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# NAHJ UARK

## March Newsletter



### CHAPTER UPDATES

Welcome to the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, University of Arkansas Chapter Newsletter! Our association focuses on recognizing Hispanic journalists and students in the journalism department. In this newsletter, we will be sharing news stories from our February broadcast, upcoming events and highlighting Hispanic owned businesses!



### FLORES AMARILLAS DAY

Did you know? In Mexico and other Latin countries, on March 21<sup>st</sup> it is tradition to give yellow flowers to loved ones to symbolize love and the desire to have someone in your life forever. The gesture can be interpreted romantically or platonically, but it also symbolizes the beginning of spring. While this tradition is relatively new, many have showed it love!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Save the date for J-Days “Churros & Sodas” with Mo’s Tacos & Churros! Set date: April 18, 2025 from noon to 2:00 p.m. on the Kimpel Patio.
- Our broadcast, La Voz de Arkansas will be recording the last week of April {time & date TBD}. All news stories are due Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> . If you have any questions please email Prof. Sosa!

### FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 @NAHJ.ARKANSAS

 @NAHJ\_UARK

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# Meet the Authors



*Izela Garcia*

Hi! I'm Izela, a current member of NAHJ. I am a freshman double majoring in Journalism and Spanish with a minor in Political Science. I am a first year photographer for Razorback Yearbook and a volunteer for the Lemke Journalism Project.

I am a first-generation Mexican American pursuing a career in Journalism to become a voice for minorities much like myself. My goal is to make a difference for all immigrants and to be on the frontlines of history.

As I continue in my career here at the university, I can't wait to see what else we accomplish for our NAHJ chapter here at UARK!



*Angie Ramirez*

Hi! I am Angie, the social media manager of NAHJ. I am a freshman majoring in Journalism. I have recently joined the Society of Professional Journalists chapter here at the University of Arkansas. I am a co-coordinator for the Lemke Journalism Project and a writer for Hill Magazine.

I am a first-generation college student who wants to pursue a career in the world of journalism. I want to be the person to give the public reliable news stories.

As I continue my freshmen year, I am excited to continue being a member of NAHJ and get to know more people in this chapter!

# LA VOZ DE ARKANSAS

La Voz de Arkansas, NAHJ UARK's newscast, has been uploaded to Youtube! With the help of student media and UATV, NAHJ members had the opportunity to air their second newscast of the 2024-2025 year with stories reported by members of NAHJ. This newscast included stories on the recent immigration policies and their effects on students, latinas en bici, a look into latin food in NWA, a rundown on UARK sports, and more! It is now posted on the UATV News Youtube channel for all to see, so make sure to check it out! Once again, NAHJ's third broadcast will be recorded the last week of April but the hard deadline for news stories is April 26<sup>th</sup>.

[https://youtu.be/kfsJsRwPVug?  
si=LtKikzqUzDDC8QwZ](https://youtu.be/kfsJsRwPVug?si=LtKikzqUzDDC8QwZ)



## INTRODUCING OUR NEW ADMIN STAFF



**Our New Vice President  
Brenda Vazquez**

Brenda is a junior here at the University of Arkansas and is majoring in Journalism with a multimedia and production concentration.



**Our New Social Media Manager  
Angie Ramirez**

Angie is a freshmen here at the University of Arkansas and is majoring in Journalism with a concentration in Journalism writing.

# IMMIGRATION POLICIES AND IMPACTS

Within the first week of taking office, President Donald J. Trump signed several executive orders that delivered on his campaign promise to crack down on undocumented immigrants in the United States. These new policies not only affected millions of Americans but impact first generation college students as well. Throughout his campaign, Trump also vowed to dismantle the department of education, directly targeting FAFSA.

Here at the University of Arkansas, almost one in four students are first generation; and ten percent of students here identify as Hispanic or Latino, making it the institution's largest minority group on campus. According to the office of financial aid, sixty percent of students reportedly receive financial aid. Without aid, higher education institutions will become inaccessible to many first generation students who depend on these funds, denying them the chance to break down generational barriers. Many students say they feel as if the university has pushed their issue and their student's concerns aside.

