

REFORMA

The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking



REFORMA members during ALA Annual 2018 in New Orleans

President's Letter

By Madeline Peña

Dear REFORMA Family,

It is my honor and my pleasure to serve as your president in a time when there is so much hope and excitement about REFORMA's future. I'm very fortunate to work alongside outstanding REFORMA members who are serving in the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors and who volunteer with committees, task forces, and local chapters. I'm inspired by their professionalism and their efforts to fulfill REFORMA's mission.

When I ran for this position, I promised to focus on increasing communications through a newsletter, improved listserv and enhanced website. I also pledged to find ways to increase membership, generate more income, revive enthusiasm in committee work, and communicate to the world the value of REFORMA. That's why I have chosen **The Power of Communication** as the theme of my presidency.

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Since July, I have been working with the Executive Committee to take the first steps toward achieving this year's goals. Here are a few of the projects we have been working on:

- We have been planning for the 3rd National **Joint Conference of Librarians of Color**, *Gathering all Peoples: Embracing Culture & Community* taking place Sept. 25-30 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The **Ethnic Affiliates Gathering** will take place on Thursday, September 27 in Ballroom B & C, starting at 6 p.m. This reception is free for REFORMA members and will feature a performance by the National Institute of Flamenco, and a special *Noche de Cuentos* by local storyteller Rosalia de Aragon and guitarist Estevan Pacheco. We applaud Susan Luevano, Roxana Benavides and the team of REFORMA volunteers for their tireless work planning JCLC.
- We released a *Statement on the Separation of Refugees, Asylum Seekers, and Immigrants at the U.S. Border Searching for the American Dream* and appointed a task force, in partnership with the California Library Association, that will create a toolkit on **library services to immigrants and refugees**. REFORMA's Legislative Committee spearheaded ALA's *Resolution to Reunite Detained Migrant Children with their Parents*.
- We **appointed/confirmed chairs and members** for the following committees: Public Relations, CAYASC, Membership, Fundraising, Finance, International Relations, Mentoring, Legislative, Nominations, Organizational Development & New Chapters, Program, Technology, and Translations. The rest of the committees will be officially appointed/confirmed by the end of the month—including a committee tasked with planning RNC7 and the 50th Anniversary in 2021.

- We are in the early stages of planning the **REFORMA Institute**, a professional development opportunity that we would like to offer right before ALA Annual in Washington, D.C. Stay tuned!
- We started planning for **ALA Midwinter**. Registration is now open. The REFORMA hotel is the Crown Plaza.
- REFORMA will be present at the **Guadalajara International Book Fair** in November. We will attend the Meeting of the Asociación Mexicana de Bibliotecarios, AMBAC.

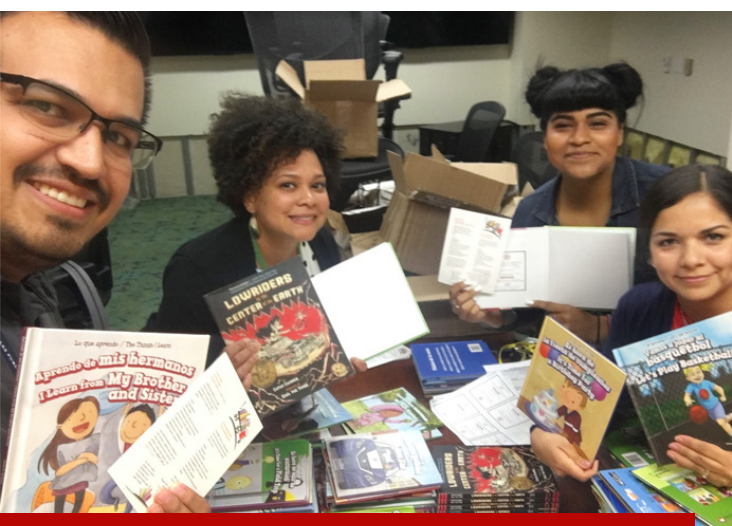
This year I plan to attend as many **local chapter meetings** as possible. I recently attended a meeting of the Oregon Chapter, virtually, and learned so much about the wonderful work they do for their communities. I look forward to receiving invitations to attend chapter meetings and events.

I want to **thank** the *Reformistas* who have shared their precious time to **mentor me**; I've had many inspiring conversations that have made me even prouder of REFORMA's relevance and legacy. I want to thank my **Los Angeles Chapter** for their encouragement (I love the survival kit and enjoyed the fun party at Mario Ascencio's home). I also thank the **Los Angeles Public Library's** administration and staff for their strong support of REFORMA.

I look forward to working with all of you this year. If you have ideas/suggestions that can help us further REFORMA's mission, contact me at president@reforma.org. Adelante REFORMA!

- Madeline

P.S. In case you missed it, I was interviewed by *Infobibliotecas* magazine for an issue focused on American libraries that also features an interview with Loida Garcia-Febo. You can read the interview *en español* [here](#).



Preparing book donations with LAPL colleagues



Party at Mario's home with SoCal Reformistas.

Interview with Author Meg Medina

By Libby Romero

Meg Medina is an award-winning Latina author who writes books for kids of all ages. In her books, she portrays strong girls as her protagonists and celebrates the Latino cultural experience. Meg has earned numerous distinctions, including the 2016 Pura Belpré honor medal for her picture book *Mango, Abuela and Me*, and the 2014 Pura Belpré Award for her young adult novel *Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass*. For her picture book *Tía Isa Wants a Car*, Meg earned the 2012 Ezra Jack Keats New Writers medal. Her latest book *Merci Suárez Changes Gears* was recently published on September 11, 2018. For more information, you can visit Meg at megmedina.com.

1- Please tell us about your latest book *Merci Suárez Changes Gears*. What message did you want to convey through your novel?

Merci Suárez Changes Gears is set in South Florida and follows Merci through her sixth-grade year at Seaward Pines Academy, a posh private school where she and her older genius-brother, Roli, are scholarship students. It's a look at all the craziness of middle school life: friendships that sour, those first awkward romantic feelings, projects that go all wrong, those pesky teachers – the whole mess. But more than that, it's a novel about Merci and her extended family – and how everything changes in one short year. I hope their story makes you laugh as often as it makes you sad.

As for messages, I never really set out with them in mind. Instead, I try to recreate hard truths and let readers decide how those situations reflect what's going on in their own lives. What I'm always careful to do, though, is draw Latinx characters with respect, honesty, and depth. I want them to feel like the real people we are and the real friends and neighbors we know.

2- What kind of research did you do, and how long did you spend researching before beginning this book?

Research can be so fun. I was once terrified of it, but when I wrote *Burn Baby Burn*, my historical fiction set in 1977, I was cured of it all. It's just fascinating what you find.



Meg Medina

For *Merci Suárez Changes Gears*, the research came along as needed. So, if I needed to know what sports would be played in October in Palm Beach County, I found websites and sports schedules to guide me. In order to keep up with Roli's math and science know-how, I researched things like fractals and read the most involved student science fair projects I could find, which ended up being on the use of banana peels in the production of bioplastics. On the other end of the spectrum, I had to learn to use Snapchat, which was painful. And then, of course, I spent lots of time learning about the progression of Alzheimer's disease and how families, particularly, children, cope.

3- How did you select the names of your characters?

I wish I knew! Actually, I love all the nicknames that are so typical in Cuban families. There's always a María who's called Nena. Or Francisco who goes by Paco. Rolando becomes Roli. And don't forget Fico or Mongo or Beba or whatever. So, I sprinkled them in with wild abandon. And sometimes, happy accidents come along. I've always loved the name Mercedes, and Merci is the natural nickname. It came with the added bonus of suggesting "mercy"

in English. I gave Lolo a nickname for Leopoldo – and later realized that Filipino children called their grandfathers Lolo.

4- Is your book going to be translated into Spanish and do you know when?

So far, I have three works that have come out in Spanish editions: *Tía Isa quiere un carro*, *Mango Abuela y yo*, and *Yaqui Delgado quiere darte una paliza*. I'm a huge advocate of making works that feature Latinx families available in Spanish editions. It's important that families can connect and engage with stories in the language most comfortable for each reader. I don't have any news to share yet about a Spanish-language edition of *Merci Suárez Changes Gears*, but I'm hopeful I'll be able to tell you more on this front soon. Please ask for Spanish editions!

5- What role did the library play when you were a young girl and what role does it play now?

Let me start by saying that my mother believed in the power of books, even when she didn't have much money to buy them for us. She did three important things: She invested in the World Book encyclopedia, which she bought on installments. She gave us money for the Troll book form every month. And, she made sure we had a library card to the Queens Public Library. Those things supported me as a reader, and over the long haul, being a reader opened every door for me. It opened my imagination. It opened my knowledge of the world that was beyond Flushing, Queens. It opened my self-awareness and my understanding of others.

If you fast forward to now, I am still at the library all the time, not only as a patron doing research or drafting in a quiet corner, but sometimes as a partner, too. I do lots of work with the Richmond Public Library on special programs around girls, books, and culture in our city, most notably a summer reading event called Girls of Summer. And I am very proud of my strong relationship with the Young Readers Center at the Library of Congress in

Washington, DC. Just to walk the halls of that building is an awe-inspiring experience, but to find my works there, too, and to be part of programs hosted by the Library of Congress is an honor that I never imagined would be possible for me.



