

***Instructionally Related Activities Report Form***

**SPONSOR:** Theresa Avila

**PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:** Art

**ACTIVITY TITLE:** Chicanx Artists Presente Speaker Series

**DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY:** Fall 2019

**A. ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

**(1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY:**

Prof. Theresa Avila organized three speakers to address CSUCI students who are art majors and non-art majors enrolled in art history and Chicano Studies courses. Each Chican@x artist speaker modeled creativity and success, as well as represent and intersect on issues pertinent to our campus community, specifically the 60% Hispanic descent community at CSUCI. Each artist made public presentations on themes and issues from multicultural perspectives related to art, the professional path of the working artist, and the interdisciplinary nature of creative expression and the study or art.

The announcement that **Luzma Espinosa** was named Poet Laureate of Ventura County for 2020-2022 followed, and may have likely been spurred, by the work she did at CSUCI campus during the fall semester. Espinosa worked with CSUCI students in my Art 300 and Art 480 courses, providing access to her personal archives in preparation for an exhibition at CSUCI in fall 2019. , Espinosa made numerous site visits to CSUCI to meet with students to discuss archive holdings, which was a unique opportunity to learn a history otherwise erased. Additionally, she was one of two speakers in the panel, “Las Homegirls de Santa Paula: Chicana Movement Herstory” on Thursday November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 12 and 1pm. Espinosa also performed poetry on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm.

**Julio Alcala** shared his story and provided insight as a Chican@x Artistic Creative Producer and Professional with CSUCI students, and in particular my Chican@x Art History courses (333-01 / 333-02). He worked with my Art 300 and Art 480 students directly, as well as provided video materials viewed by numerous CSUCI students and the surrounding community at large. He offered insights into media documentation and production around cultural events and people of interest. Alcala also worked with my Art 300 and Art 480 on producing promotional materials, photographic documentation, video documentation, and a video that highlights the opening reception.

**Armando de la Torre** shared his story and provided insight as a producer, curator, and Chican@x Artist to my Chicano Art History courses (333-01 / 333-02). Additionally, he advised my Art 380/400 students in terms of insights into planning, curating, and designing exhibitions.

**(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?**

Students enrolled in ART/CHS/HIST 333: Southern California Chican@x Art attended presentations, as well as students enrolled in ART 300 and ART 480, both of which address the tools, methods, and professionalization of art historians (scholars, curators, critics, educators).

Learning objectives that are met through engagement with the guest Chicanx artists are listed below, and reflect gains and abilities that are supported and enhanced with course material and activities throughout the semester in general.

- Identify and describe the diverse outcomes of artistic creativity within Chican@x art.
- Interpret visual and conceptual elements within Chican@x artistic traditions.
- Critically analyze the meaning of Chican@x art within its original context.
- Evaluate the ways in which Chican@x art, history, and culture can interact in various context.
- Examine, understand, and describe from different perspectives the role of Chican@x artists in contemporary culture and in relation to collectors, museums, and galleries.
- Address in oral and written form the various aspects of Chican@x art, history, and culture.
- Address in oral and written form the various aspects of the Chican@x tradition, its heritage and contemporary identity.
- Apply the knowledge gained about Chican@x art, history, and culture in presentations and papers.
- Gain applicable skills that will support academic success, particularly related to research and writing, visual analysis, critical thinking, and communication.
- Analyze issues within an image/object, and develop and convey to others through diverse perspectives and various methodologies pertaining to the field of Art History possible meanings and ideas about the roles of art.

**(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?**

- Interaction with professional artists.
- That students could see themselves in the presenters.
- The high quality output of a video and catalogue.

**(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?**

- Lack of documentation was a weakness for this series of visitors and presentations.
- Challenge to introduce students to so many new materials, concepts,

**(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?**

- Coordinate with Art Department faculty to work with student photographers to document speakers.
- Practice regular survey taking.

**(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?**

- The administration and processing of IRA projects is taxing.
- The benefit to the students outweigh the burden of labor to create, plan, develop, execute, document and report these types of events and activities.

**(7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)**

See attached student responses.

**8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY (DO NOT INCLUDE ACCOUNTING STRINGS)**

See below actual budget.

Description	Estimated Amounts	Actual Amounts	Notes
Artist Speaker One Honorarium	\$2500	\$2000	Luzma Espinosa
		\$500	Panel, Diana Borruga
Artist Speaker Two Honorarium	\$2500	\$2500	Julio Alcala
Artist Speaker Three Honorarium	\$2500	\$2500	Armando de la Torre
<b>Total IRA Award</b>	<b>\$7500</b>		

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**B. ATTENDEE LIST- SUPPORTING DOCUMENT:**

In addition to the report form, *in a separate document*, please provide a list of participants that engaged in the instructionally related activity. This for IRA Committee reference only and will not be published on the IRA website. Include your name and the title of your IRA activity on the document.

