

WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION, INC. AND MEXICAN FIESTA

PRESENT:



STUDENT / PARENT EDUCATIONAL FORUM

Decisions of Today, Impact of Tomorrow

FULLY BILINGUAL: ENGLISH - SPANISH

MENTORSHIP CONNECTIONS • COLLEGES / UNIVERSITIES
SCHOLARSHIP LOTTERY • INTERNSHIPS • LAPTOP RAFFLE

SUNDAY
NOV. 14TH, 2021

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

FLORES HALL
2997 S. 20TH ST.
MILWAUKEE, WI 53215

For more information: ☎ 414-383-7066 www.mexicanfiesta.org     /MexicanFiestaWI



STUDENT / PARENT EDUCATIONAL FORUM

VISION

Partnership between the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (WHSF) and established Latino professionals to empower both WHSF scholarship recipients and Latino students to improve, explore and elaborate on the importance of university studies, and broaden the scope of career choices and the curriculum necessary for those professions.

The purpose is that student will become agents of change and progress in their community and in society at large, once their studies are completed.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Rubén Burgos

President

**Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship
Foundation, Inc. (WHSF)**

As President of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, I would like to welcome and thank you for attending our 2022 Student / Parent Educational Forum. Please be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to obtain information about scholarships and internships.

The guest speakers and presenters have graciously offered their time and talents to assist you in attaining your goals. Feel free to ask questions and network with Hispanic professionals of our community.

As an educator, I fully understand the benefits and advantages that higher education can provide our Hispanic youth. We at Mexican Fiesta and the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation have made it our mission to provide scholarships and guidance to our youth. To date, we have provided over \$1,900,000.00 in scholarship awards to deserving young men and women, as well as assisting community nonprofit organizations.

Everyone can benefit from this forum. We are here to help, whether it is through the information on scholarships and internships, or through gaining a point of contact through networking. Our community needs the future Hispanic professionals that you will become.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

ARCHITECTURE



Isabel Castro

UW- Milwaukee Graduate
The Museum of Wisconsin
Art

Isabel Castro is a Milwaukee-based community artist and muralist. She is a recent graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, obtaining her B.S. in Architectural Studies and certification in Community Art with summa cum laude. She values the accessibility to socially engaged art making in her practice. Her work embraces collaborative environments that cultivate a sense of belonging and hold space for creative expression. Her most recent artwork can be seen on the Sixteenth Street Clinic in Milwaukee and at the John Michael Kohler Art Center in Sheboygan. She is currently working at the Museum of Wisconsin Art in the department of youth education.



Felipe Ornelas

Principal / AIA Associate
Engberg Anderson Architects

With a broad range of experience from healthcare to corporate design, Felipe Ornelas earned his Bachelor of Science - Architectural Studies Degree from UW-Milwaukee in 2002. Through projects such as the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center, a Milwaukee City Hall restoration, and 20+ local housing developments, Mr. Ornelas is driven by the opportunity to help the community. He is currently affiliated with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, MATC Architectural Technology Advisory Board, the Wisconsin Architectural Foundation, and AIA Wisconsin.



Joselia Mendiola

Architect / AIA
Engberg Anderson
Architects

Ms. Mendiola earned her Bachelor of Science - Architectural Studies Degree in 2009 from the University of Utah and her Master of Architecture Degree in 2012 from the Pratt Institute. Joselia's range of projects include the Mitchell Park Conservatory Domes, Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy, ThriveOn King, the Palatine Public Library, as well as intergenerational housing and multi-family developments. Ms. Mendiola is affiliated with AIA, National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Milwaukee Preservation Alliance and the Wisconsin Historical Society.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

EDUCATION



Alberto Maldonado

Executive Director

Roberto Hernández Center
UW-Milwaukee

Mr. Alberto J. Maldonado currently serves as the Director of the Roberto Hernández Center at UW – Milwaukee. In addition, he Co-Leads the Chancellors Committee for Hispanic Student Initiatives (CCHSI), areas of engagement with the community and implementation of commitments made by the Chancellor. In his 23 years of service to UWM, Alberto has served in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, the College of Health Sciences, and in TRIO/Pre-College. Mr. Maldonado has championed numerous initiatives in the areas of Pre-College, Community Outreach, Admissions, Multicultural Recruitment, and Academic Advising.



