Spring 2022
Community (Virtual) Event Schedule*

*Due to health and safety considerations, no live ECCE Speaker Series events will take place in Spring 2022. Instead, all events listed on this schedule will be pre-recorded. Recordings of the events listed on this schedule may be accessed on the date indicated on the Speaker Series Video on Demand Page at [https://go.uis.edu/SpeakerSeriesVOD](https://go.uis.edu/SpeakerSeriesVOD). Note that several previous Speaker Series event recordings are also available at this site.

- For additional information about the UIS ECCE Speaker Series program, or to propose an event, visit [https://www.uis.edu/speakerseries/](https://www.uis.edu/speakerseries/) or contact Kimberly Craig at 217.206.6245 or craig.kimberly@uis.edu

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- Follow us on Twitter - [https://twitter.com/ECCESpkrSeries](https://twitter.com/ECCESpkrSeries)

The pre-recorded events on this schedule will be available to view via the Speaker Series Video-on-Demand (VOD) web page at [https://go.uis.edu/SpeakerSeriesVOD](https://go.uis.edu/SpeakerSeriesVOD)
**Black History Month Event**

**Work/Play**

Danielle and Kevin McCoy will present a lecture and share examples from their art practice, which investigates predisposed stereotypes and narratives relating to the African diaspora. They will discuss representation, identity, and wide-spread disparities within the United States, often contextualizing the themes and ideas inherent to their work through the lens of personal experience.

WORK/PLAY combines illustration, minimal contemporary design and experimental printmaking techniques into their art practice. With their use of design and printmaking, this collaborative duo has expanded their practice to textile arts, site-specific installation, publications and bookmaking to deliver an acerbic dose of revelation, to inspire audiences and trigger experiences. They will discuss their efforts to experiment with new techniques and ways that they seek to push beyond the perceived boundaries of art, design and printmaking.

WORK/PLAY is an interdisciplinary design/art duo based in St. Louis, Missouri that was founded by Danielle and Kevin McCoy. Kevin McCoy received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Communication from the University of Missouri St. Louis and a Master of Fine Arts from the Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts from Washington University in St. Louis. Danielle is a conceptual artist, writer, and educator. Together, they integrate a hybrid of production methods such as design, printmaking, textile works, and exploratory writings to probe racial inequality, erasure, and redacted histories. The duo also utilizes their own personal archive of found images, research findings, and clippings from current events to further examine the relationship between master narratives and the effects they have on the collective and historical consciousness.

**Co-Sponsored by the UIS Visual Arts Gallery**

This lecture is presented in conjunction with *The Most Known Unknown*, an exhibition by **Work/Play** at the UIS Visual Arts Gallery, running February 17 through March 10, 2022. See the detailed event description to the right for more information about the exhibit.

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**Mexican Women Today: Entrepreneurship and Activism From Digital Strategies to COVID Responses**

How have women in Mexico used digital strategies to gain political representation and challenge interpersonal and social violence? How have women found creative ways to earn a living during the COVID-19 pandemic in a nation where up to 60% work in the informal sector? This event features two professors from the University of Colima, Mexico (UCOL), a partner institution with UIS. Dr. Karla Kral examines young women’s activism, including efforts against sexual harassment and violence and the formation of new collectives. Dr. Prado-Meza explores the efforts of women entrepreneurs (called “nenis”) to recover from the economic crisis driven by the COVID-19 pandemic and the policies that ensued. Both highlight the role of digital platforms in women’s strategies to organize and thrive in the Central West state of Colima, Mexico.

**Karla K. Kral** (Ph.D. in Sociocultural Anthropology, University of Kansas) is a professor in University of Colima’s Pedagogy Department and a member of the research group “Historical and Gender Studies in Education.” Her research focuses on how gender and culture shape educational identities, experiences and opportunities. In 2018, she received special recognition by the State Congress of Colima.

**Claudia M. Prado-Meza** (Ph.D. in Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa State University) is a professor of Economics at the U. of Colima. Her interests are qualitative methods in business research, gender, and internationalization. She is part of the research work group on Transdisciplinary Business Studies and the research network on public policies on equality and labor participation with a gender perspective.

