



The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking Connecticut - Massachusetts - New Jersey - New York-Pennsylvania - Rhode Island

2019 Judith Rivas Mini-Grant Award Recipient



Georgina Rivas-Martinez is a Teen and Spanish Services Librarian at the South Huntington Public Library. She began working at South Huntington in the summer of 2016, and was promoted to full-time in July 2019. She is responsible for handling Latinx Outreach for the library, Spanish collection development, building wide translations and creating a Spanish newsletter.

TO: REFORMA Northeast Chapter

Judith Rivas-Mini Grant Committee 2019

FROM: Georgina Rivas-Martinez

Celebrando la Herencia Hispana con Cuentos y Leyendas de Latino América.

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Judith Rivas Committee for the support I've received to create multicultural programs for my library. It has been a very enjoyable experience and our patrons were very satisfied and are eager to attend future events.

The grant of \$500 covered the cost my programs literature material as I wanted to give every child a copy of Dreamers by Yuyi Morales in Spanish to take home, supplies, and a special programmer. Our program took place over the course of five weeks from Thursday, September 19 to Thursday, October 17, in tandem with Hispanic Heritage month, and would be held in the evening as many Latinx parents are dayworkers and cannot attend our daytime programs.

I had 20 children registered for the program, which was a total of 14 families. We read books written by Latinx authors, such as Pat Mora, Angela Dominguez, Lulu Delacre among others and sang popular Spanish nursery rhymes. Each session was structured the same as we read a story, sang songs, read another story or spoke about a legend, and concluded with a craft. Our crafts were centered on specific Latinx countries for instance the Guatemalan Worry Doll, Llamas from Peru, and tortillas from Mexico.

I decided that since we had enough money left from the grant, I wanted to have a programmer come in on the last session and teach the kids how to make tortillas, and have a nice celebration with food and a piñata! It was such a great event as the parents and their children bonded while cooking and having a nice family dinner with new friends. Once everyone was done eating we cleared the tables in our program room and allowed the kids to pull the stings from the piñata to collect their candy! The look on both the parents and the children's faces was so rewarding to me, and gave me such joy to demonstrate that the library is a safe and fun place where they can come and spend time with their children. I had a table set up in the room with the books and inside the book was a certificate of completion with their names. The parents were very appreciative of the book they could keep that was in their language to read to their children.

Respectfully, Georgina Rivas-Martinez