



Hispanic Women's Council



Spring/Summer 2018 Newsletter

2018 Board of Directors

Dr. Victoria Sánchez
President

Marcela Sandoval
Vice-President

Raqui Martínez
Treasurer

Vangie Samora
Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Eva Gonzales

Kathryn Ramsey

Dr. Carmen Samora

Rosella Peña Trujillo

Therese Trujillo

The Hispanic Women's Council is a non-profit, inter-generational organization established in 1988 to promote, support, and create opportunities for Hispanic Women

Hispanic Women's Council
P. O. Box 27271
Albuquerque, NM 87125
www.nmhwc.com



Hispanic Women's Council invites you to **Meet & Greet** our 2018/2019 HWC Scholarship Recipients

Thursday, September 27, 2018

6:00pm to 8:00pm

South Broadway Cultural Center
1025 Broadway Blvd., SE, 87102

Light refreshments will be served. There is no fee to attend.

Please RSVP by September 20 to Eva Gonzales:
evagonzalesc@gmail.com or call 353-0028

Lizdebeth Carrasco-Gallardo—JD Law

Stephanie A. Castillo—BA Elementary Education

Monique Gallegos—BS Biology & Spanish

Wendolin Garcia-Martinez—BS Biochemistry

Rebecca Gonzales—MBA Management Information Systems

Natalie Hernandez—BS Biochemistry

Lisa Herrera—MD Doctor of Medicine

Cristela Lozano—BA Psychology

Bernice A. Madrid—MA Organization, Information and Learning
Sciences (OILS)

Carlie Rose Marquez—BA Political Science

Amanda M. Martinez—BS Population Health/Earth Planetary Sciences

Trisha Martinez—Ph.D. American Studies

Florencia Monge—Ph.D. Biomedical Engineering

Kimberly Obano-Rogge—BS Chemical Engineering

Crestencia Pihlaja—BBA Business Management Administration &
Marketing

Alexis Rael—BBS Management Information Systems

Ariana Rodriguez—BA Criminology

Wenonah A. Stevens—MPH Public Health

Irma Vasquez—BS Mechanical Engineering

Lucretia Vigil—MPH Public Health

Rosa Elena Prada Vivas—MA Hispanic Linguistics

March Event: **Merienda and Lecture by Dr. Carmen Samora**



On March 25, 2018, we gathered to enjoy the company of “comadres” over tea and light snacks and to hear a lecture by Dr. Carmen Samora. The HWC audience was captivated by Dr. Samora’s presentation about “creativity handed down generations” of her family. Through her words and archival family photos, her family history came to life.

Dr. Samora started sewing at age five using a needle. Later she started using a sewing machine and by the age of 12, she was making dresses for her Mother. She didn’t take classes, no one taught her, she was self-taught. As an adult, she took her talents to another level, learning to make paper, dying her own yarn then weaving her own fabric and creating multi-medium wall hangings. She earned a BFA in Weaving/Clay and an MFA in Fiber Arts/Clay in the process.

Much later in life, Dr. Samora began to wonder where these artistic sensibilities came from and this led her to research her family history from this perspective. In so doing she found generations of women, and men, who also expressed extraordinary artistic skills in sewing, weaving, crocheting, tatting, wood carving and furniture making. It is this research that she shared with HWC through archival photos of her artistic and creative ancestors. She has also collected artifacts of hand-made items they made and these too were part of her power point presentation.

Special thanks to Terry Trujillo and Eva Gonzales who planned and coordinated this event. It was a delightful afternoon of learning and connecting in the newly-opened Let’s Fiesta! Event Space owned and operated by HWC members Carol Vigil and Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas.



An attentive audience listens to Dr. Carmen Samora talk about her research. Inset photo, Carmen Samora with her husband Steve Moffat...he’s wearing a shirt and vest sewn by Carmen.



Mother-Daughter Event, May 6, 2018

Our annual Mother Daughter Event brings together mothers and daughters, nieces and aunts, sisters, best friends, and in some cases three and four generations in one family of women who support and nurture one another.

