


Student Reflection Paper #1

March 8, 2017

CHS 100.02 Mon/Wed 12-1:15

Professor Valadez

Cultural Event #1

I attended the event 'Celebrating la Mujer' on March 8 in front of the peace poll and then followed by the panels in the library. The event was basically about showing love and speaking about women and what they have done for us. In front of the peace poll, the dancers Danza Tlaloc Ollin performed and I found it quite inspirational. We, the audience, faced to the North, East, West and South to give thanks to the women in our lives, our elders, the children now and in the present that will come and the sun I believe, when we looked up into the sky. I found this to be inspirational because I felt like I was showing my love for the people in my life and others around me, although I always show appreciation for them I feel that because there were more people around me and doing it too it felt more powerful and meaningful. 

Followed by this, we walked and 'spread our wings', as butterflies because as the guest speaker Vivian, I believe that was her name, said we need to spread our wings, get out of our cocoon and let our voices be heard. I felt connected and powerful while doing this. I truly felt like a 'mariposa' and let my wings spread as I have always wanted and hoped for.

Once we did this, we walked to the library and waited for the panel to begin. I did not know what to expect nor did I know who was going to be involved. I thought that no men would show up, but to my surprise there were about 3 to 5, I don't remember the exact amount. With the men in the room I felt supported by them, that they cared for women and our rights. While entering I noticed paintings on the wall and wondered what they signified. I did not ask what

they each meant, but I took matters into my own hand and observed them on my own. The first painting I noticed was a very colorful photo and saw La Virgen Maria, I noticed she was surrounded by flowers and roses in the painting, or so that is what it looked like. I believe it spoke to me the most because La Virgen Maria was in the painting and felt connected to her since I did grow up as a Catholic. Almost immediately when I saw it I thought about my grandmother who passed, she loved La Virgen Maria and would always talk about her, and when I say always I mean anything we would speak about she would connect it to La Virgen.

Finally, the women spoke, I was only able to listen to I believe about 4 to 5 women, don't remember exactly. One woman^a spoke about how a man told her that once she would leave and ^egot married she wouldn't be able to speak about women empowerment and how important women were, but she proved the man and other wrong. She also mentioned something about going to Vietnam, if I am not mistaken. Hearing this woman speak about how she proved that man wrong made me want to prove people even more that we, as women, can do everything and anything it takes to be equal and seen as equal.

In addition, you spoke as well and while hearing you speak I felt comforted in the sense that you are my professor and felt more connected towards you. Something that stood out to me was how you mentioned 'la semillas de maiz', I believe that is how you phrased it. When hearing that I couldn't help but think about my cousins and siblings, how they look up to us as an individual and want to grow up to be 'just like you when I'm older'. Hearing this is so much pressure, but I feel as if you make a difference, even within your own family, las semillas will see it and want to do it too, even if it's within the family too or even bigger, in their schools, and let their voices be heard. It is true what you said about seeing these young girls leading marches and other events. One young woman^a can make a huge difference and made me want to make a



difference within my own family. Within my immediate family, my siblings and I are all treated equally. But within all my cousins ^{and a} ~~and~~ Uncles, the women are always looked upon ^{down?} on, as if we are ignorant and the men are ^{more} powerful than us, which is not right and I know can be changed if we spoke up and weren't afraid of letting our voices be heard.

Furthermore, this woman spoke about how she met Cesar Chavez in a grocery store, participated in a march and met the author of "I am Joaquin". Hearing this straight from a woman who participated in such important events and let her voice be heard made me feel encouraged and powerful. One voice, can be heard loud and proud, all you must do is show you care. It is difficult to think about doing, but I feel like once it's done it makes you want to participate in more and wanting more change. As mentioned by one of the woman^e, we will not stop until we are seen as equal. Being surrounded by so many beautiful and empowering women made me feel encouraged, powerful and motivated. Once one voice is heard, it opens the eyes and ears of other women and makes them want^{ing} to do the same.



Great job Kathleen!
I'm so glad you were there
& that this event made such
a positive impact on you!

5/5

Student Reflection Paper #2

CHS 100

Tues/Thurs 3-4:15

Prof Valadez

14 Mar 2017

Cultural Event Paper 1

Last Wednesday, March 8 I attended one of the events going on in the celebration of la mujer. The event took place in the exhibition hall of library at 10 AM. with Chicana artist and poet Vibiana Aparicio-Chamberlin. The audience consisted of mainly women of Chicana descent, with a few men. Right away when we walked in I was hit with the overwhelming smell of spices. I couldn't necessarily pick out which specific ones I was smelling, but I could tell they were all spicy. Her art was hung all over the walls. They were made from all sorts of medium: string, paints, chalk, canvas. Everything was bright and emotional and abstract and beautiful. Vibiana greeted us right away and she instantly reminded me of a more eccentric version of my grammy. She had on a brightly colored top, retro glasses and a black tutu. She was as sweet as can be. She handed us a piece of paper with a writing prompt and asked us to think about our mothers and grandmothers and a signature dish they made that had some sort of spice or herb in it. I was instantly reminded of the times I spent in the kitchen with my grammy making tacos and salsa. She proceeded to read us some poems from her book, which I believed was called *Mi Amor*, in which she talked about her mother with such love and admiration. It made me miss my mom. She talked about how her mom used to make homemade tortillas, but she could never quite get them right. She talked about how she had multiple siblings and how her mother and



Student reflection paper #3

03/14/2017

CHS 100

Reflection #1

Cultura Event

Wednesday, March 8, 2017, is when I went to Celebrating La Mujer: With Chicana Artist/Poet Vibiana Aparicio-Chamberlin in the library. Vibiana is a very talented artist that shared her stories with us and her personal experiences. It was a great experience and I am glad that I went.

When I first got to the event, I saw Vibiana standing there with this obvious, handmade necklace that said "My Voice Counts" with a beautiful butterfly drawn on it with markers. The first impression I got of Vibiana was that she was sweet and adorable and that she loves what she does. She has so much passion in what she does and she is extremely talented.

Vibiana had about ten paintings on display, but one of my favorite paintings that she had was of the Virgin of Guadalupe. That one was absolutely beautiful, and it also reminded me of my grandmother because she worshiped the Virgin of Guadalupe, and plus she gave me the my unofficial middle name 'Guadalupe'. The painting was obviously the Virgin of Guadalupe, but the way it was painted was gorgeous, the colors she used were so vibrant and exciting, I could not stop staring at the painting because it was just so bright and beautiful that I couldn't keep my eyes off of it.

