LA CASA LATINA TIMELINE

¿Qué Es Un Héroe?

$y^2 + 2$
Mission

The University of Pennsylvania Center for Hispanic Excellence: La Casa Latina is a Center devoted to developing greater awareness of Latino/a issues, culture and identity on Penn’s campus. La Casa Latina provides a supportive environment where students are welcome to discuss and understand issues of importance to them.

The Center supports students through resources and services that foster the integration of their academic, social, cultural and community service activities to enrich their Penn experience. La Casa Latina strives to be a Center where all Latinos and non-Latinos can participate and learn from each other in order to enrich the intercultural experience of the Penn and local communities.
1829

The first degree awarded to a Latino at Penn, Joseph M. Urquiola (Cuban), graduated with an M.D.
At the University’s annual commencement, an honorary LL.D was presented to the President of Mexico, José de la Cruz Porfirio Díaz Mori (1830-1915). José de la Cruz Porfirio Díaz Mori was the President of Mexico from 1876 to 1880 and from 1884 to 1911, and one of the most controversial figures of the country. The term *Porfiriato* refers to the years when Díaz ruled Mexico. (Wikipedia)
William Carlos Williams
Penn School of Medicine 1906

World Renowned Poet
Specialization in Pediatric medicine
William Carlos Williams

Of Puerto Rican and British heritage, Williams wrote in Spanish and English. His vast body of work includes poems, novels, short stories, prose-verse hybrids and plays. He was a major influence on later American poetry. His achievements include:

“A Love Song” 1916
“Libertad! Iqualidad! Fraternidad!” 1939
Paterson 1946-1958 (five books)
“Al Que Quiere!” 1917
“El Hombre” 1917
1910

George E. Nitzsche, Penn's first director of publicity, created a recruiting brochure, translated into Spanish. Approximately 10,000 copies circulated throughout Latin America over the next two years. One newspaper article called Nitzsche, "a foster father to students from foreign countries."
Mr. Pedro Chapa graduated with a B.S in Architecture from Penn. While a student at Penn, he was a member of the wrestling team and winner of the First Medal from the Society of Beaux Arts Architects. He served in the Mexican army from 1914 to 1920, where he achieved the rank of Colonel. He served in the Mexican Constitutional Assembly of 1916–17 and two terms as a member of the Mexican Congress.

Afterwards, he worked many years in the Compania Mexicana de Aviacion, where in 1962, he rose to the Presidency of the company. In 1964 he was Chairman of the Mexico Alumni Club of the University of Pennsylvania.
1927

The Graduate School of the University established research work in Latin-American History.

In the Graduate School brochure for the 1928–1929 school year, it’s description read, “Studies in the development of Latin American Institutions and in the relations between the United States and the Latin American Republics.”
1930
At the University’s annual commencement, an honorary LL.D was presented to the President-elect of Brazil, Julio Prestes. “Dr. Prestes received what was one of the greatest ovations ever accorded the recipient of an honorary degree...” He was recognized for his “personal distinction as an eminent lawyer, a profound scholar, a writer and speaker of power on subjects that deal with the social industrial and financial welfare of the citizens of his great nation.”

Júlio Prestes de Albuquerque (March 15, 1882 – February 9, 1946) was a Brazilian politician. Governor of São Paulo state in 1926, he was elected president of Brazil on March 1, 1930, but never took office because the government was overthrown in a coup that brought Getulio Vargas to power, three weeks before Prestes' scheduled inauguration on November 15, 1930.
After Julio Prestes received his honorary degree from the University of Pennsylvania, he visited the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia where he accepted an invitation to join the Order of the Liberty Bell Society as a life member.
UNIVERSIDAD DE PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia, Estado de Pennsylvania, EE. UU.

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MARÍTIMA COLOMBIANA

DICIEMBRE-ENERO, 1941-42
Mission Statement:

La Asociación Cultural de Estudiantes Latino Americanos is a student run organization at the University of Pennsylvania. A CELA has striven to create a community for Latinos within Penn and to educate the Penn community about Latino culture and all its diversity. In addition, A CELA is dedicated to the surrounding Latino community in Philadelphia and has made service a primary objective through ACAMP. ACAMP is A CELA’s community service program in North Philadelphia. Established in 1995, ACAMP brings Penn students to the Norris Square Neighborhood Project where students mentor children of all ages from the surrounding predominantly Latino neighborhood.

About Acela:

A CELA is a student run organization on Penn’s campus under the Latino Coalition. Our objectives are three-fold:

1) Create a Community for Latinos at the University of Pennsylvania
2) Community Service
3) Educate the Penn campus about the Latino Culture
Est. 1972

The student group MEChA was formed at Penn: El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan, MEChA became an organization that could support the exploration of Chicano culture, work to recruit Chicano students to Penn, and also work with the Penn community to build dialogue across campus and build a social consciousness within the Latino community.