This year some 70 women gathered at Hotel Albuquerque for the festive event, enjoying good conversation with their “comadres” while enjoying a delicious meal. It all started with a beautiful blessing delivered by Dr. Mari-Luci Jaramillo (see sidebar). A personal trivia bingo is a great mixer because it requires attendees to visit guests at other tables in order to find the needed trivia for their bingo. Winners took home a floral centerpiece donated by Balloons & Blooms. Door prizes sprinkled throughout the afternoon added to the fun and the silent auction drew lots of bidders. All the while, lovely background music was provided by Ambrose Rivera.

Kudos to Therese Trujillo, Rosella Pena Trujillo and Marcela Sandoval, the organizing committee. And special thanks to Eva Gonzales for “pitching in” the day of the event.

A good time was had by all and the photos on the following pages capture the joy and love of kinship and friendship.



Above, Rosella Pena Trujillo and her daughter Therese Trujillo. Photo right: Marcela Sandoval and her daughter Francela Valdez.



Prayer for Multi-Generations

Bless us O Lord, give us grateful hearts, O Father, for all thy mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others.

Help us to continue to reach out across generations. For together we are able to share the treasures of our faith, our knowledge, our love, and our respect for each other.

Help us to continue in our work to help those who want to attend college. For they are the key to our present and our future.

Continue to bless the members who mentor our youth. For they provide social, spiritual and personal support and guidance that will help our students down the professional paths they choose to take.

Bless those of us who are not well and especially Melita, Julia and others who we might not know who are carrying a burden and need our prayers.

Let us pray that the safety net of love and nurturing among us is woven tightly and that the experiences we share when we are together will enrich us all.

Bless us O Lord and let us know your goodness in the joy and love we feel for one another.

And thank you O Lord for all thy blessings to our membership. Amen.

By Dr. Mari-Luci Jaramillo

Mother-Daughter Event May 6, 2018

(photos by Carol Vigil & Vangie Samora)



Bernadette Howell and daughter Jeannine Barreras



L-R: Mary Martinez, her aunt Philly Carrasco and her mother Diana Sisneros



Four generations: Erminda L. Sachs, Lucinda Sachs, Hilary Grossetete, Paige Aurelia Grossetete



Three generations: Dr. Helen Lucero, daughter Nicky Ovitt and granddaughter Ramona Delyser.



Sisters, Vangie Samora & Elsi Sanchez



Rose Stein & Rosella Peña Trujillo



Carol Vigil & Leila Flores-Dueñas



Three generations, L-R: Loretta Gonzales, her grandmother Elma Sanchez and her mother Mona Lisa Gonzales.



Four generations: Toni Ryals (center in purple sweater) and her daughters Rosa Martinez (on her left) and Norma Jaramillo (on her right, back row). Rosa's two daughters, Angie and Melina, are to Rosa's left. Melina's daughter Emma in foreground in red. Norma's daughter-in-law Emilee is to her right with her two daughters Olivia (in her arms) and Annabelle in foreground.



Vi Florez and daughter Kathryn Ramsey



Photo Right:
Eva Gonzales



Raqui Martinez & Edna Lopez



DeAnza Valencia & her daughter Madeline Valencia



Sylvia Ortiz-Spence and her mother Mary Ortiz



Therese Trujillo & Dr. Merrilee Foreman enjoying the silent auction.

HWC Scholarship Recipients Are Moving Forward

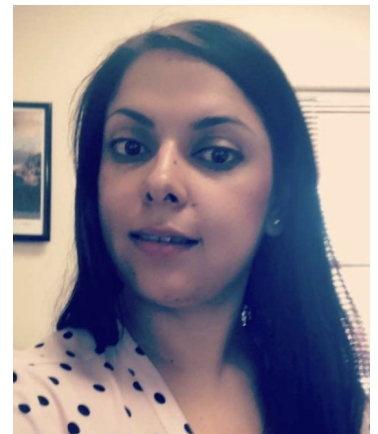


On April 6, 2018, HWC members attended a showing of the play “Los Dreamers” followed by a “talkback” with the cast. The play was written by HWC scholarship recipient **Mónica Sánchez** in partial fulfillment of her dissertation towards an MFA in Dramatic Writing. We are pleased to announce that Monica received her MFA in Dramatic Writing with distinction! Following is a statement from Monica about the process.