During the event, she passed around two trays of spices. Some of the spices included oregano, basil, Abuelita hot chocolate, cumin, cinnamon sticks, etc. In the beginning I wondered why exactly she was passing around these spices. Then she told a story about how certain spices

certain spices expressed how someone felt. It might not have expressed how someone felt verbally, but when you tasted or smelled the food, you either felt that sense of love or that sense of sadness. Going to this event was a very good experience and it definitely made me wish my parents and my dad's cooking.



Student Reflection Paper #4

March 29, 2017

CHS 100 12pm

Professor Valadez

5/5

Reflection #1: La Mujer

During International Women's Day, I was luckily invited to an event that was hosted by Ms. Valadez, who is my professor. Ms. Valadez and another professor were advocating in what is like to be a woman in today's society. Women suffer from many different forms of discrimination. For instance, the gender wage gap, they are sexually discriminated against, and society constantly judges them if they do not meet the expectation of a "Woman." In the event, we had about 40 individuals who participated in La Mujer. The translation of La Mujer in English is The Woman. The word La Mujer has a very simple significance to it, but it holds a very powerful value as well. Women have faced many struggles throughout history. Since the start of dawn, women have been labeled inferior towards men. It is publicized in the drawings of the Egyptians and in several holy books it states that women should obey their husband. We still continue to see a modern form of male supremacy over women and the question is why? This event has remarkably opened my eyes and I will explain how this event reflects on Chicana culture and demonstrate the connections that I learned from the class.

In La Mujer, we had the honor to see three unique Aztec women dancers perform during the event. They were dancing to indigenous tribal music that was being beautifully played by Ms. Valadez. Valadez was using a djembe, a musical instrument, to add a unique sound to the tribal music. This instrument is usually used to make Aztec music. The sound of the djembe and, some sort of a miniature maraca that was placed on the ankles of each Aztec dancer, added a

unique texture to their music. The type of music that was being performed is something you do not hear every day, but it filled my soul with passion and excitement. As an artist who makes music, I appreciate, admire, and I am very opened in hearing different types of music such as this Aztec “groove.” In the event, I had asked my sister and my niece to join me on this event. This was our first time attending a march/event. My sister, niece, and I enjoyed seeing the students from CSUCI to gather around like a family and be part of an important event such as La Mujer. From my personal perspective, it is very important to look around your community, see if there is an event such as the one that I attended too, and become a part of that particular march that advocates for social justice. In the event, we were asked to walk around the center of the campus and sing along to “De Colores.” This song is very popular among Mexicano’s, Chicanx’s, and Latino’s. The song signifies unity, respect, and peace among every race. As we were marching around the center of the campus, I heard several people who were marching with us saying that Trump has to go. I thought to myself that this march was also a way to express oneself and not be ashamed of your beliefs just as long as it does not hurt anybody.

Towards the Chianx culture, I personally think that this empowered not only Chicanas, but also every race, ethnicity, culture, and gender. Events like these remind us that we are all human and we shall act as one. As a male, I think it is extremely important to treat everybody equally no matter in how different we may be seen. This event has thought many things. Most importantly it thought me to get out of my comfort zone and explore many other events such as this one. Also, it was a great experience to have my sister and niece join me in the event. They also had fun as well. That is also another thing that I learned is to invite your friends and family to be part of a social movement. You might never know they may like it too. There were several connections that I made that I learned in class as I was participating in the event. For instance,

when we first introduced ourselves in class that also took place in the event when they asked us to introduce ourselves towards the people around us. It shows one to have good communication skills to talk to somebody that you never met before. And when you share a similarity towards that particular person or group it creates a special bond between you guys. This event takes me back to the Blue Tezcatlipoca. As I grew a new consciousness, I am now willing to be part of more social movements that advocates for equality within the human race. I am delighted and proud to say that I was a part of La Mujer.

Student Reflection Paper #5

CHS 100

Professor Valadez

MW 12:00-1:15

Cultural Event Paper #1

26 March 2017

5/5¹

Celebrating La Mujer

I attended the *Celebrating La Mujer* cultural event held on the CSUCI campus on Wednesday, March 8th, 2017. The event began at the Peace Pole in the Central Mall of CSUCI with danza by Danza Tlaloc Ollin and poetry by Chicana poet and artist Vibiana Aparicio Chamberlin from 12:00-1:00 PM. Afterward, there was a panel discussion and art exhibition at Broom Library 1320 from 1:45-3:00 PM. Those in attendance were students, faculty, and other CSUCI staff. Overall, the cultural event had a very celebratory feel that appealed to those in attendance.

First, the Danza group performed a beautiful dance including a prayer or invocation of energy. It was very clearly explained how in Chicana culture the directions have meaning and deep value and strongly reflected Chicana culture. We learned they are as follows:

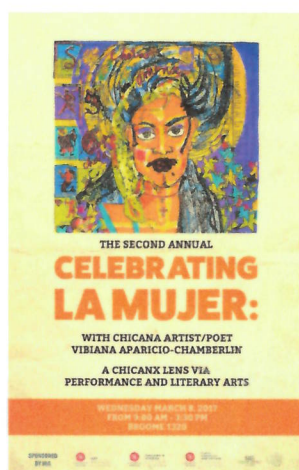
- North- male, energy
- South- female, creation
- East- youth, future, preservation
- West- Ancestors, past, previous struggles, wisdom
- Sky- Father
- Earth- Take a knee, Mother

We then participated in an art activity, We Fly High Mariposa Hulpil, where we drew a butterfly and wrote positive words to describe migration. Of course, the symbolism of migrating butterflies had a clear impact. With the pictures of the butterflies around our necks, we walked

White Tezcatlipoca. Gaining perspective on our ancestors' experiences through dance, poetry, and music gave us an opportunity to listen humbly to gain wisdom. Also, we could practice, Black Tezcatlipoca, self-reflection, through the We Fly High Mariposa Hulpil activity and understand the need to be agents of social justice. The idea of transformation and renewal as related to Xipe Totec, I believe was forefront at this event. To learn about our past and how it influences our present and future was very much a part of *Celebrating La Mujer*. There was a beautiful mixture of old and new. Overall, reflecting on Huitzilopochtli, the will to act, I believe gaining the experience and knowledge of this event based on the experiences of others, gives me the will to act in a positive, progressive, and creative way when discussing Latinx women and the Chicana experience in general. That is, this event has richly added to what I am learning in my Chicano Studies 100 course. To hear about these ideas in a classroom or from a book is one thing, to experience an event like *Celebrating La Mujer* helped me to practically apply the ideas and information I have gained from class and think with a different purposeful mindset.

