

# Harvard University

## 2021 Latinx Graduation



### PROGRAM

3:30 p.m. **Celebration Starts!**

Welcoming Remarks by MCs

- Jeannette Garcia Coppersmith
- Anyeli Matos

✚ Message from the Harvard Latinx Alumni Alliance

✚ Message from Dr. Sherri Charleston

✚ Message from Dr. Roberto Gonzales

✚ “Wemilere” Performance by Nadia Milad Issa

✚ Student Address by Claribel Aguilar Whyte

✚ Faculty Address by Dr. Marcelo Garzo Montalvo

✚ Degree Ceremony: Recognition of Students Degree and School

Presented by Maritza Hernandez and Anabella Morabito

✚ Musical Performance by Mariachi Veritas de Harvard

✚ Closing Remarks

**End of Celebration**

# Masters of Ceremonies

**Jeannette Garcia Coppersmith**, Ph.D. Student in Education



**Anyeli Matos**, Ed.M. Student in Education



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## Welcome to the Harvard Latinx Alumni Alliance!

The [HLAA](#) seeks to develop a network and sense of community among current and future Harvard alumni who identify as Latina/o/x; to increase Latinx representation throughout the University; and to encourage Latinx alumni involvement in University activities and affairs.



# Dr. Sherri Charleston

Sherri Ann Charleston serves as the first Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer (CDIO) at Harvard University. She is one of the nation's leading experts in diversity and higher education and assumed her role in August 2020.



Dr. Charleston is a historian trained in U.S. history with a focus on race, women, gender, citizenship, and the law, and an attorney with a specialization in constitutional and employment law. Most recently, she served as the Assistant Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Chief Affirmative Action Officer at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Madison.

She was responsible for evaluating progress toward the goals of a campus-wide strategic diversity plan. During her leadership, she also oversaw the Office of Employee Disability Resources and undergraduate scholarship programs focused on recruiting and retaining students from historically underrepresented communities.

As an academician and administrator, she has expertise in affirmative action, Title IX, and Americans with Disability Act enforcement and compliance. Her focus is on translating diversity and inclusion research into practice for students, staff, researchers, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty of color. She also held faculty affiliations with the Departments of Gender and Women's Studies, teaching courses on women, inequality, and policy analysis at UW-Madison. In 2019, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine named her one of the "Top 35 Women in Higher Education."

Dr. Charleston received a B.A. from Columbia University in history and African American studies, a M.A. and Ph.D. in history from the University of Michigan, and J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

"My approach to the work is very much grounded in my academic interests in history and the law, and in thinking about how we've evolved, and how we haven't evolved, around questions of race and gender, and it comes from a deep passion toward effecting sustainable organizational change, and creating structures that outlast all of us, so that we can actually make progress. I fundamentally believe that many of the challenges that we face in higher education relative to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging have answers rooted in applied research. We must work together in the field to find them."

# Dr. Roberto Gonzales

Roberto Gonzales is professor of education at HGSE and director of the newly formed [Immigration Initiative at Harvard](#) (IIH), a university-wide effort aimed at advancing and promoting interdisciplinary scholarship and intellectual exchange around issues of immigration policy and immigrant communities.



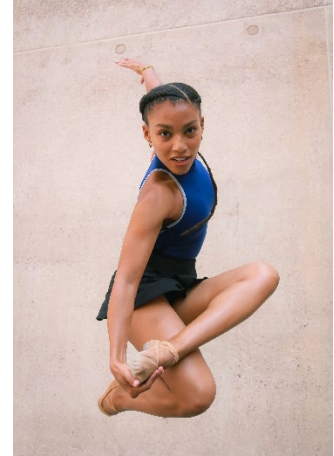
His research centers on contemporary processes of immigration and social inequality, and stems from theoretical interests at the intersection of race and ethnicity, immigration, and policy. Gonzales' research examines the effects of legal contexts on the coming-of-age experiences of vulnerable and hard-to-reach immigrant youth populations. His work has been cited across a broad range of disciplines and has garnered awards from sociology, anthropology, psychology, education, law, and social work.

Since 2002 Gonzales has carried out one of the most comprehensive studies of undocumented immigrants in the United States. His book, [\*Lives in Limbo: Undocumented and Coming of Age in America\*](#) (University of California Press), is based on an in-depth study that followed 150 undocumented young adults in Los Angeles for twelve years. *Lives in Limbo* has won eight major book awards, including the Society for the Study of Social Problems [C. Wright Mills Award](#), the [American Education Research Association Outstanding Book Award](#), the [Law and Society Association Herbert Jacob Book Award](#), and the [Society for Social Work and Research Book Award](#). It has also been selected by six universities as a Common Read. In addition, several groups around the country have used the book to train staff, including the Madison Police Department, Teach for America, and 23 public schools. Last year, the book was optioned for theatrical production, and plans are underway for the release of a second edition.

