

Navigating Academia while Queer

Presenters:

Alejandra Castillo

Danny Cervantes

Jessica Delgado

Valarie Zapata

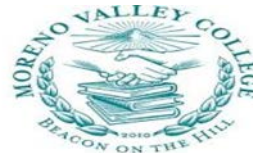


Objectives

- To share our personal experiences as community college faculty and students
- To share struggles faced in the education system, specifically college and graduate school
- Discuss the role of mentors
- To share classroom activities and curricula: on how to build an inclusive classroom and college
- To offer suggestions on fostering LGBTQ+ student voices and success

Personal Experiences

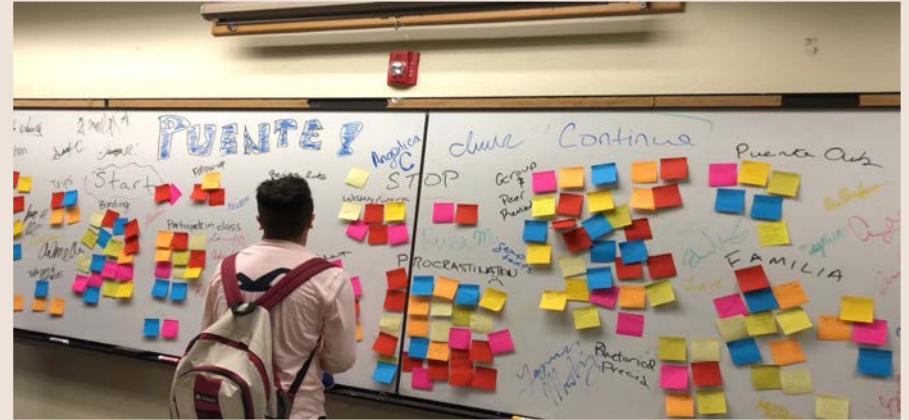
- Introductions
- What brought us to Moreno Valley College?
- “Coming out” on campus



**MORENO
VALLEY
COLLEGE**

Student & Faculty Struggles

- Assigned “authority” figures
- Negotiating visibility
- Addressing ignorance
- Lack of support
- Access to resources
- Mentorship



Inside the Classroom

English 25: Latino/a Literature of the United States
Professor Zapata When: Tues. & Thurs. 2-3:25pm
Where: PSC 9
Me, My Selfie, and I



Featuring the Works of: Piri Thomas, John Leguizamo, Junot Diaz, Julia Alvarez, Cherrie Moraga, Alice Bag, and Adore Delano

Academic Disclaimer:
Alternate formats for this material are available to individuals requiring disability accommodations. Please contact Dr. Valeria Zapata at (951) 871-8133, Office of Instruction NVC at (951) 871-8133, Office of Diversity, Equity and Compliance at (951) 222-8030.
(Photo credit: Adore Delano, Instagram)

Inclusivity Statements

LGBTQ students in schools with an LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum are less likely to feel unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation (41.8% vs. 63.3%) and gender expression (34.6% vs. 47.0%)



GLSEN[®]

2017 National School Climate Survey
Learn more at [glsen.org/nscs](https://www.glsen.org/nscs)

Our Classroom: I consider this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect, and I welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every other member of the class. (Zapata’s syllabus)

Addressing Pronouns

How do we address pronouns in class?

Before semester

- Email

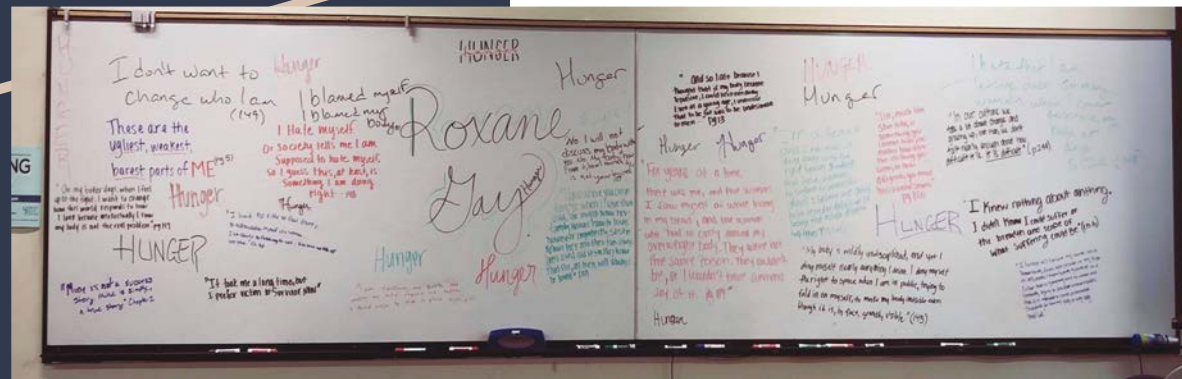
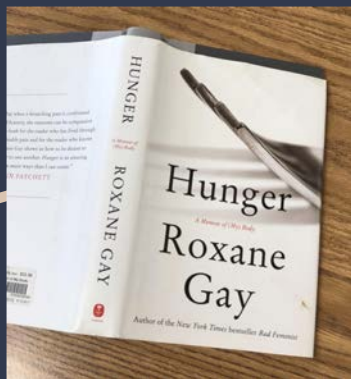
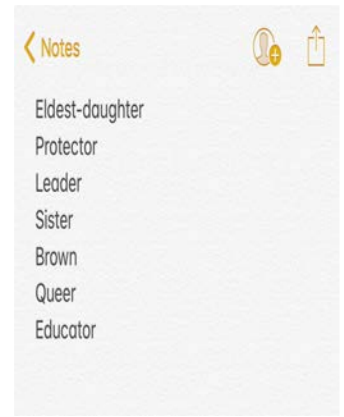
First day of the semester

- Index Cards
- Ice Breakers

Activities & Curriculum



- Seven Word Autobiography
- Creative Outlet
- Memoir “Muraling”



“Muraling” The Mayor of Castro Street

CHAPTER 15

Castro Street became my hometown for the first in my life, there was a place to live, to shop, to play, to be where I felt at home again.

us the need for a person to rest." Also in the chapter, people notice White's horrible temper.