[See attached for attendee list.](#)

### C.IMAGES FROM ACTIVITY:

**You Tube Video by Julio Alcala with clips of Luzma Espinosa performing and documentation of students participation.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6olgj8h9w4&feature=youtu.be>





Luzma Espinosa Performance



Proposal # 1192

*Instructionally Related Activities Report Form*  
*Select Student Evaluations*

SPONSOR: **Theresa Avila**

PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT: **Art**

ACTIVITY TITLE: **Chicanx Artists Presente Speaker Series**

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: **Fall 2019**

**Student Evaluation of Instructional Related Activity #1190**

**Student Exhibition Design Project, Fall 2019**  
**Coleccion de Lucha: The Personal Archive of Luzma Espinosa**  
**Date of Visit, December 4, 2019 at 5-5:45pm**

If attending in association with a class list details (name, number, instructor):

Chicano Art History 333-01, Theresa Avila Alondra Gzmar

Would you like to see more programming like this on campus?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please describe main idea of presentation/event/activity?

give exposure to Chicana artists. Focus on a Luzma's art and archives.

What did you learn attending/participating in the presentation/event/activity?

She is about her people. She embraces her roots

Please note the strengths of the event or which aspect of event you enjoyed and why:

alot of exposure to Chicana / Latina woman and show empowerness to them

Please note what were the weaknesses of the event and/or what you would improve:

needed more advertising - didn't really hear about it.

Additional Comments:

It is great seeing this art / representation at the school.



Daniela Fernandez

Student Evaluation of Instructional Related Activity #1190

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Chicano Art History 333-01, Theresa Avila

Would you like to see more programming like this on campus?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please describe main idea of presentation/event/activity?

to see the fight for Chicana women & their indigenous life.  
It highlights creativity & efforts of protest & educating  
for Chicana women.

What did you learn attending/participating in the presentation/event/activity?

I learned about Luzma Espinosa, never heard of her so now  
I really support her work & her images she documented.

Please note the strengths of the event or which aspect of event you enjoyed and why:

I loved the few pages of the journal, I thought that it  
was interesting since it was her old words & her presence  
in Chicano history.

Please note what were the weaknesses of the event and/or what you would improve:

overall, not too many weaknesses, maybe have the definitions  
or words in a bigger font, so its easier to read.

Additional Comments:

very cool event! Very interesting to learn about her  
presence with Chicana women.

John Landon

**Student Evaluation of Instructional Related Activity #1190**

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Chicano Art History 333-01, Theresa Avila

Would you like to see more programming like this on campus?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please describe main idea of presentation/event/activity?

to inform others a perspective of a still active culture  
being that of Chicano.

What did you learn attending/participating in the presentation/event/activity?

through out her life she was loved and seen as a figure  
of pride and one to be remembered.

Please note the strengths of the event or which aspect of event you enjoyed and why:

content of information and visual images.

Please note what were the weaknesses of the event and/or what you would improve:

probably the spreading of information. maybe having different signs if not  
saying near some of the glass that it's open for view.

Additional Comments:

Kidra Henry

**Student Evaluation of Instructional Related Activity #1190**

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**Date of Visit, December 4, 2019 at 5-5:45pm**

If attending in association with a class list details (name, number, instructor):

Chicano Art History 333-01, Theresa Avila

Would you like to see more programming like this on campus?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please describe main idea of <sup>personal</sup> presentation/event/activity?

We're viewing her art collection of the history of chicanos.  
She definitely has an affinity for theater & newspapers/magazines.

What did you learn attending/participating in the presentation/event/activity?

I spoke with Professor Avila about the history of the headresses that  
Luzma is wearing. I didn't realize much of the history of the Chicanos & how  
native their style is/was. <sup>indigenous</sup>

Please note the strengths of the event or which aspect of event you enjoyed and why:

I loved the poems. Two of them made me cry. And I love how  
hard she has worked to preserve the history of her people.  
<sup>history</sup>

Please note what were the weaknesses of the event and/or what you would improve:

The space is very boring. The room itself is very bland to be an  
art exhibit space.

Additional Comments:

I love this collection. I think that the yellow papers & poems  
throughout aide in telling her story. It's also in line with the  
pictures of Luzma in her tribal wear... It's beautiful & well  
displayed.

## **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

The Luzma Espinosa exhibition was a showing of Luzma herself and the work she has conducted and accumulated over the past years as a Chicana activist. At first coming into the exhibition I honestly had never heard of Luzma Espinosa but coming out the exhibition I've realized that Luzma is a legend and is near her time. This exhibition celebrated, recognized, and admired the work of Luzma even bringing other Chicanx activist and creators from cities outside Ventura County. The celebration of Luzma Espinosa was best captured within the exhibition on the opening ceremony when her work throughout her life was respected.