When I really think about it, I can say that I wouldn't have much of a career without libraries and librarians. I don't write books that are immediately commercially appealing, so I depend almost entirely on people who know and love books to help children and their families discover me. I depend on librarians to help teachers

take a risk on my work and include my titles in the classroom selections and curriculum studies. From the beginning, it has been the librarians with special interest in young readers and in stories from traditionally marginalized communities that have opened the path for me.

6- What do you enjoy reading? What book are you reading now?

I read everything, really, but I am mostly drawn to literary fiction by women of color. I typically go back and forth between adult books and works for young readers. But in both cases, I love lush writing and ideas that stop me in my tracks. So, these days, on the adult side, I'm devouring Ada Limón's new poetry collection, *The Carrying*. I also recently enjoyed *Fruit of the Drunken Tree* by Ingrid Rojas Contreras. For children's work, I'm reading Emma Otheguy's ARC [advanced reader's copy] for her upcoming middle grade *Silver Meadow Summer* (April 2019.) The truth is, though, that my to-be-read pile for children's literature is ridiculous. I couldn't list all the books I have stacked on my nightstand! But how could it be otherwise? There are so many terrific titles by fellow Latinx authors –really talented voices coming to share their piece of our collective story.



Libby Romero is the World Languages Collections Coordinator at BookOps, the shared technical services organization of Brooklyn Public Library & New York Public Library. She has written articles about collection development of Spanish language materials in *Library Journal*. She is a former REFORMA Northeast Chapter President and recipient of the 2016 Pura Belpré Librarian of the year award of the REFORMA Northeast Chapter.

From Past to Present to Future: REFORMA's Legacy in Scholarship

By Lettycia Terrones

On June 5, 2016, REFORMA co-founder Elizabeth Martinez inspired the members of the Los Angeles Chapter to envision our futurity as library impactors. The occasion was REFORMA LA's scholarship awards luncheon, which was held that year at the East Los Angeles Public Library, itself a symbolic site for the far-reaching impact of Elizabeth Martinez's leadership, activism, and vision for Latinx librarianship. Martinez shared excerpts of her memoir-in-progress where she described her work in critical librarianship and its connections to our present-day efforts as *Reformistas*.

I can say with full confidence that everyone in attendance that day has and continues to directly benefit from Elizabeth Martinez's indefatigable courage and social justice leadership in libraries. What struck me the most was how strongly Elizabeth Martinez encouraged us Reformistas to pursue doctoral studies in Library and Information Science (LIS) in order to shape and influence curricula and pedagogical training for Latinx library services. The positive future impacts of these efforts, Martinez urged, starts by writing ourselves into the LIS discipline, so that our lives, experiences, and knowledge-making capacities have a place in and, indeed, form an essential component of the LIS profession.

In this spirit, offered here is a starting list of foundational works of mostly early scholarship that captures REFORMA's legacy in activism and social justice. By knowing our institutional history, Reformistas together can shape our futurity.

Please help us add more annotations to this growing bibliography to showcase Latinx LIS scholarship. Send your recommendations to the REFORMA Newsletter Editorial Team at newsletter@reforma.org.



Elizabeth Martinez and members of the Los Angeles Chapter

A Bibliography for REFORMISTAS

The Stories I Read to the Children: The Life and Writing of Pura Belpré, the Legendary Storyteller, Children’s Author, and New York Public Librarian

Edited by Lisa Sánchez González

Centro: Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, 2013

ISBN: 978-1-878483-80-5

*Containing Belpré’s stories and essays, photographs, and an outstanding critical biography of Belpré, Dr. Lisa Sánchez González documents Belpré’s extensive contributions to Latinx literary culture and librarianship. An essential read for Latinx librarians.

Chicano Librarianship: On the 40th anniversary of the Chicano Moratorium, a leader in the movement remembers the early years in East Los Angeles County

By Elizabeth Martinez

American Libraries, 41(11/12), 2010, pp. 40-43.

*Co-founder of REFORMA, creator of the ALA Spectrum Scholarship, and architect of the 1970s Mexican American Library Training Institute at California State University, Fullerton—just to name a few accomplishments—Elizabeth Martinez in this essay provides an institutional memory of Latinx librarianship grounded in activist imperatives, offering a blueprint for today’s social justice-oriented librarians.

Library Services to Youth of Hispanic Heritage

Edited by Barbara Froling Immroth and Kathleen de la Peña McCook

McFarland Publishing, 2000

ISBN: 978-0786407903

*Co-edited by 2016 REFORMA Lifetime Achievement Award winner Dr. Kathleen de la Peña McCook, this anthology gathers essays by many of REFORMA’s founding leaders, and includes Dr. Arnulfo Trejo’s classic essay, “Reformita: A Gang for the New Millennium.”

Education Special Report: Modifying Library Education for Ethnic Imperatives

By Arnulfo D. Trejo

American Libraries, 49(1), 1977, vol. 8, no. 3, 1977, pp. 150-151.

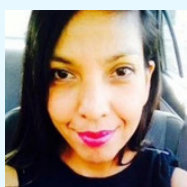
*Back in 1977, REFORMA co-founder Dr. Arnulfo Trejo called for the inclusion and development of culturally specific LIS curricula in order to train librarians to respond to the information and literacy needs of Latinx communities. Reading Dr. Trejo’s essay offers us a benchmark to reflect upon where we have been and what more we can still create in the service of our communities.

Latino and Librarianship

By Salvador Güereña and Edward Erazo

Library Trends, 49(1), 2000, pp. 138-181

*Centering on REFORMA’s impact on American librarianship, Salvador Güereña and Edward Erazo’s scholarly essay offers an inside look at the history of REFORMA and our founding leaders.



Lettycia Terrones is a Ph.D. student in the School of Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is a Spectrum Scholar, and has been a member of the Pura Belpré Selection Committee and the Board of Directors of REFORMA as Los Angeles Chapter President.

Las Vegas' DJ Learning Lab

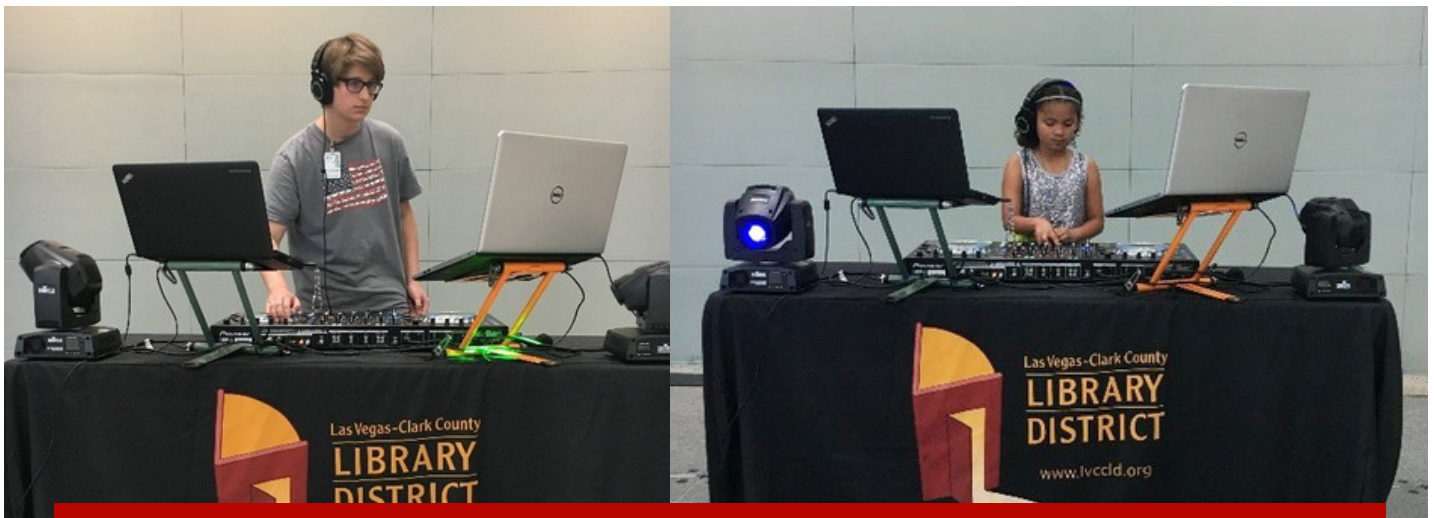
By Salvador Avila

The Class of 2036 started kindergarten this past fall! Before you know it, this group will be tweens and teens looking for a place to hang out. The question is, what is your library system, or better yet, what are YOU doing to ensure that the place they choose is the library? The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District is implementing programs that are designed with youth development principles in mind, that promote project-based and self-directed learning, and that develop STEAM skills, which are critical to today's job market. The Enterprise Library's signature DJ Learning Lab is a model for attracting youth and teens as new customers while practicing the principles of connected learning,

Tweens and teens want more than things. They want innovative and unique experiences and spaces. To meet these expectations, the Enterprise Library opened a state-of-the-art DJ Learning Lab with industry-standard DJ equipment readily available to youth ages 13-17 every Tuesday and Thursday between 3:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. The lab gives youth access to creative art and music learning opportunities. With the help of controllers, media players, mixers, and laptops, kids learn the basics of music production and technology, including lighting, stage presence, and mixing music. Teens get interactive, hands-on experience that exposes them to the profession of being a DJ. Teens who participate in the DJ Learning Lab also build DJ skills, receive coaching on how to run events, and practice their party-hosting skills. In many cases, youths progress from messing around to gainful employment, saving for equipment, showcasing their skills at live events, and building their own enterprises.

