



NC Society of Hispanic Professionals
"Promoting Education among Hispanic Youth"

22ND HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022, 7:30 AM

*Tu Vida, Tu Futuro, Tu Destino... Es
Ahora... ¡Edúcate! Gradúate!*





NC Society of Hispanic Professionals
 "Promoting Education among Hispanic Youth"

22ND HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

March 25, 2022

¡BIENVENIDOS!

North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP) and NC State University welcome and thank each one of you for attending our 22nd Hispanic Educational Summit.

We offer our sincerest appreciation to our Host, North Carolina State University Provost Office, NC State - College of Education, and NC State - College of Engineering for co-hosting and co-sponsoring the largest educational conference for middle and high school Hispanic students in North Carolina!

In addition, we would like to thank all of the teachers and school administrators that have brought their students to the Summit today. Thank you for encouraging them to excel, stay in school, and pursue their educational goals and dreams!

¡Nuestros mejores deseos para que aprendan y se diviertan mucho durante SU conferencia!
 ¡Únete a los estudiantes hispanos que están terminando con su "High School".

Tu Vida, Tu Futuro, Tu Destino... Es Ahora... ¡Educate! ¡Gradúate!

We are thankful for our wonderful sponsors who have made this 22nd Summit a reality:

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NC SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONALS

8450 Chapel Hill Road, Suite 209, Cary, NC 27513
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22ND HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

AGENDA

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Registration
- 8:20 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Welcome: **Rocio Anderson**
NCSHP President
- 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Greetings: **Josh Stein**
NC Attorney General
- 8:45 a.m. – 8:55 a.m. NCSHP Board Remarks: **Dr. MariaRosa Rangel**
NCSHP Board Chair
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m. Keynote Speaker: **Ricky Hurtado**
NC House District 63 Representative
- 9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break, Exhibits, & Networking
- 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Breakout Sessions I
- 11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions II
- 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker: **Adolfo Rodriguez**
Senior Vice President of IT Transformation at Advance Auto Parts
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Scholarship Award Recipients' Recognition: **Jorge Pachecho**
NCSHP Board of Directors Scholarship Subcommittee Chair
- 2:15 p.m. – 2:25 p.m. Raffles: **Ricardo Ekmay**
NCSHP Board of Directors Fundraising Subcommittee Chair
- 2:25 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Closing Remarks: **Rocio Anderson**
NCSHP President

22ND HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT

PROGRAM

7:30 - 8:15 AM

REGISTRATION - Lobby

8:20 - 9:40 AM

OPENING CEREMONY: JOSH STEIN AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MR. RICKY HURTADO

Time	WORKSHOP SESSION I - 10:15 - 11:00 AM
Middle School	Room 7a "Navigating Middle & High School" (NCSHP) - Jorge Pacheco
High School	Room 1c & 1d "How to Plan for College/University" (CFNC) - Juana Hernandez Lira & JuanEs Ramirez
All Grades	<p>Room 3 "How to Manage your Money" (PROSPERA) - Vania Ramos Ponce</p> <p>Room 4 "Bilingualism Power in Today's World" (Raleigh - Red Global) - Gerardo Santoyo</p> <p>Room 5 "Career Opportunities in Education" (DREAM Program, UNC) - Emily Chavez</p> <p>Room 6 "Career Opportunities at Duke Energy Corp." - EJ Janiszewski & Allison Rose</p> <p>Room 7b "FIRST GEN Educational Experiences" (JUNTOS PROGRAM-NCSU) - Bianca Wall & Jessica Aguilar</p> <p>Room 8a "Planning Careers in STEAM" (NCSHP) - Ricardo Ekmay</p> <p>Room 8b "The Importance of Maintaining Culture, Language and Identity" (WCPSS) - Johnny Vargas & Paola Acuña.</p>

