

Latino Civic Association of Tompkins County

2019 Annual Report

The LCA would like to thank all members of the community who worked to organize and staff, or participated in our events and who donated or otherwise supported the causes we support. We particularly want to thank:

Krystall Escobedo
Jose Buenaventura González Gutiérrez
Lenore McGarry
Sally Ramirez
Víctor Rosa
Paulina Velázquez
Josie Vélez

A. Civic activities

1. Upstate Latino Summit
 - a. 2019: Member of organizing committee.
2. Voter registration drives at during LCA picnic
3. Throughout the year, used LCA page in CNY Latino newspaper, FB page and listserv to promote vote.
4. Participated in Community Leaders of Color

B. Immigration

1. Co-organized 8th annual Mexican Consulado Móvil in Sodus (partners: *Finger Lakes Community Health and Voces*).
 - a. Participant agencies: NYS Dept of Labor, Legal Aid Society of Rochester, Workers Justice Center and Workers Center of Central NY.
 - b. Services offered to immigrants include
 - i. Mexican passport, consular ID and birth certificates to establish dual nationality of children born in the US. These documents are critical to keep families together if family is deported or decides to return to Mexico
 - ii. Medical consultations, blood pressure checks, HIV, diabetes screenings
 - iii. Intake interviews for immigration legal services,
 - iv. Labor and occupational health and safety consultations/complaints with representatives of the NYS Labor Department
 - c. 333 persons obtained documents; 120 persons received other services.

C. Cultural

With funding from the Tompkins County Tourism Program, Community Arts Partnership, Cornell Latina/o Studies Program, Cornell Departments of Romance Studies and Comparative Literature, Cornell's Latin American Studies Program, Engaged Cornell and Ithaca College, Cultura! organized a very successful series of events that attracted a total of 830 visitors/participants:

1. Cinco de Mayo @ Streets Alive (70 attendees)
2. Creative Writing and Storytelling as a Call to Action @ Spring Writes Literary Festival (37 attendees)
3. Latinx Heritage Month
 - a. Kickoff Party
 - b. Cine con Cultura (12 films, September-October, 514 attendees)
 - c. Hilando Fino/Finespun art exhibit (approximately 220 attendees, originally planned for one month, extended by the CSMA for a second month)
 - d. Percussion Workshop
 - e. Closing Mic/Poetry Night

E. Education

1. Awarded two Cecilia Montaner Vargas scholarships to HS seniors graduating from Tompkins County high schools who will attend SUNY Buffalo and SUNY Binghamton.

F. Assistance to Vulnerable Population

1. *As every year, we lent assistance to a small number of members of the Latino community who are in need.*

F. Community Building

1. We hosted a community picnic August 25 at Stewart Park and an end of the year celebration December 15 at the Hotel Ithaca. We tried a new location and a new and earlier time (6:30 pm-11:30 pm), which were popular with the community, as it was a very successful event with about 180 persons attending.

G. Finances

1. Fundraising
 - a. Holiday Party raised \$1,210.00.
2. Received awards for \$1,000.00 from the Community Celebrations grant and \$2,000.00 from the Community Arts Partnership for Latino Heritage Month celebrations and other cultural activities.
3. Embezzlement
 - a. Of the total embezzled (\$6,425.75), Mr. Martorell restituted 986.48 in 2019. To December 31, 2019, the amount remaining to be restituted was \$3,881.18.
 - b. The Department of Probations returned Mr. Martorell's case to Court and his probation period was extended a further two years.