MEChA's primary activities revolve around cultural exploration, not only around Chicano/Mexican-American culture, but Latina/o culture, Meso-American culture, history and dialogue on issues varying from race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexuality, politics and many other areas. We continue working on campus to build dialogue and partnership throughout Penn's campus.
Luis D. Colosio Murrieta, born in 1950, studied at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, after which he joined the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in 1972 and did postgraduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania (A.M) and research at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Austria before returning to Mexico. In 1979 he joined the Ministry of Budget and Planning under future president Carlos Salinas. He was elected to Congress as the federal deputy for his hometown in 1985 and, in 1987 he was selected to serve on the PRI's National Executive Committee. In 1988 Carlos Salinas chose him as the campaign manager presidential campaign. In the same election, Colosio was elected to the Senate, representing Sonora. In the early years of Salinas's presidency, Colosio served as the chairman of their party's National Executive Committee. In 1992, Salinas chose him to serve in his cabinet, in the newly created position of Social Development Secretary. In November 1993, the PRI announced that Colosio was to be its candidate for the upcoming presidential election.

In the early evening of March 23, 1994, at a campaign rally in Lomas Taurinas, a poor neighborhood of Tijuana, Baja California, Colosio was shot in the head from a distance of a few centimeters in front of a person recording video nearby.

A few months later, Salinas' brother-in-law, José Francisco Ruiz Massieu, president of the PRI was also murdered in plain daylight in Mexico City, eliminating the two most visible and powerful official heads of the PRI in Mexico, Colosio and Ruiz Massieu. Eventually Ernesto Zedillo was elected president, becoming the last PRI president of Mexico ending the longest lasting one-party rule in modern times.
Luis D. Colosio

Luis Donaldo Colosio
*Assassination of Luis Donaldo Colosio*

Monument to Luis Donaldo Colosio in Mexico city's Paseo de la Reforma.
The mission of the United Minorities Council (UMC) is to serve as an inter-racial alliance to address the issues of people of color in the University of Pennsylvania community. College undergraduate, Sheryl George-McAlpine, founded the UMC to form a stronger, unified voice for ethnic minority students on campus. Through the sponsorship of cultural and educational programs, the UMC strives to promote cross-cultural awareness and uphold the principles of unity, diversity and understanding.
1980
Throughout the 1980’s the Christian Association (CA) organized “Central America Week at Penn.” The CA sought to honor, Archbishop Oscar Romero (1917–1980), killed in El Salvador.

Óscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdámez was the fourth Archbishop of San Salvador. As archbishop, he witnessed ongoing violations of human rights and started a group which spoke out on behalf of the poor and victims of the Salvadoran civil war. Romero was closely associated with Liberation Theology. In 1980, he was assassinated by a right-wing group headed by former major Roberto D'Aubuisson as he finished offering mass.
Est. 1984

The Albert M. Greenfield Intercultural Center (GIC) opened to promote an appreciation of minority contributions to American society and issues concerning minority groups on campus.
GIC: Latino Program Highlights

Comedian/actor: John Legizamo

Writer: Piri Thomas
Latino Heritage Month (Est. 1985):
Latino students at Penn celebrate their cultures and the achievements of all Latinos with a month-long series of social, intellectual, cultural and artistic activities.

Festival Latino: A Spring annual, weeklong celebration of the richness of Latino culture.
Festival Latino

March 23rd - March 30th

Fri. March 23rd
Kick Off Event with
Amy Gutman
Wynn Commons
5:00 pm

Sat. March 24th
Community Service
Taller Puertorriqueño
9:00 am & 12:00 am

Sun. March 25th
ICA Guided Tour
Carlos Garaicoa
1:00 pm

Mon. March 26th
Breakfast Discussion:
Rafael Reygadas
100 Arch Building
10:00 am

Mon. March 26th
Movie Screening:
"Amores Perros"
Harnwell Mezzanine
8:00 pm

Tues. March 27th
Poetry Night
Kelly Writers House
7:00 pm

Wed. March 28th
SHPE Soccer
Tournament Final

Thurs. March 29th
Aztec Dance Show
College Green
5:00 pm

Thurs. March 29th
Claudio Mir
Dominican
OneMan Show
Carriage House
8:00 pm

Sat. March 31st
Closing Gala &
Auction Reception
MBA Lounge
Huntsman Hall
Festival Latino
March 28 - April 5

Carnaval
March 29th - April 4th
The Harnwell House Latin American Residential Program (LARP) was started with the goal of “exploring and celebrating Latin American cultures. LARP fosters an appreciation for Latin American languages, politics, forms of cultural expression, and most importantly a sense of community.”
The University of Pennsylvania Chapter of SHPE was founded in 1986

The purpose of the University of Pennsylvania Student Chapter is to:
• Promote the advancement of Hispanic engineers and scientists in employment and education.
• Develop and/or participate in programs with industry and the university which benefit students seeking technical degrees.
• Improve the retention of Hispanic students enrolled in engineering, math, and science.
• Provide a forum for the exchange of information pertinent for engineering, math, and science students.
• Provide a forum, in cooperation with local organizations, to increase the number of Hispanic students attending college for an engineering, math, or science based career.
• Take an active role to increase the number of minority students at the University of Pennsylvania.
• Engage students in developing their leadership and professional skills.
Latin American & Latino Studies Program

