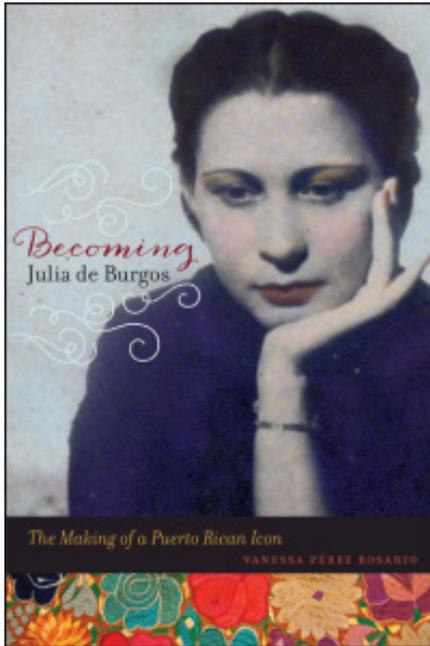


## A Swarthmore Educational Studies Department #TeacherLives Speaker Series Event

*Educational Studies; Latin American Studies; Gender & Sexuality Studies; Spanish; English; the Intercultural Center, ENLACE, and Taller Puertorriqueño, invite you:*



### *Becoming Julia de Burgos: The Making of a Puerto Rican Icon*

*A book talk by author Dr. Vanessa Pérez Rosario*

**Thu. April 16, 2015  
6:00-8:00 pm  
Swarthmore College  
Kohlberg 115**



While it is rare for a poet to become a cultural icon, Julia de Burgos has evoked feelings of bonding and identification in Puerto Ricans and Latinos in the United States for over half a century. In the first book-length study written in English, **Vanessa Pérez-Rosario** (Professor of Puerto Rican & Latino Studies at Brooklyn College) **examines poet and political activist Julia de Burgos's development as a writer, her experience of migration, and her legacy in New York City, the poet's home after 1940.** Pérez Rosario situates Julia de Burgos as part of a transitional generation that helps bridge the historical divide between Puerto Rican nationalist writers of the 1930s and the Nuyorican writers of the 1970s. *Becoming Julia de Burgos* **departs from the prevailing emphasis on the poet and intellectual as a nationalist writer to focus on her contributions to New York Latino/a literary and visual culture. It moves beyond the standard tragedy-centered narratives of Burgos's life to place her within a nuanced historical understanding of Puerto Rico's peoples and culture to consider more carefully the complex history of the island and the diaspora.** Pérez Rosario unravels the cultural and political dynamics at work when contemporary Latina/o writers and artists in New York revise, reinvent, and riff off of Julia de Burgos as they imagine new possibilities for themselves and their communities. This talk will also feature **newly discovered archival material** not included in the book that focuses on the **poet's legacy in the New York City Public Schools in the 1970s.**

**For more: <http://edwinmayorga.net/?p=594>  
[emayorg1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:emayorg1@swarthmore.edu)**

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