

NEWS AND PROFILES CONNECTING THE LATINO AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN MINNESOTA

July 2019 Issue 383

Latino American Today

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**LATINO
AMERICANS
CELEBRATE
INDEPENDENCE
DAY!**



2019 MCLA Legislative Session Recap



Rosa Tock, MCLA Interim Executive Director

By Rosa Tock

On June 6th, 2019, the Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA) hosted its 2019 Legislative Session Recap for community members. The event was organized by the Council to inform members of the community and others about significant legislation passed during the 2019 session, and to connect community members with legislators. The Council convened a bipartisan panel to comment on the outcomes of this session. The panel included two first time elected representatives, Rep. Aisha Gomez (62B, DFL) and Rep. Hodan Hassan (62A, DFL), as well as Rep. John Lesch (66B, DFL), Rep. Jon Koznick (58A, R) -MCLA's member-, Rep. Dean Urdhal (18A, R), and Rep. Eric Lucero (30B, R).

The 2019 Session Recap also featured the Chief Deputy Attorney General, John Keller, who talked about the purpose of the Attorney General's office, and MCLA's leadership team who commented on key legislation that passed in the areas of education, health, economic development, and taxes. Results this session were mixed, with some strides made to increase teachers of color and indigenous, increasing funding for education, removing the expiration date of the health care providers tax, removing auto registration restrictions, among others. However, the ability for everyone to get drivers licenses or introducing statewide standards for quality medical interpretation were not achieved. Increasing access to affordable and quality services in our main policy areas will continue to be the work of the Council in the next legislative session.



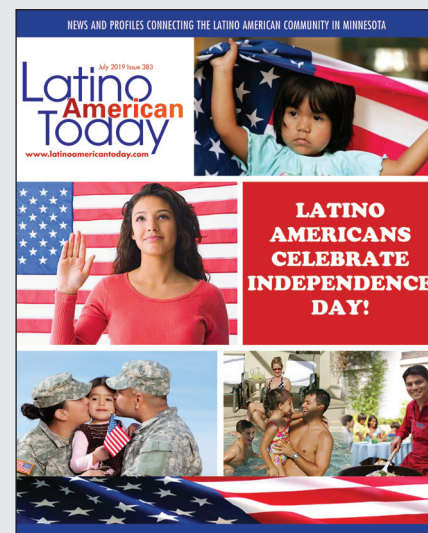
Left: Violeta Hernandez Espinosa, MCLA Legislative & Policy Director. **Center:** MN Chief Deputy Attorney General, John Keller. **Right:** Rep. Eric Lucero (30B, R) addressing the panel & attendees. Panel included Rep. Aisha Gomez (62B, D) 2nd from Left.

Latino community leaders with whom MCLA has partnered recently also talked about the importance of being informed about the legislative process and be civically engaged. Members of the public also had an opportunity to engage with MCLA, advocates and the legislators during the social hour at the Wellstone Center. MCLA believes that an ongoing dialogue between our communities and policy makers fosters stronger relationships and accountability in the legislative process.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.0145, MCLA is a state agency responsible for advising the legislature and the Governor's Office on behalf of Minnesota's Latino communities.



Rick Aguilar, Latino American Today, Rep. Dean Urdhal (18A, R), Rep. Jon Koznick (58A, R)



On The Cover
Latino Americans Celebrate Independence Day!

Latino
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Today

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La Tierra de los libres, el hogar de los valientes



Por Saúl Carranza

La proclamación de independencia de Estados Unidos firmada en Filadelfia el 4 de julio de 1776 afirma: **“Sostenemos como evidentes estas verdades: que los hombres son creados iguales; que son dotados por su Creador de ciertos derechos inalienables; que entre estos están la vida, la libertad y la búsqueda de la felicidad”**.

Esta declaración sustenta el anhelo expresado en el himno nacional.