The LALS program, Est. in 1986, by Nancy Farriss, initially titled: The Latin American Cultures Program allows students to approach Latin American and Latino cultures in all their diversity of expression – not only "high culture" but also folk and other forms, from pre-Columbian times to the present, from Rio de Janeiro to New York and beyond. Ibero-America is a focal point from which Undergraduates may reach out toward scholarly research on the pre-Columbian societies of the Americas, Spain and Portugal, the non-Hispanic Caribbean, and Latino communities in the United States. The Latin American and Latino Studies Major is an interdisciplinary major, in which a student's credits are spread across three course clusters: social science, cultural criticism and history.
Ann Farnsworth-Alvear
LALS Director 2000-Present
La Unidad Latina believes in a diverse membership, a commitment to academic excellence and a proactive vision towards raising awareness about the Latino culture and history. Through these efforts we hope to affect change and provide our community with examples of leadership, integrity and self-empowerment that will allow us to challenge adversity and inequality.
LUL 2008–09 Members
The 1992 “Report on Minority Permanence at the University of Pennsylvania” remarked:

“Since September 1979 there has been a 69% increase in offers of admission to minorities and a 68% increase in the number of matriculates…. It is important to note that minority recruitment is a priority concern not only of this office [of Minority Recruitment] but of the entire admissions staff…. Hispanic recruitment is receiving special emphasis this year, in an effort to build Penn’s appeal to this fastest-growing minority group. In addition to travel and personalized recruitment, the staff is working with current Penn undergraduates to develop a network of Hispanic undergraduate student recruiters…. The office has also initiated an annual Latino Pre–Applicant program.”
1994

- The National Boricua Latino Health Organization (BLHO) was established as an advocacy group for increased access to quality health care and education in the health professions for Latinos. In the spirit of these ideals, the Penn chapter of BLHO was created to address the specific needs and concerns of Latino medical students. BLHO primarily provides a networking foundation and support system for Latino medical students. In addition, BLHO is committed to working with the Latino community in Philadelphia. Its members also serve as role models for Latino undergraduate and high school students interested in the health professions. Furthermore, BLHO is actively involved in enhancing the medical school commitment to Latinos and all students of color. BLHO members assist in recruitment efforts at Penn to increase minority student enrollment. Finally, BLHO works in close partnership with the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) to foster a united and supportive environment for students of color at the School of Medicine. BLHO is a member of the National Network of Latin American Medical Student Organizations.
Edward James Olmos @ Penn, April 1995; sponsored by: Connaissance & United Minorities Council
Est. 1995

- **Student Hispanic Dental Association**
  The Student Hispanic Dental Association (SHDA) was established to provide leadership and a voice for members of the Hispanic dental profession and to represent students and professionals who share a common commitment to improve the oral health of the Hispanic community. The SHDA has designed specific outreach and patient education programs for the local Hispanic community.
In 1995, a group of conscientious Latino students realized that they should take decisive action. Latinos at the University of Pennsylvania were and are underrepresented at all levels: students, faculty and administrators. To develop a unified voice and a comprehensive strategy to deal with under-representation, a coalition of five Latino student organizations was formed. The Latino Coalition, now consists of over 20 groups.
## Student Organizations

### Latino Coalition

- ACELA
- Alianza
- Boricua Latino Health Organization
- Penn Brazilian Club
- CAUSA
- Cipactli Latino Honor Society
- Club Colombia
- Lambda Upsilon Lambda
- Lambda Theta Alpha
- Latin American Law Students Association
- PRUSA
- Grupo Quisqueyano

- Latino Social Workers Alliance
- La Vida
- Onda Latina
- MEChA
- MEX@PENN
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
- Whalasa
- Wharton Latino
- Wharton Hispanic American MBA Association
- Hispanic Dental Association
- Graduate School of Education CLSA
The Wharton Latino Undergraduate Association (WLUA) came into existence when a group of Hispanic students took the initiative to create a club that would cater to the business education needs of Latinos. At the turn of the millennium, WLUA settled on a forward vision based on three tiers.

First, WLUA seeks to increase awareness and interest for the Wharton School of Business among Hispanics, from Argentina to Alaska.

Second, WLUA serves as a point of congregation and offers events such as resume and interview workshops for the Hispanic community at Penn.

Finally, WLUA strives to further business opportunities for both Hispanics and any other person interested in professional opportunities in Latin America, primarily through its annual Career Conference and through corporate networking. Wharton Latino is not exclusively for Hispanics, or Wharton students, but for those who wish to contribute to our noble cause and to enjoy the benefits that come from it.
Gilbert F. Casellas
A University of Pennsylvania Term Trustee since 1996.
In 2006, appointed as a Charter Trustee of the University.

Mr. Casellas is Vice President of Corporate Responsibility at Dell Inc. His “...appointment reflects Dell’s growing commitment to global leadership around the environment, corporate involvement and driving the democratization of technology worldwide.” Mr. Casellas leads an organization that includes the company’s global diversity, sustainability and corporate giving functions. (Dell Inc. webpage)

Previously, Mr. Casellas served as Chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from 1994 – 1997. He also served as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of the Air Force, and Co-Chairman of the U.S. Census Monitoring Board. Before serving as General Counsel, he worked at the Washington, DC law firm of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo where he focused on workplace diversity and equal opportunity issues. Mr. Casellas has a longstanding history of professional and public service. He is a director of the Johnnetta B. Cole Global Diversity and Inclusion Institute, a member of the board of directors of the Hispanic Federation, Inc. and chairman of the Committee on Workplace Diversity of the Yale University Council, his undergraduate alma mater. He has received several leadership awards, including the U.S. Department of the Air Force's Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service and the Spirit of Excellence from the American Bar Association.