Using industry-standard equipment, the Enterprise DJ Learning Lab combines elements of technology access, instruction, mentoring, and a creative studio environment that lets youth explore their interests, create, and share their work. New literacies are a key part of connected learning. Beyond digital and media literacies, key workforce literacies that are developed in the lab include:

- Collaboration
- Public speaking
- Problem solving
- Stage presence
- Etiquette and manners
- Customer relations
- Workforce development
- Financial literacy



DJ Jon and DJ Just Dance (age 8), welcoming Electric Daisy Carnival event goes to Las Vegas at McCarran International Airport.

Much of the success of the DJ program is due to the fact that there are employment opportunities for youth that reach a certain level of proficiency. Competing in local “battle of the bands” events and performing on stage at “First Friday” are some of the accomplishments that leave a lasting impact on local youth and the community. Outcomes for youth are confidence and new skills that translate into economic and social success. Outcomes for the library are new relationships with local partners who also want to showcase youth development and success.

For example, the House of Blues located at the Mandalay Bay Resort has a youth initiative called “Bringing Down the House.” In recent years, talent from the DJ Learning Lab has been featured there and gained media attention. Now, the addition of a DJ component is commonplace.

Teens from the DJ Learning Lab have had opportunities to perform at other local venues including:

- McCarran International Airport (when the Electric Daisy Carnival is in town)
- Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada Cookie Kick-Off
- Michael Jackson Mansion
- Private and corporate events

Some may think that a DJ lab is not an appropriate library learning experience. There can be resistance to incorporating this type of programming into a library setting. The top three arguments we hear are: 1) librarians are not DJs, 2) libraries are not the right place for DJ activities, and 3) DJ skills are not important for youth.

The Enterprise Library experience refutes all of these assumptions.



DJ Naavi performing during Clark County Library Best Buy Teen Tech Center grand opening.

- Librarians can model curiosity and learn new skills alongside youth with YouTube, or they can invite local DJs to instruct and mentor local youth at the library. They can work with local music stores to understand what equipment and software are industry standard, so that youth are ready for real world work.
- As the DJ Lab gets more media coverage, many local organizations want to learn from the library’s experience in youth interest-based learning. They find youth want to have youth DJs at school and youth events.
- Most importantly, Enterprise Library is showing locals that DJ skills are important. As one of the highest-paid, in-demand artist occupations in the hospitality industry today, the DJ path is profitable and a great way for youth to learn how to perfect a wide variety of skills through practice and experience, understand saving, and take their aspirations from dreams to reality.

The Las Vegas–Clark County Library District will broaden the opportunities for youth experiential learning with the opening of the new East Las Vegas Library in the Spring of 2019. This branch, situated in the heart of dense Latino neighborhoods, will host a maker space with multiple DJ stations, music production, video production, green screens, a whisper room, 3D printers, video games, engineering projects, and more. The various innovative technologies and spaces will support connected and interest-based learning education through interactive, hands-on tech labs, products, and experiences.

If your library is searching for ways to get relevant with local youth, look at starting up a DJ Learning Lab. When properly outfitted with the right DJ equipment, peer coaching, and cool community vibe, teens will discover new skills, network with mentors, and engage in interactive learning activities that excite their creative genius and spark their future earning potential. Put your hands in the air and get your kids there!



DJ Samurai Jack and DJ Juan being interviewed by media during McCarran International Airport "Voice of Vegas" music program.

Option 1 Beginner Setup

Refurbished laptop (Market Price), Pioneer DDJ-SB3 Controller (\$250), Pioneer HDJ-500 DJ Headphones (\$90). \$340 initial investment without discounts and sales tax.

Option 2 Intermediate Setup (Recommended)

12" MacBook (\$1,300), Pioneer DDJ-SZ2 Controller (\$2,000), JBL 5" Studio Monitors (\$300 for 2). \$3,600 initial investment without discount and sales tax.

Option 3 Advanced Setup

12" MacBook (\$1,300), Rane 72 Mixer (\$1,900), Rane Twelves Controllers (\$1,600), JBL 5" Studio Monitors (\$300 for 2). \$5,100 initial investment without discounts and sales tax.

Links

- hobmusicforward.org/program/bringing-down-the-house/
- ktnv.com/positivelylv/las-vegas-library-offers-dj-learning-booth
- lvccld.org/news/enterprise-public-library-library-offers-dj-learning-booth/
- reviewjournal.com/entertainment/music/library-program-gives-young-djs-a-place-to-hone-their-craft/
- news3lv.com/news/local/young-djs-welcome-edc-crowd-at-airport
- vegasseven.com/2016/05/04/salvador-avila-djing-by-the-book/
- ktnv.com/positivelylv/student-djs-perform-for-edc-arrivals-at-mccarran-airport
- wtae.com/article/library-teaches-kids-how-to-spin-records-with-dj-booth/19647779



Salvador Avila is the Las Vegas Library & East Las Vegas Library Branch Manager out of Las Vegas, Nevada. He is the author of *Crash Course in Serving Spanish-Speakers and Serving Latino Teens*. He was the recipient of the 2014 REFORMA Librarian of the Year Award and 2003 Críticas Librarian of the Year. He was instrumental in introducing the Connect Learning initiative "Learn to DJ!"



Make a Plan with immi.org

By Sebastian Zavala

What happens if there are immigration raids in your community? What can students and families do? At a time of increased and aggressive immigration enforcement, it is good practice to take appropriate steps to be prepared.

“Make a Plan” is a new resource on immi.org, a project by the Immigration Advocates Network (IAN). Make a Plan is a response to emergency requests from immigration workshops and community events. Parents want to know who their children can stay with, and who can pick them up at school. Educators and librarians need good resources for what to do about a car, home, job, bank account, and other assets in case of deportation or detention.

Make a Plan puts knowledge in the hands of anyone with a digital device. Each person receives a custom checklist on how to protect and care for family members, manage assets, and provide immediate help in case of an immigration detention. Make a Plan is available in English and Spanish. It is free to use on phone, tablet, or desktop at immi.org/home/make_a_plan.

In addition, immi.org can help people find ways to get legal status in the U.S., find free and low-cost legal services, and learn more about rights and immigration options. No personal information is saved, and all users are anonymous. Libraries can also order free Know-Your-Rights cards to hand out at their events: immi.org/order.

We are looking for libraries to pilot imi’s self-help tools. Contact me at szavala@immigrationadvocates.org for more details.



Organizations That Have Received Training and/or Know Your Rights Cards

Alameda County Law Library
Alexandria Library
Arnett Branch Library
Bay County Law Library
Berkeley Public Library Claremont Branch
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Butte County Library
Charles County Public Library
Charlotte Mecklenburg Matthews Library
Corvallis-Benton County Public library
Douglas County Libraries
Huntsville-Madison County Public Library
Indian Valley Public Library
Kankakee Public Library
Locust Valley Library
Los Angeles Law Library
Multnomah County Library
New York Libraries Association
Niagara Branch Library
Northlake Public Library District
Omaha Public Library
Ossining Public Library
Palm Beach County Library System
Polk County Law Library
Public Libraries Association
Queens Library
Ramsey County Law Library
REFORMA - Children in Crisis
Riverhead Free Library
Round Lake Area Public Library
San Antonio Public Library
San Francisco Public Library Main Branch
San Jose Public Library
Saugerties Public Library
University of Washington Libraries
Victor Farmington Library
West Hempstead Public Library
West Orange Public Library
Woodlawn Library
Yuma County Library District
Zion Benton Public Library



Sebastian Zavala is the immi Program Manager for the Immigration Advocates Network. He has a J.D. from Arizona State University and a B.A. in Raza Studies from San Francisco State University. He has over a decade of experience in creating programs to help low-income communities access immigration legal services.

Preserving History: The Florida and Puerto Rico Digital Newspaper Project

By Melissa Jerome

Historic newspapers are invaluable primary resources for historians, educators, and other scholars. They provide multiple viewpoints and firsthand accounts of events as they occurred. Within the last decade, digitization efforts have not only helped preserve these historical records, but have also increased access to content that is on aging microfilm.

In 2013, the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida, in partnership with the library system at the University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedras, were awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant to contribute content from newspapers published in Florida and Puerto Rico to a national newspaper digitization program. The Florida and Puerto Rico Digital Newspaper Project (FPRDNP) is a collaboration between UF and UPR-RP as part of the state and territory's involvement in the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). The NDNP, a partnership between the NEH and the Library of Congress, is a long-term effort to provide permanent, free access to historic newspapers published between 1690 and 1963 in the United States and its territories.