**Y este sea nuestro lema:
“En Dios está nuestra confianza”.
¡Y la bandera estrellada triunfante ondeará
Sobre la tierra de los libres y el hogar de los valientes!**

*And this be our motto:
“In God is our trust”.
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

El poema que llegó a ser la letra del Himno de los Estados Unidos fue escrito por el abogado Francis Scott. Durante la guerra de independencia el señor Scott estaba negociando con los ingleses la liberación de algunos prisioneros y el 13 de septiembre de 1814 fue obligado a quedarse en un barco y desde allí pudo presenciar el ataque inglés contra el fuerte McHenry en Baltimore Maryland.

La flota inglesa disparó en un día y una noche más de 1500 proyectiles contra el fuerte. El señor Scott escribió de ese día: **“Parecía que la madre tierra se había abierto y estaba vomitando fuego y azufre”**.

Pero al amanecer del siguiente día cuando los ocupantes de aquel barco esperaban ver al ejército de la independencia rendido y el fuerte por los suelos. Vieron una bandera de 9 por 12 metros ondeando libre al viento. El espectáculo que presenciaron les emocionó tanto que Scott escribió:

**“Oh di tú, puedes ver, con la primera luz de la aurora,
Lo que con tanto orgullo saludamos en el último destello del crepúsculo,
Cuyas amplias franjas y brillantes estrellas, a través de tenebrosa lucha,
Que observábamos sobre las murallas, ondear gallardamente.
Y el rojo fulgor de cohetes, las bombas estallando en el aire,
Dieron prueba en la noche que nuestra bandera aún ahí estaba.
Oh di tú, sigue ondeando la bandera estrellada
Sobre la tierra del libre y el hogar del valiente.**

*Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

El valor más grande de este poema y luego himno es que describe el sentir, la emoción y la esperanza de un momento histórico en el que un hombre ante la impotencia de solo ver como su patria era atacada, al finalizar la batalla celebra que su bandera sigue de pie. Anunciando que ese territorio sigue siendo “tierra de libres y hogar de valientes”. Que las armas y las potencias podrán destruir murallas, pero nunca destruir el derecho a la libertad.

El anhelo de los forjadores de esta gran nación que nos alberga estuvo siempre

inspirado en la revelación de Dios que dice: Así que, si el Hijo los hace libres, ustedes serán verdaderamente libres Juan 8:36. El plan de Dios y de la gente buena es que todos los seres humanos sean libres para alcanzar sus metas en la vida y tener la oportunidad de ser felices. Hay muchas cosas que esclavizan al hombre. La pobreza, la ignorancia, la opresión y el pecado. Algunas libertades las conseguimos nosotros. La libertad espiritual solo la podemos conseguir buscando a Jesús. La Libertad no es fácil ni barata. El llegar a tener libertad como nación ha costado, dinero, trabajo y sangre. Nuestra libertad espiritual también costó sangre. La sangre del Hijo de Dios.

Muchos dieron su vida para que este país fuera libre. Es por eso que se entienden las palabras de John Adams uno de los héroes de la independencia quién escribió: “Creo que el Día de la Independencia se celebrará, por generaciones futuras, como el gran festival de aniversario. Debe ser conmemorado, como el día de la liberación por actos solemnes de devoción al Dios Todopoderoso. Debería solemnizarse con pompa y desfile, con espectáculos, juegos, deportes, cañonazos, campanas, hogueras e iluminaciones de un extremo a otro de este continente por siempre.” John Adams a su esposa Abigail, 3 de julio de 1776.

Este cuatro de julio no solo celebramos la independencia de la nación. Celebramos nuestra propia independencia, la independencia que Dios nos ha dado para vivir en paz, libertad y ser felices. La oportunidad de vivir en un país donde muchos de nuestros sueños se pueden hacer realidad. Por eso oremos por la paz de esta nación y tengamos un “Feliz día de la Independencia”.

“Conoceréis la verdad, y la verdad os hará libres”. Jesús.

Saúl Carranza es originario de Guatemala y pastor de la Iglesia Cristo Para Todas Las Naciones en Crystal, MN.

Tel. 763-245-2378, correo electrónico: saulcarranza@yahoo.com

Le Invitamos a la Iglesia en Crystal.

Usted y su familia son bienvenidos.

La Iglesia es un lugar de adoración a Dios.
Una comunidad de fe donde niños, jóvenes y adultos pueden aprender, hacer amigos y servir a Dios.