## Here is what some students have to say



**"I think it's just nerve wrecking for a hispanic college student because a lot of things can change. It's a very scary thing to think about, or just things that can be taken away from us."**



**"My parents are just both very unstable, so going to college is kinda to bring that stability back. Especially to my siblings, it's kinda just like telling them that you can break the barriers and you don't have to follow in your parents' footsteps."**



**"I would love to hear the Chancellor say something in support of us. The fact that he has not sent out a single email, a single post, a single anything saying we are aware that there are immigrants at this school and make up a large population of our school."**



If you or anyone you know needs more information please join the UARK Latine Network for more Latine community support, opportunities, and resources.



## NAHJ PRESIDENT VISITS UARK

NAHJ's president, Dunia Elvir, visited campus to speak with students in the School of Journalism and Strategic Media to discuss challenges in journalism. On Feb. 27, she spoke to on-campus NAHJ and the Society of Professional Journalists in Kimpel Hall. The following day she spoke to two classes, such as Television News Reporting and Foundations for Video News. On Saturday, Elvir led several sessions with the Lemke Journalism Project, a SJSJ literacy training program for high school students interested in multicultural reporting.



Elvir is an award-winning anchor at Telemundo 52 Los Angeles. She immigrated to the U.S. from Honduras at age 15, and since then she has spent more than three decades in radio and television.



In the summer of 2024, Elvir was elected as the NAHJ president and was also recognized as part of an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in Washington. The exhibit featured a pair of high heels that represented the heels Elvir wore while covering protests, crime scenes, and natural disasters.

# LATINAS EN BICI

**“Latinas en Bici” is a non-profit founded by Olivia Barranza in Northwest Arkansas. Barranza is originally from Latin America and has created this organization to help all latina women feel empowered and belonging. The organization promotes cycling for Latinas as a way to better themselves physically and mentally. Currently Latinas en Bici has more than 100 women participants and it continues to grow as the organization is able to provide gear and bikes to their community.**

**Due to federal funding cuts, they’ve had to cancel several of their programs, layoff staff, and reduce equipment access. Through NWA Giving Day 2025, they are raising funds to fill in the gaps of vital loss they have experienced in the last couple of months. Consider donating in the link below or spreading the word!**

