



COA Latino Unidos Student Club

555 Ralph Appezato Memorial Parkway
Alameda, CA 94501



Spring 2013 Newsletter

OFFICERS

Gabriela Flores
President

Simmie Muhammad
Vice President

Nalleley Marquez
Secretary

Oscar Sorto
Treasurer

Happy New Year!

Spring 2013 is here and LUSC has exciting plans for a Cesar Chavez Poetry Contest and a Cinco de Mayo Celebration. We will continue our collaboration with the **Alameda Multi-Cultural Community Center & SFLU Lions Club** for these events. Keep an eye out for more information in the months to come and don't forget to check out our amazing COA web page thanks to **Jane McKenna!**

Adan Olmedo, COA Adelante Learning Community instructor & LUSC Advisory Member has taken a full-time position at BCC starting this semester. Congratulations Adan! Latinos Unidos loves you!!!

ADVISORS

Rufino Ramos
Lynn Sandoval Rex

Advisory Members

Claudia Abadia
Adan Olmedo
Betty Frias-Charmichael
Christa Ferrero
Esther Guerrero
Ed Loretto
Patricia Posada

Looking Back at Fall Semester 2012 LUSC Events



November 15-December 4th Toy Drive

Thank you to all of you that donated to this effort. We truly appreciate your support. This was LUSC's 5th annual Toy Drive, done in cooperation with the SFLU Lions Club and our community partners: **Wescafe, Otaez, Alameda Multi-cultural Community Center & Merritt College Puente Program**. It was a huge success! Free refreshments were provided through a generous donation by **Guadeloupe Grocery**. We had a huge success working collaboratively with **Merritt College's Puente Program!**



At COA, during the final collection day we raised \$31.12 to go to the Red Cross to support the ASCOA's effort to provide Sandy relief. Every donation helps! Thank you to everyone for your generosity in these difficult times.

Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead 10/30/12

We had the return of our Aztec dancers & yummy "muy delicioso" food. A community altar honoring Cesar Chavez was also featured.



Hispanic Heritage Month 10/9/12

LUSC's COA Hispanic Heritage Month event celebrated with Caribbean style! We had a nice turn out and it was a great way to start the semester. Food (special thanks to donations made by **Mi Pueblo, Oakland**), music and cultural exploration brought to COA with lots of adelante from Latinos Unidos Student Club and COA's learning communities.



Unity Day 9/22/12



LUSC participated in the Alameda Multi-Cultural Community Center's Unity Day as a community partner. There was lots of great food, speakers and games for the kids. LUSC shared an information table with COA Automotive and COA Auto-body.

Aztec Dancers 8/25/12

Aztec Dancers brought excitement to the first week back to school this fall. We were transported back in time with the ancient echos of drums. The dancers paid tribute to their ancestors with hours of dance. The visual impact of their costumes was spectacular.



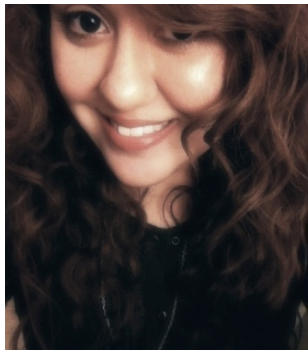
Welcoming New Members

Come to our meetings on Tuesdays 12:30-1:30 in B-202.
Everyone is welcome and members do not need to speak Spanish. Have fun meeting people & celebrating cultural diversity.



Please encourage participation in campus and community life.

Here are some words from some of our members:



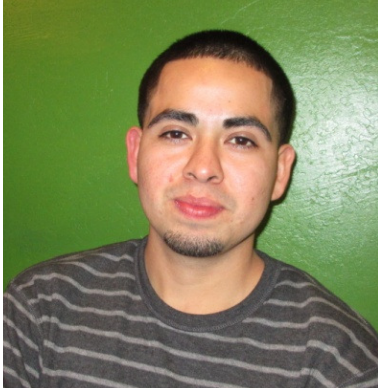
My name is **Gabriela Flores** or Gabby, I am a resident of San Leandro, but my hometowns are Berkeley and Madera, CA. I am a student at Alameda. Right now I am striving for my general ED and as well as my mortician's license later on. My dream is to transfer to UCLA for photojournalism. As a first timer at the LUSC, I have to say I enjoy it very much! It is an all-around welcoming/cultural club that brings a Latin spice to Alameda and what I hope to bring to my fellow students is more of the LUSC and share our Latin culture with those who want to learn more and be a part of! It is a fun club and you learn team work! I mostly enjoy the good atmosphere, great people, brainstorming, and cultural fever!



