check out all of our **upcoming events**, **special updates** and **resources**.

Events

**3rd Annual
Latin American
Studies
Symposium**

Friday, April 11th
9am-3pm
Kachina Lounge, Student Union

SCHEDULE

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM

SESSION 1: CLIMATE, LAND AND RESISTANCE
9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

COFFEE & NETWORKING BREAK
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM

SESSION 2: IDENTITY, BELONGING, AND
COLLECTIVE MEMORY
10:45 AM - 12 PM

LUNCH BREAK
12:00 PM - 1 PM

SESSION 3: GENDER, EXPRESSION, AND
LINGUISTIC ACTIVISM
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

CLOSING CEREMONY
2:00 PM - 2:15 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: DR. NADIA W- CHARLES
2:15 PM - 3:00 PM

Center for Latin American Studies | LASSO | Confluent Center for Creative Inquiry

Confluentcenter is thrilled to co-sponsor LASSO's 3rd Annual Latin American Studies Symposium!

When: Friday, April 11 | 9 am - 3 pm

Where: Student Union, Kachina Lounge

This all-day symposium is an opportunity to hear from graduate and undergraduate research. Students will present on Latin American topics in an inclusive, student focused environment.

**3rd Annual
Latin American Studies Symposium**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

***A ZERO-SUM GAME:
THE RACIAL PARADOX
BETWEEN HAITI & THE
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC***

A historical overview of race relations between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Using case studies of similar geo-political interactions, the local paradox will be problematized and mythologized as a consequence of Black nationalism.

DR. NADIA W-CHARLES
Assistant Professor
Department of Africana
Studies

Friday, April 11th
2 pm
Kachina Lounge

confluentcenter for Creative Inquiry | LASSO | Center for Latin American Studies

This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Nadia W-Charles, presenting:

A.Zero_Sum.Game;The.Racial.Paradox.between.Haiti.and.the.Dominican.Republic

[Dr. W-Charles](#) will provide a historical overview of race relations between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Using case studies of similar geo-political interactions, the local paradox will be problematized and mythologized as a consequence of Black nationalism.

We hope that you can join us for the symposium to support student research!

[Learn more](#)

Between Borders: The Lives of Deported U.S. Veterans

Experience a lecture and an immersive mural exhibit of the Deported Veterans Diaspora Mural Project in a unique and interactive setting.



Dr. Lizbeth De La Cruz Santana
Assistant Professor, Baruch College

Tuesday, April 15
5:30–7 PM
Art School Lobby
1031 N. Olive Rd.



🎨 Day 1: Between Borders: The Lives of Deported U.S. Veterans

📅 Tuesday, April 15th | 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

📍 School of Art, University of Arizona

Step into the [Deported Veterans Diaspora Mural Project](#) with an immersive and interactive experience. Explore the powerful stories behind each mural Lizbeth has painted, and gain deeper insight into the lives of deported veterans. Don't forget to bring your headphones for the full experience!

A Conversation with Dr. Lizbeth De La Cruz Santana



Scan QR
code to
register!



Dr. Lizbeth De La Cruz Santana
Assistant Professor, Baruch College

Wednesday, April 16
11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Art School Lobby (1031 N. Olive Rd.)

Join us for a thought provoking
conversation with Dr. De La Cruz
Santana on her fieldwork along the
U.S.-Mexico border for the
Humanizing Deportation project.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Binational Migration
Institute



confluentcenter
for Creative Inquiry



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
School of Art

🗣️ Day 2: A Conversation with Dr. Lizbeth De La Cruz Santana

📅 Wednesday, April 16th | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

📍 School of Art, University of Arizona

Join Lizbeth for a casual yet impactful Q&A session, where she'll share her research on deportation, migration, and social justice. Learn about her work at the U.S.-Mexico border and hear how it led to her dissertation and ongoing projects. This is the perfect chance to connect and engage with Lizbeth's incredible work.

[RSVP Here](#)



🌟 Join Us for La Peña del SurCo! 🌟

🎵 Come experience the magic of Latin American folk music at **La Peña del SurCo**! This vibrant, community-driven event is all about celebrating the rich musical traditions of Argentina, Chile, and Latin America through participatory performances.

