



ANNUAL REPORT

2018-19



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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTORS

We are pleased to present Latin Stories Australia's 2018-19 Annual Report. This is a great opportunity to reflect and celebrate the organisation's achievements within, and outside, the Latin American community.

This year has been special for us as we re-structured the organisation and updated our image, vision, mission and activities to better reflect our growth. We also achieved several milestones:

Through the "Local History Grant Program" we were awarded a grant to collect, and showcase, the stories of Latin American migrants in Victoria. More than 300 stories were represented in, what we believe, is the first exhibition of its kind - "Building Bridges: From Latin American stories to Victorian history". The exhibition was launched on November 2018 and highlighted the contribution of the Latin American migrants to the history of Victoria. More than 700 members of the Victorian community attended the exhibition.

As part of the "Building Bridges audience engagement" program, we partnered with five community organisations to deliver seven public program programs for different audiences.

We were awarded a \$41,000 grant from the Department of Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs to develop and deliver workshops for the Latin American women to provide them tools to feel more included into Australian life. We created partnerships with Casa Cultura and Momentum Psychology to deliver 9 workshops from July to October 2019.



We were also awarded a \$30,000 grant from Victorian Multicultural Commission to develop and deliver training sessions to increase awareness about gender inequality and family violence within the Latin American migrant community. We created partnerships with EDVOS and Unpresentable Ego to deliver five workshops, both within Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Victoria, from September 2019 to March 2020.

We strengthened our community engagement by hosting a Q&A event as part of the Spanish Language Festival 2019. We developed new cultural partnerships and strengthened current ones.

Thank you all who have shared your story with us. We believe that by sharing our voice, we strengthen our cultural identity and sense of belonging. We will continue to work together with, and for, the community to advance multiculturalism and social cohesion in Australia.



ABOUT US

Latin Stories Australia is an incorporated association with charity status, founded in 2015.

OUR VISION

To advance multiculturalism and social cohesion in Australia in a way that is respectful for both the Latin American migrants and the wider Australian society.

OUR MISSION

To provide platforms that (1) increase the sense of belonging, acceptance and legitimacy of the Latin American migrant community, (2) create awareness of the Latin American contribution to Australia's social capital and diversity and (3) build opportunities for social cohesion for Latin American migrants, especially for those in need.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- (1) We collect and publish the stories/voices of the Latin American community. People share their personal journey and insights for succeeding in Australia.
- (2) We organise, and/or participate in, different events around Australia that either advance culture and/or help to the social or public welfare.
- (3) We increase social justice and equity by providing workshops that responds to the disadvantaged Latin American people in Australia.

OUR BOARD

Maria Cristina Ponce – President
Christian Abela – Vice-president
Trinidad Abascal – Secretary
Callum Donald – Treasurer
Carlos Carrillo – Committee Member
Karina Ojeda – Committee Member

Advisor

Martin de los Rios – Engagement Advisor

OUR NEW IMAGE

Why the conversation globes?

The dialogue between cultures fosters a plural, diverse and respectful society. We provide platforms for conversations to advance multiculturalism and social cohesion.



And the faces?

They represent the people (the Latin American migrants). Through their stories, individual experiences are shared, and our culture and collective achievements are highlighted. When personal stories are shared in a collective way, they create a positive impact in the whole community. The collective stories create LATIN STORIES AUSTRALIA.

The colours

They represent the diversity in Latin American cultures and landscapes. They also represent the happiness and enthusiasm that characterise our societies; and emphasise our diversity without reinforcing social stereotypes of gender, race or beauty.

The font sizes

LATIN
STORIESAUSTRALIA

Inspiring Immigration Stories

LATIN has the largest visual weight as our collective “Latino” identity is what creates a sense of belonging. The STORIES are the “how” we contribute to create a collective identity and sense of belonging. AUSTRALIA has the smallest visual weight as it represents the geographical space.

STORIES

2018-2016



BUILDING BRIDGES

The Exhibition

In November 2018, we launched the exhibition: Building Bridges: From Latin American Stories to Victorian History at No Vacancy Gallery, Melbourne. The exhibition celebrated the wonderful impact of the Latin American community on Victoria; assuring ongoing legacy for next generations.



More than 200 members of the community, representing 14 countries.

 **14 Photographs**

 **30 Personal objects**

 **11 areas of contribution**

 **1 Video**



“Diversity facilitates community success. It is a great idea to share our stories so people understand where we come from”

“This is a great opportunity of community engagement. Be part of Victorian migration history”

Curators: Yunuen Perez and Antonio Gonzalez
Photographer: Sissy Reyes

BUILDING BRIDGES

Opening night

During the **opening night** over **200 people** experienced the Latin American culture. Over two weeks, more than **700 members of the Victorian community** visited the exhibition.