Un lugar seguro para compartir, disfrutar compañerismo y encontrar ayuda.

Iglesia Cristo Para Todas las Naciones.

6421 45th Ave Crystal MN 55428

Somos una Iglesia Cristiana, de Santidad y Misionera.

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Miércoles Estudio bíblico 7:00pm

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We invite you to the Church in Crystal.

You and your family are welcome.

The Church is a place of worship to God.

A community of faith where children, youth and adults can learn, make friends and serve God.

A safe place to share, enjoy fellowship and find help.

Christ For All Nations Church.

6421 45th Ave Crystal MN 55428

We are a Christian Church, of Holiness and Missionary.

Services Sunday 10:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

Saturday Morning School of Theology.

Comcast Honors 2019 Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Winners



*Scholarship recipient
Peter Schik, St. Paul,
Como Park High School*

Comcast is proud to honor some of the best and brightest high school graduates in the Twin Cities with a 2019 Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Award. Comcast Leaders and Achievers are students who have been selected for their outstanding community service, academic performance, and leadership skills.

Each \$2,500 award, funded by the Comcast NBCUniversal Foundation, is a one-time scholarship to be used toward undergraduate education-related expenses.

This year's Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Twin Cities recipients include:

Abiola Adegaye, Brooklyn Park – Champlin Park High School
Samira Adan, Minneapolis – Roosevelt High School**
Suad Adan, Minneapolis – Roosevelt High School
Dana Corbin, Minneapolis – DeLaSalle High school**
John Robinson, Minneapolis – Washburn High School
Joquan Williams, South St. Paul – Humboldt High School

Chinmay Sahu, Woodbury – Stillwater Area High School**
Nectaree Thao, St. Paul – Highland Park High School**
Yia Kou Xiong, St. Paul – Washington Technology Magnet School
Yanai Sun, Coon Rapids – Coon Rapids High School
Yusanat Tway, St. Paul – Humboldt High School
Briana Clifton, Coon Rapids – Coon Rapids High School**
Camryn Franke, North St. Paul – Washington Technology Magnet School**
Hannah Frazer, St. Paul – Math and Science Academy**
Peter Schik, St. Paul – Como Park High School**
Shannon Brault, Richfield – Richfield High School**
Theresa Kramer, Crystal – Chesterton Academy**
Astrid Liden, Eden Prairie – Minnetonka High School
Joseph Kase, St. Paul – St. Paul Academy & Summit School
Madylin Mielke, Inver Grover Heights – St. Croix Lutheran Academy

Since its inception, over \$30 million has been awarded to more than 28,000 students through the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Program. For more information, go to:

<https://corporate.comcast.com/values/community-impact>



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Celebrating Family and Freedom



Marci Malzahn

By Marci Malzahn

Summer has finally arrived! For those of us who live in Minnesota we thought it was never going to come... But the seasons eventually do arrive, and we need to be prepared to embrace the new seasons and enjoy them to the max. Summer is typically the season when most families take vacation, mainly because it's the time when the kids are out of school.