Now in its third phase, the FPRDNP has contributed more than 250,000 newspaper pages from Florida and Puerto Rico. Titles selected from Puerto Rico include *La Gaceta* (1836-1902), *La democracia* (1890-1948), and *La correspondencia* (1890-1943). *La Gaceta*, a Spanish government publication, was the first newspaper on the island. It reported on issues related to customs, commerce, royal decrees, and other government related topics. *La democracia* and *La correspondencia* introduced modern journalism to the island and focused on social-cultural issues. *La democracia* reported on various political issues and was a supporter of el Partido Autonomista, a political party led by the founder of the paper, Luis Muñoz Rivera.



Vistas de San Juan (1904, June 14). *La democracia*, p1. Retrieved from <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn90070270/1904-06-14/ed-1/seq-1/>

La correspondencia, founded by Ramón B. López, reported on issues such as education and labor, and introduced news related to arts and literature.

In addition to digitization, the FPRDNP team engages in community outreach and education. Project goals include engaging with the community to increase awareness of the availability of the content, as well as informing educators, historians, and others of how the newspaper content can be used for research and instruction. The team also uses social media to promote use of the content. The project's blog regularly features essays exploring topics covered in the newspapers. *Revisitando huracanes del pasado en Puerto Rico*, the project's first Puerto Rico-focused blog post, uses content from the historic newspapers to not only learn about the issues surrounding these deadly storms during that time, but also highlight the importance and relevance of this topic today.

The newspapers digitized for the project are available and text-searchable through the Library of Congress' Chronicling America. Additionally, the digitized content is available on the University of Florida Libraries' Florida Digital Newspaper Library, and the Biblioteca Digital Puertorriqueña at the University of Puerto Rico.

For more information, visit ufdc.ufl.edu/ufndnp or contact me at mmespino@ufl.edu.



Melissa Jerome is the Project Coordinator for the Florida & Puerto Rico Digital Newspaper Project, housed at the George A. Smathers Libraries at the University of Florida. She is responsible for managing all administrative and technical activities related to the digitization and assists with the project's outreach and promotion efforts. Melissa is currently pursuing her Master of Science in Information from Florida State University.

REFORMA Chapters & Committees

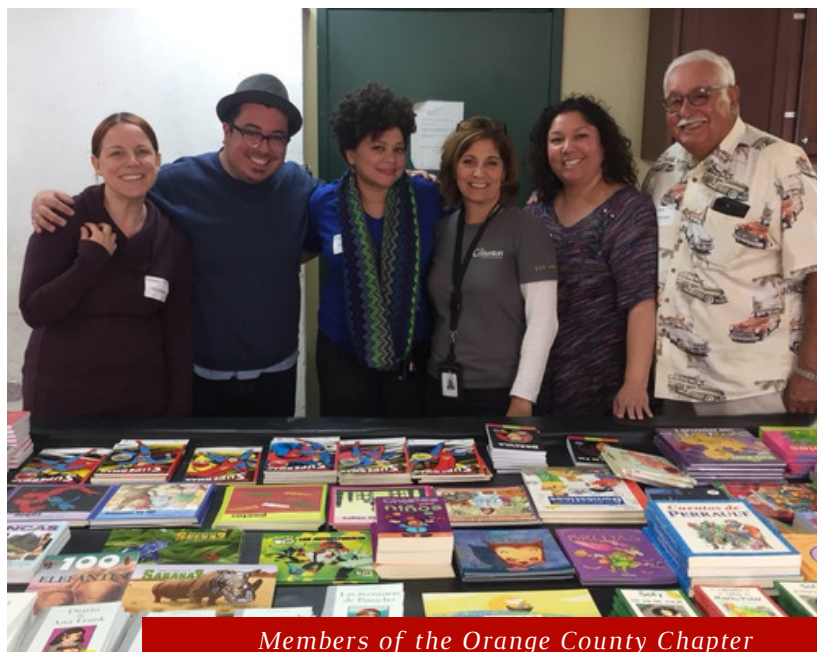
The REFORMA Children in Crisis Project

By Patrick Sullivan

The REFORMA Children in Crisis (CIC) project has been moving even more quickly than ever these days to address the ever-expanding range of needs across the country. Since 2014, when Oralia Garza de Cortés and Lucía González first raised their voices and formed the Children in Crisis project during the REFORMA Membership Meeting at the 2014 ALA Conference in Las Vegas, we have been delivering books to the children and connecting them with libraries. Our efforts have involved a number of REFORMA Chapters using various strategies. Recently, with the family separation tragedy, angered citizens have been searching for ways to assist the children and their families from Central America who seek asylum at our southern border. We are one of the projects they have selected as a way to express their concern.

Historically, Silvia Cisneros, Past President of REFORMA, flew to McAllen, Texas where she donated the first shipment of books to the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) station. From there we began planning a strategy that would allow us to reach out to detention centers in Texas and shelters in California, and we formed many alliances along the way. Thanks to grants from the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) and the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), the Children in Crisis project was able to purchase and donate books to various shelters and facilities across the country. REFORMA and IBBY also met in Texas at the border in McAllen for a fact-finding mission in 2015. On this visit we were able to donate books to CBP for a second time and to a range of groups including Sister Norma at the Sacred Heart Church, the Nueva Esperanza Southwest Key Shelter in Brownsville, and the Brownsville Public Library. We also met with the ProBAR Children's Project, a pro bono immigration legal group, to get a better picture of the situation on the ground at the time.

Since those early days we have been expanding our outreach. Thanks to many Reformistas we have established stronger connections with the Southwest Key Shelter program and we have created links with the Kids In Need of Defense (KIND) legal program across the country. The KIND connection began with the newest REFORMA Chapter, REFORMA del Valle Central in Fresno, California, but has expanded to New York, New Jersey, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and beyond. We also work with other legal offices like Casa Cornelia Law Center in San Diego, where we provide books to the children and families who are visiting these legal offices as part of their immigration process. KIND in Fresno has Resource Fairs for the immigrant children and their caregivers where the local REFORMA Chapter provides books for the entire family. The Orange County Chapter, the Los Angeles Chapter, the San Diego Chapter, the El Paso Chapter, the New Mexico Chapter, the San Antonio Chapter, the LIBROS Chapter, the Northeast Chapter, the Florida Chapter, and many individual Reformistas have created strong connections with the Southwest Key Shelters, the Crittenton Shelters, Catholic Charities, and more.



Members of the Orange County Chapter delivering books to a Crittenton shelters.

It makes us proud to be Reformistas when we see the support and willingness to respond to the dire situation in which the Central American children and families find themselves. We continue to try to connect the shelters and the children with their local libraries for library visits so that they can see that librarians who speak their language stand ready to connect them with the community and with books. The San Diego Public Library has been working since 2015 with local shelters, providing library visits, crafts, book donations, summer reading programs, and a wide range of other support. If your chapter is interested in support from CIC for your immigration outreach to the Central American children and their families, please contact us.

A week or so ago we received notification that the Believe In Reading Foundation awarded the CIC Project a very generous grant that will allow us to expand our efforts. For example, in August we did our first 300+ book donation in Tucson, Arizona at the Southwest Key Shelter. With this new support from Believe in Reading we will be able to respond to even larger donation locations such as multiple sites in Phoenix and the huge facilities in Brownsville and Tornillo, Texas. We are constantly looking to make connections where the books will be accepted and distributed to the children.

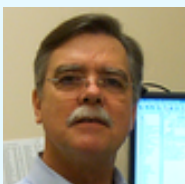
The range of connections that we have made is astounding. Groups like the Mighty Writers in Philadelphia, PA were having difficulty delivering hundreds of books that they had gathered for delivery to the immigrant children, and we were able to facilitate the transfer of the books from their facility in Philadelphia to the El Paso Chapter in Texas which will distribute the books to the four shelters with which they have been working. We have also recently connected with the Angry Tias and Abuelas in Brownsville, Texas. This group connects with the immigrants as they are released in McAllen, Texas and provide backpacks, pillows for their long bus rides, and coloring books. We will be providing books that can be included in the backpacks for the journey as well. At the last ALA conference in New Orleans we also organized a session titled "Central American Connections" in which we had a panel which included Jorge Argueta, author and founder of the Library of Dreams in El Salvador, Bill Cartwright from the

Riecken Community Library which has 60+ libraries in Guatemala and Honduras, and Jenny Lizarraga from Cinco Books. We are hoping that in the coming year we will be able to organize an effort to help the local libraries in Central America on a number of different fronts, so please stay tuned for calls to action.

Over these past 5 years, in addition to all the PayPal donations from individuals and the grants we have received, there have been vendors who have provided us with direct donations, steep discounts, and have helped with shipping costs. Linda Goodman at Bilingual Publications was our first and strongest donor, along with TOMO Books and Cinco Books, but we have also had a huge number of authors, bookstores, distributors, and individuals who have organized book donations. These donors can be seen on our Sponsors Page on the CIC website.