PROGRAM

Time	WORKSHOPS SESSIONS II - 11:15 - 12:00 PM
Middle School	Room 7a "Navigating Middle & High School" (NC SHP) Jorge Pacheco
High School	Room 1c & 1d "How to Plan for College/University" (CFNC) - Juana Hernandez Lira & JuanEs Ramirez
All Grades	<p>Room 4 "Bilingualism Power in Today's World" (Raleigh - Red Global) - Gerardo Santoyo</p> <p>Room 3 "How to Manage Your Money!" (PROSPERA) - Vania Ramos Ponce</p> <p>Room 5 "Becoming an Interpreter and Translator" (Durham Tech) - Suzanna Hernandez</p> <p>Room 6 "Career Opportunities at Duke Energy Corp." - EJ Janiszewski & Allison Rose</p> <p>Room 7b "FIRST GEN Educational Experiences" (JUNTOS PROGRAM) - Bianca Wall & Jessica Aguilar</p> <p>Room 8a "Planning a Career in STEAM" (NCSHP) - Ricardo Ekmay</p> <p>Room 8b "The Importance of Maintaining Culture, Language and Identity" (WCPSS) - Johnny Vargas & Paola Acuña</p>
12:15 - 1:00 PM LUNCH - Rooms 2 a, b, & c Sponsor Address: Food Lion - Roberto Perez	
Afternoon Program Room 1c & 1d	<p style="text-align: center;">1:15 - 2:00 PM Keynote Speaker Adolfo Rodriguez, Senior Vice President of IT Transformation at Advance Auto Parts</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:00 - 2:15 PM Scholarship Recipients' Recognition Jorge Pacheco, NCSHP Scholarship Subcommittee Chair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:15 - 2:25 PM Raffles Ricardo Ekmay, NCSHP Fundraising Subcommittee Chair</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2:25 - 2:30 PM Closing Remarks: Rocio Anderson, NCSHP President</p>



22ND HISPANIC EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT



SPEAKERS

ATTORNEY GENERAL JOSH STEIN



Josh Stein was sworn in for his first term as North Carolina's 50th Attorney General in 2017 and his second term in 2021. As Attorney General, he is focused on protecting North Carolina families from crime and consumer fraud.

Stein works to protect taxpayers, seniors, students, and military families from fraud. His Department of Justice won awards or settlements of more than \$1.5 billion from scam artists. He is working to improve data security and is leading a national effort combat robocalls.

Stein is also working to make North Carolina's law enforcement and criminal justice systems fairer, combating the opioid crisis and get treatment and recovery resources for North Carolinians struggling with addiction, protecting clean air and water, and fighting the teen vaping epidemic.

Stein previously served as a state Senator and as Senior Deputy Attorney General in the North Carolina Department of Justice. In those roles, he successfully led efforts to put more violent criminals behind bars by expanding the state's DNA database, wrote the School Safety Act and the Identity Theft Protection Act, worked to protect kids from online sexual predators, and helped run payday lenders charging loan shark interest rates out of the state.

Stein grew up in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College, and earned law and public policy degrees from Harvard University. He and his wife Anna have three children.

REPRESENTATIVE RICKY HURTADO, NC DISTRICT 63



Ricky Hurtado was born in Los Angeles, California. A son of working-class immigrants, Ricky grew up in rural North Carolina and is a product of public schools. A first-generation college student, Ricky's dream finally came true when he was accepted into UNC-Chapel Hill as a Morehead-Cain Scholar. He found his passion for public service while at UNC, mentoring other high school students who grew up in similar circumstances and were working hard to make their own dreams come true. He attended graduate school at

Princeton University, focusing on how to create effective public policy to fight poverty and inequality and build strong, vibrant communities.

After a brief time as a consultant and policy analyst supporting nonprofits and foundations across the country, Ricky became an instructor at UNC Chapel Hill and is co-executive director of an education initiative helping other first-generation college students and immigrant families break down barriers to educational opportunity.

Ricky's leadership in the community does not end there. Beyond fighting to expand access to quality public education and college opportunity, Ricky holds several community leadership positions in his pursuit to build a better future for all children and families across North Carolina. He currently serves as a member of the NC House of Representatives from the 63 District. Elected November 2020, he assumed office January 1, 2021.

ADOLFO RODRIGUEZ



Adolfo Rodriguez is the SVP of IT Transformation at Advance Auto Parts. In this role, Adolfo is working to drive technologies in business-generating ways into every aspect of the company. He leads the Architecture, Cloud Engineering, Platform and eComm Engineering teams. Prior to joining Advance, Adolfo served as Vice President of Product Management for the ShareFile cloud service at Citrix and General Manager of several smaller cloud services. He was previously the CTO of

Connectivity and Integration at IBM and Chief Architect of DataPower SOA Appliances. Adolfo holds a BA in Mathematics and BS, MS, and PhD degrees in Computer Science all from Duke University. He is a graduate of the North Carolina School of Science and Math. In his spare time, Adolfo enjoys coaching youth sports, playing in a for-charity-only Rock Band, and DIY home projects.

