



The Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies presents

Nuestros Cuentos

Latina/o/x Narratives Amid DACA

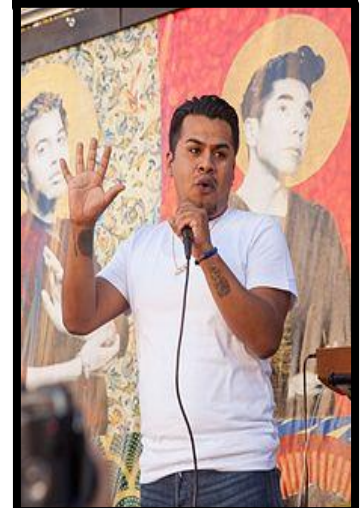
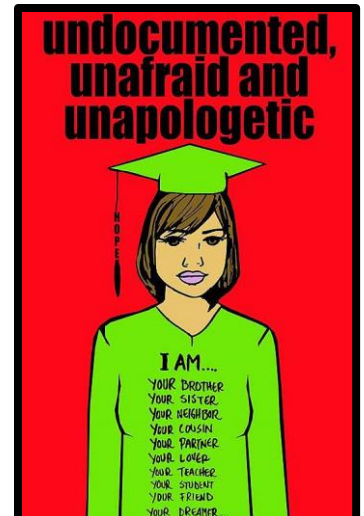
**The 9th Annual La Academia del Pueblo
Latino/a and Latin American Research Conference**

In his 1961 memoir, *A Puerto Rican In New York, and other sketches*, Jesús Colón describes his childhood memories listening through the window to El Lector, an orator reading newspapers and stories to the workers of the cigar factory in his hometown of Cayey, Puerto Rico. That voice, he writes, carries into his adulthood, always saying “the confusions, misunderstandings, disillusion, defections and momentary defeats will be overcome.” It is echoed by Colón and other Latina/o/x storytellers who developed through their self-authored narratives the simple but potent principles that the personal is political and the everyday is extraordinary. In 2018, amid the rescission and advocacy for a new DACA bill, contemporary Latina/o/x scholars, artists, and activists have continued these traditions by utilizing their stories as tools to resist political rhetoric which diminishes and marginalizes Latina/o/x experiences.

The 9th Annual La Academia del Pueblo seeks to deliberately establish connections between the academy, engaged citizens and urban communities. This year's theme invites participants to explore the historical and contemporary roles of narratives in Latina/o/x identities and to consider how reclaiming those narratives through self-expression and self-representation politically resists victimizing and discriminatory narratives of Latina/o/x experiences, including but not limited to immigrant experiences and undocumented experiences. Sample topics include:

- **Ramifications of the rescission of DACA and activism to pass new DACA bill**
- **Media representations of Latino/a/x experiences**
- **Oral histories and self-authored Latina/o/x narratives**
- **Self-expression through media – documentary, posters, art, poetry**
- **Artistic and/or political movements reclaiming Latina/o/x identities**
- **Examinations of the political functions of the ordinary and everyday**

The conference committee welcomes submissions of abstracts for posters and panel presentations from undergraduate and graduate students, scholars, activists, artists, and community members which address the conference theme. Abstracts of 300 words should be submitted to <http://clas.wayne.edu/cllas/details> by **March 4th, 2018**. Decisions by the conference planning committee will be communicated by **March 19th, 2018**. The 9th annual La Academia del Pueblo Conference will be held at Wayne State University on **April 21st, 2018**.



For more information, please contact:
Peter Marra at peter.marra@wayne.edu