I received my MFA in Dramatic Writing with distinction. It entailed an oral defense of my dissertation, “THEATRE AND THE OVERWHELMING QUESTION: Why Make Theatre in These Times?” From the abstract: The following essay communicates my journey as a longtime theatre artist as I have navigated my way through the discipline, and towards the craft of playwriting. My intention to study in the program was soon escalated by an existential turning point subsequent to the neoliberal agenda that gained momentum pre, post, and during the election of 2016. This thesis is in response to the question, “Why make theatre now?” I approach this query through the themes and the characters in my plays; through a socio-cultural-historic lens, and via an examination of the creative process as it relates to the metaphysics of dreaming and the science of quantum physics.

Next Mónica heads to Chicago to participate in the 2018 Fornés Playwriting Workshop, led by award-winning playwright and Fornés protégée Migdalia Cruz at the University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Latino Studies, in collaboration with the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, and the Department of Film, Television and Theatre. María Irene Fornés is considered by many to be the “founding mother” of U.S. Latinx theatre, and the Fornés Playwriting Workshop will impart her playwriting methods to participants as they immerse themselves in her legacy over the course of one week.

Carla Nieto was an HWC Scholarship recipient from 2013 through 2016 and graduated from the Anderson School of Management with a BA in Business Administration and a concentration in Accounting in December 2016. While a student, Carla worked in the non-profit sector as a Finance/Grant Manager for the Center of Southwest Culture and the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center. When she graduated, she completed her requirements to become a CPA candidate. Carla is currently studying for the CPA and works two part time jobs, for the First Unitarian Church as an accountant and for Valerie Borrego, CPA. Valerie Borrego is an HWC member, and she and Carla connected as a result of the mentorship offered by HWC. Carla enjoys giving back to the community and sits on the Finance Committee for *Enlace Comunitario* and is President of *La Vida Nueva* Condominium Association.



The Hispanic Women Council played an important role in who I’ve become. My assigned mentor, Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas served as a psychological and academic guide. I had multiple moments over the years where I felt like giving up, and each time I felt that way Leila was there for me. In addition to my mentor I found the annual meetings (Meet & Greet) to be helpful. Those meeting made me feel empowered. I enjoyed being surrounded by successful, professional women from all types of fields. Through these meetings I also got to meet other young professionals facing similar struggles of finishing school. The final component of HWC is the scholarship component which allowed me to cover the cost of my school books. All of the support I received was greatly appreciated.

A message to HWC from **Alyssa R. Cruz:**

I was tremendously fortunate to be a Hispanic Women's Council Scholarship recipient from 2008 through 2016. During this time, the Council helped me not only financially, but also had a dramatic impact on my career path with guidance and support from my undergraduate studies through the completion of pharmacy school.

In 2012, I graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biochemistry with Magna Cum Laude Honors. With the help of HWC networking opportunities and mentorship, I strengthened my application and was admitted into UNM's four-year pharmacy graduate program. I earned my Doctor of Pharmacy Degree in May of 2016. Since graduating, I have successfully taken and passed 3 different licensing tests to become a licensed Pharmacist in both NM and CA. I have also taken the NM Pharmacist Clinician course and anticipate obtaining the required direct patient care hours to complete the Pharmacist Clinician Certification in the near future. Currently, I live in Los Angeles, CA where I work as a Community Pharmacist. On a daily basis, I advocate for patient's health and wellbeing, administer immunizations to improve public health, and educate and counsel patients on their drug treatments.

The HWC and the support I have received has truly inspired, assisted, and guided me to reach my educational and career goals and will, undoubtedly, help me to continue to be a valuable leader in the future of our healthcare. Thank you for your encouragement and belief in my abilities during this entire journey, without you this would not have been possible.



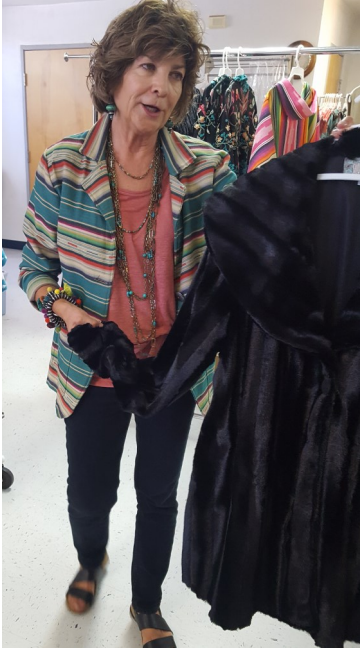
Exito y Mas



Dr. Rose Diaz accepted a position with the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) in 2012 to stabilize and expand their library funded by the Administration for Native Americans--a program of the Health and Human Services Department. In 2014, she acquired another ANA grant that allowed for the training of archivists in Pueblo communities. Through federal, state, institutional support, and individual donors, the project grew into a \$1 million program from 2012-2017. Over this time, the IPCC staff and volunteers also mentored and trained over 20 interns on-site and 14 community interns from 12 Pueblos and most important, the hiring of a full time Native librarian and a library tech.