In addition, Gonzales' National UnDACAmented Research Project has surveyed nearly 2,700 undocumented young adults and has carried out 500 in-depth interviews on their experiences following President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. He is also teaming up with several colleagues to investigate educator responses to school climate issues stemming from immigration policies.

# Nadia Milad Issa

Nadia is a first-year Master of Theological Studies student at Harvard Divinity School, focusing on the African and African American Religious Studies Area of Focus, graduating in 2022. At HDS, they continue their work on Spiritual Reparations in Regla de Ocha-Ifá and other Black Caribbean Diasporic traditions, and continuing research on Black Cuban Womxn Akpwón/Apwanlás.



Nadia spent over three years in Cuba and México pursuing fieldwork and dance study for both research projects that take form as Auto-Ethnographies and dance choreographies expanding Reparation politics and politics of being an Akpwón in Cuba and its diaspora. Nadia is a Company Dancer with Jean Appolon Expressions, a Haitian Contemporary dance company. Nadia has received training from and performed in dance works by Cristal Brown, Frederick Earl Mosley, Vincent Hardy, Princess Mhoun, Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane, Bebe Miller, Bárbara Balbuena, Yeniselt Galata Calvo, Eva Despaigne-Trujillo and Obini Batá, Camille A. Brown and Emilio Hernández González of the company Raíces Profundas to name a few. Nadia's dance choreography has been presented at Boston University, Hampshire College, la Fundación de Alejo Carpentier Havana, Cuba, and Cambridge Carnival Festival 2020.

Nadia is a current Research Associate at The Pluralism Project, contributing their research experiences in Afro-Caribbean spiritual-religious traditions. Nadia continues to work through the lens of Traditions and Religions of Afrikan origin, Survival, Blackness, and the Black Caribbean Diaspora within dance and written works. Nadia recognizes that dance is an embodied tool of ritual and resistance in their research and training. Through dance and ethnographic research, Nadia has been able to navigate and communicate Blackness, queerness, and the sacred.

***Wemilere** honors the ceremonial ritual festives of the Regla de Ocha-Ifá religious practice, transforming space, disrupting the secular-institution with the sacred and ultimately cultivating a casa-templo, a temple-home.*

# Claribel Aguilar Whyte

Harvard Graduate School of Education

Master of Education Candidate

Claribel is an education enthusiast. She loves teaching middle school students in addition to learning new things every day. Outside of her professional pursuits, she is a mental health and self-love advocate. You can find her obsessing over Beyonce, practicing yoga, and watching anime. She enjoys spending time with the family and cooking.



# Dr. Marcelo Garzo Montalvo

Visiting Assistant Professor of Latinx Studies

Faculty Director, Latinx Studies Working Group



Dr. Marcelo Garzo Montalvo is a musician, dancer, and Ethnic Studies scholar-activist. He is a first-generation Chilean-Canadian/American of Mapuche and Spanish descent. They hold a B.A., M.A. and PhD in Comparative Ethnic Studies from UC Berkeley. Their teaching and research focus on comparative and critical approaches to Black, Indigenous, Latinx and Ethnic Studies and Dance and Performance Studies. His other fields of study include critical science and technology studies, decoloniality and social movements for food, healing, environmental and ecological justice.

# Degree Ceremony

This year, we are proud to recognize Latinx graduating students from across the university. Together they represent eleven graduate schools and the college.

## **Reading Student Names:**

**Maritza Hernandez**, Associate Dean, Harvard Graduate School of Education



**Anabella Morabito**, HGSE Ed.M. Candidate - Higher Education Program



# Mariachi Veritas de Harvard

Mariachi Veritas de Harvard, like all Mariachi ensembles, perform traditional Mexican music.



The sounds of trumpets, violins, guitars and the guitarron (bass guitar) combined with singing voices and the culture it represents make up the essence of the Mariachi sound. This is beautiful music that can range from very simple to sophisticated, from loud and lively to somber and soft, from old to new, and from and from regional to universal.

Because Mariachi music has a special place in the hearts of many members of Harvard and the surrounding community, because we would like to contribute to the musical and cultural diversity available in the area, (and because it is simply great music!), Harvard students have come together to perform this music since the 2001 school year. We are the first student Mariachi in the East Coast.

