

APA Latinos and Planning Division presents
Inaugural Division Conference: *LUGARES*
Thursday, December 3, 2020, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. U.S. Pacific Time
Registration Closes: Thursday, December 3, 2020
Registration Cost: Free #9209390

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7577028607567042059>

Virtual Conference Overview

The American Planning Association's (APA) Latinos and Planning Division (LAP), with the support of the Texas Chapter, Southwest Section and AARP California, have come together to create a virtual conference focused on bringing diverse Latinx voices across the nation to present our contributions to planning in our communities. LAP is excited to present a multi-part conference event entitled, "L.U.G.A.R.E.S.: Latinidad, Unity, Gente, Advocacy, Resiliencia, Equity, Spaces". The key objective of the conference is to highlight ways in which planners within and outside of formal planning processes are addressing challenges and issues in their communities and how Latinx planners are, themselves, working to make their communities a better place for all. The event consists of two panel sessions and an open forum, which will be a facilitated dialogue bringing experts in multiple fields to discuss key topics. Participants joining this event will gain new skills and knowledge, learn to implement best-practice tools that would serve Latinx planners and planners working in Latinx communities across the U.S. and beyond.

The APA Latinos and Planning Division's 2020 Inaugural Forum is a virtual gathering of Division members and other allies in which participants will engage in a facilitated dialogue exploring various planning related topics affecting Latinx communities. This event will consist of more than 10 topical breakout sessions. Topics will include COVID-19, transportation, housing, community engagement, environmental justice, etc. The outcome of the facilitated conversations will serve as the foundation for the development of the Latinos and Planning Division's Platform and the Strategic Plan update. Maria Alonso, CEO at Huerta Del Valle will kick off the conference providing the inaugural keynote address.

Learning Objectives:

1. Help attendees understand who are Latinx planners and what role Latinx planners have when addressing changes in their communities through effective community engagement in planning processes.
2. Increase awareness of policies and practices that have shaped the planning profession working to address inequities and unjust impacts in Latinx communities by implementing innovative planning policies and skills.
3. Give attendees practical tools that can be used to uplift community needs and support Latinx professionals in their career.
4. A question-and-answer period at the close of each session will provide attendees with an opportunity to engage panelists in an in-depth dialogue about these challenges and possible solutions.
5. Provide a dialogue and exchange of ideas and perspectives from planning practitioners and educators identifying issues and opportunities of various planning topics and fields.

Day	Session Topic	Session Summary
Session 1*	Latinx LGBTQ+ Voices in Advocacy	- Understand advocacy to address inequities - Tools for implementing innovative planning policies in queer spaces
Session 2*	Who and what is a Latinx Planner?	- Identify key roles and learn new skill sets - Connect planning w/communities
Forum	Latinos and Planning Forum	-To identify issues and opportunities related to planning topics affecting Latinx communities.

*Sessions pending CM credit

Disclaimer:

Certification Maintenance (CM) credit assigned to an educational program means AICP recognizes that the CM Provider has committed to meet CM criteria for length, subject matter, and instructors. Program descriptions and details are the responsibility of the programs' providers, and APA is not responsible for the content.

Detailed Itinerary PST

11:00 am Opening Remarks
11:10 am Keynote
11:40 am Break
11:50 am Session 1
12:50 pm Break
1:00 pm Session 2
2:00 pm Break
2:10 pm Forum
3:10 pm Closing Remarks
3:15 pm Networking Happy Hour

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Maria Alonso, Huerta Del Valle

Maria Teresa Alonso, Founder, Executive Director, Board Member

In September 2014, Maria Teresa Alonso found herself celebrated at a regional health collaborative meeting in San Bernardino, California. People cheered for her work in organizing the Huerta del Valle community garden, and for her commitment to local food and health. Maria's leadership has grown in concert with Huerta del Valle and in response to her family's health challenges. Huerta del Valle was the result when her son's ADHD and her husband's diabetes drove her to seek healthy food, only to find it miles from her community and at a prohibitive price. Maria started Huerta del Valle with a handful of students in the Pitzer College in Ontario program, ten Ontario families, and a will for change. She built what are now seven thriving community gardens and urban farms, a tax-exempt nonprofit for which she is now executive director. Little by little, she says, she is learning—English, computer skills, what it means to lead with heart. She thinks, "If I can do this, you can too. If they can do it over there, I can do it here too." She is passing on this confidence, drive and values to other members of her community through innovative programming and the vision of "a garden every mile" for her community and others in the region. Huerta del Valle, Maria says, is about growing leaders and a community as well as food. In 2017 APA recognized Huerta del Valle with the National Planning Achievement Award for a Grassroots Initiative -Gold.