PROOF OF ATTENDANCE:

I did not manage to take a selfie at the event, because I was so engaged in everything. However, I saw you at the event both near the Peace Pole and at the library. Of course, I was with my communication partner, Ariel Murillo.



selfie at the event, because I was so engaged in everything. However, I saw you at the event both near the Peace Pole and at the library. Of course, I was with my communication partner, Ariel Murillo.

Student Reflection Paper #6

5/5

CHS 100 MW 12:00-1:15

Professor Valadez

Cultural Event: "Celebrating La Mujer"

The event I attended took place March 8, 2017, and it was a campus event called "Celebrating La Mujer: A Chicana Feminist Lens Via Visual, Performing, and Literary Arts."

This event was located on the campus of CSUCI and varied from being outside by the Peace Pole and Central Mall to inside the Broome Library inside the Exhibition Hall, Room 1320. The demographics for this event would be of a majority Mexican American or Central American, and some White and Asian people attended due to the general diversity within our campus.

Unfortunately, I missed the beginning of the event because I was in class, but I attended the afternoon part of it, starting from noon to around two-thirty in the afternoon. As a whole, the event was focused around Chicana women in celebration of International Women's Day and empowered Chicana's expression of identity in the form of arts. When I began my attendance, we were all gathered by the Peace Pole and were celebrating our rebirth into butterflies who look past borders and fly unapologetically around our world. That symbolism was very important in developing a sense of unison in the crowd about coming together and the rebirth into more enlightened beings that stand proud of who they are and fight for justice. We placed our hands together to form a bridge that others ran under while saying their positive message for themselves and the rest of the attendees. Afterwards, when we were all reborn, we all marched around the Central Mall, and ended up inside the Broome Library to listen to the talks.

behind me. Listening to the panel reinforced those values in me and it was a very beautiful celebration of being Chicana and a woman.

Here is a selfie of me at the event before it began.



Student Reflection Paper # 7

5/5 1

Cultural Event Paper

CHS 100

MW 12pm

3/8/17

Valadez

Cultural Event Paper

Celebrating: La Mujer

On March 8, 2017, I went to the cultural event held at CSUCI called Celebrating: La Mujer. Instead of having a normal class day in Chicano studies, my class went and celebrated Dia Internacional de la Mujer. I'm going to explain what took place at the event, how the event reflects Chicano culture and later make a connection to what is being learned in class. I'm also going to explain the gender demographic of the attendees who showed up at the peace pole and the panel as well.

At the beginning of the event, my class and other students met in front of the peace pole at CI to watch the Aztec dancers perform. It was interesting to participate with the dancers by moving to each side of a compass and praying for that specific side. The dancers were amazing and it looked like a lot of hard work was put into each dance section. It reminded me of when we were learning about the Aztecs and their culture in class. The demographic of attendees at the peace pole and later at the panel was really surprising to me based on how many people attended and their gender. At the peace pole, there was huge number of men and women participating in the tunnel of butterfly's activity and the march around the campus. It felt so liberating and inspiring to be a part of the march. The numbers of men and women dwindled when it came to

Brittany Herring

Cultural Event Paper

CHS 100

MW 12pm

3/8/17

Valadez

the panel. Some of my peers in my Chicano studies class had other classes to attend and some of my peers stayed till the end of the panel. At the end of the panel, mostly women were present and only a handful of men remained. .

The panel was held at the John Spoor Broome Library at CSUCI. Five women were presenters and made fabulous presentations about gender equality and Chicano culture. Some were professors at CI, a guest artist, and a consul member. The presentation that resonated to me the most was Ms. Hernandez speech about the importance of collective memory. She has been an activist of change since the very beginning. She marched and met Cesar Chavez himself in Camarillo protesting about the grapes. She was a part of the East L.A. walkouts and met Sal Castro, the man who helped organize hundreds of students to walkout of classes in the late 60's and protest the conditions they faced. It's one thing to watch films and read about it in textbooks but her presentation added a genuine, living testimony. She experienced it herself and was able to relate it to the Chicano movement with the social media post. She also showed a social media post that "CLEARLY" a woman wrote about how protests are just a bunch of people wasting their time and whining. It was really inspiring listening to her talk about her life and how we all need to be a part of a movement, an organization, advocates of social justice and change.

Brittany Herring

Cultural Event Paper

CHS 100

MW 12pm

3/8/17

Valadez

Around the walls of the panel was the art created by Vibiana Aparicio-Chamberlin. Her art was so beautiful and included a lot of deeper meanings of Chicano culture with political messages on them. In one painting, she drew two Aztec hearts with thorns on the inside and a snake surrounding them. She explained in the panel that the snake represented desire and lust and the thorns represented the struggles that one encounters in life. It reminded me of how the Aztecs had their own struggles of their culture being taken away by the Spaniard conquistadors. My favorite piece of hers was the picture of the Virgin Mary. The picture included the Virgin Mary with light shining all around her with cacti as well. The words on the top were "My love has" and "No borders". This really spoke to me because of my religious background and the principles of In Lak'ech. We have to spread love all around this country instead of building walls and dividing people. That will not make this world "great" again. In regards to my favorite painting of hers I participated in the wall of hope that Ms. Chamberlin created and put my words of hope on the wall.

In conclusion, this experience gave me a clear understanding of my culture, gender equality, and to strive to be an activist of change. The march that was held on campus made me want to participate in more marches in the future and to spread messages of love, hope, and equality. All the women who spoke inspired me to never give up on my rights, to never stop believing in what is right, and to be that person who acts for the greater good of this country.