Attending the reception at first was hard to get in because of the amount of people that were already in the gallery and standing. But a man swung open the door for a group of us to enter and it changed the whole vibe and felt very welcoming. The lighting in the gallery served well for the presentation of Luzmas' work because it illuminated the whole gallery without having disruptive glares. Due to the small size of the gallery, on the opening reception it was a bit tough to move around and see the work in the wall and showcases because of the amount of people crowded. The exhibition overall was accessible to read and understand. I felt as the exhibition grouped works together based on their relevance with each other, that made it easier to display the work for the audience and be able to recognize the type of person Luzma was. It was like reading and seeing the phases or chapters of Luzmas whole life. A part of the exhibition that stood out to me were the vinyl covers that were against the glass. Not only was the art so inspiring in a political and revolutionary way but knowing that most of that music, Luzma had exposed in countries like Chile where they were banned. Another thing that stood out to me were

the newspaper pages that showed Luzma in danza attire and reading that she was the first to put danza into Ventura County.

I was able to hear a few of Luzma's poems that she had written around her 20's, it was harder to connect to the poems than the art maybe because I wasn't born in that same generation so I didn't get some of the jokes or rhetoric. After the exhibition I realized it is a blessing to have Luzma's archive and work at CSUCI because she is a legend in local and general Chicana movement.

### **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

Before attending the opening of the exhibit, I looked up Luzma Espinosa to see her background and history, thinking that I would be able to do a quick search to understand her and what her collection would be – I found nothing. The one result on the first page related to Luzma Espinosa was a Facebook post advertising the exhibit, so I went into the show not really knowing what to expect from her collection.

The environment on the opening day was friendly and positive with the music playing in the background, and Luzma there with her family and friends who were all so proud of her. I'm glad I was able to hear her read a few of her poems and to hear people who loved her speak because I was able to visualize her life while going through her collection and was able to hear her passion and dedication to her culture and educating others on danza.



## **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

The Luzma Espinosa Exhibition was my first art exhibition experience. I found it to be very interesting and quite welcoming. I've past this space before, however never knew we could enter the space without prior authorization. I arrived around 5:30 pm and the gallery where the exhibition was held was a little crowded. There was some seating in the gallery which was taken up and which I also came to find out is not typical of an art exhibition. Many guests were standing towards the back of the gallery and a few guests were sitting on the floor. I decided to kneel / sit on the floor in order to prevent obstructing anyone's view of the speakers.

It was a great experience to hear stories from all the guest speakers and the guest of honor Luzma Espinosa. Luzma's poetry was very powerful and captivating. I felt that we as guests were able to experience a glimpse of history through all the guest speakers and through Luzma Espinoza. We were also able to experience a sense of Chicano history through Luzma Espinosa's collection of art and artifacts. This was the first time that I had ever heard of Luzma and all her accomplishments. This exhibit is a great way to introduce Chicano art and Chicano history to our community.

### **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

I had an opportunity to hear Luzma Espinoza speak at the reception. As well as her daughter, Ruby I believe, who held her mother in high regards and greatly showed her appreciation for the artist and Chicana influencer she is.

### **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

I did not know who Luzma Espinosa was before the exhibition, and I feel like I still do not know much about her even after. I understood that she was an activist and an artist by listening to the speakers, but there were no identifiers that allowed me to differentiate between her art and other pieces, or read about her activist involvement.

I was able to listen to a couple of speakers at the exhibition. They all spoke kind words of Luzma and described her imaginative and nurturing spirit. Her daughter talked about Luzma's activism and how it inspired her to be the person she is today. To me, the speakers personified the values of family and community. They showed me what group of people can accomplish if they just work together.

### **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

I did get a chance to hear Luzma's daughter say a few words regarding her mother and the work that her mother has created. Her words did in fact impact me because it was an eye opener in seeing how her daughter had so many beautiful things to say about what struggles her mother had to endure and how strong her mother had been through it all. She, being the daughter of someone who had lived through a great deal of oppression and then making and collecting art forms was something her daughter lived through herself and was so proud to call Luzma her mom. This impacted me in the sense that someone who lived and experienced it from an outsider perspective was able to share her own personal experience in being part of the process with her mom and that added so much more heart and soul value to the entire exhibition.

### **Luzma Espinosa Exhibition - 333-02**

I got hear some speakers throughout the show and it was amazing to hear each person speak highly of Luzma and tell her the impact she had made in their life's. As well, her daughter spoke beautiful words of her mother and I wanted to tear up just listening to her speak of the impacts her mother has made.