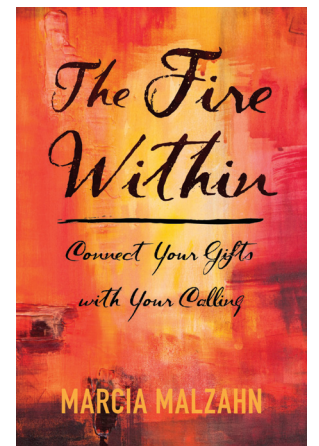
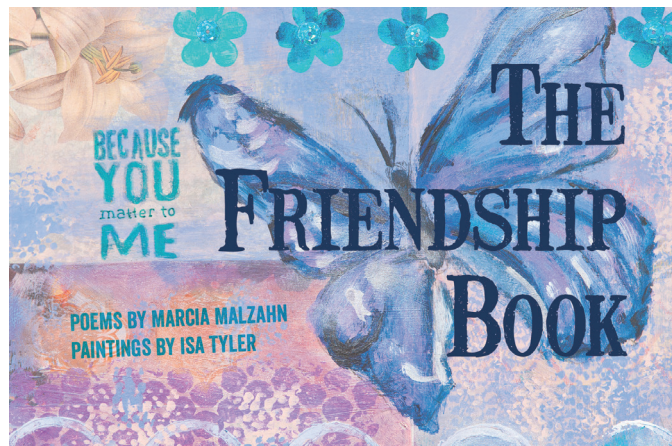
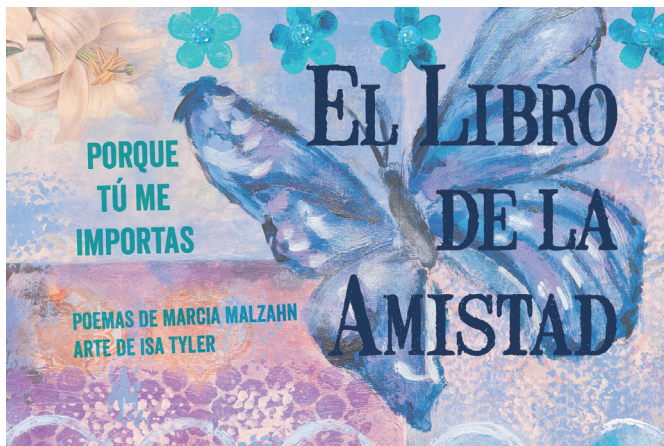
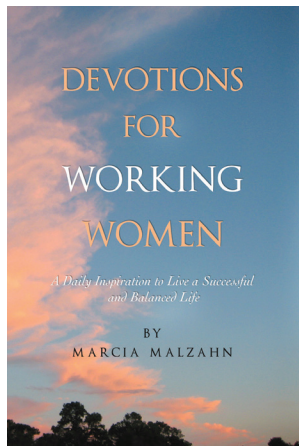
This summer I encourage you to spend time with your family. It doesn't have to be a big expense. Sometimes the best memories are made very inexpensively, such as a picnic at the lake, going biking, visiting pools around the city, taking long walks, or simply visiting with someone at any place. The point is to spend *quality* time with the people you love. Celebrate your family!

This month we celebrate our country's independence. I recently spoke at a leadership conference where I shared the story of when I became a US citizen back in 1997. My husband's grandma had always wanted to witness an immigrant becoming a US citizen, so she was excited to attend my Oath Ceremony. When she arrived all dressed up, I noticed she was wearing a beautiful rhinestones pin of the flag of the United States. I said, "Wow grandma! What a beautiful pin." She replied, "Thank you!" And preceded to sit down behind me. After the Oath Ceremony ended, I turned back to give her a hug and thanked her for being there for such a special moment in my life. She then took off the pin and pinned it on my dress and said, "Now, you can have it!" I cried. What an emotional moment of significance that was. It left a positive mark in my heart forever.



As you celebrate the 4th of July, Independence Day, with your family, remember this story and how significant it is for all of us to live in a FREE country. My heart overflows with gratitude toward all the service men and women who continually fight for us and for those who gave their lives for us to enjoy freedom.

Let's celebrate Family and Freedom every day! Happy Independence Day!



Marci Malzahn is president and founder of Malzahn Strategic (www.malzahnstrategic.com), a community financial institution consultancy focused on strategic planning, enterprise risk management, cash management, and talent management. Marci is also a professional speaker and published author of three books. You can contact Marci for speaking engagements through her website at www.marciamalzahn.com or email her at marcia@marciamalzahn.com. You can purchase Marci's books at www.Amazon.com.





Volunteer to pack backpacks full of school supplies to help local kids at this FREE, family-friendly event!

Thursday, August 8, 2019 | Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul | [Register at gtcuw.org/actionday](http://gtcuw.org/actionday)





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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

17th Annual La Familia Latino Heritage Celebration

Thursday, September 19, 2019 - 7pm to 10pm • St. Paul's Historic Landmark Center

Aguilar Productions, the leader in promoting the Latino market in the U.S. is proud to present our 17th Annual La Familia Latino Heritage Celebration. This annual celebration takes place during "Hispanic Heritage Month" September 15th - October 15th, which each year recognizes the contributions and vital presence of both the Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States.