Brittany Herring

Cultural Event Paper

CHS 100

MW 12pm

3/8/17

Valadez



Student Reflection Paper # 8

5/5

Professor Veronica Valadez

CHS 100 – Mo We 12pm

March 15, 2017

Women's Celebration

I attended two parts of the second annual *Celebrating La Mujer* event on March 8th, 2017 at California State University, Channel Islands. It was the second cultural event I have attended at the campus. The first event I attended in campus was el *Dia de los Muertos* event, which was amazing. This second event I attended was also amazing. They will always be a good memory that I will forever cherish. I got the opportunity to learn more about my culture and gender through those two events and they filled me up with great joy, hope and willingness to become a better person not just for myself but for my community.

The first part of the event I attended was in the Central mall at the Peace Pole, it was part of the class because *Danza Tlaloc Ollin* was going to perform. The event was filled with so much spirit and positive vibes I loved being there. I truly enjoy seeing *Danza Tlaloc Ollin* perform and the guest speaker, Vibiana Aparicio Chamberlin, we had was also very bright spirited. The dance and the environment made me feel like I belonged there and I was capable to relate to others who attended the event. During this first part I realized there were both males and females admiring the speech and the *danza*. When we got there we were asked to draw a butterfly and write four different words that represented us, chicanxs or something significant. Afterwards, most of us if not all went under the bridge, which was two lines of people connecting their hands with the person in front of them, and people said one of their most important or significant word that they had written down in the butterfly. I believed that was a very motivated moment. I remembered

the Tezcatlipoca paper during this time and how in one of the sections we must write about our will to act, and I realized how there isn't anything better than to join a dance group that represents you, as a person, and/ or your culture. The closing of the first part of the event was also great. I loved how we walked around the central mall and how throughout that time of the event they said that "we didn't cross the wall, the wall crossed us", and how people exclaimed that "people united will never be divided". That was the moment I think I realized how supportive many people are with all the situations that are currently going on in the world.

The second part of the event took place at the Broome Library. It began with delicious food. I had honestly never had some of the food that they had there. For example, the empanadas they were so delicious I wonder what the ingredients were. The best section of this second part of the event were the speeches. Everyone who spoke had a great passion for what they were doing and their presentations were very interesting. Most of the people that attended this part of the event were mostly women there were a couple of men but the majority of the audience were women. All the art pieces that were placed at the event were beautiful. I haven't seen such beautiful art, my favorite is the one of the skeleton that was dressed as a dancer of a *danza*, I had never seen something like it.

At the end of the day, I was so glad I attended the event. I would have totally regretted it if I hadn't gone to the event. It made me prouder of where I come from, my ancestors and traditions. It also made me feel prouder of being a woman, especially a Mexican woman, a Chicana. This event made me realize many more things beyond of what I have read or seen from the assignments I have been assigned in Chicano Studies. I realized how we all get together and support each other, how we try to motivate each other not just for our-self but for our culture and/or gender.



Student Reflection Paper # 9

515

Professor Veronica Valadez

CHS 100 M&W 12-1:15pm

15 March 2016

La Mujer (The Women)

On March 8th of 2017 I attended the *La Mujer Event* on Channel Islands State University. It was the first event I have attended in the University. At first I was like should I go or not because I did not know what to expect. But at the end I was convinced by my friends to go and I do not regret going because it was great. I could tell the people hosting the event were dedicated to it and that's what made me feel more comfortable and interesting because they were passionate about it. The event was cut into two parts which was pretty interesting. It was outside by the peace pole and inside in the first floor of the library. Since it is my first year at Channel Island I am afraid to try new things. But I am glad I tried this event out I enjoyed it.

The first part of the event by the peace pole there was a good solid 50 people or more. There was mostly Hispanic at the event but also more ethnicity. The event was all in English but there was also some words here and there in Spanish. The dance group was great there was I believe five girl dancing then professor Valadez playing the drum. The dance group's name was *Danza Tlaloc Ollin*. The group reminded me of when I use to dance for my local group for *los dias dedicados a La Virgen De Guadalupe*(the days dedicated to The Virgin of Guadalupe) and I just wanted to join the girls in their dance. At this part of event I started to feel comfortable. The group was amazing and I love how they added the thing that has smoke coming out of it. You could tell that dancer were into what they were doing. The event was organized and well

prepared in their time too. I do not remember the name of it but it was a great touch it made it feel more relaxed. Another great part was running under the bridge. When I ran under the bridge I said the word love. Love was the first word I wrote on my butterfly. This event related to the Chicana culture by talking about how we (the Chicana) did not cross the border that the border cross us. It is true we did not cross the border before taking Chicano Studies I really did not know much about how Mexico own some part of the United States. Now I do know and I will never forget the statement that was constantly being said in the the event outside event.

As for the second part of the event it was in the library and there was always people coming in and leaving and new people coming back in. The food was good too. There was roughly I would say there was always at least 20 people in the room. My favorite piece of artwork was colorful and the main color i saw was orange (I attached a picture in the last page). The artwork was beautiful and I believe it was inspired by *Día de los Muertos* (day of the dead). The first woman to talk (I honestly forgot her name) her story was great and I loved how she did not let anything stop her to get to where she is now. Professor Valadez slideshow was very interesting to because it had women of all ages and from the dance group. It had all my attention

If this event continues throughout the years I'm here at Channel Islands I will always attend because it made feel like I belong. It also made me feel like I could relate to some of the things said because I am a Chicana women. This event was beautiful and the butterfly theme just made it even better. I feel like this event a lot of Chicax will enjoy because it talk about what our ancestors went through and how the border really did cross and not the other way around. We need more event like this in community where Hispanics are a majority because it is an amazing that I believe they can relate to. Overall I had a great time at the event.



Student Reflection paper #10

5/5

Prof. Valadez

Chicano Studies 100 M and Wed 12:00-1:15

March 24, 2017

Celebrating la mujer

The event of La Mujer was on March 8, 2017 at Cal State Channel Islands University and this was the first event that I have been to and I thought it sounded very interesting. I decided to go to the event because I thought that I was going to learn something new and the event caught my attention. It just amazed me how passionate the people that hosted the event were about it. I am Latina so I thought that it would be amazing to learn more about the event as well as being apart of it and it was amazing to be there and see it for myself. The event was at the peace pole and it was also at the library and I thought it was great how they had two separate events and it was great. The dancers at the peace pole looked really dedicated and they were really into the dancing. I've never been apart of that but when i go to church they have danzas and when I see it it is just incredible how that's part of our culture.