My name is **Daniel Jasso-Arteaga**. I am from Oakland, CA. I have lived in the Fruitvale District my whole life. I have been working on my general education at College of Alameda, and I am now starting my course work for my major in Hospitality. I am in the process of obtaining an AA degree in Restaurant Management\Hospitality through Laney's culinary program, and transferring into a 4 year State University. I have been in LUSC for 3 years as club Treasurer and served as recent club President for the 2012 fall semester. What I enjoyed about being a part of the LUSC was bringing cultural awareness to the student body at COA.



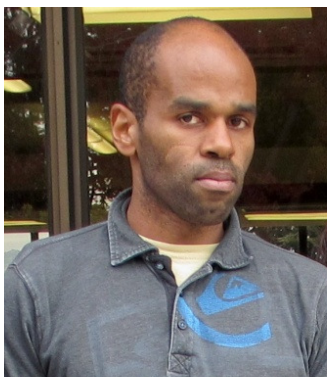
My name is **Ramona Quinones**, my family is from Puerto Rico. I am 1st generation born here in the United States. I was born in Oakland, California and I grew up in Hayward. I have been living in Alameda, CA for the last 11 years. My academic goals are to complete my AA in Social Community Service and transfer to Cal State East Bay in Hayward and receive a BA in Sociology. What I love about LUSC is that I was immediately accepted in and was a part of the club.



Hello everyone. I am **Oscar Sorto**, native from El Salvador and currently living in Oakland. I am a transfer student at College of Alameda and an active member as Treasurer of Latinos Unidos Club in COA. As a Latino, I like to support my community in various aspects like: supporting our culture, represent the immigrant community, and preserve our traditions. One thing I noticed when I came to COA was that the Latino community is well represented, but in a quiet way, and I want to help change that so that even more people become involved and aware. SI SE PUEDE!



Hello my name is **Natasha Veda Gabriella Daniel Guerra** but everyone calls me **Tashi**, I was born in Oakland California on February twenty third! I am currently enrolled as a full time student trying to get done with all my general education so I can finally transfer, I hope I mean I KNOW I will become a screen play writer, producer, director, psychologist and connectionist. My hobbies include screenplay writing, day dreaming, snowboarding, watching Netflix, baking weird treats (I like exploring with food), ballet, and bunch of other random stuff. I am happy to join the Latinos Unidos I think it is a great team building group. Even though I may not look Mexican I am, I like to call myself the Mexican white sugar cookie.



Hello, my name is **Simmie Muhammad**. I am the new Vice-President of the Latinos Unidos Student Club this semester, Spring 2013. I am a vegan/vegetarian and I enjoy eating healthy food. I joined the Latinos Unidos Student Club last year, Fall Semester 2012. I like going to the club meetings and have had a lot of fun. I'm also learning about scholarship opportunities.



Latinos Unidos Spring 2013!

LUSC is sponsoring a **Cesar Chavez Poetry Contest** with cash prizes.

The suggested themes are: **Civil Rights, Immigration & Fair Trade.**

All Peralta District college students are encouraged to enter. High school students are also encouraged to enter. Alameda's Poet Laureate, Mary Rudge, will serve as one of the judges. Dr. Salvador Murillo, contemporary associate of Cesar Chavez and published poet, will also serve as a judge: **Frist Prize \$75, Second Prize \$50 and Third Prize \$25.** Winners will be invited to read their poems as part of the Cinco de Mayo Celebration Program.

Poems should not be more than 500 words and must be emailed to

Gabriela Flores

gabri_ella7250@yahoo.com, LUSC President, **by April 9th, 2013.** For

more information, contact Gabby at (510) 457-5868. Those that enter must also submit their first and last name, age and phone number.