DR. MARIAROSA RANGEL



Dr. MariaRosa Rangel has over twenty-five years of educational experience. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Bilingual/ Bicultural and Elementary Education from the Northeastern University of Chicago, Illinois and her Master's Degree in School Administration and Doctoral Degree in Education from North Carolina State University.

Currently, Dr. Rangel serves as the Director for Family and Community Engagement in the Office of Equity Affairs for the Wake County Public School District (WCPSS). She is responsible for the planning, developing, and coordinating family and community activities/events and programs to improve student's academic achievement; oversees the District Family Academy which offers FREE workshops and educational events for WCPSS families in various schools and community sites throughout Wake County. Dr. Rangel also provides Cultural Proficiency staff development to WCPSS faculty and staff.

BIANCA WALL



Bianca grew up in a biracial household with her mother who is Puertorican and her father who was born and raised in High Point, North Carolina. She studied anthropology and Spanish at UNC Wilmington, and originally, had plans to work in a museum. As a child she saw her mother working long hours as a teacher and from a young age witnessed the value of education. Her first job after college was working with Cooperative Extension with the Juntos program in Wayne County, and she has been working with children and youth for the last 9 years as either a teacher, mentor, or coordinator. After a few

years with Juntos the travel bug bit her, and she left to live and work in Kuwait, South Korea, and Hawai'i. She returned to the Triangle area at the end of 2019 and was excited to find this opportunity to work with the youth of this state with a program she truly believes makes a difference.

JESSICA AGUILAR



Jessica joined the Juntos team in 2016 as a student volunteer and became the coordinator in 2018 to the Juntos program in Pender County, North Carolina. After her involvement with the program the first year she saw the amazing impact and results in Pender County and wholeheartedly believes in the mission and vision that this program upholds. Being a first-generation college student is the core reason that she continues to help other students who may come from the same background as hers and deal with obstacles with being the first to graduate high school and pursue a higher education.

Jessica decided to use the same advice she was giving her students and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Public Administration and plans to continue her involvement with the Hispanic/Latinx and immigrant community. Jessica now serves as the Graduate Assistant for the Juntos office at North Carolina State University.

EJ JANISZEWSKI



Human Resources professional with six years of experience in full-cycle recruiting. Currently on the Sourcing team within Talent Acquisition at Duke Energy since November 2021. Aligned to talent sourcing and campus recruiting for various business units within the organization.

JUANA HERNÁNDEZ-LIRA



Is originally from Estado de Mexico, Mexico, but raised in Raleigh, NC, which she considers her hometown. She has over ten years of experience in college access and education and working with young adults and their families navigate educational systems. Hernández Urquiza served as a ¡Graduate! Coach with the NC Society of Hispanic Professionals, Program Coordinator with Communities in Schools of Wake County, State Director of Juntos For a Better Education Program, and a Team Leader at Haven House Services. She is currently a State Representative for Spanish Services with the College Foundation of North Carolina where

she dedicates her time helping Spanish-speaking communities plan, apply, and pay for college and fostering positive relationships with education leaders to identify college access strategies for underrepresented students. As a Latina immigrant and first-generation college graduate, she understands the challenges immigrant populations face in navigating systems and accessing higher education in the United States. Hernández Urquiza believes that knowledge, preparation, advocacy, and connections can lead students to achieve their post-secondary educational goals.

VANIA RAMOS PONCE



Vania has worked for companies such as Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Schaeffler Group and Schnellecke Logistics in Mexico and for Robert Half International, and Paccar in Seattle. Besides, she has 8 years of entrepreneurial experience in Mexico. She has been a Professor of Finance for 12 years in the University of Puebla, in Mexico. Currently she works for Prospera, a nonprofit organization, as a Business Development Consultant in Raleigh, NC, where she assists, mainly, Latino entrepreneurs to have access to capital, provide educational workshops and prepares Business Plan and financial forecasts. She has a bachelor's

degree in Accounting and Audit, an MBA, and a Ph.D. in Political Economy of Development. She is certified as Financial Modeling and Valuation Analyst by the Corporate Finance Institute. She awarded the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation scholarship to study a Business Research course in the Entrepreneurship Institute in India in 2010. She also awarded an AT Kearny scholarship to participated in the Falling Walls event in Berlin in 2012. She has participated in international academic congresses in Italy, Netherlands, and Uruguay.