There have been a huge number of people involved in making all these connections. Oralia Garza de Cortes and Patrick Sullivan are the two Co-Chairs of the CIC Project, but we have also been greatly aided by Sandra Ríos Balderrama who as the Social Media Coordinator for CIC has provided increased visibility for the project. All of the chapters who are working with the children and their families are the key players though. As organizers of the CIC Project, we can coordinate the donation process, but Reformistas in the local communities are those who are alerting us to and responding to the needs on the ground. If your chapter would like support from the CIC Project to get books into the hands of the Central American immigrant children, whether via a local law office, a resource fair, a shelter, detention center, bus station, or at your local library, please contact us. Also, if you would like to donate to this ongoing effort, please visit reforma.org.

Thanks for all of the support that has been provided to the REFORMA Children in Crisis Project and the children that we serve. We are all volunteers in this project and all funds that we receive are used for book purchases and shipment costs only. While all Reformistas are saddened by the cruel process that these children and families have been subjected to, we will continue to fight and do all we can to make their lives a little better through the joy of books and reading.



Patrick Sullivan is an Emeritus Librarian from San Diego State University who was an ALA Mover & Shaker in 2015. He manages the REFORMANET mailing list and is a Co-Chair of the REFORMA Children in Crisis Project. Patrick is also one of the organizers of the Seguimos Creando Enlaces Conference that takes place in San Diego/Tijuana each year.

Oregon Chapter and OLA Round Table

By Natalia Fernández



Oregon's Latinx population is growing faster than the national rate, and is significantly younger than other populations in our state. By 2017, the total Latinx population was 474,000, an increase of 72 percent since 2000, compared to only 50 percent nationwide.¹

During the 2014 Oregon Library Association (OLA) Annual Conference in Salem, a group of enthusiastic librarians met informally for lunch to discuss the idea of creating a REFORMA chapter to serve the increasing Latinx community in our state. The group met again, at the Gresham branch of Multnomah County Library (MCL), to formalize the creation of the REFORMA Oregon Chapter. By mid-2015, accepting their invitation, the chapter also became an OLA Round Table.

The chapter meets quarterly and rotates locations in Oregon, providing participants with opportunities to share experiences and network. During this time, we have increased membership throughout the state and organized well-attended activities, which have included presenting at every OLA conference, awarding a yearly OLA conference scholarship, and hosting an annual

Mock Pura Belpré Award. By having a presence throughout the state, we are able to see how the support from our chapter has helped to improve services for Spanish-speakers. We are proud to be an asset to our community.

Since its inception, REFORMA Oregon has had several amazing librarians as leaders. Martín Blasco, Outreach Librarian for Multicultural Services at Washington County Cooperative Library Services, was recognized as Librarian of the Year in 2017 by OLA. During the same year, Natalia Maria Fernández, Associate Professor and Curator of the Oregon Multicultural Archives and OSU Queer Archives at Oregon State University, received an I Love My Librarian Award. Meanwhile, Elizabeth López, Librarian Supervisor at Hillsboro Public Library, became REFORMA Oregon President after serving as Secretary and Vice-President. Currently, the chapter is being co-led by Patricia Morán, Spanish Bilingual Youth Librarian, Multnomah County Library, Rockwood branch, and Angelica Novoa De Cordeiro, Bilingual Services Specialist at Canby Public Library. You can find more about the chapter's members at our site reformaoregon.weebly.com.



REFORMA Oregon members.

As an organization whose mission is to support library services for a historically underserved community, advocacy and equity drive our work. Some challenges that we face are a lack of representation of Latinx and Spanish-bilingual librarians in Oregon, both in recruitment and retention, and a lack of opportunities for continuing professional development. Many libraries, in both small rural areas and larger metropolitan regions, depend on support staff to reach and serve Spanish-speakers in their service area. Often staff do not have the necessary tools or management support needed to cover best practices such as program planning, translating/interpreting, materials selection, reference assistance, storytimes, outreach, and more. While some libraries have converted monolingual positions to bilingual positions in order to better serve the community, often these are limited to part-time positions.

In addition, Oregon libraries continue to underfund Spanish-language services and collections that reflect native language authors. While there are libraries that have recently established or expanded these collections, there are many that have not increased their staff and/or budget to reflect the informational and recreational needs of their Latinx communities. Some libraries in our state, including some of the top-rated and most funded, have cut funds in these areas despite the urgent need for vibrant outreach, equitable resources, and welcoming spaces.

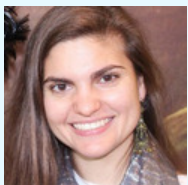
REFORMA Oregon has made an effort to address some of these challenges since early on. In 2015, the OLA Children Services Division (CSD) approached the chapter about hosting a Mock Pura Belpré Award. REFORMA Oregon members decided to host the first mock workshop in Oregon. It was so well attended it became an annual workshop. The mock award has not only been a great opportunity for learning about quality Latinx written and illustrated children's books, but has also served to highlight the importance of "mirrors, windows, doors, and bridges" in children's literature. In order to make the event a complete professional development experience, we invite presenters on topics such as cultural relevance in library services and developing and maintaining inclusive collections.

¹ The Oregon Community Foundation (August 2016). *Latinos in Oregon: Trends and Opportunities in a Changing State*. Retrieved from oregoncf.org/Templates/media/files/reports/latinos_in_oregon_report_2016.pdf

One of REFORMA Oregon's most ambitious projects is the incorporation of the Libros for Oregon (LfO) committee. This project started in 2015 with a conversation on the Oregon Library Listserv about the obstacles that libraries (especially small and rural libraries) face in attending the Guadalajara Book Fair (FIL). A handful of Oregon library staff, including three members of REFORMA Oregon and a member of CSD, transformed this conversation into a brainstorming challenge. With their creative vision and passion, and wise consultation from the State Library's Youth Services Consultant, the group applied for a two-year LSTA grant to develop a consortium plan to send staff to FIL and purchase books published by Latin American authors and publishers (#NuestrasVoces).

The LfO committee brings to REFORMA Oregon a new level of collaboration, since the committee includes members of REFORMA Oregon and representatives of other OLA Round Tables/Divisions. LfO members bring expertise in the areas of outreach, services for Spanish-language speakers, technical services, international relationships, services for children, school library services, young adult services, and public library services. You can find more information about Libros for Oregon on the LfO website librosfororegon.wixsite.com.

Coming into our 6th year as a REFORMA chapter, our goals for 2018-19 are to continue peer professional development efforts, including hosting the 4th annual Mock Pura Belpré workshop, and to share our collective expertise at the next joint OLA-Washington Library Association conference. Our plan is to continue awarding conference scholarships to library staff who serve Latinx Spanish-speaking communities, thereby allowing library staff to develop their skills and improve library services in quantity and quality. The award committee gives priority to applicants who would not otherwise have the opportunity, or the resources from their library, to attend a professional conference. In 2018-19, REFORMA Oregon looks forward to connecting with and learning from REFORMA colleagues throughout the U.S. as we continue to strengthen relationships with libraries serving Latinx Spanish-speaking communities in Oregon and beyond.



Natalia Fernández is the curator of the Oregon Multicultural Archives and OSU Queer Archives at Oregon State University. She collaborates with LGBTQIA and communities of color to empower them to preserve, share, and celebrate their stories. She has an MLIS from the University of Arizona.



REFORMA del Valle Central: Libros y Comunidad

By Sandra Rios Balderrama

Reforma del Valle Central helped celebrate the opening of SIREN's (Services Immigrant Rights & Education Network) new office in Fresno, California, on August 25, 2018. Along with the grand opening, Executive Director Maricela Gutiérrez and her staff coordinated a festival in honor of immigrants and refugees. There were non-profit booths, entertainment, food, and raffle prizes. It was *Reformista* Jennifer Crow's idea to participate, and when Arturo Mendoza loaned us his canopy tent, we were on our way! After setting up, our team of seven *Reformistas* settled in with on-site *agua fresca de sandía* and *pan dulce* from M. Gloria Hernandez. We were ready to meet and greet families, and share books and resources. We gave away approximately 75 English, Spanish, and bilingual new and almost-new books in 4 hours.

Our mission is to promote quality, Latino and multicultural books in different languages. We want the community to be excited about these books. We want them to ask their school and

public libraries to feature these books. We want the community to own these great books by purchasing from independent bookstores or by taking a donated book home with them.

We find the community is especially excited to discover books by Latinx authors and illustrators, and wants to support their work. One *niñito* looked a long time for a book to take and when he found Yuyi Morales' his whole face beamed. One father was thrilled to find a pre-teen book in Spanish for his daughter. One big family - including mom, *abuela*, teenage daughter, auntie, and two toddlers - visited our booth. The teen daughter picked *Jazz Owls* by Margarita Engle. We even sent home books for three other siblings, including Juan Felipe Herrera's new *Jabberwalking* since one of them loves poetry. Many of our books are donated by generous authors and individual *Reformistas*. We depend totally on donations and/or using our chapter funds to select and buy books.



