

ESTRELLA VARGAS

estrella4vargas@gmail.com , www.estrellavargas.com

312-351-9728

EDUCATION

- 2019 - Present **MS** DePaul University, Chicago, IL
College of Computing and Digital Media
Film and Television Concentration: Cinematography
GPA: **3.98/4.0**, Graduation June 2021
- 2013 - 2017 **BA** Denison University, Granville, OH
Communication, Sociology and Anthropology

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2020 – 2021 **Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Fellow (DFI)**, Illinois Board of Higher Education (**IBHE**) \$11,000 awarded
- 2016 **Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship**, U.S Department of State \$4,300
- 2014 **President Obama's Volunteer Service Award**, White House

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021 **FILM 390/490 Lighting BIPOC**, Biagi, Pete, Teaching Assistant, Graduate Researcher, DePaul University
- 2017 – 2019 **Nonprofit Services Coordinator**, taught members how to host TV shows, CAN TV
- 2015 **English Teacher**, Frontier Gap Year, Costa Rica

RESEARCH

- 2021 **Best Techniques for Lighting Darker Skin Tones**, Research Assistant for Peter Biagi (2 quarters), DePaul University's Cinespace Studios, \$9,532 grant awarded
- 2017 **What Role Does Music Play in the Life of a Person with Alzheimer's Disease?**
Lead Researcher, (1 semester), Denison University
- 2016 **Understanding the Afro-Mexican Experience**, Lead Researcher (1 semester), Denison University

ADVISING/ MENTORSHIP

- 2020 – Present **Mentor**, Graduate Student, DePaul Cinema Collaborative Mentorship Program
- 2016 – 2017 **Study Abroad Advisor**, Undergraduate Students, Denison University
- 2014 – 2017 **Mentor**, La Fuerza Latina, Undergraduate Students, Denison University
- 2013 – 2015 **Mentor**, Big Brothers Big Sisters, 5th grade, Licking County, Ohio

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2021 ***Miseducation of Lauryn Hill Remake***, 5 narrative short films, CityPoint Community Church, Gaffer and Creative Director
- The Red Line***, [2021 Winner of the Creative Cypher Film Xlerator](#), Narrative Web

Series, Currently in pre-production, Director of Photography

A Blessing in Disguise, Short Narrative Film, Currently in pre-production,
Writer/Cinematographer/Executive Producer

2020

Journey the Web Series Season 1, 5 Episode Narrative Web Series, Release
Date February 2021, Gaffer/Assistant Camera

Archogan: Initiate, Narrative Feature, Gaffer

Justice for James, TBD Dance Collective Artist Series, Director/DP/Editor

Participant Techcamp, Informational Video, U.S Department of state, Editor/Script
Writer/Voice Over

Participant Techcamp (Spanish), Informational Video, U.S Department of state,
Editor/Script Writer/Voice Over/ Translator

Participant Techcamp (Portuguese), Informational Video, U.S Department of
state, Editor/Script Writer/Voice Over

Trainer Techcamp, Informational Video, U.S Department of state, Editor/Script
Writer/Voice Over

Trainer Techcamp (Spanish), Informational Video, U.S Department of state,
Editor/Script Writer/Voice Over/ Translator

Trainer Techcamp, (Portuguese) Informational Video, U.S Department of state,
Editor/Script Writer/Voice Over

2019

Shower Curtain, Narrative Short Film, Cinematographer, Cinespace Studios

Yeah, Me Too, Narrative Feature, Production Assistant, Cinespace Studios

2015

Frontier Gap Year: Costa Rica, Narrative Short Film, Director/DP/Editor

TV APPEARANCES/ INTERVIEWS

2019

Know Your Rights (Spanish), host, interview with John Antia (Immigration
attorney and Arcadio Delgado (Cicero Area Project), CAN TV Channel 19
(September)

Know Your Rights, host, interview with John Antia (Immigration attorney and
Arcadio Delgado (Cicero Area Project), CAN TV Channel 19 (September)

Run Off Elections 15th ward Aldermanic Candidate: Rafael Yanez, host, Political
Forum Series, CAN TV channel 19, (March)

Run Off Elections 20th ward Aldermanic Candidate: Jeanette Taylor, host,
Political Forum series, CAN TV Channel 19 (March)

Hope Technology and Education Center, host, CAN TV Channel 19 (March)

36th Latino Film Festival, host, Interview with the International Latino Cultural
Center of Chicago, CAN TV, Channel 19 (February)

36th Latino Film Festival (Spanish), host, Interview with the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago, CAN TV Channel 19 (February)

Run Off Elections for Mayor of Chicago Candidate: Paul Vallas, host, CAN TV Channel 19 (January)

2018 **Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants**, host, CAN TV channel 19 (November)

Hurricane Maria Catastrophe in Puerto Rico, host, interview with the Puerto Rican Agenda, CAN TV Channel 19 (August)

Vandalism at Pilsen Alliance, host, interview with Alderman Byron Sigcho Lopez, CAN TV Channel 19 (May)

Cuban Art Initiative, host, interview with the Latino Art Beat, CAN TV Channel 19, (March)

35th Latino Film Festival, host, Interview with the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago, CAN TV, Channel 19 (March)

35th Latino Film Festival (Spanish), host, Interview with the International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago, CAN TV Channel 19 (March)

SCREENINGS

2020 **Lines Disrupt Life** – Experimental Documentary
Spirit of Chicago: *Wake Me Up* Series, Chicago Filmmakers (Chicago, IL) Dec 2020

CERTIFICATIONS

2019 **TV Studio Production Studio**, Sony PXW-FS5, CAN TV

Field Production, Panasonic AC130, CAN TV

INVITATIONS TO SPEAK

2018 **The Impact of Study Abroad**, Presenter, Golder College Prep

STUDY ABROAD

2016 **Development and Globalization** at Khon Kaen University in Thailand

2015 **Osa National Park Conservation**, Puerto Jimenez, Costa Rica