About Huerta del Valle

Huerta del Valle is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization which began in 2013 operating in the inland valleys and deserts of Southern California. Their mission is to build one garden every mile in the region and transform the urban landscape into one that is equitable by addressing systemic food inequity in vulnerable local communities. Their work offers affordable access to the highest quality foods through sustainable land management and pushing the emerging industry of green collar food system jobs. They believe this vision will create a unique opportunity for Huerta del Valle and for the region to serve as an innovative model of sustainable environmental justice in the region and nationally.

<https://www.huertadelvalle.org/>

Session 1:

Latinx LGBTQ+ Voices in Advocacy

Date: Thursday December 3rd

Time: 11:50-12:50 am PST/ 1:50-2:50 pm CST /2:50-3:50 pm EST/

#9209669

Speakers:

Kathy Perez

James Rojas

Rasquache planner, Community activist, and Artist

Jose Richard Aviles

Urban planner, Community activist, and Artist

Alfred Fraijo Jr.

Real Estate, Land Use, Natural Resources Attorney

Viviana Franco

Community planner, Founder and Executive Director of From Lot To Spot

Overview:

Latinx communities are vibrant, creative and resilient but are often marginalized by planning processes that are impacted by current trends in community development. The Latinx community is rich with artists, activists and creative individuals that are lending their voices and speaking to the issues and impacts in their neighborhoods.

This panel is about how planners can learn from Latinx professionals in their communities as they activate and engage Latinx communities in advocacy and how they see their role as a Latinx planner enacting change.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will gain perspectives of planners who are Latinx planners and learn what roles Latinx planners have when addressing changes in their communities through effective advocacy and community engagement in planning processes.

2. Attendees will learn about what innovative advocacy planning tools and skills from Latinx planners, community leaders, and other professionals in queer spaces.
3. Attendees will learn about experiences from Latinx leaders in planning and career development.

Session 2:

Who and what is a LatinX Planner?

Date: Thursday December 3rd

Time: 1:00-2:00 pm PST/ 3:00-4:00 pm CST /4:00-5:00 pm EST/

#9209672

Speakers:

Jaime A. Martinez
Village of Ossining, NY

Nadine Marrero
City of Buffalo, NY

Jerry M. Pacheco
Pueblo Urban Renewal Authority, CO

Overview:

Latinx planners and community leaders often take community development into their own hands with active and creative placemaking and community engagement. This panel is about how planners can learn from Latinx professionals in their communities as they activate and engage Latinx communities in planning processes and how they see their role as a Latinx planner.

Latinx communities marginalized by planning processes are impacted by current trends in community development, particularly where policies hurt the vital and cohesive economic and social fabric of these communities. Serving the internal needs of Latinx communities, these activities include creating small, locally owned businesses, high levels of pedestrian activity, street vending and home-based selling, high density housing and accessory dwelling units, socially engaged front yards, and intense use of public space.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will gain perspectives of planners who are Latinx planners and learn what roles Latinx planners have when addressing changes in their communities through effective community engagement in planning processes.
2. Attendees will learn about what tools and skills municipal planners, community leaders, and other professionals utilize to activate and engage their communities in planning processes.
3. Attendees will learn about experiences from Latinx leaders in planning and career development.

Forum: Latinos and Planning Forum

Date: Thursday December 3rd

Time: 2:10-3:10 pm PST/ 4:10-5:10 pm CST /5:10-6:10 pm EST/

Overview:

The APA Latinos and Planning Division's 2020 Inaugural Forum is a virtual gathering of Division members and other allies in which participants will engage in a facilitated dialogue exploring various planning related topics affecting Latinx communities. This event will consist of more than 10 topical breakout sessions. Topics will include COVID-19, transportation, housing, community engagement, environmental justice, etc. The outcome of the facilitated conversations will serve as the foundation for the development of the Latinos and Planning Division's Platform and the Strategic Plan update.

COVID-19: Miguel Angel Vazquez, Healthy Communities Urban Regional Planner

Students: Jacob Richey,

Arts and Culture: Rosa Ortiz

Planning Implementation: Dominick Argumedo

Racial Equity: Daniel Besinaiz/Ruth Cueto

Immigration: Alvaro Huerta

Leadership: Leo Vazquez

Community Engagement: James Rojas, Rasquache planner, Community activist, and Artist

Housing: Alejandra Reyes

Transportation: Heidy Persaud

Plaza Talk: Jo Peña

About LAP

Established in 2007, the Latinos and Planning Division is an official Division of APA representing a membership of planning practitioners, academics, students and community leaders working to support Latinx planners and planners working in Latinx communities by advocating excellence in planning, promoting education and community empowerment, and providing our members with the tools and support necessary to ethically meet the challenges of growth and change.

About APA

The American Planning Association provides leadership in the development of vital communities for all by advocating excellence in urban planning, promoting education and resident empowerment, and providing our members with the tools and support necessary to ethically meet the challenges of growth and change.

Mission

Creating great communities for all.

Vision

APA advances urban planning through leadership in education, research, advocacy, and ethical practice.

Sponsors and Partners



American Planning Association
**Texas Chapter
Southwest**

Creating Great Communities for All