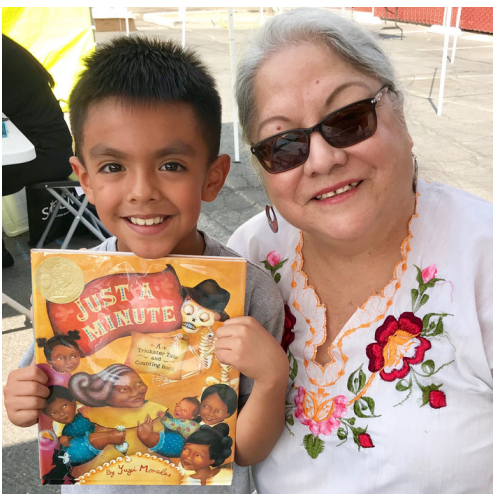
Sandra and members of the community with their new books.



REFORMA del Valle Central members.



I have to beam, myself, when I think of Aideed, Delia, Gloria, Arturo, Ann, Mario, and Jennifer interacting with the crowds at our booth and helping them to find the right books for them. An added bonus was meeting other non-profits and we have been invited to speak to young mothers in Fresno about books for their children and to students of MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan) in Bakersfield, California.



SIREN has been active in the Bay Area and officially opened their Fresno office in March, after finding that 30% of their clients trek to San Francisco for services. They are serving approximately 300 clients a month. Community Outreach Associate Jennifer Rojas followed up and came to our September 11, 2018 meeting and it was great to speak again about forging a new partnership.

Learn more about SIREN

siren-bayarea.org

fresnobee.com/opinion/op-ed/article217471315.html

fresnobee.com/news/local/article217050325.html



Sandra Ríos Balderrama is the President of REFORMA del Valle Central: Libros y Comunidad, 2017-2019. She was the recipient of the 2003 REFORMA Librarian of the Year Award and the first Elizabeth A. Martinez Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014. She served as REFORMA President in 1997-1998, and is co-founder of the Pura Belpré Award. Currently she describes herself as a book activist and passionate promoter of authors, poets, artists & librarians of color

News & Updates

REFORMA Awards 17 Travel Grants to Attend JCLC

By Tess Tobin, REFORMA Immediate Past President

REFORMA is pleased to announce that it received a Laura Bush 21st Century National Forum Grant, *Telling Our Stories: Community Building to Recruit and Retain Latinx to the Library Profession*.

After decades of various diversity initiatives, new avenues and dialogue on achieving diversity among library and information studies students and the library workforce are still needed. This grant awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) supports the strategy of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion to enhance recruitment, mentoring and networking activities. The grant will explore and examine the issues, challenges and achievements in the recruitment, retention, and advancement of Latinos in the library profession.

Funding from the IMLS grant will provide financial support to eleven Library and Information Science (LIS) students and six first-time conference attendees to the 3rd National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico on September 26-30, 2018.

By attending JCLC, REFORMA travel grant winners will engage with community-changing speakers and attendees who are working toward effective solutions to the challenges facing today's libraries. The JCLC conference will offer a multitude of opportunities, including timely and informative pre-conference programs, author readings, professional development sessions, enlightening panel discussions, vendor exhibits, and more.

For more information or if you are interested in researching the recruitment, retention and advancement of Latinos to the library profession, please contact Tess Tobin and Louis Muñoz at lisrecruitment16@gmail.com.

Travel Grant Recipients

- Elena Baeza, El Paso Community College
- Adriana Blancarte-Hayward, New York Public Library
- Elizabeth Borges-Ocasio, Universidad de Puerto Rico - Río Piedras
- Ana M. Campos, Los Angeles Public Library
- David Castro-Quiles, Universidad de Puerto Rico – Cayey
- Erika Garcia Santiago, Escuela Graduada de Ciencias y Tecnologías de la Información, UPR
- Cristina M. Larregui-López, Escuela Graduada de Ciencias y Tecnologías de la Información, UPR
- Vicki Lázaro, Knowledge River, University of Arizona
- Liliana Lopez, iSchool, San Jose State University
- Lorena López Rivera, iSchool, San Jose State University
- Carol Lovos, iSchool, San Jose State University
- Melissa Mejia, iSchool, San Jose State University
- Christina Minjarez, iSchool, San Jose State University
- Maria Rios, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina
- Gabriel Ríos Pagán, Escuela Graduada de Ciencias y Tecnologías de la Información, UPR
- Liliana Patricia Rocha, Teton Public Library
- Patricia Valdovinos, Los Angeles Public Library

Congratulations to all and we hope that you have a great conference experience!



International Relations Committee

By Ray Pun, Committee Chair

The International Relations Committee is interested in expanding, enhancing, and strengthening our partnerships with various stakeholders and groups. One charge is to collaborate with the ALA's International Relations Round Table, International Relations Committee-Americas Subcommittee, and the State Department to bring more opportunities for Reformistas to engage in international projects and programs. We have already planned discussions on future webinars focusing on international librarianship in Latin America for learning and development as well. Another plan is to make REFORMA an IFLA Association Affiliate so Reformistas can serve on IFLA section committees if desired. This active committee is comprised of members who are located across the United States including Puerto Rico.

Nominations Committee

By Maria Kramer, Committee Chair

The REFORMA Nominations Committee requests and welcomes for its consideration your nominations of REFORMA colleagues to serve on the 2019 -20 Board of Directors. This year's Committee will be considering candidates for nomination for Vice-President / President Elect, Treasurer, Member-At-Large Representative, and Chapter Representatives.

One of the most significant contributions you can make to REFORMA is to participate in our annual nominations process to ensure that highly qualified and dedicated colleagues can continue our long tradition of excellence and leadership. Your nominations assist the Committee in ensuring that, among other things, the leadership of REFORMA reflects a consistent commitment to service.



Loida with her sisters, dressed as Luisa Capetillo.



Puerto Rican History at ALA

Loida Garcia Febo's Inaugural Banquet in New Orleans was filled with *cultura* and *sabor* from her native Puerto Rico. Loida made her grand entrance escorted by her sisters, who were dressed in vintage suits. We learned that they were dressed like Luisa Capetillo.

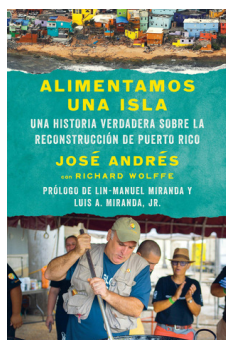
Luisa Capetillo (1879-1922) was a fierce labor leader and women's rights activist from Puerto Rico. She was the first woman in Puerto Rico to wear pants in public, a crime at the time. She is considered to be the first official Puerto Rican feminist.

"This planet belongs to all of us and is not the privilege of only a few, Why are there so many injustices?"
— Luisa Capetillo.

REFORMA Recommends

Books for Teens & Adults

By Alexandra Gomez, Supervising Librarian, World Languages Collections, BookOps



Alimentamos una isla: Una historia verdadera sobre la reconstrucción de Puerto Rico by José Andrés, and Richard Wolffe

September 2018 | Vintage Español

9780525565628 | Adults

A group of chefs team up to feed hundreds of thousands of people in the aftermath of the catastrophic Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

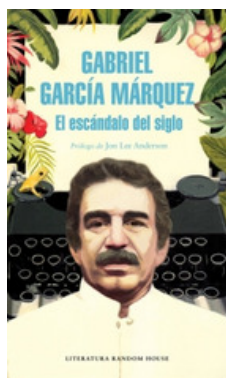


El bestiario de Axlin by Laura Gallego

July 2018 | Montena

9781949061116 | Young Adults

Axlin has decided to compile the ancestral wisdom of the villagers in a book, so that it can serve as a guide to protect against the monsters that have terrorized her village for several generations.



El escándalo del siglo: Textos en prensa y revistas (1950-1984) by Gabriel García Márquez

October 2018 | Vintage Español

9780525566717 | Adults

An anthology of the Nobel Prize author's journals, covering four decades of writings that span from Rome and Paris to Cuba and other parts of Latin America.



La felicidad en esta vida by Papa Francisco

May 2018 | Origen

9781947783386 | Adults

A recollection of messages and life anecdotes by Pope Francis, the first pope from the Americas and the first Hispanic Pope. It reflects ways on how family issues can challenge us to help us become better people and to find true happiness in our present days.



La fruta del borrachero by Ingrid Rojas Contreras

October 2018 | Vintage Español

9780525564010 | Adult

The author debuts with a passionate narrative based on her life's story. During the '90s in Bogota, Colombia, in the middle of the guerrilla riots, an unexpected friendship between two women of different social classes arises with devastating consequences.

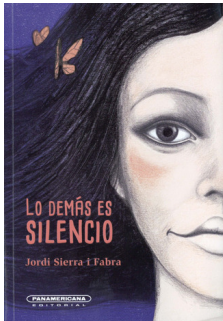


La línea se convierte en río: una crónica de la frontera by Francisco Cantú

April 2018 | Vintage Español

9780525564027 | Adult

A former US Border Patrol agent, the son of a forest ranger and grandson of a Mexican immigrant, describes his encounter with the terror that plagues immigrants and law enforcement officers.