Mr. Casellas has a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania, class of 1974.
Alianza is Penn's first Latino and Jewish partnership.

Alianza has three primary objectives

• To strengthen the partnership between the Latino and Jewish communities on the University of Pennsylvania campus.
• To promote diversity and tolerance of different cultures, ethnic groups, and religions.
• To address and improve global concerns of the Latino and Jewish communities.
Allianza presents Ilan Stavans at Penn

Ilan Stavans
Lewis–Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture (Spanish) and Five College Fortieth Anniversary Professor at Amherst College

Penn students with Ilan Stavens
PRUSA (Puerto Rican Undergraduate Student Association)

PRUSA is the Puerto Rican students' association at the University of Pennsylvania.
The University of Pennsylvania’s Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA) aims to enhance the student experience at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. LALSA is committed to the academic, social, and professional development of its members and aims to increase outreach, diversity, and Latino awareness in our community.
April 2009

Fourteenth anniversary of LALSA’s Annual Conference, "La Gran Fiesta." The theme of the conference was “Latino Justice at Home and Abroad.” It explored both the violations and protections of human rights in Latin America and examined how these protections follow Latino immigrants in their journey to the United States.
LaGAPSA at Penn

The Latino Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (LaGAPSA) exists to enhance the quality of life for graduate and professional students of United States Latino and Hispanic descent at the University of Pennsylvania. Through a centralized, campus-wide organizational structure LaGAPSA addresses their academic, social, political, and cultural needs and concerns through programming, services, and advocacy. LaGAPSA acts as a support mechanism that will assist these students to acclimate to the University. Further, LaGAPSA acts as their advocate, lobby, and political voice campus-wide.
How will you better yourself this semester?

The Latino Coalition Boasts Leadership from 23 different Latino student groups with a large variety of interests. With interests ranging from community service, to publications and religious focus, the Latino Coalition has a group that fulfills your interest.

How will you make a difference this semester?

**Asociación Cultural de Estudiantes Latinos Americanos (ACELA)**
Aims to bring together students who share a common interest in Latinx and the culture of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean through programs and outreach. 
Contact: Lupita Villanueva, lupita8@psu.edu

**Alianza: Jewish and Latino Partnership**
Strives to increase cultural awareness and understanding between Jewish and Latino students on Penn's campus through collaboration.
Contact: Madeleine Scher, madesch@psu.edu

**Cipactli Honor Society**
Awards academic achievement while acknowledging community service and leadership among the Latino community.
Contact: Arturo Espinola, aespino@psu.edu

**Cuban American Undergraduate Student Association (CAUSA)**
Seeks to spread Cuban culture and advocate for a free and democratic Cuba.
Contact: Khairul Parameswara, trf12341@psu.edu

**Club Colombia**
Spreads knowledge and celebrates Colombian culture through numerous activities and programs.
Contact: Manuel Gregorio, mg2644@psu.edu

**Grupo Quisqueyano Dominican Student Association (GQ)**
Serves the interest of the Dominican population at the University of Pennsylvania and promotes Dominican culture.
Contact: Libertad Saenz, da3612@psu.edu

**Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc., Beta Epsilon Chapter (LTA)**
Shirthead that promotes unity, love, respect, and Latinx unity through charitable and educational programs.
Contact: Jesus Perez, jper028@psu.edu

**La Unidad Latina, Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Inc., Delta Chapter**
Brotherhood that emphasizes Latino leadership, academic achievement, and community involvement.
Contact: Huan Nguyen, nc31639@psu.edu

**La Vida Magazine**
Magazine that allows Latinos to express their ideas relative to their own community issues.
Contact: Brad Weis, mw289@psu.edu

**Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA)**
The goal of LALSA at the University of Pennsylvania Law School is to provide programs of cultural, academic and social importance to LALSA and the entire University of Pennsylvania Law School student body.
Contact: Brian Sullivan, sx3688@law.upenn.edu

**Mex@Penn**
Seeks to bring together Mexican within the community, as well as fostering Mexican traditions and culture on campus.
Contact: Eduardo Guevara Sanchez, sx9852@psu.edu

**El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán (MECHA)**
Supports the exploration of Chicano/a culture, works to recruit Chicano/a students to Penn, and also works with the Penn community to build dialogue across campus and build a social consciousness within the community.
Contact: Veronica Palacios, vpalacios@psu.edu
Onda Latina Dance Troupe
Educates the Penn community about Caribbean and Latin culture through dance.
Contact: Adriana Ortiz  ortiza@v Fouring.upenn.edu

Penn Brasil Club
Promotes Brazilian social, political, and cultural awareness, and acts as a support group for Brazilian students.
Contact: Amanda Almeida  aalmeida@u.m.upenn.edu

Puerto Rican Undergraduate Student Association (PRUSA)
Aims to spread Puerto Rican social and cultural awareness and serve as an networking forum for Latin students.
Contact: Rebeca Velazquez  rvelazquez@wharton.upenn.edu