Dr. Sergio González

Assistant professor of
Latinx Studies
Marquette University

Sergio M. González is an assistant professor of Latinx Studies in the Departments of History and Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Marquette University. As a historian of twentieth-century U.S. immigration, labor, and religion, his scholarship focuses on the development of Latino communities in the U.S. Midwest. His first book, *Mexicans in Wisconsin* (Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2017), offered a concise introductory history of Mexican settlement and community formation across the state. His current project, *Strangers No Longer: Latino Belonging and Faith in 20th Century Wisconsin*, explores the relationship between Latino communities, religion, and social justice movements in twentieth century Wisconsin. González has bridged his academic scholarship to broader audiences by serving as a founder of the Dane Sanctuary Coalition as well as serving on the board of Voces de la Frontera Action, the political arm of Wisconsin's largest and most active membership-based immigrant justice organization.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

EDUCATION



Nora Godoy-González

Community School

Coordinator

H.W. Longfellow

Nora Godoy-González graduated from Marquette University with two Bachelor Degrees in Spanish for the Business Professions and Public Relations. Soon after graduating, she started her role as the Community School Coordinator at H.W. Longfellow by way of Journey House. In her role she supports school initiatives and priorities by following the school transformational model through the lens of Cultural Relevance, Equity, and Shared Leadership. As the new Ms. Mexican Fiesta Ambassador, Nora plans on aligning her career with the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, Inc. mission to provide scholarships to young Latine individuals who want to pursue higher education.



Jennifer Lopez

CEO

Carmen School of Science
and Technology

The daughter of Salvadoran immigrants, Ms. López is currently the CEO of Carmen Schools of Science and Technology. López's professional career began at Teach For America in Los Angeles. López has made it her mission to beat the odds and strive for student success. As a result, in every role she's held, she's seen remarkable results. López would go on to hold numerous leadership roles in both public district and charter schools and education-focused organizations before coming to Milwaukee. Prior to joining Carmen, López served as the Chief Academic Officer at St. Anthony School overseeing over 1,800 students across five schools. Ms. Lopez is a graduate of Occidental College as well as Loyola Marymount University.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

EDUCATION



Dr. Pilar Melero

Professor of Spanish and
Latinx Literature
University of Wisconsin
Whiterwater

Dr. Pilar Melero is a Professor of Spanish and Latinx literature at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and the Coordinator for World Languages and Cultures and Race and Ethnic Studies. She is also leading the Hispanic/Latinx Task Force, an initiative aimed at recruiting, retention, and graduation of Latinx students. She also teaches for the Department of Women's and Gender Studies. Dr. Melero is the author of various books and academic publications. She also won the State Council on Affirmative Action Diversity Service award in 2021, and the University of Wisconsin Whitewater Faculty Service Award (2022) as well as the College of Letters and Sciences Service Award (2022). Dr. Melero is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (BA in Spanish and Journalism), the University of Texas at El Paso (Masters in Spanish) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison (PhD, Contemporary Latin American Literature).



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Galy Montes

Owner of Paleteria Yayo
Co-founder of Mercadera

Galy Montes is owner of Paleteria Yayo in the heart of Milwaukee's south side, and cofounder of Mercadera, a marketplace for Latina women entrepreneurs. The Mercadera hosts pop-up marketplace events throughout the year. Galy was also recognized as one of Wisconsin's 46 most influential Latino Leaders and has 11 years of experience in tax services.



Rene Adan

Owner of Paleteria Yayo,
Glemer homes, and Adamon
Transport

Originally from Guerrero, Mexico, Mr. Adan is a graduate of UNITEC (Universidad Tecnológica de México) where he obtained a degree in the Communications field (Licenciado en Ciencias de la Comunicación). With entrepreneurship running through his blood and being a true believer in hard work and dedication, Rene is currently the owner of Paleteria Yayo, Glemer Homes, and Adamon Transport.



Azael Flores Guerrero

Co-Founder
Street Dreams Soccer
Academy

Azael Flores Guerrero enjoys and has a passion in making an impact in the community that raised him. He co-founded Street Dreams Soccer Academy which aims to provide socioeconomically disadvantaged youth the opportunity to excel on and off the field. In addition, is the Executive Director of the Cesar E. Chavez Business Improvement District and started a new venture of bringing Mexican gastronomy to Milwaukee by launching Aza's Tortas Ahogadas.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

FINANCE / ACCOUNTING



Mariela Garay

Financial Advisor
Northwestern Mutual

Mariela Garay joined Northwestern Mutual in April of 2020. After previously serving the Hispanic community as an immigration law paralegal for over five years, she chose to join NM in the pursuit of creating a lasting impact on families and individuals in a world where there is so little minority representation. Mariela's intention is to make financial planning and education