Lo demás es silencio by Jordi Sierra i Fabra

March 2018 | Panamericana

9789583053030 | Young Adults

This novel is based on the true story of Victoria, a young lady who finds the courage to report the sexual abuse she suffered at the hands of one of the most influential figures in her small town.

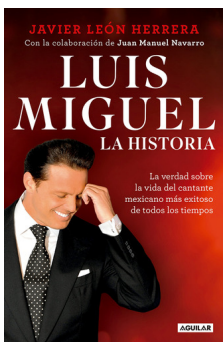


Los divinos by Laura Restrepo

May 2018 | Alfaguara

9781947783553 | Adults

The author's narrative, praised by Nobel Prize winners such as José Saramago and Gabriel García Márquez, continues with this fictional account of a true event that shook an entire society.



Luis Miguel: la historia: la verdad sobre la vida del cantante mexicano más exitoso de todos los tiempos by Javier León Herrera

April 2018 | Aguilar

9781947783119 | Adult

Presents the life of the famous singer through testimonies of relatives and people close to his artistic medium. Delves into the artist's achievements, conflicts and family intrigues.



Mi negro pasado by Laura Esquivel

September 2018 | Suma De Letras

9781947783768 | Adult

The popular author of Like Water for Chocolate continues the narrative with a novel in defense of women's rights, where the protagonist deals with family issues, tries to reconcile with herself, and experiences love once again.



Una reina como tú by Francisca Lachapel

March 2018 | Atria Books

9781501164095 | Adult

The renowned presenter of the television program "Despierta América" and winner of the 2015 beauty pageant "Nuestra Belleza Latina" tells the inspiring story of her life, from her childhood in the Dominican Republic to her beginnings in the entertainment industry of the United States of America.



Santos: Paradoja de la paz y del poder by María Jimena Duzan

September 2018 | Debate

9781947783874 | Adults

It chronicles the efforts of Juan Manuel Santos, winner of the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize, to come to an agreement with the FARC guerrillas to set down their weapons and bring peace in contemporary Colombia.



Stranger: el desafío de un inmigrante latino en la era de Trump by Jorge Ramos

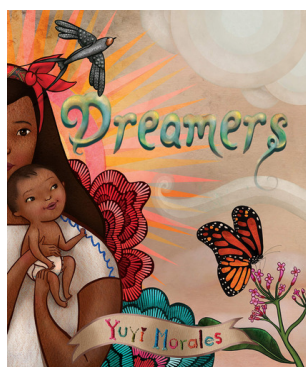
February 2018 | Vintage Español

9780525563778 | Adult

The well-known journalist shares his research and experiences as a Latino immigrant in the United States.

Books for Children

By Dinorah Pinelo, Multilingual Collections Librarian, Los Angeles Public Library



Soñadores by Yuyi Morales | Translation by Teresa Mlawer

September 2018 | Neil Porter Books

9780823442584 | Ages 3-8

“Soñadores” is a beautifully illustrated picture book about family, the celebration of the human spirit, and the gifts we all have within us. Leaving Mexico for the U.S., Yuyi and her young son find a magical and fantastic place: the public library, where their imaginations soar and they find their voices, reminding us that we are all dreamers. Yuyi Morales is a Caldecott Honor artist and five-time Pura Belpré winner.



Poemas para niños chicos by Federico Garcia Lorca

April 2018 | Miao

9788417272128 | Ages 6-9

This wonderful collection of poems introduces young readers to the poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca, one of the most important Spanish poets of the 20th century.

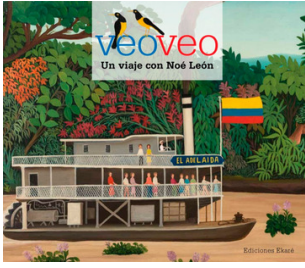


Miguel y su valiente caballero: el joven Cervantes sueña a Don Quijote by Margarita Engle

March 2018 | Peachtree Publishers

9781682630198 | Ages 8-12

Free verse poems depict the amazing journey of an adventurous knight.

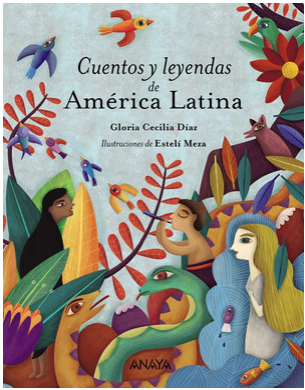


Veoveo: un viaje con Noé León by María Francisca Mayobre

May 2018 | Ekaré

9788494573620 | Ages 5-8

Through the paintings of the famous Colombian painter Noé León, young readers engage with the landscapes and people of Columbia by answering the question “What do you see?”

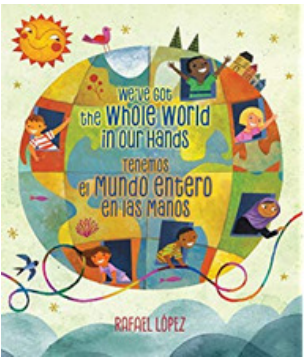


Cuentos y leyendas de américa latina by Gloria Cecilia Díaz

May 2018 | Anaya

9788469836453 | Ages 6-11

The collective memory of Latin America is represented in this beautifully illustrated anthology of over 43 folktales from 20 countries.



We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands / Tenemos el mundo entero en las manos by Rafael López

October 2018 | Scholastic en español

9781338299502 | Ages 3-6

A bilingual adaptation of “He’s got the Whole World in His Hands” by award-winning illustrator Rafael López celebrating life and the natural world in rhythms children can sing along with.

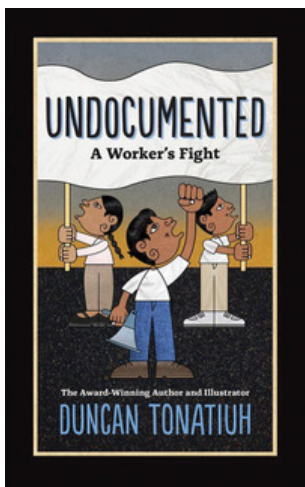


Lusa la pelusa by María Isabel Correa Velásquez

May 2018 | Apila

9788417028084 | Ages 5-8

Lusa is a vain hairball and can’t understand why no one wants her around. Yet, she doesn’t give up easily. Through her perseverance and tenacity, she finds that we all have a place in the world.



Undocumented: A Worker's Fight by Duncan Tonatiuh

August 2018 | Harry N. Abrams

9781419728549 | Ages 8-14

Undocumented is the story of immigrant workers who have come to the United States without papers. The story is told via the ancient Mixtec codex —accordion fold—format.

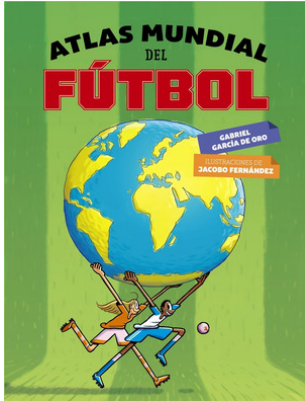


Mañana será otro día by Susana Rosique

March 2018 | Fun Readers

9788494441295 | Ages 3-6

When a baby frog goes from being a tadpole to a frog, he's not sure he can overcome the new challenges he faces.

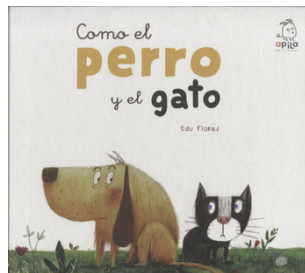


Atlas mundial del fútbol by Gabriel García De Oro

May 2018 | Anaya

9788469836446 | Ages 6-11

A treasure trove of facts and figures about the world of organized soccer and soccer superstars.



Como el perro y el gato by Edu Flores

April 2018 | Apila

9788417028060 | Ages 5-8

When a dog finds himself lost, he finds a cat. But, what can a cat teach a dog, and what can a dog teach a cat? When the dog is reunited with his family, the dog and cat find that their friendship is what really matters.



They Call Me Güero: A Border Kid's Poems by David Bowles

October 2018 | Cinco Puntos Press

9781947627079 | Ages 10-14

In Spanish, "Güero" is a nickname for guys with pale skin, Latino or Anglo. But make no mistake: our red-headed, freckled hero is puro mexicano, like Canelo Álvarez, the Mexican boxer. Güero is also a nerd—reader, gamer, musician—who runs with a squad of misfits like him, Los Bobbys.



A Gift from Abuela by Cecilia Ruiz

August 2018 | Candlewick

9780763692674 | Ages 5-8

With a soft and subtle hand, author-illustrator Cecilia Ruiz draws from her own history to share a deeply personal tale about remembering what's most important when life starts to get in the way.

Momentos de Maria

by Li Yun Alvarado

II. OCTUBRE

A Music Video; A Postal Worker; A Disgrace; A Rally; Un Ritual; A Remix; Four Packages; Two Birthdays; A Month; A Tag; An Arrival

Day 11

A Music Video: Despacito. On repeat. All Day. Every Day.

Day 12

A Postal Worker: My mother returns to work.

Day 13

A Disgrace: 45 throws blame and paper towels.