The first part of the event was at the peace pole and I think that there was about 30 or 31 people that were at the event. At the event a lot of the people were hispanics but there were also other ethnicities which made the event great that there was more people that went to it and apart of it. It seemed to bring all of the people together and the one thing that I learned is that you have to embrace your culture and where you come from. This event was organized well and I thought it was fun that we were able to draw a butterfly and write four words. When we went under the bridge which was my favorite part of the event my word was hope and I think that it is a strong

word because hope makes everything better. My other favorite part of the event was when we had to turn to four different directions which we honor like our mothers and grandmother. It just really caught my attention and I really enjoyed the event. What amazed me was when they said we didn't cross the border the border crossed us and that is what we are learning in the chicano studies class. Because before taking this class I believed that the United States belonged to the Native Americans. In this class I learned that it was taken away from the Native Americans and the United States was ours.

The second part took place at the library and I thought it was great how there a few people in the front that were going to speak which I found interesting and I wanted to hear what they had to say. In the event I feel like there was about 23 or 25 people that stayed in the event. In the walls there was different paintings and they caught my eye because they were really beautiful. The dress that they had in the front was beautiful because it is a dress that is part of our culture. The event was about international women's day and it is a day where we celebrate the day of the mujer or women. I thought that all the speeches were very powerful and it caught my attention. I believe that this event was to celebrate the women and for everything that they do because the women are really strong. But one of the spokesperson I liked her powerpoint because women are treated a bit different than the men and it just made me interested in everything that she was saying.

I think that this event was interesting and I think that they should always host it because it is a learning experience. I was glad that I went to the event i really enjoyed it and it was great how professor Valadez is really passionate about our culture and how she has showed me that we need to embrace our culture and not be embarrassed or forget it because it is a part of us,



Student Reflection Paper #11

03/13/17

CHS 100

Prof. Valdez

Cultural Event #1

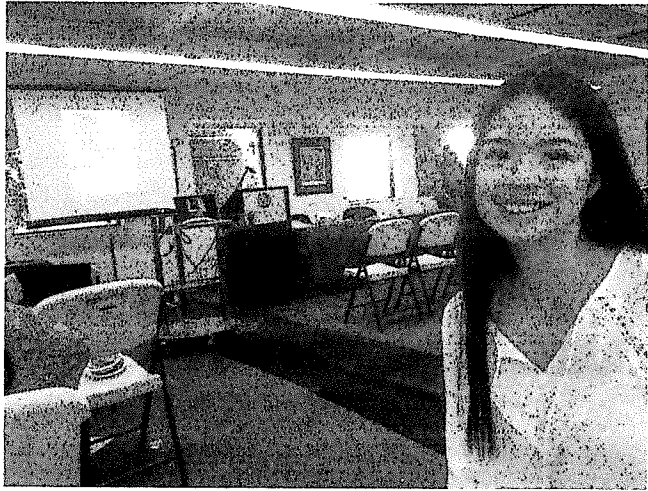
5/5

Celebrating La Mujer

On National Women's Day, which is on March 8, I attended a cultural event that celebrated the women all around the world. The event Celebrating La Mujer started at 9 A.M. and ended around 3 P.M. We all meet up at the Peace Pole in the central mall of CSU Channel Islands and ended up at the Broome Library. The first part of this event was a student workshop, then it was an artistic and poetic performance, and at the end was a panel discussion. I attended the artistic and poetic performance with my class and after I went to listen to the panel discussion.

The first part of this cultural event I went to was the artistic and poetic performance. This performance took place in the central mall near the Peace Pole. This part lasted for an hour and we got to see Danza Tlaloc Ollin perform. The dancers were dressed up and even had some instruments that created the music for what they were singing. They sang in some different songs and they were in a different language. We were also given a piece of paper in which we were to draw a butterfly and put a word that we want people to be aware of.

After the dance an artist presented a poem and then we walked throughout the central mall as part of the poetic and artistic walk performance. This walk resembled many of the protest and marches that we had talked about in class and some of the ones my classmates had attended on their own. In the end, there was a tunnel formed by some students and each of us got to go under it and say what our butterfly's name was and mine was named Chicana.



Student Reflection Paper #11

Professor Valadez

Chicano Studies 100 TuTh 4:00-5:45

13 March 2017

La Mujer

On March 8th another student and I decided to go to the 'La Mujer' cultural event located in the Broome library. It started at 10:00am but as we arrived we found that Vibiana Aparicio was already telling some stories related to her book, *Mi Amor*. We proceeded to find our seats and noticed that along with some other students, there were also some older women; One even had their kids with them. The first story she told was related to her childhood and her realization of her gift. She explained how her mother had the gift of seeing spirits and although Vibiana could not see the spirits she could smell them. She told of how the smell of flowers meant there was a presence of a spirit. She did not always know that she had this gift until she "died". This story really interested me during the moment because I enjoy hearing about these types of events. She spoke of how when she was younger she got very sick. She was lying in bed one day and her vision started to blur away and she felt very dizzy. After she woke up she knew that she had gone to heaven because she remembers God saying something like "You are in heaven, but it is not time yet." After that experience she says how her mother explained the gift to her and from that moment on she understood. While telling these multiple stories related to segments of the book, there was a dish being passed around containing many different spices and ingredients. Some of them that I remember include cinnamon, a stick of pure sugar, and multiple types of herbs. Along with this plate, there was a package of Ibarra chocolate. At the time it was strange to see that

chocolate because I knew I had seen it before; Thinking about it now, I remember that I had seen it in my Spanish class in high school, but that's besides the point. After viewing and smelling the different ingredients on the dish we would pass it to the students sitting next to us. Related to the dish was an activity that she had us do. We were given a paper with questions on it regarding our memories of the different smells that we remember as kids; specifically, the smells that were given off when our parents were cooking. She had us think back and try to remember a common spice that was used in our parents cooking and for me it was quite difficult. When I was younger my mom or dad did not really cook that many home meals because they were at work, so I did not have many memories of smells that I remember. On the worksheet you would describe the smell of the spice, the texture, the color, and how it looked while it was cooking in the pot. I did not get a chance to finish my paper, but other students did and they were asked to speak about it. Many of the other students were of Mexican descent and it was interesting to see how many of their parents used the same spices in their dishes. After a few speakers, it was almost 11:00am so she was beginning to conclude that segment of the event. The last thing we did was create butterflies using paper and colors in which she had us pin to a dress when we were finished. To me the experiences was fascinating and I believe it relates to Chicano culture by introducing the common spices and ingredients used in Chicano dishes. Vibiana Aparicio also told us of some childhood experiences and, personally, it was like hearing Chicano culture from a direct source. She told it with such passion that you knew she wasn't making any of it up. Overall this event taught me about the traditional spices and ingredients used in Chicano foods and being able to hear stories from Vibiana made me feel like I was experiencing Chicano culture first hand.