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
Seeks to improve equality of people through use of science and technology, and serves as a network of Latino engineers.
Contact: Brian Ryden  bryden@seer.upenn.edu

Wharton Latino Club
As technology and education bring down barriers in Latin America and the North American Latino community gains economical and social momentum, the Wharton Latino Undergraduate Association exists as a portal to create opportunities and support “Hasta la Toma.”
Contact: Alejandro de la Cruz  aclara@seer.upenn.edu

Barclays Latin Health Organization
Represents students who advocate for increased access to quality health care for Latinos, recruit Latinos into higher education including health care professions, and educate the public and our community about Latino health issues.
Contact: Arina Flores  arina@seer.upenn.edu

Graduate School of Education Caribbean Latino/a Student Association
Aims to foster the promotion of Latino culture and community involvement.
Contact: Luis Flores  luis@berkeley.edu

Hispanic Dental Association
The only national association of dental professionals dedicated to promoting and improving the oral health of the Hispanic community and providing advocacy for Hispanic oral health professionals across the United States.
Contact: Diana Nieves  dnieves@dental.upenn.edu

Wharton Latin American Student Association (WHALASA)
Cultural club that seeks to promote the Latin American experience through a well-balanced set of initiatives.
Contact: Luis Verdecia  lverde@wharton.upenn.edu

What more Latino? Facebook: search: LATINO COALITION
1994

A group of faculty and staff established the *Latino Faculty and Staff Association*. This was a turning point for the Latino Community at the University of Pennsylvania.
Est. 1996

In the Fall of 1996, a small group of students had the vision to educate the PENN community about Caribbean and Latino culture through dance. Together they founded Onda Latina, which means "Latin Wave," Penn's first and only dance group of its kind. Since then, Onda Latina has become an immensely popular name on campus and in the community, performing to sold-out crowds every semester. Each year, the Group’s family continues to grow, bringing together many ethnic backgrounds, unique talents and fresh ideas. Onda’s passion for dance, however, goes far beyond Penn's campus.

The Group’s goal is to continue in the tradition of ONDA LATINA, as promoters of education, entertainment, and the true experience of dance.
1998

• During the Spring and Summer of 1998, a group of faculty, staff, and students proposed a center whose objective would be to increase the presence of the Latino community at the University of Pennsylvania.

• In the Summer of 1998 two groups, the Latino Faculty and Staff Association and the Latino Student Coalition, came together for the purpose of designing The University of Pennsylvania Center for Hispanic Excellence. It was to be a comprehensive resource center for Latino students.

• The proposal for the center was presented to President Judith Rodin on October 30, 1998. It was presented in the name of The Latino Faculty and Staff, the Latino Student Coalition and the Latino Alumni Society.
The Beta Epsilon Chapter was founded at the University of Pennsylvania on July 31, 1998 by four dedicated women- Adela Jessica Llumpo, Zadith Erika Pino, Ricarda White and Kathy D. Pascaule. These women, dissatisfied with the support systems already in place for women at Penn, investigated other options to bring to campus determined to find an organization that would cater to ALL women's needs. Upon discovering the mission, goals, and family-oriented culture that Lambda Theta Alpha engendered, these ladies fought hard for over a year to bring LTA to Penn. In the spring of 1998, The Beta Epsilon Chapter became the organization's FIRST Ivy League chapter. In 2001, the chapter extended its boundaries to Temple University where three ladies continued the legacy to North Philadelphia:

Amethyst Bentham, Lisandra Sanchez and Jessica Womack.

Today, the Bold and Exquisite Beta Epsilon chapter continues to flourish on both Penn's and Temple's campus and continues to uphold the ideals our founding mothers held over thirty years ago through academic programming, philanthropic endeavors, and high academic achievement. Although Lambda Theta Alpha is Latin by tradition, we pride ourselves in being a non-discriminatory academic organization with sisters from all backgrounds, races, creeds, religions, and sexual orientations.
September 21st, 1999

President Dr. Judith Rodin inaugurated the Center for Hispanic Excellence. Today the Center for Hispanic Excellence, also known as La Casa Latina, welcomes anyone interested in Latino culture and languages, as well as the surrounding community of Philadelphia. The Center has, and will always be, indebted to the core founders that include staff, faculty, students and alumni. Without the core founders' persistent focus and perpetual dedication to our organization, the Center of Hispanic Excellence: La Casa Latina would not be possible. Let it be known that we recognize the following people for their vision and generous contributions of time and energy:

Gilbert F. Casellas, L'77
Phillip de Chavez, M'99
Steven Guillian, M'99
Hilda Luiggi, M.S.
Luz Marin,C'01
Jorge J. Santiago, Ph.D.
Lilvia Soto, Ph.D.
Dr. Lilvia Soto, Founding Director of La Casa Latina

Photo: The Almanac
1st home of La Casa Latina at Penn 37th and Chestnut Street
Mex@Penn, founded October 2, 1999, is a social and cultural organization which seeks to bring together all Mexicans within the University community as well as to promote Mexican traditions on the Penn campus and in the Philadelphia area. It offers its members (and anyone with a strong interest in Mexico) the opportunity to participate in unique cultural events and holidays... having a good time the Mexican way. Mex@Penn also works with the Office of International Admissions to increase Mexican presence at Penn by inviting guest speakers and participating in community service targeted at Mexican immigrant communities.
Mex@Penn
Mex@Penn Convergencias 2009: Ideas for a better Mexico
Association of Latino Alumni (ALA)

