

## **Emiliano Aguilar Jr.**

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### **Academic Positions**

Assistant Professor of History, University of Notre Dame (July 2023-Present)  
Faculty Fellow, Institute for Latino Studies

Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Notre Dame (July 2022-June 2023)

### **Education**

Northwestern University, M.A. in History 2020 and Ph.D. in History, Summer 2022.

Purdue University Northwest, M.A. in History 2017.

Wabash College, A.B., Magna Cum Laude, History (with Distinction) and English, Phi Beta Kappa, 2015.

### **Publications**

#### BOOKS

*Building a Latino Machine: Caught Between Corrupt Political Machines and Good Government Reform* (manuscript-in-progress)

#### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Visions of an Industrial Lakefront Utopia: City Planning in the Calumet Region, an Ethnic Mexican Colonia, and Repatriation, 1900-1934,” (Accepted at the *Indiana Magazine of History*).

“Oregon’s Migrant Survey Program: Labor and the Responsibilities of the State, 1955-1962” (Drafted, revised, and resubmitted for consideration at *Pacific Historical Review*).

“Mexican Laborers in the Calumet Region During the First World War” (Drafted, submitted for consideration at *Immigrants & Minorities*).

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

“*Reclaiming the Sacrifice Zone, General Iron, and Alternative Rust Belt Futures*,” in *Teaching the Rust Belt*. (under consideration at Rutgers University Press).

“Visions of a Latina/o Midwest: Documenting and Interrogating Latina/o Experiences Across the U.S. Heartland,” in *Hearing the Heartland: Essays on the Plight and Promise of the New Midwestern History*, edited by Jon Lauck (contracted with the University of Illinois Press).

“The Fall of the Last Democratic Political Machine: East Chicago, Indiana and the Rise of Community Activism,” in *The Liberal Heartland*, edited by Jon Lauck and Catherine Stock (contracted with the University of Kansas Press).

“The Pursuit for Representation in East Chicago, Indiana,” in *Building Sustainable Worlds; Latin Placemaking in the Midwest*, edited by Theresa Delgadillo, Geraldo Cadava, Claire Fox, and Ramón Rivera-Servera (University of Illinois Press, 2022).

#### ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

“[Latino Workers](#),” in *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History* (Oxford University Press, 2021).

#### PUBLIC WRITING AND PUBLIC HUMANITIES WORK

“[As Tough as the Steel We Produced](#),” *Belt Magazine*, August 14, 2023.

“[Licencias Hoy, Papeles Mañana: Driver’s Licenses and Civil Rights in Indiana](#),” *North American Congress on Latin America*, April 17, 2023.

“[The Machiavelli of the Mexican American People: Steelworkers, the Catholic Church, and Building Political Power](#),” *Process: a blog for American History*, March 28, 2023.

“[East Chicago’s Fiestas Patrias](#),” *Belt Magazine*, November 14, 2022.

“[Hugo Martinez-Serros](#),” *Literary Landscapes vol. 9*, September 2022.

“[Unlocking Chicago’s History: A Guide to City Government Records](#),” co-authored with Joshua Salzmann in *The Metropole: The Official Blog of the Urban History Association*. January 19, 2022.

“[City Courts](#),” [Chicago City Government Records](#), Northeastern Illinois University.

“[East Chicago’s Failed Utopian Visions](#),” *Belt Magazine*, July 1, 2021.  
Anthologized in *Dispatches from the Rust Belt: Volume IV The Best of Belt Magazine 2021*. (January 2022)

“Prison for Pabey, but not Stahura? What’s different?” *The Times*, January 17, 2021.

“Mexican Independence Day Parade, A Family Tradition,” *What Was and Will Be: Life in the Time of COVID-19, An Anthology*, edited by Barbara Shoup (Indianapolis: Indiana Writers Center, 2020).

“[The East Chicago Washington High School Walkout, 50 Years Later](#),” *Indiana Historical Society Blog*, October 28, 2020.

“[East Chicago’s Legacy of Corruption: Landmarks in Indiana’s Steel City still bear the](#)

[names of corrupt officials,”](#) *Belt Magazine*, July 17, 2020. Anthologized in *Dispatches from the Rust Belt: Volume III The Best of Belt Magazine 2020*. (January 2021)

[“Many people opted to leave’: The Repatriation Movement in East Chicago, Indiana,”](#) *Immigration and Ethnic History Society Online*, March 23, 2020.

Contributor, *The American Yawp: a Free and Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook*

#### MEDIA APPEARANCES

[“Exploring Immigrant Heritage Month,”](#) *KGNU News*, June 29, 2023.

[“Only \(One\) Murder in this Episode about Latinx Politics in East Chicago,”](#) *Inner States*, Indiana Public Media, November 4, 2022.

Contributor, [Five-Part Story about Latinos in Northwest Indiana](#). *Welcome Project*. Valparaiso University, 2020.