Our annual event will take place at the beautiful St. Paul Landmark Center in the heart of downtown St. Paul. We will be honoring very special leaders in business, the arts, civic affairs, education and community who promote, support, and contribute to the Latino community in Minnesota and nationally. They will be receiving the *La Familia Latino Heritage Award*.

Our event will feature a wonderful night of celebration, entertainment, a delicious dinner prepared by Chef Jeff Conlin and networking with Latino leaders and supporters from throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

For tickets to the event go to **www.aguilarproductions.com**. For Sponsorship opportunities and table reservations, please email: **aguilarproductions@msn.com** or call **651-665-0633**.

Join us to honor the following 2019 recipients of the *La Familia Latino Heritage Award*.



*Roma Catalayud Stocks,
Award-winning Novelist and Composer*



*Francisco "Kico" Rangel, celebrating his
65th Anniversary as a performing musician*



*Danny Vargas, Chairman,
Friends of the National Museum of the
American Latino - Washington D.C.*



*Frank White, Author and Award-winning promoter
of the Benefits of Sports and Recreation*



*Rudy Aguilar, World War II Veteran and
Purple Heart recipient*

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CMC 2019 ANNUAL SUMMIT Culture Marketing Council



By Claud Santiago

The CMC 2019 Annual Summit was held on June 10-12 at the Statler Hotel in Dallas Tx.

Hundreds of multicultural marketing leaders attended the conference that was developed by multicultural marketing experts. The conference delivered top-level content, new insights and research from C-suite agencies and marketing association leaders, celebrated creative directors and pop culture experts that stimulated conversation and shared ideas among the attendees. In addition the conference included awards presentations to AARP for the CMC Marketer of the Year award. Arturo Villar was presented the Life Time Achievement award and culture marketing account planners were presented the CAPE awards.

The highlight of the conference was the Induction Ceremony for the CMC Hall of Fame 2019. Induction to the CMC Hall of Fame is awarded to leaders who have dedicated more than 35 years to the Hispanic advertising and marketing industry.



Above: Ernest Bromley, Pescador Public Strategies, LLC , Ana Navarro, Political Commentator, Moderator, Alex Lopez Negrete



Shelly Haus, SVP Brand Marketing, Ulta Beauty



Left: Felix Contreras, Host of Alt.Latino, NPR; Gil Gastelum, Founder, Cosmica and Moderator; Angela Rodriguez, VP, Strategic Insights, Alma



Above: Attendees at the CMC 2019 Annual Summit



Left: Cecelia Wogan-Silva, Director of Creative Agency Development, Google

CMC Hall of Fame 2019 Induction Ceremonies!

By Rico Vallejos

The CMC Hall of Fame 2019 inductees included:

Al Aguilar, Chairman & Chief Creative Officer, Creative Civilization

Tony Dieste, Founder & Chairman, Dieste, Inc.

Luis Miguel Messianu, Creative Chairman & CEO, Alma

Ingrid Otero-Smart, President & CEO, Casanova/McCann

Alex Lopez Negrete, President/CEO, Lopez Negrete Communications



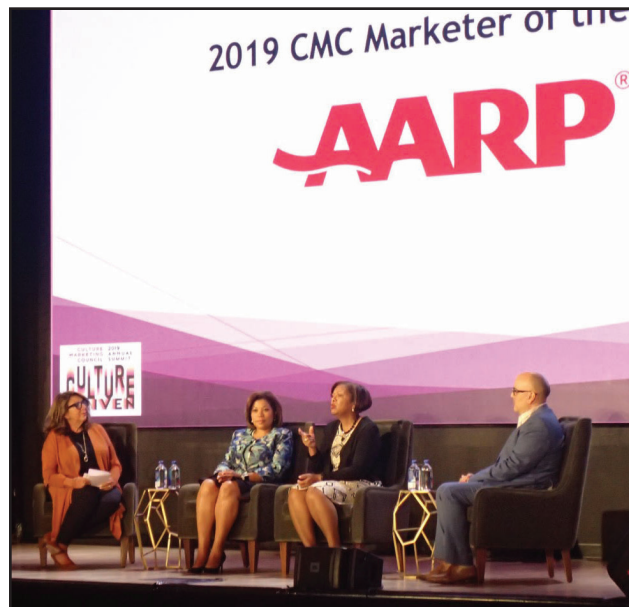
Rick Aguilar, Al Aguilar, and Gisela Girard



