The 19th Annual International Latino Film Festival will be held February 28th, March 1st, and 2nd, at the Minor Theatre in Arcata from 6:00 p.m. to 10:20 p.m. This long-standing community event is a collaboration of College of the Redwoods Humanities Department and Humboldt State University’s World Languages and Cultures Department. Students and the general public are invited to view three outstanding films relating to the theme “Immigration to the United States:” *Who is Dayani Cristal?* (Marc Silver, 2013); *Dream: An American Story* (Aldo Bello, 2015), and *Made in L.A.* (Almudena Carracedo, 2007). All films will be shown in Spanish and English with English subtitles.

The festival is free to students enrolled in SPAN/ HIST/ ES 396 and SPAN 99A courses. Due to limited space this year, seating is limited. A limited number of tickets will be available to community members. To inquire about receiving a ticket, please email Kristy Carlsen at kristy-carlsen@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4316. For all other questions regarding this event, please contact the HSU Department of World Languages and Cultures at 707-826-3226.

The special guest speaker for this year’s festival is Cecilia Domeyko, president of the Mariposa Cultural Foundation. Each evening, Cecilia Domeyko will introduce the films and provide us with insight into the content and key social issues portrayed in the films. Following the screening, CR and HSU professors will share their impressions of the films, and together with Cecilia Domeyko they will engage the audience in a panel discussion in English. For academic credit, enrolled students will write an additional paper.

Cecilia began her career in journalism in Chile, her country of origin, as a writer for Hoy, a magazine opposed to the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. On emigrating to the U.S. she became the Washington correspondent for Hoy and for Radio Cooperativa, covering breaking news for a national Chilean audience.

On obtaining an MA degree in film direction at American University, she became an on-camera reporter for Univision-TV, covering the White House for the national news hour, and subsequently the Washington correspondent for Chile’s Channel 13.
In the last 20 years she has worked as a filmmaker, scriptwriter, and television director and producer. Her award-winning independent documentaries have focused on social issues, including human rights, and women’s rights. Her documentary, *Cuba Mia*, the story of an all-woman orchestra, aired nationally on PBS, on ABC-Australia and in ninety countries worldwide. Her film, *Code Name: Butterflies*, the story of three freedom fighters from the Dominican Republic, was a recipient of the Cine Latino Award at the DC Independent Documentary Festival. The film premiered at the Organization of American States in Washington, DC, and has been shown in theaters in five Latin American countries.

Beginning in the late 90s she wrote, produced and directed “La Familia Unida” a campaign directed at a US Latino audience. Her 52 fiction shorts focused on discrimination, racism, gang and drug violence, domestic violence and other social issues which immigrants face in the U.S. The campaign received over 30 major awards including 9 Cine Golden Eagles and a U.S. National Educational Media Award. The programs aired for a decade on Univision and Telemundo in the U.S., and on CNN-español in 23 Latin American countries.

Her novel “Sacrificio en la frontera” (Sacrifice on the Border) based on years of research among Latino immigrant families, and which will be published in 2017, tells the story of a young mother whose toddler is stolen on crossing into the U.S. The fast paced plot combines adventure, suspense and a gripping love story.

In 2002 Ms. Domeyko created the Mariposa Cultural Foundation, a non-profit that seeks to educate a wide audience about human rights through the media. In 2011 she received the Women of Vision Award, (WIFV) for her creative and technical achievements in the fields of film and television.

The films and panelists for this year’s festival will appear in the following order:

**February 28: Who is Dayani Cristal? (Marc Silver, 2013)**

Deep in the sun-blistered Sonora desert beneath a Cicada tree, Arizona Border Police discover a decomposing male body. Lifting a tattered t-shirt, they expose a tattoo that reads “Dayani Cristal.” Who is this person? What brought him here? How did he die? And who-or what-is Dayani Cristal? Following a team of dedicated staff from the Pima County Morgue in Arizona, director Marc Silver seeks to answer these questions and give this anonymous man an identity. As the forensic investigation unfolds, Mexican actor and activist Gael Garcia Bernal retraces this man’s steps along the migrant trail in Central America. In an effort to understand what it must have felt like to make this final journey, he embeds himself among migrant travelers on their own mission to cross the border. Who Is Dayani Cristal? tells the story of a migrant who found himself in the deadly stretch of desert known as “the corridor of death” and shows how one life becomes testimony to the tragic results of the U.S. war on immigration.

The Moderator for this film will be Elanna Erhardt, CR Librarian. The Panelists will include keynote speaker Cecilia Domeyko, president of the Mariposa Cultural Foundation; Ryder Dschida, CR Professor of History; and Lilianet Brintrup, HSU Professor of Spanish.
Set in today’s heated immigration debate and polarized political climate, the film examines the US’s currently dysfunctional immigration system through the personal stories of individuals struggling under the constant threat of deportation, the rise of the national student and youth activist movement advocating for passage of the DREAM Act, and the impact of immigration policy and laws on the nation.

The Moderator for this film will be Shemya Vaughn, CR Professor of Counseling. The Panelists for this film will include keynote speaker Cecilia Domeyko, president of the Mariposa Cultural Foundation; Renee Saucedo, CR Director of Student Equity and Success; and Fernando Paz, HSU Interim Director of Latinx Center for Academic Excellence.

*Made in L.A.* is an Emmy award-winning feature documentary (70 min) that follows the remarkable story of three Latina immigrants working in Los Angeles garment sweatshops as they embark on a three-year odyssey to win basic labor protections from trendy clothing retailer Forever 21. In intimate observational style, *Made in L.A.* reveals the impact of the struggle on each woman’s life as they are gradually transformed by the experience. Compelling, humorous, deeply human, *Made in L.A.* is a story about immigration, the power of unity, and the courage it takes to find your voice.

The Moderator for this film will be Kyle Beattie, CR Professor of English as a Second Language. The Panelists for this film will include keynote speaker Cecilia Domeyko, president of the Mariposa Cultural Foundation; Ryan Emenaker, CR Professor of Political Science; and Suzanne Pasztor, HSU Professor of Latin American History.

For more information on this event, please call the Humboldt State World Languages and Cultures Department at 707-826-3226.

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