



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Eastern to Celebrate Latin American Awareness Month

Willimantic, Conn. –Eastern Connecticut State University will celebrate Latin American Awareness Month in April with an array of events and activities. The public is invited. Admission is free.

On April 2, from 7–9 p.m., salsa lessons will be taught in the Betty R. Tipton Room, during a celebration of Latin culture expressed through dance and presented by Eastern students of Latin American background. Food and drinks will be served

On April 3 from 12–5 p.m., a food sale and fundraiser will take place at the Wood Support Services Center.

On April 5 from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. in the Betty R. Tipton Room and meeting rooms of the Student Center, Eastern will host Fuerza Latina (Power of Latinos), a conference that encourages middle and high school students to attend college. Participants will discuss issues facing Latin Americans.

On April 8 at 3 p.m. in the Betty R. Tipton Room, Puerto Rican author, poet, and scholar Mayra Santos-Febres will give a lecture and reading. Santos-Febres is one of the most provocative and vibrant voices of contemporary Puerto Rican and Caribbean literature. A reception will follow her presentation.

On April 9, from 4–6 p.m. in the Student Center Café, renowned poet and artist Joseph A. Burgos will discuss his Latin American background, present his artwork and paintings, and perform poetry.

On April 15, from 7–10 p.m., the movie “Stand and Deliver” will be shown in the Student Center Theatre. The movie inspires students to pursue higher education. Refreshments will be served after the movie.

On April 16, from noon– 2 pm. in the Student Center Café, the public is invited to participate in a lunch forum with Bobby Gonzalez, a nationally known multicultural motivational speaker, storyteller and poet. Also, from 6 – 9 p.m., the Latin American Distinguished Service Awards will be presented in the Paul E. Johnson, Sr. Community Conference Room of the J. Eugene Smith Library. These awards recognize members of the campus and community-at-large whose actions demonstrate distinguished service to the Latin American community.

On April 17, from 5–7 p.m., the Hurley Hall dining staff will present Caliente Night, a celebration of Latino food, music and dancing.

On April 22, from 6–8 p.m. in the Student Center Theatre, Imna Arroyo, professor of visual arts at Eastern, will be the speaker for the Identity Series.

On April 23, at 3 p.m., University Hour presents pianist Julia Muench in the Paul E. Johnson, Sr. Community Conference Room of the J. Eugene Smith Library. Muench will provide musical accompaniment to a video she produced on the Guatemalan Children’s Project. At 7 p.m., local middle and high school students will join Muench in a free concert in the Student Center Theatre.

On April 25, from 5:30–8 p.m. in the Betty R. Tipton Room, the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) will host its annual banquet. The banquet highlights OLAS successes throughout the year and recognizes graduating OLAS members.

On April 26 from 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., a “Party with a Purpose” fundraiser will take place in the Betty R. Tipton Room. This event is designed to raise scholarship money for young poets attending Windham High School.

On May 6 from 7–9 p.m., OLAS will host a Poetry Slam in the Student Center Café featuring Windham High School poets. The winner will receive a \$500 scholarship from OLAS and the Intercultural Center.

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state’s public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.

It is the policy of Eastern Connecticut State University to ensure equal access to its events. If you are an individual with a disability and will need accommodations for this event, please contact the Office of University Relations at (860) 465-5735.

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