Student Reflection Paper #12

Professor Valadez

CHS 100 T/TH 4:30 – 5:45

13 March 2017

Cultural Event #1

The Second Annual “La Mujer” Event

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 9:00 am- 3:30 pm

I attended the second annual celebration of La Mujer last Wednesday in the Broome Library. Unfortunately I could not attend more than an hour from 10 am to 11 am because I had class at 12, but I really did enjoy the time I spent there. During this time I was able to meet the artist and poet, Vibiana Aparicio-Chamberlin. I have to say, I wasn't initially expecting much from this event other than maybe listening to the artist talk about her art and a few poems. But this low expectation was exceeded by the interaction I received from her and those that attended.

This was only a pre-workshop leading up to the main event of which many more students attended

If I'm being completely honest, not that many people attended the event, there were about 15 in total some students and other adults. When Cameron and I arrived she was reading from her book; unfortunately I did not catch the name of it. Chamberlin explained how the book was based on her life and certain events in her life that she found valuable in making her the artist she is today, kind of reminded me of the Tezcatlipoca. She was reading specifically from a poem that spoke of the foods her mother used to cook and certain spices she could smell throughout the house that now remind her of home. While Chamberlin was reading, a tray full of spices was being passed around for everyone to smell, as well as cylinder bars of chocolate used to make hot chocolate. After she finished reading the first poem she passed around a sugar cane. I found it odd to see how many people were amazed by the sugar cane. I am not really connected to my culture as I'd like to be, so I do not really know how popular sugar cane is amongst the Mexican

culture, but I've at least seen sugar cane in the grocery store more than a few times. After her first reading, the artist passed out writing prompts to everyone. The topic of this prompt was a spice our mother or father would use often in cooking. It was meant to be the start or the basis of the poem we were about to create. It was interesting to see how differently everyone's parents cooked. Some used yeast, others used cinnamon or chocolate, some oregano and onion, even green tomatoes. With these ingredients or spices were to describe the smell, feeling it brought to us, emotion even. After a few minutes everyone shared their poems without being judged on how good or meaningful they may have been. One woman, although she had no poem, shared a story of how her mother made them bread as children and shaped them into little soldiers. Her mother often would put red sauce on them to represent blood. She explained how at the time she didn't realize that this may have been a way to cover up how horrible the war that her mother lived through was. Her story was really emotional and the Chamberlin explained to her that just that story was a poem itself. After this activity we moved on to the butterfly dress.

The butterfly dress was a traditional white dress in which butterflies would be sewn on. In this case however, we were given paper that we cut into the shape of butterflies and wrote something motivating to ourselves and pinned them to the dress.

This event really reflected Chicano culture because it spoke of different traditions. The artist and her stories portrayed a sort of embracing of one's culture that I don't believe I have ever seen before. I am glad I had the opportunity to attend this event and meet such a wonderful person, She has shown me what it means to embrace who you are and be proud of where you come from.



Student Reflection
Paper #13
MW 12-1:15 PM

3/08/2017

Celebrating La Mujer

Cultural Event #2

The event that I attended was Celebrating La Mujer event, which was held on the Channel Islands campus and took place by the peace pole and the John Spoor Broome library. This event took approximately 2 ½ hours, but was full of information in both the activities, as well as the panels. The demographics of those who attended varied in ethnicity, but what was kind of sad was the attendance from the lack of men who attended. Before the event and after there were many activities and questions, and during the event many people shared their experiences as to why women's rights were important to them and what they hoped out of it. They also shared what they hoped to see in the future and guest speakers talked about why these issues were important to them and how they applied to their daily lives. I thought that even though the guest speakers had a range of why these issues were important to them, they all agreed with one thing and that was that all their hard work was for the future generations to come and to destroy the misogyny and discrimination that women receive as a result of all the years of male domination and the "machismo" as we call it in Spanish. During the event, there were also dancers from Danza Tlaloc Olli and I thought that they danced beautiful, and even sang beautiful in Nahuatl. I especially like the garments that they wore, which ties in with the history of equality in gender in the indigenous tribes. Before the event began, we also made butterflies to symbolize the rebirth of women and acceptance of them. We also heard poems from Ms. Vibiana Aparicio Chamberlin, and I thought that these were inspiring, because she spoke from the heart

and she had so much passion as to what she was speaking about. Another thing that I liked was that in the directions of the north, south, east, and west we honored our mothers and women who came before us and also all the forces that are women. I liked this because it tied what I learned in class about the equality of both men and women and the beauty and importance of both genders for the survival of the Mexicas.

After all this, the event began with a series of panel discussion led by strong women that are leading us with example. The speaker that struck out to me in particular was Mrs. Karina Belén Blas Rodriguez. The reason why she stuck out was because she explained her experience of how she was seen as indifferent by her male peers and how she had to overpass that obstacle. It also stuck out because she mentioned how they are looking for 50/50 representation in the forces by 2030, and she mentioned that even though this is a true goal, we can't wait another 13 years for women to gain equality. This really made me realize how far women have come to fight for equal rights, and how women nowadays are just taking this for granted and don't really fight for their own rights and again are falling back into the power of men and to others above them. I also like how Mrs. Veronica Xochitl Valadez spoke about the generations of women and how the young women are trusted with the organization of events and other things. I thought that this was impressive and it kind of made me realize how young women, at least in Mexico, are not the focus of families, instead the men are appraised by both their mothers, fathers, and family members. This kind of made me reflect on how my sister and I are often looked as having to work hard, but when my brother doesn't work hard they just excuse him and say he'll come around.