Contributor, [Latinx Placemaking in the Midwest: Building Sustainable Worlds](#). PATV Channel 18, August 18, 2018.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

Delia Fernández-Jones, *Making the MexiRican City: Migration, Placemaking, and Activism in Grand Rapids, Michigan* (Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2023) in *The Annals of Iowa* (forthcoming)

Nathan Masters, *Crooked: The Roaring ‘20s Tale of a Corrupt Attorney General, a Crusading Senator, and the Birth of the American Political Scandal* (New York: Hachette Books, 2023) in *Montana: the Magazine of Western History* (forthcoming)

Leland T. Saito, *Building Downtown Los Angeles: The Politics of Race and Place in Urban America* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2022) in *Journal of American Ethnic History* (forthcoming)

Mike Stout, *Homestead Steel Mill: The Final Ten Years—USWA Local 1397 and the Fight for Union Democracy* (Oakland, CA: PM Press, 2020) in *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* (forthcoming)

Martha Menchaca, *The Mexican American Experience in Texas: Citizenship, Segregation, and the Struggle for Equality* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2022) in *New Mexico Historical Review* (forthcoming)

Lisa Magaña and César S. Silva, *Empowered! Latinos Transforming Arizona Politics* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2021) in *Journal of Arizona History* vol. 64 no. 3 (Autumn 2023): 508-511.

- Noel Ignatiev, *Acceptable Men: Life in the Largest Steel Mill in the World* (Chicago: Charles H. Kerr Publishing, 2021) Roundtable review in *LaborOnline*, June 17, 2022.
- Mike Amezcua, *Making Mexican Chicago: From Postwar Settlement to the Age of Gentrification* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022) in *The Metropole: The Official Blog of the Urban History Association*, June 1, 2022.
- Dana M. Caldemeyer, *Union Renegades: Miners, Capitalism, and Organizing in the Gilded Age* (Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2021) in *Journal of Illinois State Historical Society* vol. 115 no. 1 (Spring 2022):80-82.
- Johanna Fernández, *The Young Lords: A Radical History* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2020) in *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* vol. 46 no. 2 (Fall 2021): 287-291.
- Deborah E. Kanter, *Chicago Católico: Making Catholic Parishes Mexican* (Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2020) in *Middle West Review* (Spring 2021): 82-84.
- Samuel Love, *The Gary Anthology* (Cleveland, OH: Belt Publishing, 2020) in *Cleveland Review of Books*, March 25, 2021.

## **Awards & Fellowships**

### EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

- 2023 Mellon Applied History Fellow, University of Colorado Boulder.
- 2022 Center for Mexican America Studies Research Fellowship, Benson Latin American Collection, University of Texas Austin.

### PRE-DOCTORAL

- 2022 Fellow, Kaplan Institute Public Humanities Graduate Practicum, Northwestern University.
- 2021 Conference Travel Grant. The Graduate School, Northwestern University.
- 2021 Honorable Mention. Edward A. Bouchet Honor Society.
- 2021 Honorable Mention. Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship.
- 2020 Summer Fellowship: Colored Conventions Project, Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies.
- 2020 Walter Nugent Graduate Student Paper Prize, Indiana Association of Historians.
- 2020 Fifth Annual Immigration and Ethnic History Society Graduate Student Blog Competition Prize.

- 2017 Stark-Tinkham Award- Graduate Research Essay, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2017 Stark-Tinkham Award- Graduate Critical Essay, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2017 Graduate Research Award, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2016 Graduate Student Research Award, North Central Council for Latin Americanists.
- 2016 Conference Travel Grant, North Central Council for Latin Americanists.
- 2016 John S. Tuckey Graduate Research Award, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2016 Stark-Tinkham Award- Graduate Critical Essay, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2015 George D. Lovell Award, Wabash College.
- 2015 John F. Charles Prize, Wabash College.
- 2015 Phi Beta Kappa, Wabash College.

#### INVITED TALKS

- 2023 “Outburst by the CLO followed”: The Concerned Latins Organization, Protest Politics, and Recovering Indiana’s Civil Rights History, Hoosier Latino Celebration, Indiana Historical Society.
- 2023 “Passing the Torch: A Welcome Project Send Off.” Valparaiso University.
- 2022 “Innovation and Change for Industries and Workers.” Calumet Heritage Conference, Calumet Heritage Partnership.
- 2022 “Hank Babe Lopez, the Tamale Constituency, and Machine Politics in East Chicago, Indiana.” Wabash College History Department.
- 2022 “Hispanic Influence on Northern Indiana.” History Happy Hour, Indiana Historical Society.
- 2022 Panelist, “Urgent Matter Series: Is There A Latinx Vote?” The Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program, Smith College.
- 2021 Panelist, [“Chicago Municipal Records: Access and Accountability,”](#) Chicago Area Archivists Working Group.
- 2021 “Looking Local: East Chicago’s Latina/o Histories,” Purdue University Northwest and Primary Source workshop with East Chicago Central High School.
- 2020 “Latinx History in Northwest Indiana,” Guest Lecture, Freshmen Year Experience Course, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2019 Phi Alpha Theta Induction Keynote, Purdue University Northwest.

