



XITO (Xican@ Institute for Teaching & Organizing)

In Lak'ech Winter Institute: Teaching Justice & Decolonial Pedagogy

February 24-26, 2017 at Cispus Learning Center, 2142 Cispus Road, Randle, WA 98377

This 3-day institute is an opportunity for educators, activists and community organizers throughout the great northwest to engage in and learn about the theories and methodologies behind the successes of the former Tucson Mexican American Studies Program. This gathering is not a conference but rather an intensive professional development opportunity that participants can bring back to their own communities. XITO facilitators will share the liberatory, research-based pedagogy and community organizing skills that led to the success of K-12 youth of color and communities of color in general.

XITO strives to support the Xican@/Latin@ community through teacher preparation, social justice pedagogy and community organizing. XITO's practices are steeped in Xican@ indigenous epistemology which drives the intentions, structures, and practices of the institute.

XITO consultants provide teacher training in research-based best practices in culturally, socially, and historically responsive/sustainable/empowering pedagogical approaches that are highly effective with traditionally marginalized and underserved student populations, specifically with and for Xican@/Latin@ youth. This training is for teachers at the K-12 and university levels in the areas of English/language arts and History/social science.

Content

- Resistance Pedagogy and the National Movement for Ethnic Studies
- Setting the Context For Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Through the Nahui Ollin
- Decolonizing the Writing & Literature Classroom
- Attributes of a Culturally Reflective Pedagogue
- Developing Our Culturally Responsive Mindset Through a Tezcatlipoca Lens

Schedule

Friday

- 9:00am: Arrival, Move into dorms
- 10:00am: Welcome & Introduction
- Noon: Lunch
- 1:00pm: Workshop
- 4:00pm: Self-Care
- 5:30pm: Dinner
- 6:30pm: Workshop
- 8:30pm: Close
- Optional Campfire

Saturday

- 8:00am: Breakfast
- 8:45am: Workshop
- Noon: Lunch
- 1:00pm: Workshop
- 4:00pm: Self-Care
- 5:30pm: Dinner
- 6:30pm: Workshop
- 8:30pm: Close
- Optional Campfire

Sunday

- 7:30am: Clean out dorms
- 8:00am: Breakfast
- 8:45am: Workshop
- Noon: Close w/ Sack Lunch

Contact: Vincent Perez, vincentp@awsp.org, P: 360.742.8982, LaCima.org/XITO



Facilitators

Anita Fernández Ph.D. is a scholar activist at Prescott College (Arizona) and teaches in both the undergraduate Education program and the graduate program in Social Justice and Human Rights. Anita's work in education began as a high school English teacher which influenced her graduate work to focus on preparing activist teachers who are both compassionate and critical. Anita is locally and nationally involved with organizations that focus on Chicana@ access to education, social justice activism, critical pedagogy and transformative teacher education. Anita has worked closely with the now banned Mexican American Studies program in Tucson, and in that work she created a structure for the eliminated classes to continue on in a non-formal setting for college credit from Prescott College. Anita is also the co-founder of La Tierra Community School, a K-8 Expeditionary Learning school in Prescott, AZ.



Jose Gonzalez M.A. is in his twenty-second year of teaching and currently works for Tucson Unified School District teaching 6th grade World History at Roskrige Bilingual Middle School. As a student advocate, Jose was one of thirteen plaintiff's challenging the constitutionality of HB 2281 (ARS 15-112) which aims to make teaching Chicana/o studies illegal in the State of Arizona. As an educator and a student advocate, Jose anchors his instruction by implementing a Xican@ Critical Race Pedagogy, simultaneously interweaving a humanizing pedagogy which at its core is grounded in an indigenous epistemology. He works to foster and facilitate his student's academic identity through a philosophy, which is centered on the student's self-actualization and self-discipline. Jose is the proud husband to Norma Isela Gonzalez, "Papa" to Joseph Elias Gonzalez and "Tatzin" to his granddaughter, Isita Felix, Santi Felix, Ameyalli and Citlanique Ballesteros.

Norma Gonzalez M.A. has been a Mexican Indigenous Studies Critical Educator for over 20 years. As a former doctoral candidate at the University of Arizona her research interest was centered on culture and re-introducing Xicana/o youth to Indigenous Mexican knowledge and wisdom as a means to solidify a positive identity. She holds an M.A. in Educational Leadership and a B.A. in Elementary Bilingual Education. Professionally Norma was a curriculum specialist with the Mexican American Department for ten years where Norma wrote curriculum that is culturally relevant and implements it with all students utilizing critical pedagogy from an indigenous epistemology. Currently she is a third grade teacher at the "Greenest" School in the Nation, Manzo Elementary School. Norma's current curricular focus centers on ecology, environmental justice and Indigenous Traditional Earth Knowledge.



Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP): A professional member organization of K-12 school principals. AWSP.org

Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL): A division of AWSP serving K-12 schools with dynamic leadership programs including camps, conferences, retreats, trainings and custom programs. AWSLeaders.org

La Cima Bilingual Leadership: Six-day summer high school leadership camp and custom programs. LaCima.org

¡La Chispa! Bilingual Leadership: Middle school one-day regional workshops, three-day retreat and custom programs. LaCima.org/LaChispa

Grupo Ollin: A weekly convening Latino Culture Group in Green Hill School (state juvenile prison). LaCima.org/GO

Cispus Learning Center: An outdoor education center under the umbrella of AWSP. Cispus.org

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