The reason why this event reflects Chicana culture is because there was a unification of people trying to fight for the rights of women of all generations. This was also a Chicana event,

because there was so much history from the poems, to the panels, and even to the pictures on the walls in the library. There were pictures of La Virgen de Guadalupe and the struggles that Chicaxs have passed and made me think of the efforts I'm putting forth now and how I must fight for my rights, or else someone else is going to come in and tell me what to do.



Student Reflection Paper #14

3/10/2017

CHS 100

Profe Valadez

Cultural Event #1- El Dia Internacional De Las Mujeres

On Wednesday, March 8, 2017 I was fortunate to participate in this day to celebrate the day of the women in which is celebrated internationally. The event took place at California State University Channel Islands in the middle of the courtyard across from Sierra Hall. There was workshops all day from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM in celebration of women's day. I was able to attend the celebration from 12:00 PM to 2:15 PM. When I approached the middle of the court yard, I saw Profe Valadez beating on the drums, as I got closer, the sound of the drums got louder and louder. The rhythm of the drums made me want to move my body and feet to the beats. The Danza Tlaloc Ollin was dancing to the sound of the drums. I believe there was four dancers dressed like Aztec Indians with big colorful feathers coming out of their heads and with red shirts with Aztec designs, and white and red skirts with more Aztec tribal designs. There were all barefoot as they danced in sequence in the middle of the grass, to the sound of the drums. Their ankles had an anklet of little wooden balls, in which I really couldn't tell what they were. As they danced, someone was holding something that was releasing smoke and scent of burning sage. Doing this, represents a ritual, and is very traditional and represents a celebration or ceremony. The Native Americans used to do this for cleansing of the spirit or for rituals as well.

I also participated with a woman there holding the microphone who was really animated. I don't remember her name, but she was full of excitement representing this day with a lot of pride. I really like when she was yelling out different parts of Mexico, and she was telling everyone around to yell out what parts of Mexico, or the border they were from, and then she

would repeat where they were from to the crowd. As everyone formed a circle around her she read a poem. I noticed there was more females, than males there and everyone had different ethnicities. The poet with the microphone was referring to everyone as a butterfly, and I noticed some people had a hand made colorful butterfly that they out of paper and strings around their necks. After this we all formed a line with other participants, and people from the crowd that ran under the lines with our arms connected. As we ran under the formed lines of people's arms, she yelled a meaning for the person running through all of us for example, mother, beautiful, Chicana, strength, power, valor, etc. In the end we all got to run under the line of arms to finish that ceremony. Then we proceeded to wall around the courtyard as the danzantes danced and the drums played, the woman with the microphone started chanting, "We didn't cross the border, the border crossed us" and everyone walking was chanting and yelling. What amazed me, is that even people who were not Mexicans, Mexican-American, or Chicanx were chanting with us, as we continued to walk.

In the last hour that I participated in this event, we all walked to the library where guest speakers were going to be speaking on behalf of this celebration. They had delicious food and cold beverages in the library for everyone that was a part of the event. I was able to witness and hear the Mexica song "Teoinan" performed by the Danza Tlaloc Ollin, and it was so beautiful to hear a song in a Native tongue. I have never experienced hearing one before. I really enjoyed attending this ceremony because I feel it helps when you can engage in learning and being a part of rituals from our ancestors. They had their own traditions and spiritual beliefs, and with learning about Chicano Studies it really gives me a different perspective on being able to experience these kind of events.



5/5

Student Reflection
CHS 100 T/TH 4:30-5:45 / *paper #10*
March 8, 2017
"Celebrating la Mujer"
Cultural Event #1

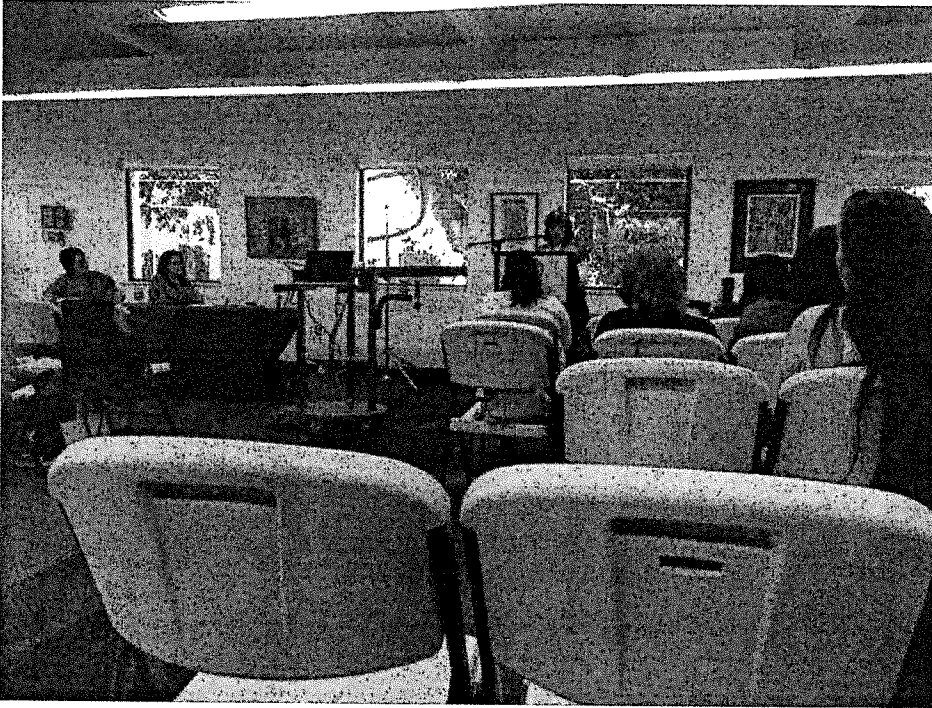
"Celebrating la Mujer"

The event took place at the Broome Library here on campus on March 8, 2017 and there were many presenters there. There was a table set up across the front with the speakers sitting down. There was a microphone and stand in the center and each speaker went up separately. Behind them were many beautiful art works. These artworks were colorful and bright compared to the beige walls. The audience were sitting in front of the presenters and there were many seats set up. The ones that I heard speak were Professor Valdez, Diane Velarde Hernandez, Denise Lugo, and Vibiana Aparicio. They all seemed very nice and approachable and had so much influence for Chicanas. The whole environment was very welcoming and nicely set up. The demographics of people that were there was pretty much all Hispanics and maybe about three or four white people. Also, they were all mainly females in this event and maybe two or three males.

