

From: Official ESU Email

Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021

Subject: A Message to the ESU Campus Community from Dr. Santiago Solis, vice president of campus life and inclusive excellence - Monday, March 8, 2021

Warriors,

March is Womxn's History Month. Let us remember and honor all the womxn who have challenged barriers and [shattered glass ceilings](#). Vice President Kamala D. Harris made history this year by becoming the first womxn, the first Black womxn, and the first womxn of South Asian heritage to hold the second-highest office in the United States. My use of the X in womxn is to highlight the gender spectrum, which is inclusive of all the valuable identities and experiences associated with womxnhood or womxnism. The X is about intersectionality, visibility, and inclusivity. This Womxn's History Month, I invite you to join me in celebrating all womxn: womxn of color, transgender womxn, and womxn with disabilities – because they too are often invisible, forgotten, and dehumanized.

Today is International Womxn's Day. One iconic womxn, [Frida Kahlo](#) (1907 – 1954), was a Mexican artist known for her paintings rooted in folk art, surrealism, and Mexico's Aztec, colonial, and revolutionary history. Her work helped define *Mexicanidad* and re-define Mexican womxnhood. Her self-portraits explore female sexuality and gender fluidity. Her attitude towards love focused on the spiritual energy of both men and women. Kahlo embraced her bisexuality and disabilities and turned them into powerful and empowering art. Almost 70 years after her death, Kahlo continues to inspire a new generation of artists, feminists, womxnists, and queer activists.

ESU's Gender and Sexuality Center (GSC) will be hosting programs throughout Womxn's History Month. Follow the GSC on Instagram and look at Warrior Notes for more information.

Please join the GSC's Womxn's History Month keynote, [Dr. Sofia B. Pertuz](#), who will speak about "Finding Your Voice When It Can't Be Loud... Just Yet" on Thursday, March 18 at 6 p.m. To join the program, please click [here](#).

Dr. Santiago Solis

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Black Lives Matter!

Vice President, Campus Life & Inclusive Excellence

East Stroudsburg University

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