The exhibition was inaugurated by David Taylor (A/Assistant Director, Access Services, Public Record Office Victoria).



Music by the Paraguayan Alfirio Cristaldo and the Chilean Pedro Fuentes.



The night was full of energy. A sense of community and belonging was impregnated in the atmosphere.

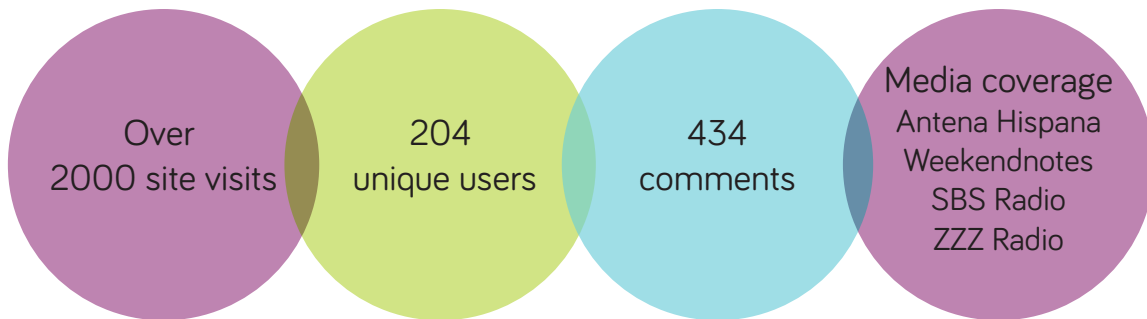


"Thanks for doing this. So I am honoured to have attended itonight. Our journey as Australians come from many places"

BUILDING BRIDGES

Community Engagement

Through the online engagement platform - Social Pinpoint - the Latin American community in Victoria helped us determine who and what was included in the exhibition.



More than **140 members of the community** representing **12 Latin American countries** participated in the photo-shoot. Their stories represent the story of the more 30,000 latinos living in Victoria.

“Projects like this has the potential to broad the perception of the Latin American culture”



We acknowledge the support of the Victorian Government and Public Record Office Victoria

Community engagement was possible due to the support and commitment of partners

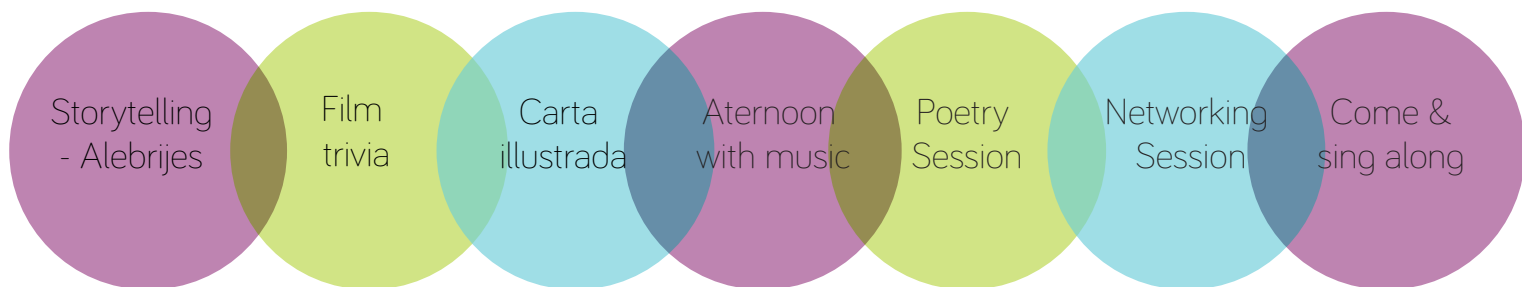








BUILDING BRIDGES

Public Programs

Seven free events with different focus, and for different audiences, were developed and delivered as part of the “Building Bridges audience engagement” program.



-  Kids and their families learnt about, and connected with, Latin American culture.
-  Members of the community experienced Latin American music, poetry and film.
-  Members of the Victorian community heard Latin American stories.
-  Professionals, entrepreneurs and businesses engaged in conversations.