Day 14

A Rally: My one-year-old son, Puerto Rico jersey on, fist clenched in the air, clutches a sign: The Systemic Denial of Relief Aid is Genocide

Day 15

Un Ritual: I begin daily Facebook posts. Number of days without power.

Day 16

A Remix: Say it loud and there's music playing / Say it soft and it's almost like praying...

Day 21 - October 11, 2017

Four Packages: Long Beach, CA to Salinas, PR via USPS

Batteries, bug spray, solar lanterns, solar showers, solar charger, battery pack, first aid kit, headlamps, battery fans, propane camping stove, ice maker.

Day 25

Two Birthdays: Our 35th trips around the sun.

Day 30 - One Month - October 20, 2017

A Month: 30 days. The long road. Esperanza. Desperación. Don't stop checking in. Brave face. Broken heart.

Day 31

A Tag: TFW your cousin tags you in a pic of the electric company trucks working outside Mami's house.

Day 38 - October 28, 2017

An Arrival: After two-and-a-half-weeks, four out of four packages arrive in Salinas.

IV. DICIEMBRE

An E-mail Update; An Early Christmas Gift; A Tax Bill; A Christmas Baby; Una Maestra; A Tweet; A New Year

Day 84 - December 13, 2017

An E-mail Update: Sent from Mami in the hurricane's immediate aftermath, the message arrives in my inbox twelve weeks after landfall.

Aqui te envio este mensaje para dejarte saber que todos estamos bien.

Aunque con mucha angustia.

Esto ha sido la peor experiencia de mi vida.

Un desastre catastrófico.

Gracias a dios estamos vivos.

Al momento sin agua y luz.

Y no creo que tengamos luz por muchos meses.

Tan pronto me pueda comunicar te llamo.

Dile a tu hermano que estamos bien.

Los Quiero mucho.

Day 89

An Early Christmas Gift: The last of my relatives in Salinas regains power.

Day 95

A Tax Bill: Noche Buena. Congress & 45's tax bill treats Puerto Rico like a foreign country, hindering relief efforts.

Day 96

A Christmas Baby: My brother's 33rd ride around the sun.

Day 97

Una Maestra: On Facebook, Puerto Rican author Mayra Santos Febres takes us to church: Amor es llenarse dando.

Day 100

A Tweet: 100! Days. Meanwhile, on Twitter, 45 mocks those who believe in global warming and climate change because it will be cold on the East Coast—in the middle of winter.

Day 102 - December 31, 2017

A New Year: We gather with the family we chose. Hold in our hearts the family we will not see again until next hurricane season.

**The complete poem is featured in *Hinchas de Poesía*, Issue #22.
We thank Li Yun for allowing us publish this excerpt.**



Li Yun Alvarado is a Puerto Rican poet and scholar dedicating to cultivating creativity, cultura, and comunidad everywhere she goes. She is the author of the poetry chapbooks *Words or Water* and *Nuyorico, CA*. Li Yun was selected as the Honor winner for the 2015 Lee & Low Books' New Voices Award for her picture book manuscript *A Star Named Rosita: The Rita Moreno Story*.

REFORMA Member Profiles



Carolina Saldivar

Carolina Saldivar

Job position

Reference Librarian

Primary responsibilities at work

My primary responsibilities at work include collection maintenance, outreach, community engagement, teen programming, and reference. Outside of work I am the secretary for the REFORMA Colorado chapter.

How does your work align with service to Latinos and Spanish-speaking communities?

We translate our program flyers to Spanish and personally invite customers to programs. When it comes to collection maintenance I run the monthly reports, weed based on condition, and distribute materials to other branches. The approach I take to weeding the Spanish collection is slightly different than the English collection. I am cautious as to not to weed items in Spanish that are customers' favorites that we might not be able to replace. To decrease the chances of this happening, I run additional reports. I want to have the best Spanish selection possible for our customers.

When it comes to community engagement, our committee has facilitated community conversations throughout the library system, including bilingually in Spanish/English, to ask what people need in their community. Soon we will be facilitating Spanish customer experience conversations at several locations. As part of the community engagement committee, I will be one of the facilitators. I am excited to find out how the library can best help our Spanish-speaking customers.

Gratifying aspects of your work

I enjoy getting compliments on the collections from various people, from both customers and staff from other branches. It makes me feel good that my work does not go unnoticed. I like running into people outside of the library and talking to them about books. I like when kids approach me and talk to me about the books that they enjoy reading.

Some words of advice to other librarians and/or present and future MLIS students

Libraries are innovative! There are different ways libraries are now providing services to their communities. My advice is to purposely go outside your comfort zone, whether it is trying something new, or helping someone else with an idea.



Gloria Grover

Gloria Grover

Job position

Training Development Manager for the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) and Treasurer for REFORMA National

Primary responsibilities at work

My main responsibility is to ensure the training and continuous development of LAPL staff. This includes compliance training such as preventing sexual harassment and ethics. LAPL has a little more 1,200 employees, so I'm lucky to have an excellent team of a librarian, library assistant and a clerk who help keep the office running.

Gratifying aspects of your work

The best part of my work is that I get to meet or talk to most of the employees at LAPL at some point. Either I meet them at new employee training or during a training session that I'm teaching. Also, I love to see the wonderful programs and services that they create as a result of their training. Another favorite job duty of mine is designing and developing a curriculum, and teaching it! It's a challenging and creative process that requires a team approach and sometimes a subject matter expert.

Some words of advice to other librarians and/or present and future MLIS students

My advice to all is to always keep an open mind and be respectful to everyone.



Rhina Barahona

Rhina Barahona

Job position

Adult Services Associate/Cataloger

Primary responsibilities at work

Working with public, cataloging books, adult services such as crafts and up coming classes.

Gratifying aspects of your work

My favorite part of my position is working with the public. Getting to meet new people and speaking to regular patrons is great. I'm excited that more bilingual services are being done at the library. I see more and more Latino families coming in and feeling that support that they needed. More programs during the wintertime for our Spanish speakers are in the works and I am super excited. I have started to spread the word out and they as well are excited to see more programs in Spanish.

Some words of advice to other librarians and/or present and future MLIS students

My advice for people with working with Spanish speaking communities is not to give up if the first time doesn't turn out the way you planned. I know that the Latino community has trust issues and especially now with these times. But if we can continue to build the trust and relationships with them it will be amazing. Once the trust builds up the Latino community is unstoppable.



Lantia, a new member of REFORMA, is the largest independent provider of contemporary and classic Spanish literature.

Based in Seville, Spain, the company manages several publishing imprints, each with its unique identity and focus. They generate hundreds of titles each year and have a live catalog of more than 20,000 books. Through their partnership with Penguin Random House, Planeta, and many others, they offer high-quality content that is often not available through other channels.

The following are some of the more remarkable imprints and the type of content in which they focus. These imprints are also part of Lantia's first campaign focusing on US readers of all ages.

Guantanamera

Hidden Gems of Cuban Literature

Guantanamera Editorial has become the largest independent publishing house of Cuban authors. These award-winning novels and literary works stand out for their unique, raw perspectives, without the influence of global markets or universal trends. The majority of the authors have remained anonymous due to a lack of market opportunities and the challenges that the country faces.

Guantanamera has been featured and widely covered in international press and media. During the last Havana Book Fair, most of their books were confiscated and their booth was sealed by local authorities. This has not prevented many of their authors from starting promising careers. From science fiction to psychological thrillers, poetry, and even theater plays, this catalog brings fresh quality content to international markets.

Samarcanda

Trade Spanish

Samarcanda has quickly become the most prestigious imprint in the city of Seville. It publishes the winners of the City of Seville Short Stories award and features a diverse catalog of gripping, award-winning novels. Two of their titles are currently being scripted for movies and many of them have been translated and sold in markets as far out as Japan.

Caligrama

In partnership with Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial.

Caligrama is the first high-quality, editor-approved self-publishing brand of Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial. The imprint was established to foster and highlight the talent of new writers that have yet to become international best-sellers. As of 2017 four of their titles have been picked up by other imprints belonging to the group. Look for the "talento" stamp on their covers, which denote books that have been deemed exceptional by Penguin editors.

Mr. Momo

A New Generation of Readers

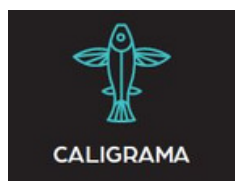
Are you looking for new trends in Young Adult and Children's Literature? We only pick works of superlative quality that stimulate creativity and teach strong basic values. Mr. Momo touches on a wide range of subjects rarely seen in children's imprints such as foster care, adoptions, gender equality, diversity, bullying, and civics. Many of our writers and illustrators have already been published by Planeta, Penguin Random House, SM, and Edelvives, and come to Mr. Momo to explore new ways of telling stories.

Pentian

Crowdfunded Books

Pentian is the largest crowdfunding platform for books in Spanish. It is used by indie authors from all over the world. Only authors with a strong group of backers or an established base of readers manage to finish their campaigns. You will always find something special if a title managed to successfully finish its campaign and be published.

We look forward to working with you in the near future! If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact us at info@lantia.com



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See you in Seattle!