In 2017, Dr. Diaz received the Guardian of Culture and Lifeways Award for Leadership from the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM), an international indigenous organization. In addition, she received the Community Service Award from the NM Library Association, and was honored by the Zuni Tribal Council for her assistance in establishing the first Tribal Council Archives and Library in New Mexico. She is currently working on a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant to gather oral histories from contemporary Pueblo women for IPCC (2018-2021). The new library at the IPCC had its grand opening on April 21, 2018 and several HWC members attended and toured the library and special collections.

Tour of Silverado Fashions



Sylvia Ortiz-Spence holding one of the faux fur jackets.

On Saturday, August 25, Sylvia Ortiz-Spence hosted a tour of her business, Silverado Fashions, located at 1318 4th Street, N.W in Albuquerque. The tour was informative and gave attendees a view into the world of design and manufacture of soft home furnishings (pillows, curtains, bedding, etc.) and clothing (shirts, jackets, tunics, skirts, pants, etc.). The fabrics range from bold southwestern prints and colors to flowing velvety solids to faux furs and are used (sometimes in combination) to create unique items personally designed by Ortiz-Spence.

Sylvia Ortiz-Spence grew up in Las Vegas, NM, and moved to Albuquerque when she was 18 to attend the University of New Mexico where she earned a Masters in Adult Education and became a teacher. She comes from a long line of weavers and she was drawn to the idea of a business venture that promoted the designs she saw reflected in the traditional weavings of Northern New Mexico. Eventually, she and her sister Lucille started the Silverado business and “the rest is history.” Today she employs 16 people and her creations are marketed locally, nationally and internationally. Sylvia became a member of HWC after attending the recent Mother-Daughter Event.



Rolls of fabric line an entire wall; each is given a catchy name like Canyon Lands, Trailblazer, Abbey Road or “de colores.”



Ortiz-Spence (left) explains how the fabric is cut on large tables using electric scissors that can cut through several layers.



Attendees: Eva Gonzales, Rose Spader, Elsie Sanchez, Rosella Trujillo, Sylvia Vigil-Raines, Linda Lopez McAlister, Angelina Sanchez-Clark, Victoria Sanchez. Not shown: Merrilee Foreman, Raqui Martinez, Terry Trujillo, Vangie Samora



One of the many vibrant fabrics used to create unique clothing items.

Thank you to the following for donating items for the
Mother-Daughter Event silent auction:

LaBella Laser Medical Center
El Patio de Albuquerque
Rosella Pena Trujillo
Plants of the Southwest
Vangie Samora
Elsie Sanchez
Kathry Ramsey
Maria Crill
Virginia Macias
Monte Carlo Steak House
New Mexico BioPark Society
Bosque CBD, LLC

Eva Gonzales
Gina & Therese Trujillo
Dr. Victoria Sanchez
Albuquerque Int'l Balloon Fiesta
Osteostrong
Heritage Hotels & Resorts
Raqui Martinez
Karla Barela Lucero
Rosalie Romero
Vintage 423
IL Bosco Ristorante Italiano
Samia Hindi

SAVE THE DATE

HWC Black & White Masquerade Charity Ball

A "brindis" to 30 years of HWC

October 20, 2018



**Let's celebrate our success and longevity, honor some trailblazers with the HWC
"Primeras" Award, and raise funds for the HWC Scholarship Fund.**

**We will enjoy good company, feast on a delicious meal, bid on silent auction items,
enjoy "La Marcha" and dance the night away.**

**Festivities begin at 6:00pm, Albuquerque Country Club, 601 Laguna Blvd., SW.
Cost is \$100.00 per person (\$1,000 for a table of 10).**

2018 HWC Membership

Clara Apodaca, Former First Lady of New Mexico

Lillian Apodaca, Attorney

Dr. Marlene Ballejos
Assistant Dean for Admissions
UNM School of Medicine

Jeannine Miller Barreras,
Vice President, Miller's Inc.