We acknowledge the support of the Victorian Government and the Victorian Multicultural Commission

Events in partnership with:



ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

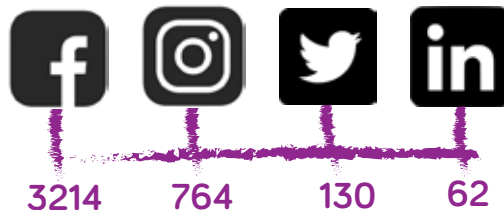
Collaborated with the Spanish Language Fiesta 2019 festival to organise a Q&A session with Latin Stories Australia's community.

Developed three cultural partnership agreement with Melbourne Filmoteca, UNITED and Cine Latino.

Over 15 members of the community volunteered in our activities.



This year we have increased our online engagement by using new platforms such as newsletters and LinkedIn. These platforms provide a more professional image of Latin Stories Australia. Facebook continues to be our main social media platform. It has growth from 2892 followers last year to 3214 this year.






FUTURE PROJECTS


Since 2015, our organisation has collected over 200 stories from the Latin American community. Through these stories we identified some important needs from the Latin American migrant women. We are currently developing two projects to respond to these needs - to be delivered from September 2019 to March 2020.



 FREE workshops for Latin American women focused on social and professional participation in Australian life, women empowerment, cultural diversity, isolation and sense of belonging. These workshops will take place in nine different areas across Victoria.

Four new partnerships

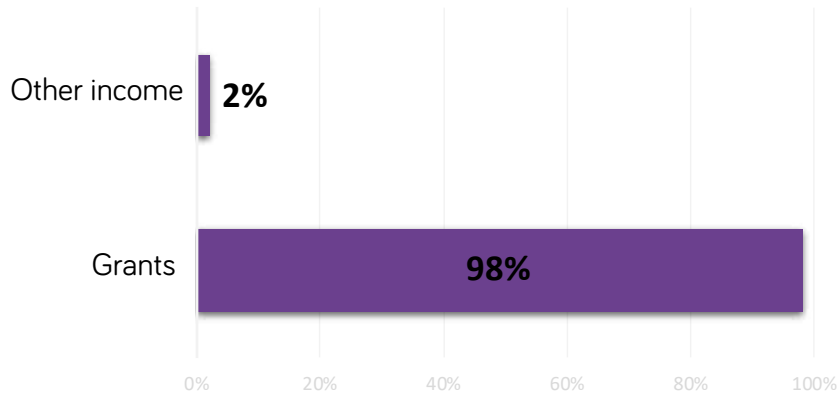


 FREE workshops for Latin American women focused on gender stereotypes, gender inequality and family violence. These workshops will take place between 5 of September 2019 and 21 of March 2020 in five different areas across Victoria.

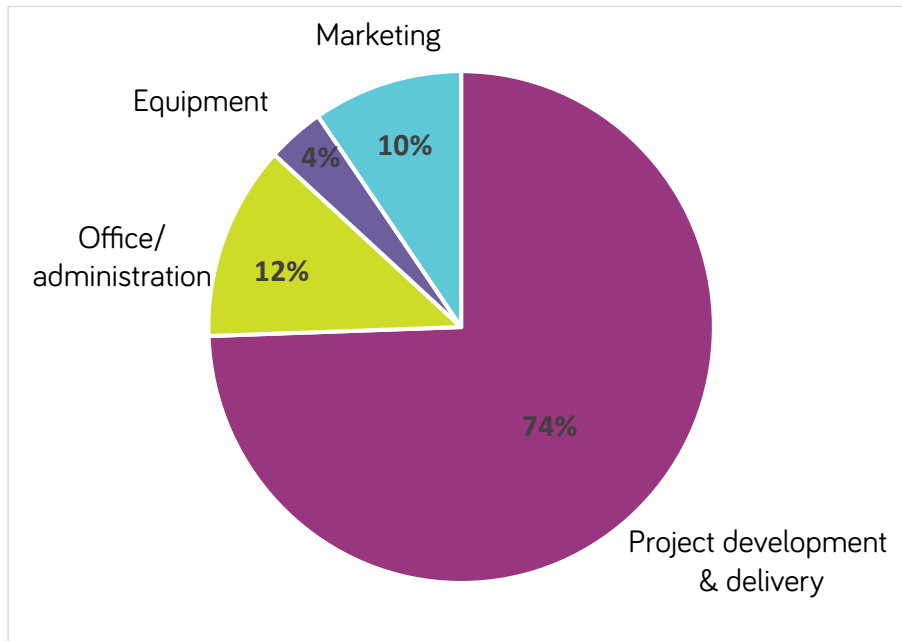


FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Total Income: \$77,335.50



Total Expenditure: \$30,432.23





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