Founded: 1999

Mission: to promote the interests and welfare of the University through the advancement of the interests and welfare of its Latino alumni

Activities: ALA scholarship, Alumni Weekend, Graduation, Board of Penn Alumni

http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/groups/ala/
2008

Dr. Patricia Martín M’85 and Clemson Smith Muñiz C’79 with ALA Student Leadership Award honoree, Jasmine Perez NU’08
ALA board members, Cecilia Ramirez C'05, Dr. Patricia Martín M'85 and Clemson Smith Muñiz C'79 with ALA Student Leadership Award honoree, Lany L. Villalobos, C'09 rd members present the 2009 ALA James Brister Society Award to Lany Villalobos 09’
2000

La Casa Latina moved to its new home in the Arts, Research and Culture House (Arch) Building located at 3601 Locust Walk.
La Casa Latina mosaic at its new home designed by Mario Guadalupe Cruz and Michelle A. Ortiz
La Casa Latina Programs

- Annual Open House
- Leadership Enrichment and Action Program (LEAP)
- The Latino Studies Partnership Program (LSPP)
- Latino Dialogue Institute
- Mentoring Pathways Program (MPP)
- Community Outreach
- Student Services and Resources
- Spanish Round Tables
- Cultural Awareness Program (CAP)
- Latino Heritage Month (LHM)
- Festival Latino
Anamaria Cobo de Paci
1st full time Director of La Casa Latina, 2001 -2007

Throughout her 6-year tenure programs initiated included: Community outreach; building of partnerships with other Penn programs; retention and recruitment efforts; funding from the Provost Diversity Fund to implement leadership and mentoring programs; and other initiatives engaging and supporting Penn students.
Club Colombia was started by Marcelo Burbano (W'01), Jose Grajales (C'02), and Alejandro Maldonado (W'03) with a 2-pronged mission:

a) Increase awareness of Colombian politics and culture among the Penn community

b) Provide people interested in Colombia an opportunity to meet each other and socialize

**Examples of events during the Club’s early years:**

- 2001 'Colombia: Understanding the War' with Mark Cherniak and Eduardo Pizarro, two academics explained the genesis and political situation in Colombia at the time.

- 2002 'Rethinking the War on Drugs', with Cesar Gaviria, former President of Colombia and at the time secretary of the OAS, The Assistant Secretary of state for drug control, and an representative from a think tank in Washington, moderated by Penn Professor, Bergman from the Legal Studies Department

- 2003 'Turning Around Bogota' Enrique Penalosa, former mayor of Bogota spoke about his turnaround efforts in Bogota and all the breakthroughs in Urbanism accomplished during his tenure.

- The Club created a scholarship program for low-income Colombian students to go to college in Colombia.
Club Colombia
Founding members: Nancy Calderon, Randy Quezada, Shaun Gonzalez, and Sabrina Harvey.
Throughout its history, Cipactli has strived to be a leader in the Latino Community – both through community service and by the actions of its members. Today, Cipactli continues this tradition and is deeply involved in both the Philadelphia Latino Community and the University's Minority Programs.
The members of Cipactli have been chosen for their outstanding work both in and outside the academic sphere as well as their deep commitment to helping their communities develop in a sustainable and meaningful way.
CIPACTLI Honor Society 2008–09
This on-campus magazine offers the reader visual art, poetry and prose of Latino interest. La Vida offers opportunities for Latino/as to express their literary and artistic views and talents to increase an appreciation for the Latino culture within the undergraduate community.
Grupo Quisqueyano
Est. December 2003
GROUPO QUIQUEYANO
(THE DOMINICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION)

Mondon Go Scam

Written and Performed by Claudio Mir

Thursday, March 29 • 2007 • 8:00 PM

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Center (LGBT) University of Pennsylvania Carriage House 3907 Spruce Street Philadelphia

VPIL
Grupo Quiqueyano Dominican Student Association
The Cuban American Undergraduate Student Association (C.A.U.S.A.) was founded in the Spring of 2003 to educate the Penn campus about Cuban heritage and critical issues regarding US-Cuban policy. C.A.U.S.A. has sponsored guest speakers and other events relating to Cuban culture.

C.A.U.S.A. Executive Board:

Co-Presidents: Jonathan Cardenas, Juan Pita
Vice President: Javier Barrio
Secretary: Eduardo Safille
Treasurer: Lionel Vera
The Latino Dialogue Institute (LDI) was created as a student run series of workshops presented during a semester. The workshops cultivate dialogue among Latino and non-Latino students in a safe forum. They discuss the social, political, cultural and historical complexities of the Latino/a experience in the United States. With the support of the Latin American and Latino Studies (LALS) Program, LDI students can petition for academic credit for the course. Throughout the LDI semester, expert guest speakers provide insight on a particular session topic.
La Casa Latina and the Office of the Vice Provost for University Life cordially invite you to La Casa Latina’s Fifth Year Anniversary Banquet

Special Guests

Amy Gutmann
President of the University of Pennsylvania

Judith Rodin
Former President of the University of Pennsylvania

will be inducted as a member of Amigos de La Casa

Tuesday, September 21st, 2004, at 6:00 p.m.