Oscar F. Castañeda

Assistant Director
Northwestern Mutual

Oscar is a proud MPS graduate of South Division High School and holds an active Series 6 FINRA Securities license, a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis on International Business from UW-Whitewater, and an MBA - Management from Cardinal Stritch University. In his current professional position with Northwestern Mutual, Oscar is an Assistant Director and leads a high performing team of deep product experts to train, educate, and provide sales support to financial advisors through case consultations and product solutions. Oscar collaborates across Northwestern Mutual to align Financial Planning & Sales Support strategic priorities and goals by leading important projects and liaison responsibilities for various regions, product areas and market segment teams.



Cristina Villanueva

Chief Operating Officer of
Nacional Negosee, Inc.
Owner if Ambas Financial
Services, LLC

A native of Mexico, Ms. Villanueva is currently the COO of negozee, Inc., a national network which focuses on strengthening Hispanic-owned small businesses. Cristina also serves as the Agency Leader of the Financial Advisory Window. Cristina also owns Ambas Financial Services, a tax firm in Milwaukee. Ms. Villanueva holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing from UW-Milwaukee. In 2022, Ms. Villanueva was also recognized as one of Wisconsin's 46 most influential Latino Leaders. In 2020, she was chosen for the 40 Under 40 Award by the Milwaukee Business Journal.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

HEALTH



Dr. Claudia Ruiz-Wiske

Urgent Care Physician

Children's Wisconsin

Dr. Claudia Ruiz-Wiske grew up in Southern California. She is a 1st generation Mexican American. She attended Western State College of Colorado and obtained a bachelor of science degree. She continued her studies at Michigan State University where she completed a Master of Science in Zoology and a few years later her medical degree from the Osteopathic school at MSU.

Dr. Ruiz-Wiske completed her pediatrics residency at The University of Chicago, Comer Children's Hospital in 2008.

She has had several jobs in a variety of urban settings, as a hospitalist at The Detroit Medical Center, in Detroit, then a pediatrician at The Sixteenth Street Community Health Center in Milwaukee. Most recently, she is employed by Children's Wisconsin Urgent Care division.

She loves working with youth and medically complex and underserved minority communities and families.

Dr. Ruiz-Wiske has 3 children with her husband who is also a physician



Samantha González

NICU BSN, Registered Nurse

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

As a first generation, Samantha graduated from Carroll University 2020 with a double major in Nursing and Spanish and a minor in Psychology. She currently works at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Milwaukee, WI. She also holds several roles outside of her profession including being Ms. Mexican Fiesta 2021-2022 and a lab professor for Carroll University.



Holly Pautz

MRI Technologist

Children's Wisconsin

I have been working as a MRI Technologist for 10 years, working with both adults and children. I attended Marian University and UW Health and Clinics for my education and training. I look forward to sharing information about my experience working in the Imaging Healthcare field and answer any questions.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

HEALTH



Chad Metzen

Instructional Chair
Biomedical Electronics
Technology

Chad Matzen is the Instructional Chair of the Biomedical Electronics Technology program at Milwaukee Area Technical College. He began his career in Biomed 14 years ago with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.



Dr. José Salazar Osuna

Pediatric and Critical Care
Surgeon
Children's Wisconsin

I was born in Mexico and migrated to Baltimore, MD for surgical training, after finishing medical school. My wife is also a physician and we have lived in Milwaukee for five years.



*Maria Claudia Marez
Trujillo*

Community Health School
Nurse
H.W. Longfellow School
Children's Wisconsin

After earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Claudia entered the Medical field to explore her passion for Community Health and Pediatric nursing. In addition to her past experience as a Pediatric Nurse, and Emergency Dept. Nurse, Claudia is now working as a School Nurse at H. W. Longfellow Bilingual School through Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

LAW



Kristina M. Cervera

Managing Attorney/ Owner
Cervera Garcia Law Offices

Attorney Cervera Garcia is a lifelong resident of Milwaukee County. An attorney in this community for the past 24 years, managing her own private practice, Cervera Garcia Law Offices, LLC. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Marquette University and Juris Doctor from Marquette University Law School. Attorney Cervera Garcia helps people navigate through the court system, particularly during highly challenging times in their lives. She also understands the importance of staying connected to the Latino community, and in her youth she spent many hours volunteering for Mexican Fiesta. She has worked closely with local community organizations and currently serves as a Consultant Attorney for the Mexican Consulate



