Hispanic/Latino Students


In this article, the authors explore an initiative undertaken by librarians at the University of New Mexico to reach students on campus, with a specific emphasis on targeting multicultural centers. In 2009, nearly half of the student population was comprised of minorities. The authors share what they learned upon implementing this new program, as well as steps they took recruit, schedule, and market librarians and the services offered by their library.


This resource explores the growing Hispanic/Latino population, establishing a need for the population to not only assume a leadership role in the realm of library and information science, but for both academic and public libraries to explore opportunities to reach out to this user population. Examples include providing instruction to students enrolled in Chicano and Latino Studies at California State, developing library collections, and cultivating digital resources that specifically meet the needs of the Hispanic/Latino population.


The author explores the framework needed to conduct outreach to Latinos within the community. The book is geared towards public librarianship, as the cohorts included are children, teens, adults, and seniors.


This article examines the results of a Latino Education Equity Project (LEEP), targeting Latino students at three public universities located in the Northwest. The purpose of the study was to explore potential retention solutions for Latinos who are often first generation college students. One hundred and four participants were selected, with nearly half comprising a control group, and the other half enrolling in LEEP. Such factors as “mentoring…and peer support”, “social adjustment”, race, social skill development, and “critical consciousness” were selected as potential interventions to enhance retention. Many of the results for these factors were mixed, except in the area of peer relationships, which is directly linked to social adjustment. The study found that these relationships are crucial in enabling students to thrive socially. The authors indicate that further research is necessary to determine other retention measures that would positively impact the Latino population.
Hispanic/Latino Students


This academic librarian discusses a program developed at the Northern Illinois University Founders Memorial Library to reach out to Hispanic and Latino families, focusing on the importance of cultivating literacy in children ranging from birth to five-years-old. She provides a firsthand account of the library’s effort to create value among parents of young children in developing a love of reading. At these workshops children are read to in English and Spanish. The librarian and her co-facilitator believe that educating parents is a great way to lay the foundation for the successful development of literacy skills in Hispanic/Latino pre-school aged children.


The author of this article shares about her public library’s involvement in El día de los niños/El día de los libros, which is not only an annual, but national celebration that is geared towards Latino families in the community, in an effort to foster literacy and an awareness of library resources. It provides the library with a way to draw these families in to a place that many of them would otherwise not visit on their own.


In this article, the author discusses the significance of facilitating strong partnerships with minority students through programs and outreach. She specifically mentions efforts by the University of Illinois, Urbana to make connections with students of African-American, Native American, and Hispanic backgrounds. This requires an active effort on the part of librarians who are employed by universities who work with large minority populations, but could also be useful for librarians at smaller institutions who are looking for ways to support the needs of these underserved groups.


Library staffing in a middle school is crucial, but it is extremely vital for the academic achievement/literacy of Latino Middle school students who require the support that school libraries provide not only with regard to resources, but access to the collection and instructional programming.

Hispanic/Latino Students

This article explores ways in which book clubs enable minority adolescents to connect with each other and express their family experiences by identifying with the characters in selected novels through the process of bibliotherapy. The author/researcher conducted a qualitative study of African American and Latina girls at a high school in the Northeast. The author argues for the formation of more book clubs in order to help minorities explore and discuss their worlds through the realm of literature.

Zimmerman-Orozco, Susan. 2011. “A Circle of Caring.” Educational Leadership 68 (5): 64-8. Written by the assistant principle of an elementary school in Maryland, this article examines the importance of teachers reaching out to the parents of elementary school students who are immigrants from South America. With the increase of the Latino population, this school altered its goals and mission to provide an after-school program, facilitate talks with parents on topics of interest in education, and meet physical needs. There is no shortage to the resources that this school provides to its constituents, as it focuses on caring for these families in an effort to support the academic opportunities of these students. This article is far-reaching, and could be implemented at some level by public libraries to provide support services to scaffold the efforts of elementary/high schools reaching out to this population.