L to R: Al Aguilar, Ingrid Otero-Smart, Tony Dieste, Luis Miguel Messianu, and Alex Lopez Negrete



Ingrid Otero-Smart and Rick Aguilar, Latino American Today



CMC Marketer of the Year Presentation to AARP. L to R: Daisy Exposito, Edna Kane-Williams, Yvette Pena, AARP, and Louis Maldonado



L to R: Daisy Exposito, d exposito & Partners, Edna Kane-Williams, AARP, Yvette Pena, AARP and Louis Maldonado, d exposito & Partners



CMC Life Time Achievement Award: Arturo Villar (far right) with Daisy Exposito and Rick Aguilar



Ingrid Otero-Smart delivers her award acceptance remarks

Latino American Today

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Graduation and On to College!



L to R: Rick Aguilar, Selena, Vida and Bob Rodriguez Jr.



Family attending, L to R: Rudy Aguilar, Roy Rincon, Rose Aguilar, Rick and sisters, Rachel Aguilar, and Amy Rincon.

Graduation party at Thompson Park for Selena Rodriguez daughter of Bob Rodriguez Jr. and his lovely wife Vida.

Selena graduated from North St. Paul H.S. and will be attending St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN this Fall 2019!

So proud of Selena who will be playing volleyball at St. Olaf.

SAVE THE DATE



What: A Symposium on the Impact of the Opioid Crisis in Nuestra Comunidad!

When: Thursday, September 26th 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where: Neighborhood House-Paul and Sheila Wellstone Center in St. Paul

The Minnesota Department of Human Services is facilitating an initiative to establish a community conversation outreach effort and provide resources regarding opioid prevention, education, treatment, recovery, etc. while addressing the trauma experienced by this culturally specific community per the SAMHSA (Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration) priority.

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HD52A Picnic

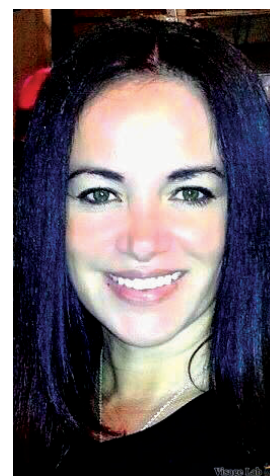
Thursday, August 15, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM @ Harmon Park
Come join us for a Free Picnic

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West St Paul 55118

- Hot Dogs, Chips, Sides, Desserts, Beverages
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- Bean Bag Toss and Bingo for Door Prizes

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Community Spotlight!



Yvette Baudelaire

Yvette Baudelaire was appointed to the St. Louis Park Human Rights Commission for a term that expires on May 31, 2022. Baudelaire is an entrepreneur who has studied in Mexico and Spain and has opened several businesses in the Twin Cities. The St. Louis Park Human Rights Commission advises city council on how to ensure equal opportunity and participation in housing, employment, public service, public accommodations and education.

The commission consists of nine regular voting members; one is an attorney, one is appointed by the school board and one is a youth member. The commission may also have an additional, non-voting, youth member.

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Camping with Kids: Well Worth the Effort

By Verónica Jaralambides
Minnesota DNR



Having a snack at the campsite

When my husband and I decided to start a family, we promised ourselves that having kids wouldn't mean abandoning our active lifestyle. We knew we'd have to make adjustments, but we also believed that children provide more reasons than ever to get outdoors. Research shows that time spent in nature improves children's sensory skills, increases attention spans and enhances social and emotional development. It's also just a lot of fun!

One of our favorite activities is camping. It's a great way to travel, and it provides a wealth of memories, from gazing up at the countless stars and listening to the creatures of the night, to making s'mores around a camp fire. Doing it together as a family can be priceless.