Melissa Soberalski

Managing Attorney
Member of Wisconsin State Bar
Marquette University Law School
Graduate

Attorney Soberalski graduated from Marquette University Law School in 2012 with pro bono honors. She continues her pro bono service with local organizations like the United Migrant Opportunity Services (UMOS), the Latina Resource Center, and Voces de la Frontera. In 2018, she was recognized by Marquette University Law School as a "Rising Star" for having an impact on the immigrant community early on in her legal career, and in 2020 she was awarded the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) Chapter Pro Bono Champion award. Attorney Soberalski is a member of the Wisconsin State Bar, American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association, Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce, and Latino Chamber of Commerce of SE Wisconsin.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

LIBERAL ARTS



Dinorah Marquez

Latino Art Strings Program

Director

United Community Center

Born in Mexico, Dinorah Marquez Abadiano began her music studies at age 10. She received an undergraduate degree in American Studies and International Relations from Northwestern University and the University of Florence, Italy. Upon graduation she worked as Assistant Press Secretary for Chicago's Mayor Harold Washington. Dinorah returned to music full time and performed with various orchestras in Mexico, where she also established a violin program to support the continuation of dance music traditions in Xico, Veracruz. She received Master's Degrees in Viola performance and String Pedagogy from UW Milwaukee. She went on to establish and direct the Latino Arts Strings Program at the United Community Center. She was named "Milwaukee Artist and Milwaukee Music Teacher of the Year," received the "National Afterschool Innovator" Award and Wisconsin's "Martin Luther King Heritage Award." In 2022, Governor Evers selected Ms. Márquez to the Wisconsin Arts Board, and Milwaukee Magazine granted her the "Arts Advocate Betty Award" for helping to build and expand Milwaukee's arts scene.



Giselle Oliva

Main Member

Dear Dualidad



Javier Ramon

Main Member

Dear Dualidad

Dear Dualidad is a musical group that finds harmony amidst their cultural roots and modern influences. Main members, Javier Roman and Giselle Oliva, both Mexican-Americans, use their music to express every bit that makes up their identity. Dear Dualidad has performed in events around Milwaukee, including Mexican Fiesta and Frida Fest. Their style falls in the realm of all their influences which include, but are not limited to: mariachi, alternative rock, traditional Mexican and folkloric music, cumbia, salsa, jazz and more. Ms. Oliva and Mr. Roman both hold Bachelor of Music degrees at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

MEDICINE



Dr. Javier Mora

Resident Physician
Harvard Radiation Oncology
Program

The son of Mexican immigrants, Javier was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Javier graduated summa cum laude from Marquette University where he majored in biomedical sciences. He then received his medical doctorate (M.D.) degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin, where he was involved in Black and Latino community outreach, mentorship of pre-medical students, medical Spanish curricular programming, and research in ZIP-code based disparities in pancreatic cancer. Dr. Mora completed his transitional year internship at Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center in Milwaukee. Currently, he is a resident physician at the Harvard Radiation Oncology Program in Boston, Massachusetts, where he helps develop radiation treatment plans to care for people with cancer.



Martha Hernández-Krummel

Carroll University Graduate
Attending Medical College of
Wisconsin
Master of Science in Anesthesia
Program

Ms. Hernandez-Krummel obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Carroll University. She is an active volunteer, as she is currently the Deputy State Director for Young Adults for LULAC. She also volunteers at the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation as well as for the American Cancer Society.



Karen Ruiz Jimenez

Surgical Technician
St.Luke's Hospital

Originally from Michoacan, Mexico, Ms. Ruiz Jimenez has attended Milwaukee Area Technical College and Cardinal Stritch University. A DACA recipient, Karen hopes to encourage future DACA recipients to search for resources in order to continue their higher education. Karen's goal is also to become a healthcare provider so she can educate the community and help bring awareness of the importance of health education like preventive care.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

POLITICAL



JoCasta Zamarripa

Alderwoman 8th District
City of Milwaukee

JoCasta Zamarripa was born and raised in Milwaukee, graduated from St. Joan Antida High School, and holds a bachelor's degree from UW-Milwaukee. She previously worked as a Community Outreach Coordinator for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, and was active in the 9 to 5 National Association of Working Women. She has also held board positions with 9 to 5 Milwaukee and Equality Wisconsin, and currently serves on the boards of Citizen Action of Wisconsin and Emerge Wisconsin. JoCasta's public service career began in 2010 when she made history by becoming the first Latina elected to the Wisconsin State Legislature. She served in the Legislature for five terms before making history once again in 2020 by becoming the first Latina and the first openly LGBTQ member of Milwaukee's Common Council.



