



La Luz Hispana Newsletter

The mission of La Luz Hispana is to promote cultural awareness and diversity with hospitality and supportive services for all.

IMMIGRATION SIMULATION SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND

Part of the mission of La Luz Hispana is to promote cultural awareness — to help people from different backgrounds understand one another’s journeys. In working toward this mission, on November 2nd we will be hosting an Immigration Simulation in order to give people a glimpse of the process, challenges and struggles migrants go through to live and remain in the USA. Participants will take on the role of an immigrant, each with a unique situation. The goal is to become a US citizen before time runs out.

This simulation will be moderated by Mark Schmidt, the Director of the Office of Respect Life and Social Justice with the Archdiocese of Dubuque. With an informative presentation before the simulation, and a lively discussion after the simulation, our hope is that participants come away with a better understanding of the difficult process and decisions made every day by migrants.

We hope you can join us on **Saturday, November 2nd**. Registration starts at 9:30am and the event is from 10:00am until 1:00pm. Free child care and refreshments will be provided. Registration is required. You can register by calling us at 641-812-1090, emailing info@laluzhispana.org, or visiting our website at www.laluzhispana.org.

This event is **free** due to the generosity of the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities. We hope to see you there!



BOARD MEMBERS

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James Kohls

Vice President:
Valeria Gonzalez

Treasurer:
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Claudia Rivera
Aimee Lenth

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PEOPLE SERVED

- July Total - 262
Programing - 125
Social Services - 137
- August Total - 336
Programing - 148
Social Services - 188
- September Total - 310
Programing - 173
Social Services - 137

DRIVERS EDUCATION

Driving in a new country can be intimidating, especially if there is a language barrier as well. After hearing from various people who wanted to learn about driving laws, we decided to hold an unofficial drivers education course in Spanish. This two-day course went over road signs, driving safely (especially in the winter), and traffic laws and regulations. Our small and welcoming group gave women the opportunity to express their concerns, questions, and feelings in a safe and supportive setting.

We used an interactive approach to learning by using chair placements to simulate driving and put the learners in the “hot seat”. From how to back up to being an alert driver, it was a fun and engaging way to explain what to do (and what *not* to do) on the road. The second day ended with practice tests so students could see how much they had learned.

Since holding these sessions, we have already heard of some success stories. One student wasted no time in going to take the written test at the courthouse. We are excited to say she passed on her first try! A few weeks later another student passed the written test and is currently awaiting her driving test.

Word of mouth is strong with programs like this and we have already gotten questions about the next time we will hold a session. If you know of anyone interested, please have them contact us soon!

“Volunteering is a difficult but rewarding job”

SERVICES

English Classes

We teach English classes in the evenings during the fall and spring. Class levels range from basic to advanced.

Conversational Spanish

Practice your Spanish with our weekly conversation group.

Citizenship Tutors

If you are studying for the citizenship exam, we have tutors who can help you. You meet when you want, one on one.

Interpretation/Translation Services

We can assist with basic interpretation at short appointments and quick phone calls. We offer translation services for official and unofficial documents for a minimal fee.

Referrals to Social Services

We are here to help connect you with appropriate services outside of La Luz Hispana.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Gran Festival North Iowa is our biggest event of the year and we certainly could not pull it off without the numerous volunteers who help plan and execute the day!

This year, as with every year we had excellent volunteers who worked relentlessly the day of the event to make it a success. From selling raffle tickets to picking up trash to even being in the dunk tank, their generosity of time was much appreciated.

We especially want to thank those who worked behind the scenes to organize the festival. Please help us in thanking the 2019 Gran Festival Planning Committee: Frankie Aliu, Heather Holm, Jim Kohls, Juliza Garcia, Omar Blanco-Valentin, Paul Flint, Robin McKee, and Val Gonzalez.





Claudia Rivera
Executive Director

DIRECTORS REPORT

Volunteering is a difficult but rewarding job. This past year I've had the honor of volunteering for different organizations. It is volunteers who help make things happen especially in a town like Hampton. This town takes pride in creating a vibrant and inviting community because of its many volunteer opportunities. When I volunteered for Kiwanis and 4H food booths at the Franklin County Fair. I was surprised to see the number of people that gathered to do hard work for a worthy cause.

For me, the toughest part of my volunteer time was doing Storytime at the Coulter Public Library. The children were my toughest audience and everyone knows that once you start to lose your audience you are done; therefore I had to use sound effects in the process. There is nothing more rewarding than taking time to volunteer for a good cause.

4-H & FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR

Like many others in the area, we at La Luz Hispana were excited for this year's Franklin County Fair! This year was a little different for us as we began helping with a 4-H group. The Cultural Tréboles (Clovers), is made up of middle school students from the Hampton area. This is a welcoming place to take part in traditional 4-H activities with some twists. For example, our club recites the 4-H pledge in Spanish, a resource readily available on the National 4-H website!

The 4-H theme this year was "Out of This Universe". We decorated a booth space with aliens, planets, and rockets. Juliana, a volunteer, came to show us how to make piñatas one day for a 4-H activity. This was the base to our planets and aliens and showed the kids how we can incorporate Latinx culture into the 4-H experience.

All of the kids volunteered at some point during the fair week as well. They did a great job showing hospitality to those visiting the exhibits building as well as helping out at the 4-H food stand. The kids had a great time and learned a lot about customer service skills, listening skills, and the incredible value of a volunteer.

Those who entered a fair project had a great time and came away with a ribbon as a testament to their hard work. Overall, our club had a great 4-H year full of opportunities and fun!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Día de los Muertos Events:

Storytime with Hampton Public Library, October 28, 4:00-5:00pm

Decorating Skull Cookies, October 29, 3:00-4:30pm

Crafts for Adults and Face painting for Kids, October 30, 4:30-5:30pm

Open House with Tamales and Hot Chocolate, November 1, 2:00-4:00pm

- Getting in Line: An Immigration Simulation, November 2, 10:00am-1:00pm
- Spanish Conversation, every Friday 12:30pm-1:30pm



LA LUZ HISPANA

The mission of La Luz Hispana is to promote cultural awareness and diversity with hospitality and supportive services for all.

La Misión de La Luz Hispana es promover el conocimiento cultural y la diversidad con hospitalidad y servicios de apoyo para todos.

The center, situated in downtown Hampton, Iowa, is a space where Latinos can share and build their strengths, where social isolation is not a barrier, and where hope and a sense of possibility are fostered.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS TO CULTURAL CENTER

At La Luz Hispana we welcome all donations to our organization and we have simplified the way you can donate to our important cause, as we know the only way to thrive is through community support.

PAY PAL: You can now donate through PayPal by going to our website at www.laluzhispana.org

CHECKS: Mail to 'La Luz Hispana' 116 First Ave. NW, Hampton, IA 50441.

LEGACY GIVING : Be assured your legacy will live on and give life to your community by leaving a gift to La Luz Hispana in your will.

VOLUNTEERS: We always welcome new or returning volunteers looking to be a part of our various programs. Call or email us today to find out how you can help!

GRAN FESTIVAL SPONSOR: Become a sponsor for our annual festival.
www.granfestivalnorthiowa.org

La Luz Hispana is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

If you would prefer to receive an email version of this newsletter, please let us know at info@laluzhispana.org or sign up online at www.laluzhispana.org.

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www.facebook.com/LaLuzHispana

Hours of Operation
Monday & Wednesday
1:00pm—7:00pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:00am—4:00pm



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

To