This event was pretty interesting to me. there were many presenters which gave a lot of space for different topics. One lady I think her name was Diane talked about how she was raised in Pacoima, California and that was when she began getting involved with Chicano movements. She mentioned how she met Cesar Chavez and was a part of a protest with him which was so interesting because I feel like it makes it more real. Having someone who met him and saw how he was is so shocking because I feel like we never really meet people like that who have those connections. She could tell us about situations that we either have not heard about or even tell us about something that we had read about which would be very helpful. Another thing that was presented was Vibiana's art work. Her artwork is so beautiful. I thought it was creative and really represented the Chicano culture. Her artworks were bright and had so many things in them. In one I remember she had the Virgen de Guadalupe and I think it said something about borders or love

on it too. Her artworks had so much to say about Chicano history. It was nice to have her explain her artwork and show us the different elements that she brings in. Another thing that happened during the event was that they had prizes to give out to the audience. They had set up papers under certain chairs and those people would get a prize from Vibiana. I thought that was interesting because people got all excited and everyone was looking under the chairs to see if they had a paper under their chair. We were all looking around waiting for people to claim their prize. One by one people kept popping up and the audience was just enjoying this little giveaway. This lightened up the mood and got the audience excited. One lady got a box with a painting from Vibiana. It looked so nice and everyone else got tickets from her art shows which looked very interesting. Overall the event was very nice and exciting. It was nice to hear from different people and the different ways that they are involved in the Chicano world.

This event taught me many different ways that people can get involved in the Chicano community. The speakers told personal stories of how they first got involved and how they made a change in situations. This event also taught me the power and influence of women. The speakers were powerful and very informative. They told the audience of the ways that they made a change in the world. They made me see how women have the same capability to do the same things that males can do. It gave me real life speakers and people who have actually been involved in movements. Overall this event was very beneficial to me and was interesting because of everyone's different stories and ways that they contribute to our community.



5/5

Student Reflection Paper #15

CHS 100

MW 12p

3/8/17

Cultural Event Paper #1

Today I attended my first cultural event at CI as of March 8th. There were two main parts to this event. The first part was called the Artistic and Poetic Performance Peace Pole. This was located in the CI Mall. From 12-1pm there were dancers performing and Professor Valadez drumming. There was also another speaker who had us all draw butterflies on our papers and hang them around our necks. We wrote a word that we found inspirational to us on our papers and went through a human tunnel to be "born again". I thought this was very inspiring because everyone was open to say where their family had come from and there was no judging. People wrote words such as family, hope, black lives matter, equality, and so on, on their papers. We also took a walk around central mall to represent us being born again and experiencing things in a new way, the way we chose to live.

Next was the panel discussion in Broome library. It began at 1:30 and it was a panel full of women. This stood out to me because it is National Women's Day today, and it was nice to see such empowering women speak up. Marie Francois gave an opening speech and started the discussion off. Next, we heard a poem from Carmen Boullosa and Mike Wallace presented by a Spanish professor. This poem brought about a new understanding or way of viewing the new year. We should all have our own goals we want to accomplish in the coming year, even if it is one that will take years to accomplish. This bring up woman equality.

Many of the speakers today touched on the issue that women are still not treated fairly. Yes, we have pushed very far in the past few decades, but we are nowhere close to where we

should be. It also has to do with the racial inequality we still face, especially as women. We should not be bringing each other down. We should be standing together and empowering each other.

There were also 4 girls who performed a Mexica song called "Teoinan". This was something I have never heard of before. It was very nice to see people so dedicated in learning about their culture and expressing their love in a unique way. It does not seem easy to dance and perform the way they did.

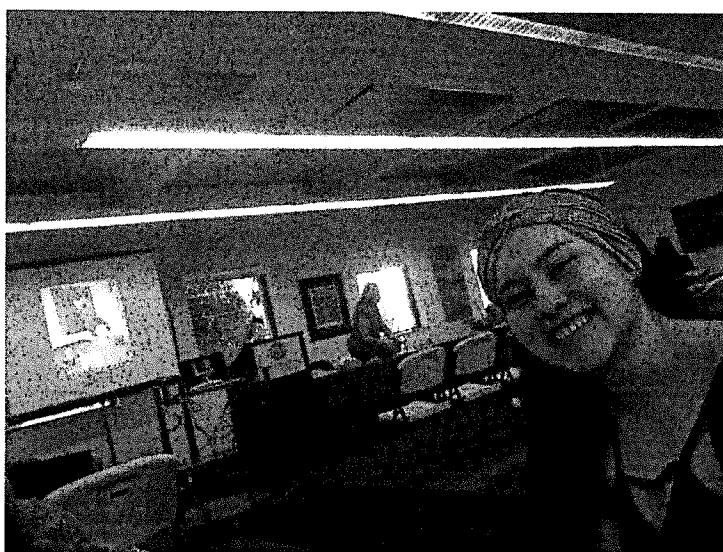
The next speaker, Karina Rodriguez, a Mexican Appointed Consul, brought up her personal struggle while growing up and getting a job. She was told that she needed to get married and have kids in order to be known and make a difference. She proved to us today that she did not need to be married in order to make a change in the world. She could do that on her own as an independent woman. She has brought light to issues women face all over the world, not just here in the US, which I found very interesting.

Professor Valadez spoke next. The slideshow she presented really made me think about the world we live in today and how many women are bringing each other down while trying to stand out. In reality, we should be coming together and making our lives better in order to make a difference in the world. She also related the dancers we saw and their focus on culture to what we learn about culture and equality in our Chicano studies class.

Diane Velarde Hernandez spoke about the importance of collective historical memory. She stood out to me because she actually grew up in the times that we are discussing in class. She participated in Walk-Outs and even met Cesar Chavez. Her speech gave me a sense of

empowerment, and I know now to stand up for what I believe in because it will be worth it in the long run.

Overall, I enjoyed this event very much. It was something new that I have never experienced before. I feel as though I learned a lot about my relatives in such a short amount of time. It was definitely a fun experience to be a part of!



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5/5