Verónica Bujórquez

Valerie J. Borrego, CPA

Jane Braithwaite, Homemaker

Philly Carrasco, Retired

Sylvia Celedón-Pattichis, Interim
Assoc. Dean, UNM College of Educ.

Gloria Chávez-Sampson

Dr. Rose Díaz, Library & Archives
Research Historian, Indian Pueblo
Cultural Center

Asia Negrón Esposito
Educator/Journalist

Dr. Leila Flores-Dueñas, Assoc. Pro-
fessor, UNM College of Education

Dr. Viola E. Flórez, Professor and
PNM Endowed Chair, UNM
College of Education

Dr. Merrilee Foreman, Owner
Chiropractic Lifestyle Center

Wendolin García

Margaret Gonzales, Senior Opera-
tions Mgr. UNM Graduate Studies

Tanya Gonzales, Paralegal, Law
Offices of the Public Defender

María Gutiérrez, Financial Planner

Samia Hindi, Educator

Dr. Mari-Luci Jaramillo, Former
U. S. Ambassador to Honduras

Viola M. Johnston, Retired Accountant

Teresa Leger de Fernández, Officer
Leger Law and Strategy, LLC

Edna L. López, President & CEO
Compa Industries, Inc.

Lucia López, Retired

Rose López, Retired

Karla Barela Lucero, Advance Planning
Consultant, FRENCH Funerals

Dr. Helen Lucero
Retired Museum Curator/Director

Monique Martínez, School Counselor

Stella Noriega, Tax Consultant

Maricela (Mari) Ochoa, Outreach Men-
tor/Consultant for NM School for the
Blind & Visually Impaired

Melita Ortega, Retired

Carmen M. Rodríguez, President
Carmen Cares Consulting

Dr. Valerie Romero-Leggott
Vice Chancellor for Diversity
UNM Health Sciences Center

Ermina Sachs, Artist

Lucinda Sachs, Writer

Dr. Angélica Sánchez-Clark, Historian
National Park Service

Elsie Sánchez
Small Business Consultant

Mónica Sánchez, MFA, Playwright
Former HWC Scholarship Recipient

Petra Sánchez, Retired Educator

Dr. Shelle Sánchez, Director
Albuquerque Cultural Affairs Dept.

Verónica T. Sánchez
Retired UNM Administrator

Mary Frances Santistevan
Retired, APS

Edwina Diana Sisneros

Sally Skinner

Rose Spader, Author

Sylvia Ortiz Spence, President
Silverado Apparel & Home

Rose Montañón Stein, Retired

Mary Lou Trujillo, Retired
NM Health & Environment Dept.

Annette Gutiérrez Turk, Owner
A B Q Annie's Beads & Quilts

DeAnza Valencia, Associate State
Director for Advocacy, NM AARP

Rachel A. Valenzuela

Carol Vigil, Owner, Let's Fiesta!
Event Space

Lucretia Vigil, UNM Student
HWC Scholarship Recipient

Sylvia Vigil-Raines, Senior Technical
Writer, Clover Leaf Solutions

Linda Zamora, Owner
Rosemary Enterprises



Melita Larrañaga Ortega
1922-2018

On August 20, 2018, **Melita Ortega** took her final “despedida” at age 96. She was a long-time member of HWC, served a term on the board and made so many contributions to the success of HWC that she was awarded the “Estrella Brillante” Award this past February. She is featured in the HWC book, “Mujeres Valerosas,” and her oral history is deposited in the HWC Archives. Melita was born in Las Vegas, NM, graduated from Highland High School and attended NM Highlands University. She married Ishmael Ortega and dedicated herself to his success and raising their three sons and one daughter. She also pursued personal interests and honed her sales skills starting with home-based sales, then moving to sales work in department stores. At age 53, she and her husband moved to Chicago where she became a hostess for the Drake Hotel and had a long and rewarding career helping the hotel draw clientele and repeat customers due largely to her engaging and professional style. She brought these same qualities to HWC, and she will always be remembered for her grace, caring and optimism.