University of Pennsylvania, Houston Hall
Hall of Flags
3417 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Kindly reply by September 8, 2004, to La Casa Latina at 215.746.6043 or lacasa@pobox.upenn.edu
Nearly 100 students, faculty and staff of La Casa Latina celebrated the Fifth Anniversary of its inception at a banquet dinner held at Houston Hall. Notable guests included President Dr. Amy Gutmann and President Emerita Dr. Judith Rodin.
President Emerita Judith Rodin said, “La Casa Latina is no longer a dream. It’s an extraordinary place—a welcoming place, ... a place that has unbelievable spirit and just extraordinary heart.”

In her address, President Amy Gutmann expressed her pride “that Penn has a place...that deepens our knowledge of the vibrant cultural and life experiences of nearly 40 million people in the United States and that La Casa Latina serves as a catalyst for reflecting on our...relationship with many, many cultures.”
During the festive banquet, Dr. Rodin also was selected to receive the first “Amigos de La Casa” award developed to acknowledge contributions and commitment to the Latino/a community at Penn. She stated that her donation to La Casa Latina would be used for scholarships.
The Latino Ivy League Conference (LILC) is directed to students who attend the eight Ivy League institutions: Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Princeton University, University of Pennsylvania, and Yale University. The conference focuses on establishing a strong network between schools and students. It fosters academic excellence, the pursuit of goals and the unity in upholding Latino and Latin-American culture. Penn Latina/o students hosted the first and second conference at the University of Pennsylvania in 2005 and 2006.
The first Latino Ivy League Conference was held at the University of Pennsylvania in 2005. Penn students: Naomi Adaniya Wharton 2006, Sheyla Medina College 2010, and Vero Polanco-Moreno College 2008 were principal organizers of that 1st conference at Penn. The Latino Ivy League Conference now travels to other universities on a yearly basis.
National Day Without an Immigrant 2007, Philadelphia, PA
May 1, 2008
National Day Without an Immigrant

Many Latino/a Penn students participated in the May 2007 and 2008 International Workers Day and Mobilization to Support Immigrant Rights.” The demonstration took place in Philadelphia as well as more than 220 other cities in the U.S. The day highlighted the need to fight immigrant bashing and support immigrant rights. Promoted by the National Immigrant Solidarity Network, the organization is a grassroots, multi-ethnic coalition of immigrant, labor, human rights and student activist groups.
National Day Without an Immigrant 2007, Philadelphia, PA
National Day Without an Immigrant 2008, Philadelphia, PA
MEChA East Coast Regional Conference at Penn, 2008
The Day of the Dead (El Día de los Muertos or All Souls' Day) is a holiday celebrated in Mexico and by Latinos (and others) living in the United States and Canada. The holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died. The celebration occurs on the 2nd of November in connection with the Catholic holiday of All Saints' Day which occurs on Nov 1st and All Souls' Day which occurs on Nov 2nd. Traditions include building private altars honoring the deceased, using sugar skulls, marigolds, and the favorite foods and beverages of the departed, and visiting graves with these as gifts.

Scholars trace the origins of the modern holiday to indigenous observances dating back thousands of years, and to an Aztec festival dedicated to a goddess called Mictecacihuatl.
MEChA and Mex@Penn
Day of the Dead
The Penn Brazil Club (PBC)

An organized student group from the University of Pennsylvania created in order to promote the Brazilian culture within the university community.
MISSION

The Latino Coalition (LC) is the governing body that facilitates communication and programming among the 22 Latino organizations with domestic, international, undergraduate, and graduate interests. We promote the growth and advancement of the Latino community and provide a unified voice for the Latino student body. The LC works to enhance the educational, social, and cultural experience of Latinos and collaborates with University entities to establish resources that will assist in making the University demographic comparable to the domestic one.

HISTORY

In 1995, a group of conscientious Latino students realized that they should take decisive action. To develop a unified voice and a comprehensive strategy to deal with gross under-representation, a coalition of five Latino organizations were formed. With the support of Latino faculty members, the LC successfully created the Latin American and Latino Studies department in the College of Arts and Sciences. By 1998, President Judith Rodin inaugurated Penn’s Center for Hispanic Excellence, La Casa Latina. La Casa Latina became one of the few free-standing Latino-based student resource centers in the East Coast and is central to Latino student activities in the 21st century.