And baby makes three

We started our oldest daughter camping when she was still a baby. We bought a family sleeping bag and tucked her between us to keep her warm at night. During the day, we'd tote her about in a baby carrier, same as we'd do in the city. On biking trips, she'd ride nicely in a trailer, often napping.

As kids become more mobile (and fearless) camping can become a bit more worrisome, because there's no way to "toddler proof" the outdoors. But that also provides great opportunities to teach important lessons. Fire is hot, so you stay away. Always keep close to Mom or Dad. If the stick or rock is sharp, handle with care so you don't get cut. When we found ourselves near a cliff or steep hill, we'd make sure to hold our child's hand or carry her in a backpack.



Family fun on the kayaks!

A few years ago, while paddling to our campsite, our two-year-old just wouldn't sit still, so we tried some experiential learning. We had her feel the cold water with her little hands and feet and offered to let her float alongside the boat in her life jacket. That was all much more persuasive than our telling her not to tip the canoe!

Lessons learned close to home

During the first years, we generally stuck to drive-in campsites and made sure to have a quick way to get back home. We stuck to nearby parks with access to basic shopping, in case we forgot some essential gear. You don't need to spend lots of money but having the right gear is critical. On one of our early trips, we failed to plan for rain, necessitating a quick run to the nearby thrift store for a rain jacket for our one-year-old. It rained every day, but our daughter stayed dry.

Layers are important for campers of all ages, but more so for kids who heat up and cool down quickly depending on their activity. Avoid cotton clothes, as they hold moisture, and bring extra items, because kids will always get wet. On a recent spring camping trip to Lake Maria State Park, our kids were thrilled by the "private waterfall" of snow melt runoff a few feet from our site. Soon, though, their shoes and socks were soaked with ice-cold water. Luckily, I had dry socks for them, but no extra shoes, so they had to stay put the rest of the evening. They learned the consequences of getting wet. I learned to always have extra shoes, and maybe even rain boots, when camping in the spring.

A hungry kid makes an unhappy camper

Food and water are the next most important elements of a camping trip. "Hangry" kids make for unhappy campers – you and them! Always pack extra food. I make sure to bring plenty of snacks, stuffing some in my daughters' pockets to teach them to manage their own needs on a hike. Make sure you know where to get drinking water. We like to have a big water tote at our campsite so that something to drink is readily available and we stay hydrated on hot summer days.

Great fun and well worth it

I'm always surprised to hear concerns about kids getting bored while camping for a weekend. Kids will find a million things to do outdoors. And if that's not enough, Minnesota state parks feature year-round naturalist programming, as well as hands-on exhibits. Most state parks also allow you to check out items such as fishing tackle, binoculars and handheld GPS devices for finding geocaches.

The benefits of including our children in our outdoors lifestyle have far outweighed any extra effort. Our kids are growing up with an understanding of and appreciation for the natural world, and loving every minute. The skills they've learned on our outings have given them confidence and courage. And Mom and Dad? We get to enjoy doing what we love with those we love most.



Being one with nature...

La FAMILIA

LATINO HERITAGE CELEBRATION



17th ANNUAL LA FAMILIA LATINO HERITAGE CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 – 7 to 10 pm
St. Paul's Historic Landmark Center
75 W 5th Street • St. Paul MN

Aguilar Productions, the leader in promoting the Latino market in the U.S. is proud to present our 17th Annual La Familia Latino Heritage Celebration. This annual celebration takes place during "Hispanic Heritage Month" September 15th – October 15th, which each year recognizes the contributions and vital presence of both the Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States.



Our annual event will take place at the beautiful St. Paul Landmark Center in the heart of downtown St. Paul. We will be honoring very special leaders in business, the arts, civic affairs, education and community who promote, support, and contribute to the Latino community in Minnesota and nationally. They will be receiving the La Familia Latino Heritage Award.



Our event will feature a wonderful night of celebration, entertainment, a delicious dinner prepared by Chef Jeff Conlin and networking with Latino leaders and supporters from throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

For tickets to the event go to www.aguilarproductions.com

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