🎸 Enjoy intimate acoustic performances by **El SurCo**, a talented trio blending guitar, violin, charango, bombo, and heartfelt vocal harmonies. The night will feature lively chacareras, cuecas, chamamés, and more! 🌍

🌟 About the Event:

- **When:** Friday, April 18 | 6 pm
- **Where:** 4th Ave Coalition Space (311 E 7th Street Tucson, AZ)
- **Food & Drinks:** **Che Cafe Empanadas** will be serving delicious Argentine empanadas, and drinks will be available for purchase. Feel free to bring your own drinks! 🍹
- **The Spirit of the Peña:** A welcoming, informal gathering where community members are invited to participate. Sing, share, and enjoy folk music with fellow music lovers of all ages. 🌱

 **About El SurCo:** A dynamic trio led by ethnomusicologist Dr. Jennie Gubner, El SurCo brings the sounds of the southern tip of the Americas to life with rich cultural heritage and intergenerational connection.

 **This event is FREE** thanks to the support of The 4th Ave Coalition and our incredible sponsors. A special thanks to the University of Arizona for making this event possible!

 For more information or if you'd like to share a song, contact: jgubner@arizona.edu

Let's celebrate culture, community, and the rhythm of Latin America together!   

[Register Here](#)

More Events!



[B.L.A.C.K. X AASA Makerspace Event](#)

5 – 6:30 p.m., April 8, 2025

B.L.A.C.K. and AASA Makerspace's extend a warm welcome to the creators of BLKHouseMRKT!



[Latino Pride Festival](#)

Saturday April 12th 2-10 PM

Come listen to live mariachi music, watch some drag shows, and find new community!

MSA Annex 267 South Avenida del Convento
Tucson, AZ 85745



[Dia del Niño](#)

10 am - 12 pm | Sunday, April 13th

Join us for exciting family-friendly activities, face painting, a jumping castle, free books, live music by Titosuavecito, and a performance by Ballet Folklorico Tapatio.



[Immigrant Student Community Professional Development](#)

9 AM- 1:30 PM | Tuesday, April 22

The goal of the series is to establish that faculty and staff have a foundational understanding of how they can incorporate best practices into their daily work to better serve these student populations.



[Native Voices in STEM](#)

12 - 1 pm | Wednesday, April 16

This professional seminar series invites Native scientists, engineers, activists, community members and leaders to share their personal and professional journeys, providing inspiration to the next generation of change makers.

Updates



Mellon-Fronteridades Interns Participate in Experiential Learning Convivencia *Exploring Borders Through Art and Dialogue*

Last month, our Mellon-Fronteridades Undergraduate Interns engaged in a powerful experiential learning activity titled “Derrumbando Fronteras:-Breaking Down Borders”—an arts-based workshop developed by our Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Elizabeth Gaxiola, as part of her dissertation research.

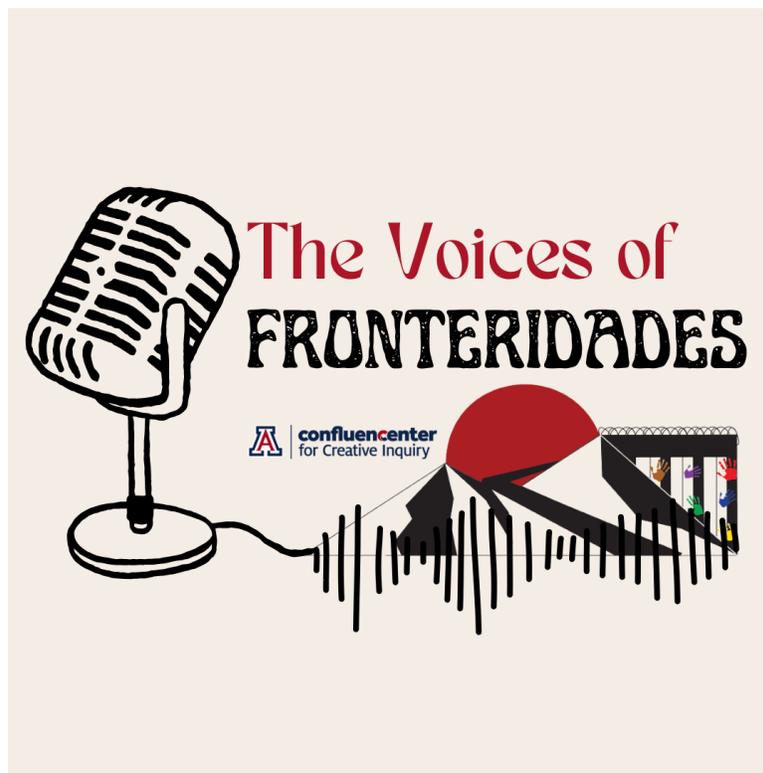
The experience began with a reflective, creative pre-visit session where students explored the concept of borders through art. This groundwork prepared them for a deeply meaningful visit to Casa de la