# Harvard University

## Latinx Class of 2021

### Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Jenesis	Fonseca-Ledezma
Adjani	Peralta
Victor Alonso	Rodriguez

### Harvard Extension School

Hans	Alarcon
Maria	Alas
Samantha	Anderson
Jessica	Baeten
Laura	Banzer Godefroy
Stephanie	Bobak
Luisana	Brito Romero
Dominique	Burford
Zoraida	Cabrera-Mieles
Santiago	Carrillo
Aura	Chavez
Federico	Chiavazza
Julian	Cortes
Myrka	Cuji
Yuri	Dafonseca
Armando	Duarte Galan
Ariette	Escobar
Carlos	Fernandez
Mariana	Ferreira
Timothy	Fuentes
Giannina Rocio	Gambini Malvaceda
Nicole	Garcia Stout
María Denisse	Guerrero Chávez
Yasmin	Gutierrez
Germán	Guzmán

Katheryne	Jackson
Papa Rutherford	Johnson-Ivrea-Italia-Barcelona
Kevin	Jura
Ekaterina	Kostioukhina
Erin	Lopez
Pablo	Maceiras De Araujo
Adam	McInnish
Helen	Mendoza
Elizabeth	Monzon
Alejandra	Muñoz Mejía
Mary	Ortega-Kelby
Juan	Ospino
Nicole	Reznic
Fabiola Irene	Rivera Garcia
Allen	Rivera-Ureta
Juan Ernesto	Rodriguez
Miguelina	Rodriguez
Abner	Rodriguez
Claudia Mariana	Rojas Manrique
Rafael	Rosales
Lester	Sabo
Monique Odette	Urrutia
Fabiola	Valencia
Monica	Vasquez-Gomez
Francesca	Velasquez
Fernando	Zevallos

### **Harvard Medical School**

Andressa	Akabane
Thelonious	Baldwin
Gabriella	Herrera
Francisco	Ramos

### **Harvard Divinity School**

Melissa	Cedillo
Kaylee	Paul

## **Harvard Law School**

Amanda	Epstein
Jocelyn	Hassel
Anna	Hevia
Carla	Luna
Aria	Noosha
Vanessa	Rodriguez
Tiffany	Rodriguez
Delany	Sisiruca
Isaac	Sommers
Erica	Taicz-Blandón

## **Harvard Business School**

Emilie	Aguirre
Juan Carlos	Lopez
Daniell	Montes
Bruno	Novarini
Ivan	Salinas
Laura	Sandoval

## **Harvard Graduate School of Design**

Arcelio	Aponte
Alejandra	Avalos Guerrero
jaz	bonnin
Ignacio	Cardona
Cecley	Hill
Hermano	Luz Rodrigues
Martín Javier	Quiroga Barrera Oro

## **Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health**

Vanessa	Beltran
Jonathan	Cruz
Carlos	Martinez
John	Polanco Santana
Mariana Juanita	Rodriguez

Jeremy	Sanchez
Jeanette	Varela
Valentina	Vargas Enciso

### **Harvard Graduate School of Education**

Raymundo	Pineda Gutierrez
Diana	Acosta
Claribel	Aguilar Whyte
Hector Gerardo	Cendejas-Vigil
Danila	Crespin Zidovsky
Remy	Fernández-O'Brien
Sharon	Figuroa Argueta
Irma	Gomez
Quizayra	Gonzalez
Elisa	Guerra
Luis Miguel	Hadzich Girola
Leslie	Jiménez
Veronica	Maravankin
Daniel Alejandro	Martínez García
Rodrigo	Medeiros
Frances	Melchor
Susana	Morales
Nataly	Morales Villa
Jenny	Portillo
Alexandra	Quada
Carmen	Rodi
Enrique	Romero
Silvana María	Rueda Gámez
Jonathan	Salazar
Elizabeth	Sanchez
Deicy	Sturm
Salina Juliana	Villegas
Cinthia	Wicht
Melissa Jo	Zambrana

## Harvard Kennedy School of Government

Constanza	Castro Zúñiga
Darold	Cuba
Oscar	Echeverria
Ana	Larrea-Albert
Joana	Ortiz
Yasmin	Serrato-Munoz
Kristopher	Valdez

## Harvard College

Adelson	Aguasvivas Difo
Ryen	Amora Diaz
Yemile	Bazaldua Flores
Manuel Tizoc	Chavez
Danielle	Davis
Calvin	Duran
Gabriela	Escalante
Itza	Garcia
Leonardo	Garcia Martinez
Amanda Beatriz	Gomez
Silvana	Gómez
Debora	Gonzalez
Kate	Gonzalez
Guadalupe	Jacobson-Peregrino
Tatiana	Jimenez
Lisette	León
Nicole	Moulia
Gabriela	Ochoa
Camilla	Ramazzeni
Emily	Rios
Gabriela	Rivero
Emily	Romero Gonzalez
Melisa	Santizo
Joselyn Aylin	Vera
Henry	Villarreal
Steffany	Villaseñor
Mariceli Ming Li	Wu