Israel Ramon

Register of Deeds
Milwaukee County

Israel Ramón was appointed the Milwaukee County Register of Deeds by Governor Tony Evers on May 10th, 2019. Mr. Ramón received a Certificate in Respiratory Therapy in 1985 and an Associate of Science Degree from the College of Lake County in 1986, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Management and Business (magna cum laude) from Barat College of in Lake Forrest, IL in 1989, and a law degree (Juris Doctor) from Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee, in 1994. He is member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association, a Fellow in the Wisconsin Law Foundation, a member of the Property Records Industry Association, and the National Association of Elected and Appointed Latino Officers.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

POLITICAL



Marcela "Xela" Garcia

Executive Director
Walker's Point Center for the
Arts
District 6 MPS Board of
Directors

Marcela "Xela" Garcia currently serves as the Executive Director at Walker's Point Center for the Arts in Milwaukee, WI and was elected to the Milwaukee Public Schools Board of Directors representing District #6. She earned her BA in English Literature with an emphasis in Creative Writing & Chicana/Latina Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and holds a certification in Nonprofit Leadership. Xela was awarded Board Sources' National Emerging Non-Profit Leader Award in 2012, was recognized as one of Wisconsin's Most Powerful Latinos in 2018, was selected to the 2020 class of the Milwaukee Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Award and the 2020 Arts + Culture Leaders of Color Fellowship with Americans for the Arts. She currently serves as a mayoral appointee to the City of Milwaukee Arts Board, a gubernatorial appointee to the Wisconsin Arts Board, and is a founding member of the art collective Raíces Revolucionarias.



Marcelia Nicholson

Chairwoman of Milwaukee
County Board of Supervisors

A native of Milwaukee, Marcelia Nicholson is an award-winning activist, and the first Black woman and Latina elected as Chairwoman of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. She sits on the board of directors of several community and national organizations, including Local Progress, the Milwaukee Art Museum, Wisconsin Counties Association, Clean Wisconsin, Southeastern Wisconsin Planning Commission, and the UW-Extension Board of Visitors. Chairwoman Nicholson works to make opportunities that were given to her as a young woman growing up in 53206—one of the nation's poorest and most incarcerated ZIP codes—available to others. Chairwoman Nicholson is a proud product of Milwaukee Public Schools and is an honors graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. As a member of the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association (MTEA), she worked to organize MTEA members and community groups for better teaching and classroom conditions. Chairwoman Nicholson is also the Director of Civic Engagement and Independent Political Power at the Center for Popular Democracy.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

STEM



James Krueger

Biomedical Tech
Children's Hospital

Mr. Kruger is a Certified Biomedical Electronics Technician at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Part of his responsibilities include maintaining, calibrating and forecasting equipment in the medical devices industry. He recently obtained his Bachelor of Science in Business Management and Servant Leadership from Wisconsin Lutheran College.



Maria Jose Castillo Venegas

Formulation Chemist
SC Johnson & Sons

María José Castillo Venegas, also known as Miss Racine 2022, is currently an employee at SC Johnson & Sons as a chemist. Maria is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside with a Bachelor's of Science in Chemistry and Applied Mathematics, with a Green Chemistry Certificate. Maria is also a small business owner (Cozy By Castillo). She frequently discusses her disabilities, one of which being Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, and has spent this past year as Miss Racine sharing her experiences as a disabled, Mexican immigrant



Zaida Hernandez

Power Solution Engineer
Generac Power System

Zaida Hernandez-Irisson earned her Associate Degree in both Biomedical Engineering Technology and Electrical Engineering Technology at Gateway Technical College and then went on to graduate from MSOE with a concentration in Electrical Engineering. She currently works as a Market Focused Sales Engineering Manager at Generac Power Systems. Zaida served as chapter president for the Society of Women Engineers and is the former Ms. Mexican Fiesta Ambassador and a member of the Board of Trustees for Gateway Technical College.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

STEM



Alejandra Hernandez

Toxicologist
UW-Madison

Ms. Gutierrez graduated magna cum laude in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Philander Smith College, a historical black college in Little Rock, Arkansas. Alejandra spent a summer researching at the University of Wisconsin-Madison through the Molecular & Environmental Toxicology Summer Research Opportunities Program. She obtained a Master's Degree in Molecular & Environmental Toxicology at UW-Madison. Alejandra received a \$90,000 grant from FRAXA for her Master's Thesis project. Alejandra is excited at the prospect of bringing the skills she developed through her research experience to one day work for the Environmental Protection Agency.