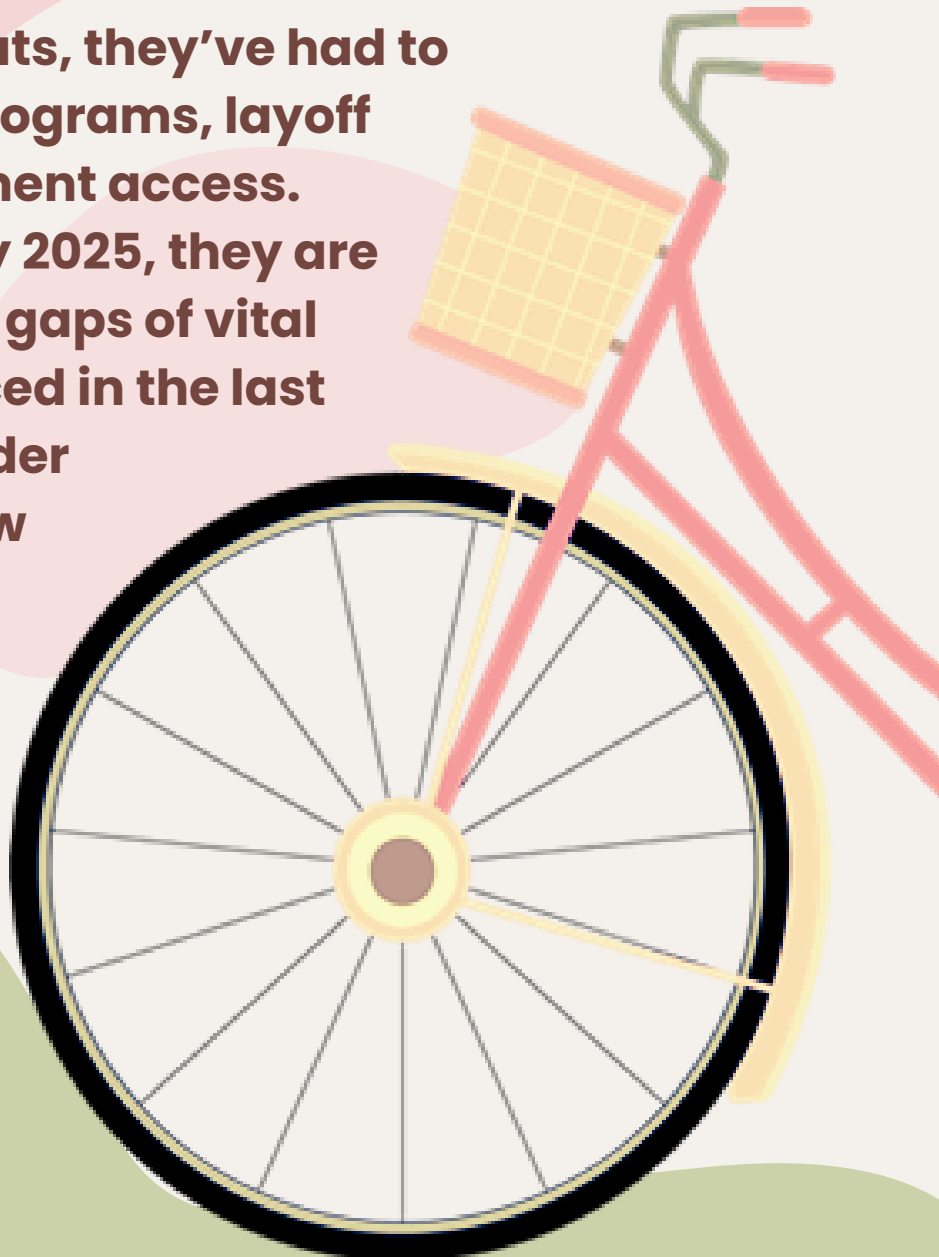


#### **Support Latinas en Bici on NWA Gives**

Latinas en Bici Impact on Health & Community Many of our participants face serious health challenges, including...

 NWA Gives

**For more information  
visit [latinasenbici.org](https://latinasenbici.org)  
or contact  
[@latiinasenbici.org](https://twitter.com/latiinasenbici.org).**



# COMIDA LATINA

Our NAHJ UARK member Sofia Galvan checked out “comida Latina” here in Arkansas, here are some places she discovered!



## Cafe con Chisme

Cafe con Chismes is a coffee shop in Springdale that features Latino-inspired goods, teas, and desserts with a kids’ menu. The menu is separated by 7 categories for customers – food, desserts, Latin inspired, beverages, casa drinks, no sabo drinks, and a secret menu. Customers have the chance to try something new from the Latine culture.



## La Media Luna

La Media Luna is a family-owned Mexican food restaurant in Fayetteville, under the Leonardo family. The name comes from a farm the Leonardo family owns in Amajatlan, Hidalgo in Mexico. The family hopes to provide customers with a unique and new dining experience. The restaurant has two different menus for lunch and dinner. Some options for the lunch menu are fajitas, burritos, and flautas. The dinner menu is separated by sections such as vegetarian, especialidades, a la parilla, quesadillas, enchiladas, mexican fast food, seafood and kid’s menu.

# THANK YOU FOR READING!



**As we close off another successful year for the NAHJ chapter here at UARK, we want to reflect on the hard work of everyone in our program to keep this chapter alive and running. Especially our admins, without them none of this would be possible. We hope to continue encouraging and helping our Hispanic community and seek to increase our impact here on campus for fall 2025!**

## **CREDITS:**

**WRITTEN BY: Angie Ramirez & Izela Garcia**

**EDITED BY: Ninette Sosa**

**PHOTOS: NAHJ members**

*with lots of love, nahj  
uark*

**NAHJ**  
**UARK**