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This Women’s History Month event brings together an author and two activists featured in the book *Chicanas of 18th Street: Narratives of a Movement from Latino Chicago* (2011, U. of Illinois Press) to discuss the historic social justice movements that they engaged with and how their experiences were impacted by their race, gender, and class. In conversation with a contemporary Chicago activist, we will learn about the relationship of these historic struggles to conditions and activism in Chicago's Latinx communities today, as well as the ways that women at the grassroots can work together for social change.

**Cristina Vital** and **Victoria Pérez** were members of Comite, a group of Chicanas (women activists of Mexican ancestry) active in the Mexican Pilsen neighborhood during the 1970s. The testimonies of six Comite group members were documented in the book *Chicanas of 18th Street*. They organized for social reforms, including educational equity, using grassroots theater ad cultural expression.

**Leonard Ramírez**, is a founder and past director of the *Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES)* program at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) and a recipient of the *Illinois Latino Council on Higher Education (ILACHE)* Educational Leadership Award. He is an author of *Chicanas of 18th Street*, which received the Society of Professors of Education Book Award.

Contemporary / Student Activist **Jocelyn Bravo** is a recent UIC graduate. While a student at UIC, Ms. Bravo served as a student trustee and a member of the *Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES) Leaders*. 

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### Women’s History Month Event

**Chicanas of 18th Street:** *Chicago Latina Activism from the 1960s to Today*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jocelyn Bravo</th>
<th>Victoria Pérez</th>
<th>Leonard Ramírez</th>
<th>Cristina Vital</th>
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Recording available on **March 21**

Lecture and Discussion

The pre-recorded events on this schedule will be available to view via the Speaker Series Video-on-Demand (VOD) web page at [https://go.uis.edu/SpeakerSeriesVOD](https://go.uis.edu/SpeakerSeriesVOD)
During the runup to the 2020 presidential election, many candidates were asked a new and urgent question: Will you cancel the nation’s student loan debt?

Would the candidates, if elected, expunge the over $1.7 trillion owed for schooling to banks and the federal government? The importance of this question invited an additional query: why do Americans—at rates that vastly outpace our peers across the globe—borrow so much to go to college? Join us as Elizabeth Tandy Shermer explains that it didn’t always take thirty years to pay off the cost of a bachelor’s degree. The story of skyrocketing college debt is not merely one of good intentions gone wrong. Instead, she tells us how politicians intentionally created a loan program that has left students—especially women and those of color—owing more and more—and how it can be changed.

Elizabeth Tandy Shermer is an associate professor of history at Loyola University Chicago, where she teaches courses on labor, capitalism, and politics. She has written about those topics in opeds, academic articles, and scholarly books, including Sunbelt Capitalism (2013) and The Right and Labor, a 2012 edited collection done with Nelson Lichtenstein, and a 2013 edited collection on Barry Goldwater. Harvard University Press published her history of student loans, Indentured Students, under its Belknap Press imprint in August 2021.
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<th><strong>Earth Week Event</strong></th>
<th>Bazile Panek, a Native American student leader enrolled at Northern Michigan University, will address and engage UIS students and members of the wider public on Indigenous traditions of leadership and environmental stewardship, with timely and inspiring lessons for young people and engaged citizens of all backgrounds. Leadership and the exercise of power come with clear and relevant moral obligations in Mr. Panek’s Anishinaabe cultural traditions, which carry important and empowering implications for today’s social and environmental challenges. Bazile Panek is a proud member of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and he was born and raised on the Red Cliff reservation. Bazile is heavily involved with his culture, regularly attending ceremonies and cultural events. In recent years, he has become a leader in his community by teaching others how to play Moccasin Game. Currently, Bazile is a senior studying Native American Studies with minors in Sustainability and Entrepreneurship at Northern Michigan University (NMU). He has had the honor to serve and participate in various committees and organizations. At NMU, Bazile is the current President of the Native American Student Association, he serves as the Student Representative on the President’s Committee on Diversity, as well as on the Center for Native American Studies’ Curriculum Committee. At home, Bazile is a board member on the Red Cliff Business Development Corporation. Bazile has also served on various ad hoc committees, and he has educated many people about Native American culture, language, and history. Recently, Bazile was instrumental in advocating for the official recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ Day by Northern Michigan University.</th>
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