Misericordia, where they co-facilitated the same arts-based activity alongside shelter residents, creating a shared space for expression, empathy, and dialogue.

This *convivencia*—a moment of intentional togetherness—offered interns a unique lens into the lived realities of migration, human rights, and the personal and political dimensions of borders. It was a transformative opportunity to learn with and from community members, fostering critical thought and compassionate engagement.

Stay tuned for the reflection piece by the interns of this *convivencia*!

[Learn More About our cohort!](#)



Have you heard our podcast? Give it a listen! 🎧 ✨

[The Voices of Fronteridades](#) podcast explores the intersection of borders and humanities. Through conversations with artists, scholars, activists, and community leaders, each episode uncovers how these individuals are reshaping our understanding of borders.

Dive into stories of art, activism and groundbreaking research shaping the future of border narratives.



Episode 3: Flood (In)Justice in the U.S.-Mexico Border

How is flood (in)justice impacting border communities? **Dr. Lucas Belury**, a Mellon-Fronteridades Graduate Fellow's, research reveals this challenge along the **Arizona/Texas-Mexico border** and how communities have shown resiliency for years.

In this episode we learn about his research and how flood justice has affected these communities along the **Texas-Mexico border and the Arizona-Mexico border**. Comparing both borderlands on their powerful similarities and significant sparks of differences.

Hear about his findings on the overlooked concerns and challenges flooding causes in these borderland communities.

[Listen Here!](#)

News

Conflucenter made Binational Headlines!

On Friday, March 28th the Conflucenter and the [Instituto Municipal de Fomento a la Cultura y las Artes](#) (IMFOCULTA) celebrated the third and fourth cohort of our [Binational Arts Program](#) with an exhibition at the Museo de Arte in Nogales, Sonora. The exhibition featured vibrant murals, paintings, drawings, photographs, and sculptures that explore border life perspectives.

These emerging artists from Mexico demonstrate how creativity transcends boundaries while revealing shared cultural realities. It was a night filled with music, recognitions, and community.



[Read all about it!](#)

Resources



Thrive Center

We're excited to continue our Resources Series with a collaboration between the Confluencer and the

[THRIVE Center!](#) 🙌👁️

At the THRIVE Center, students don't just find support, they discover a community that transforms survival into success. Bring your unique strengths and let the THRIVE team help you create a college experience where you truly belong. 🎓📖📱

Join us as we explore resources for students at the University of Arizona. Together, we'll create pathways for meaningful belonging and academic achievement. ✨🌵

[Watch Video Here!](#)

Funding Opportunities!

[Graduate Center Office of Fellowships: 2025 Summer Fellowship Application Development Program \(SFADP\)](#)

Priority Deadline: April 16, 2025

Graduate students and undergraduates considering graduate school can join this free online program to prepare competitive national and international fellowship applications. Get structured deadlines, writing support, and feedback to enhance your application.

[Danny Lopez Park: Request for Qualifications - Now Accepting Applications](#)

Deadline: Thursday, May 8 2025, 11:59 pm AZ Time

As part of the renovations, the Percent for Art program will bring a unique artwork that reflects the voices, culture, and stories of the community. This is a chance for artists to create something lasting, meaningful, and inspiring!

[More Opportunities](#)





confluencenter for Creative Inquiry



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Land Acknowledgment

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.