PRESENT

25th Anniversary of Festival Latino, a week long celebration of Latino culture (Spring)

Latino Heritage Month (Fall)

Celebration of Latino Accomplishments

Founded the Annual Latino Ivy League Conference

La Vida Magazine

Latin Social Workers Alliance (LSWA)

Latin American Law Student Association (LALSA)

Mex@Penn

Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán (MEChA)

Onda Latina

Penn Brazilian Club

Our Organizations

Alianza; Jewish and Latino Partnership

Asociación Cultural de Estudiantes Latino Americanos (ACELA)

Boricua Latino Health Organization

Caribbean Latino/a Student Association, Graduate School of Education

Cipactli Honor Society

Club Colombia

Cuban American Undergraduate Student Association (CAUSA)

Grupo Quisqueyano (GQ)

Hispanic Dental Association

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc., Beta Epsilon Chapter

Lambda Upsilon Lambda/La Unidad Latina Fraternity, Inc., Delta Chapter

La Vida Magazine

Latin Social Workers Alliance (LSWA)

Latin American Law Student Association (LALSA)

Mex@Penn

Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán (MEChA)

Onda Latina

Penn Brazilian Club

Puerto Rican Undergraduate Student Association (PRUSA)

The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)

Wharton Latino Undergraduate Association

Wharton Latin Student Association (WHALASA)

Onda Latina Dance Show

Art Auction and Gala, Festival Latino ’07

LC Retreat ’07
Our mission is to foster a strong sense of community and promote awareness of the Latin American region, while enhancing the Wharton experience of our members and non-members alike through a set of initiatives including:

**Academic**
Support the incoming class in their adaptation process and facilitate knowledge sharing across the student body.

**Cultural**
Share the cultural richness of our region with the Penn community by showcasing our history, cuisine, and sports.

**Professional**
Support members in their job search, networking, and interview preparation.

**Social**
Integrate students through many Latin-style events.
Events

Asado Argentino

International Food Festival

Locura Latina

Balada Brasil
Balada Brasil

Assado Argentino

Loucura Latina

International Food Festival
La Casa Latina & Makuu
Open House 2008
Held every Spring, Hey Day represents the official passage of the junior class to senior status. There are four major components. The juniors march from the Junior Balcony in the Quad to College Green where the President officially proclaims them seniors. Then a picnic is held on Hill Square. The students sport fake straw hats, red T-shirts and canes. The new, marching seniors also squirt sticky substances-whipped cream, chocolate sauce, silly string, etc.- on each other and take bites out of each other’s hats.

(from University Archives)
Latino Coalition Leadership Retreat 2007
Latino Coalition Leadership Development Retreat 2008
Latino Coalition Leadership Development Retreat 2009
Festival Latino 2009: SHPE members honor Latino Engineering Professors; Main speaker, Dean Eduardo Glandt of Penn School of Engineering.

Dr. Jorge J. Santiago-Aviles, Associate Professor of Electrical and Systems Engineering, and co-founder of La Casa Latina.
January 22, 2009
The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Interfaith Commemoration

Guest Speaker: Dolores Huerta,
President, Dolores Huerta Foundation and
Co-Founder, United Farm Workers of America
Latino Coalition Board 2007
Latino Coalition Board 2008
The conference brought together organizers of successful models in community media developed by Latino communities in cities such as Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Hartford, New York, Boston, San Antonio and Philadelphia. Groups presented and analyzed ways in which they have used communication media in their home towns as an effort to share experiences and models with each other in order to mutually enrich and learn from each community’s initiatives.

Conference Partners (organizers):
• The Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania
• Center for Hispanic Excellence: La Casa Latina, University of Pennsylvania
• Juntos/La Casa de los Soles, Philadelphia, PA.
Community, Media and Immigrants:
When communication is in our own hands

Dialogues and planning
Christine Nieves 10’ and Sheyla Medina 10’ Awardees of 2009 Penn Women of Color Awards.

(photo: Christine Nieves, America Espinal, Sheyla Medina, Luz Marin)
La Casa Latina Mentorship Pathways Program
Ice Skating Party 2009
1990

• NEW asst. dean to concentrate on minorities:
  Published by: Christine Lutton
  Posted: October 3, 1990/ Daily Pennsylvanian

• Diversity on campus
  Published by: Ari Alexander and Aranana Jayaram
  Posted: Daily Pennsylvanian, Nov 17.1900
1999:

- **BBQ held for frosh at La Casa Latina**
  Published by: Rachel Fleisher
  Posted: September 29, 1999 / Daily Pennsylvanian

- **New role for Lilvia Soto, Lisa Prasad, Beverly Edwards**
  Posted by: Almanac

- **Directora de la nueva Casa Latina de la Universidad de Penn**
  By: Al Dia Newspaper, October, 1999

- **Brainchild**
  Posted by: Temple news
1999 continued:

- *Soto hopes to create a new program in Latino studies*
  posted by: Philadelphia Inquire/September 22, 1999

- *La Casa of their own*
  by Sandy Smith/Nov. 99 Penn Current

- *La Casa Latina a place at the cultural table*
  posted by: Pennsylvania Gazette
2000

• *Alum speaks on influencing pennies minority community.*

• *Rodin, Casella's open U.S new center for Latino students*
2001

• *At La Casa Latina, students share tale, of growing up in America*

By Abby Leonard
2003

• “La Casa Latina new home for historic bust”

By Larva Sullivan,
2004

• *Latino community rewards leaders*
  By: Frank Paul Sampins
• “I wanted to focus on my other passion…. To make sure that Latinos are getting Latino heritage in the real way”

By: Greg Johnson/ Penn Current, 2009
2008

- “Penn” la otra comunidad Hispania (“Penn” the other Hispanic community)
- By: Al Dia Newspaper, 2008