HARVEY MILK SUPERVISOR

Who is Harvey Milk?

Gay Identity

"He also was learning that he had to keep that difference a secret."

"I also had no place among homosexuals of those who only fear" (4)

"It takes no compromising to give people their rights. It takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no political deal to give people freedom. It takes no success to remove repression" (1970)

"If we remain invisible, we will be in limbo, people with no brothers, no sisters, no parents, no positions of respectability... It's time we have many legislators who are gay, proud of that and do not remain in the closet." (Shilts 209)

CHAPTER 14

"All human beings have Power - You are just one person, but you have Power. That makes Power so significant" (245).

"A true function of Politics is not just to Pass laws, but to give Hope." (224)

"Everything I've ever done was to give hope to people like Jack." (234)

"As homosexuals, we can't depend on the heterosexual model... we grow up with the heterosexual model, but we don't have to follow it. We should develop our own life-style" (p.237).

"The lack of anti-liberal outrage at the Briggs Campaign provided more fuel for Harvey's conviction and the drive of the gay movement to not with holding liberal funds through high level solicitation, but staying strong power to ours at the open subscription."

"Homosexuality is the hottest issue in this country since the Reconstruction" (271)

STOP Believing

At 1995 EXPLANED that homosexuals teachers represented an equally horrendous threat, when with the proliferation of gay teachers recruit in the classroom (1923)

Prop to - Present Parents! Fight to protect your children from teachers who are sexual deviants who create a poisoned life-style!

NO-ON-6

HARVEY

TRU

"It was like he dropped on the face... Smoke people will read it... Fall down for me and then love for me... PRO... his..."

"sticks & break my bones, it's name right, it's hard to..."

Activities and Curriculum

Cherrie Moraga *Heroes and Saints* Drama Unit

See PowerPoint



LGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness via *Paris is Burning* and *Pose*: Home and Identity Unit



Student Surveys

“Dear Educators, this is how you can support LGBTQ+ students”

- “Just be open, but don't act as if you know everything. Listen.”
- “Be a visible ally.”
- “Be clear with your students that homophobic and heterosexist comments and actions are not acceptable and will be addressed in an educational, informative, and non-threatening manner.”
- “Don't assume someone's gender.”
- “Include information about LGBTQ+ people who made significant contributions in the past...Use examples of LGBTQ people in lectures and discussions so they are not marginalized.”

Beyond the Classroom

Fostering Student Voices & Success

- Creating Validation
- Student groups/organizations
- Campus Leadership
- Zapata Sabbatical Project
- Oral History Project

Creating Space through Performance

**DRAG 101:
PERFORMING GENDER
LECTURE — DRAG SHOW — PANEL**



**FEATURING: SISSY SPASTIK & JEAN DECAY
LOCAL DRAG ARTISTS: FLAME & MIZURI
LOCATION: SAS 214
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH 3-5 P.M.**

ACTIVITY DISCLAIMER:
RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING ACCESS AND REASONABLE
ACCOMMODATION TO ALL DISTRICT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES. ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES MAY BE REQUESTED BY CONTACTING THE PROGRAM/EVENT ORGANIZER,
VALARIE ZAPATA AT (951) 571-6153 (VALARIE.ZAPATA@RVC.EDU) OR THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY,
EQUITY AND COMPLIANCE AT (951) 222-8039 NO LESS THAN 3 DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT. REQUESTS
RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE HONORED WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

Drag Show




Wednesday, November 14th 4-6:30 PM

The Art of Drag: Breaking Binaries

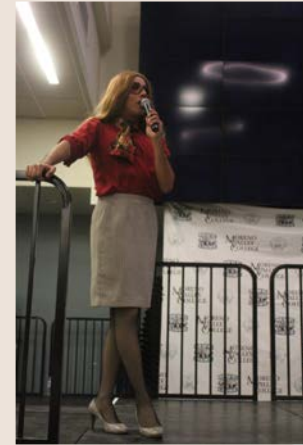
Location: Moreno Valley College in SAS 121

Featuring:
Jean Decay, Tony Berrow, Baby, & Charles Galin
Local drag artists: KimLo, Elita, Nicole Eva



Hosted by: Jean Decay

Activity Disclaimer: Riverside Community College District is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation to all District programs and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the program/event organizer, Valarie Zapata (951-571-6153) by October 29th. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.



Contact Information

Alejandra Castillo
Moreno Valley College Student
Alejandra.castillo99@yahoo.com

Danny Cervantes
Moreno Valley College and California
State University, San Bernardino Alum
dcervantes2700@gmail.com

Jessica Delgado
Moreno Valley College and University of
California, Riverside Alum
Claremont Graduate University student
jessica.delgado@cgu.edu

Valarie Zapata, PhD
Associate Professor, English
Moreno Valley College
valarie.zapata@mvc.edu