Carlos Vazquez

Co-Founder
Latinos in Tech

Mr. Vasquez is the co-founder of Latinos in Tech, which aims to develop and get Latinos in the tech field and founder of HablaCode, an e-learning platform to educate Spanish speakers in web development. His vision is to increase the number of Latinos working in the technology field. An award-winning engineer, Carlos is also a full-stack engineer at Northwestern Mutual.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

COMMITTEE



Teresa C. Mercado
Executive Director
Wisconsin Hispanic
Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Born in Jalisco, México and moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the age of 22, Mrs. Mercado started as a volunteer for the foundation twenty four years ago. As her passion grew for the community, so did her involvement with the foundation and in 2002 she was appointed Executive Director of WHSF. During her twenty six years with WHSF she has become a dynamic Latina leader within her community. Her passion for education, drive to improve the community, and determination to make things happen, are all evident by the accomplishments made over the years for the foundation.



Vanessa Vásquez
Director, Caroline
Scholars Program
Mount Mary University

Ms. Vasquez currently serves as the Director of the Caroline Scholars full-ride scholarship Program at Mount Mary University. Previously, Vanessa worked in K-12 education at Carmen Schools of Science & Technology and in Higher Education at MATC and at Alverno College. In 2019, Vanessa was recognized by the Milwaukee Business Journal (MBJ) 40 Under 40 Award recipients, the 2018 UMOS Hispanic Woman of the Year, and the 2016 Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee (HPGM) Future Leader Award. She served as the 2013-2014 Ambassador representing the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation/Mexican Fiesta Inc.



Zaida Hernández-Irisson
Power Solution Engineer
Generac Power System

Zaida Hernandez-Irisson earned her Associate Degree in both Biomedical Engineering Technology and Electrical Engineering Technology at Gateway Technical College and then went on to graduate from MSOE with a concentration in Electrical Engineering. She currently works as a Market Focused Sales Engineering Manager at Generac Power Systems. Zaida served as chapter president for the Society of Women Engineers and is the former Ms. Mexican Fiesta Ambassador and a member of the Board of Trustees for Gateway Technical College.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.



Diana Moreno

Client Success Manager
Omeda

Diana received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Marquette University in 2001 and her Master's of Business Administration from Concordia University in 2012. She currently works at Omeda, a Chicago-based marketing technology software company. Since 2004, she has served on the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation (Mexican Fiesta). Diana also volunteers for Make A-Wish Foundation, where she helps to coordinate the wishes for children and is also on the Board of Directors for the Hispanic Alumni Association at Marquette University.



Martha R. Hernández

Carroll University Graduate
Attending Medical College of
Wisconsin
Master of Science in
Anesthesia Program

Ms. Hernandez-Krummel obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Carroll University. She is an active volunteer, as she is currently the Deputy State Director for Young Adults for LULAC. She also volunteers at the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation as well as for the American Cancer Society.



Samantha González

NICU BSN, Registered Nurse
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

As a first generation, Samantha graduated from Carroll University 2020 with a double major in Nursing and Spanish and a minor in Psychology. She currently works at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in Milwaukee, WI. She also holds several roles outside of her profession including being Ms. Mexican Fiesta 2021-2022 and a lab professor for Carroll University.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.



Nora Godoy-González

Community School
Coordinator

H.W. Longfellow

Nora Godoy-González graduated from Marquette University with two Bachelor Degrees in Spanish for the Business Professions and Public Relations. Soon after graduating, she started her role as the Community School Coordinator at H.W. Longfellow by way of Journey House. In her role she supports school initiatives and priorities by following the school transformational model through the lens of Cultural Relevance, Equity, and Shared Leadership. As the new Ms. Mexican Fiesta Ambassador, Nora plans on aligning her career with the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, Inc. mission to provide scholarships to young Latine individuals who want to pursue higher education.



Gilberto Cervantes

Maldonado

Sales Engineer

Badger Meter, Inc.

Gilberto is a DACA recipient and a first-generation college graduate from the Milwaukee School of Engineering. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and previously worked as a market-focused sales engineering manager for Generac Power Systems. Gilberto is also an adjunct professor for Gateway Technical College's electrical engineering technology department.



WISCONSIN HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

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Hispanic

W I S C O N S I N



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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS



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Wisconsin
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L.A.M.A.

**FEEL
REFORM**

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