JORGE PACHECO



Jorge Pacheco is a Teacher at Fuquay-Varina High School of Wake County Public School System. He obtained his Bachelor of Science in Technology, Design, and Engineering Education with a minor in Graphic Communications from North Carolina State University (NC State) in Raleigh, NC. He was the president of “Mi Familia”, a Hispanic student organization at NC State University. Also, Jorge was a College Student Board member for the NC Society of Hispanic Professionals from 2014 to 2016. Jorge has been a member of the Hispanic Educational Summit planning committee since 2015. He was born in McMinnville, Oregon, and was raised in Graham, NC attending school in the Alamance-

Burlington School system in Alamance County. Jorge believes that education and hard work are the fundamental keys to being able to contribute to not only the Hispanic community but our society as a whole.

ALLISON ROSE



Joined Duke Energy in November 2021 as a Talent Sourcer. I have over 10+ years of recruiting experience that started at the age of 19 working in a Staffing Agency and then moving into corporate recruiting. I received an Associate’s Degree from Central Piedmont Community College in Human Resource Management and then obtained my Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration at Wilmington University.

ROCÍO ANDERSON



Rocío Anderson holds degrees in Physics, Mathematics, and Business Administration. She currently resides in Holly Springs, NC with her husband, Shawn, and their two sons Fabrizio and Carmines. Rocío Anderson is the UPSTREAM USA Director of Partnerships and Community Engagement. One of Rocío's personal and professional passions is women's health and ensuring that services are tailored to meet individuals with an equity lens and with a life course perspective as opposed to episodic or acute. Rocío is an active leader in the NC Perinatal Health Equity Collective, the NC Preconception Collaborative Innovation and Improvement Networks (CoIIN) Leadership.

Rocío's professional accomplishments are pronounced by more than 17 years of experience as a consultant in the fields of Health Care and Education, Public Health, and Public Safety. Rocío has held many volunteer positions working with and for the Latinx community in North Carolina. Rocío is currently serving as Governor Roy Cooper's Advisory Council on Hispanic Affairs' Secretary.

JOHNNY VARGAS



Johnny Vargas, was born in Colombia, South America, and has lived and taught Spanish in the United States for the past 19 years. He graduated from Universidad Libre in Colombia, and has a bachelor's degree in Philology and languages.

Johnny also taught in Colombia with experience in English and Spanish language education, translation, and language program coordination. He is a National Board-Certified Teacher in World Languages and licensed to teach Spanish and English as a Second Language (ESL) for K-12 in North Carolina. He enjoys working with the Hispanic community. He currently serves as a presenter and parent trainer for the Family Academy, an initiative of the office of equity affair of Wake County public school system. Johnny comes from a family of teachers with strong values and respect for education, and teaching is my number one passion.

JULIE GARZA



Julie Garza, a graduate of The University of Texas Austin, is a radio veteran with more than 23 years in the broadcast industry. Julie has been leading the growth and presence of Spanish language radio station, La Ley 101.1 FM (WYMY-FM) since 2005. In this position as Program Director, she manages the on-air components of the station to create growth and revenue opportunities.

Julie strongly believes in the importance of education, “even if it’s to just talk on the radio” as she believes education is the key to many opportunities in life. She is the first in her

family to leave “home” and pursue her higher education degree and credits that experience as one of the most enriching one she’s had.

Julie is married and lives in Raleigh. She loves to travel, podcasting, and likes to spend time writing.

RICARDO EKMAY



Ricardo Ekmay is the Senior Vice President of Product Development for Arbiom Inc., a Durham, North Carolina-based agricultural technology company. He also serves as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Poultry Science at the University of Arkansas. Prior to his time at Arbiom, Ricardo spent several years as a Research Scientist with Dow AgroSciences LLC. While at Dow, Ricardo also served as the communications chair of the Hispanic-Latin Network and was an active member of the science outreach team, Science Ambassadors. He is originally from Los Angeles, CA and is of Mexican and Colombian heritage. Ricardo

received his BS in Animal Science from Cornell University, and his MS and PhD in Poultry Science from the University of Arkansas. Ricardo returned to Cornell for completion of his post-doctoral studies. He serves on various committees including the nutrition and aquaculture committees of the American Feed Industry Association, and the diversity, equity, and inclusion committee of the American Society of Animal Science. Ricardo values community outreach and the promotion of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education, especially in the Hispanic-Latin community.

JUAN ESTEBAN RAMIREZ



Juan Esteban Ramirez “JuanEs” serves as a State Representative for Spanish Services at the College Foundation of North Carolina. JuanEs earned a Bachelor of Arts in International Business and Spanish from Lenoir-Rhyne College, completed a Master of Science from Mountain State University as well as culminated his professional development with an educational specialist degree in higher education and the completion of a doctoral degree in Education Leadership & Administration from Appalachian State University.

JuanEs was born in Medellín, Colombia and settled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in Western North Carolina in the year 2000. As a newcomer he experienced first-hand the contradictions and ambiguities attached to certain groups in the United States, including a crucial moment of realization of belonging to the Latinx/Hispanic community. His research interest lies in the intersection of race and ethnicity and education.

His mission has been sharing across the state the transformative power of education. JuanEs advocates for the inclusion of all lived experiences, crafting intentional spaces in which we are teachers and learners, and bringing to attention the great cultural wealth that immigrant communities bring to their spaces.

SUZANNA HERNANDEZ



Suzanna Hernandez has been teaching Community Spanish Interpretation and Translation and Spanish language and culture for over 12 years in the North Carolina Community College System. Prior to her tenure in postsecondary education as an instructor and department chair, Suzanna worked as a Spanish/English translator and interpreter for the NC Division of Public Health - Women and Children’s Branch. During her time as an educator and interpreter, she has developed and presented numerous trainings on language access, how to successfully work with interpreters/translators, Latinx culture, and cultural awareness and competency.

Suzanna holds a master’s degree in Spanish from Middlebury College and completed her undergraduate studies at UNC-Asheville. She was raised in a bilingual and bicultural family and has spent extensive time living abroad. She has called Durham home for the past 15 years and feels passionate about serving its vibrant and diverse community.

GERARDO SANTOYO



Gerardo earned a major in Electronic Engineering and a specialty in Hygiene, Safety, and Environmental Science in Guadalajara, Mexico.

He worked for IBM in Mexico for 16 years. He then held several management positions at IBM Corporate HQ in New York, responsible for Latin America and the IBM Asia Pacific region. He then transferred to the IBM US Southeast region for eight more years.

Co-owner since 2008 of Maracas Montessori in Raleigh, NC. He quit IBM in 2012 to fully dedicate himself to this educational project.

President of the Foundation of the NC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (NCHCC) in Raleigh.

Co-founder, member, and former president of the Raleigh Chapter for the Red Global Mx (RGMx) and leader of the Project in Bilingualism in this chapter.

EMILY CHÁVEZ



Emily Chávez is the Project Director for Diverse and Resilient Educators Advised through Mentorship (DREAM), a teacher residency program to recruit, train, and support teachers from underrepresented groups for Durham Public Schools. Over the course of her career Emily has been an advocate for social justice education and worked to create opportunities for equitable educational access, particularly for students of color, undocumented students, and LGBTQ+ students. Emily has taught and advised middle school, high school, and undergraduate students as well as led professional development on Latin American and Caribbean studies for teachers around the state of North Carolina.

Previous to joining the School of Education, she served as the Director of Equity and Justice for Duke School in Durham. She is the co-editor, along with Dr. Kia Caldwell, of *Engaging the African Diaspora in K-12 Education* (Peter Lang Publishing, 2020).

PAOLA ACUNA



Paola Acuña was born in Colombia; South America and has been living and teaching in the United States for the past 9 years. She graduated from Universidad Pedagógica Nacional in Bogotá, Colombia and has a bachelor's degree in Spanish and Foreign languages and a Master's degree in Bilingual Education.

Paola taught Spanish and Literature and English as a Second Language in Colombia for 15 years. She is licensed to teach Spanish, French and English as a Second Language (ESL) for K-12 in North Carolina.

I have been teaching Spanish as a Second Language at Apex Friendship High School in Wake County for 5 years and I love it! This is my dream job and I do it with passion and dedication.



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Advance is a proud sponsor of the
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