2019 “Latinx History: State of the Field,” Waubensee Community College, Teaching Latinx History in the General Education History Survey.

### **Conference Participation & Presentations**

- 2023 Respondent, “Arizona’s Chicano Generation and Their Union Miner Parents,” Katherine Benton-Cohen (Georgetown University), Newberry Library’s Seminar in Labor History.
- 2023 Roundtable Participant, “Latinx Space: Laying Claim to Belonging in the Urban U.S.,” and Presenter, “‘An Island of Fear’: Brickyard, Environmental Racism, and Cannibalized Communities,” Urban History Association Biennial Conference.
- 2023 Chair, “A Century of Race and Conflict in the Urban Midwest,” and Presenter, “Americanization Programs, Dehon College, and Building Latino Political Power,” Midwestern History Association Annual Meeting.
- 2023 Chair and Commentator, “Politics, Labor, and Industry in Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Indiana,” Indiana Association of Historians Annual Meeting.
- 2023 Presenter, “And Migrant Problems Demand Attention”: Mark Infante, Oregon Migrant Legislation, and a Push for National Action,” 6<sup>th</sup> Bi-Annual Sal Castro Memorial Conference.
- 2022 Presenter, “A Changing Industrial Landscape: The Concerned Latins Organization and Fight Against Urban Renewal in East Chicago, Indiana,” Western History Association.
- 2022 Presenter, “A Mexican Migration Story in *Maria’s Journey*,” Midwestern History Association Annual Meeting.
- 2022 Presenter, “Teaching the Calumet Region, A Public Syllabus Project,” Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Graduate Research Symposium.
- 2022 Roundtable Participant, “Calumet Heritage Area: Federal Designation, Regional Identity, and Rethinking Education,” and Presenter, “The Push for Bilingual Education in East Chicago, 1960-1976,” Indiana Association of Historians Annual Meeting.
- 2021 Presenter, “‘To attain undreamed heights’: Latino Leadership in Local 1010, Latinos as Establishment, and Sadlowski’s Steelworkers Fight Back Campaign, 1970-1981,” Newberry Library Seminar in Labor History.
- 2021 Presenter, “Puerto Rican Migrants in Midwestern Steel: Laboring and Forging Community in East Chicago, Indiana, 1950-1955,” Western History Association.

- 2021 Presenter, "Passing By: Marcantonio Diaz-Infante and the Rise of Mexican American Political Consciousness, 1944-1962," En Diálogo: Latinx Graduate Working Group Series. Northwestern University Latina and Latino Studies.
- 2021 Presenter, "Latins Should Support Latins": Latinos as Establishment and Steelworkers Fight Back, 1970-1981," D.C. Labor History Seminar.
- 2021 Presenter, "Concrete Votes: Ethnic Mexicans and Puerto Ricans in the Sidewalk for Votes Scandal," Midwestern History Association Annual Meeting.
- 2021 Presenter, "Protest Politics confronts Machine Politics in the Streets, 1968-1979." Newberry Library Seminar, Urban History Dissertation Group.
- 2021 Presenter, "A Family Affair: The Figueroa Family, The Latin Times, and the Vehicle for Organizing the Community." Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting.
- 2021 Presenter, "A Look Inside the Machine: 'Babe' Lopez's Career as a Reexamination for Political Inclusion in East Chicago, Indiana, 1960-1979." Indiana Association of Historians Annual Meeting.
- 2021 Presenter, "A History that Fell through the Cracks: Marcantonio Diaz Infante and the Rise of Mexican American Political Consciousness, 1954-1962." Newberry Library Seminar in Borderlands and Latino/a Studies.
- 2021 Participant (Roundtable), "Public History: CCHS Work Opportunities," Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies.
- 2020 Participant (Roundtable), "Standing at the Crossroads of Shared Authority: Amplifying Voices," National Humanities Conference.
- 2020 Presenter, "The kind of unity we need is like *la hormiga*" Navigating Machine Politics and Corruption in Pursuit of Community in East Chicago, Indiana, 1919-1980." Western History Association Annual Meeting.
- 2020 Presenter, "Activists in Training: Saul Alinsky, the Industrial Areas Foundation, and the Pursuit for Civil Rights," 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on Illinois History.
- 2020 Presenter, "Traditional Passivity is a Thing of the Past": The Organizing of a Community Around the Baran Incident," 5<sup>th</sup> Bi-Annual Sal Castro Memorial Conference.
- 2019 Presenter, "Recovering a Community Through Repatriation: The Mexican *Colonia* of Indiana Harbor," The Lost Histories of Indiana.

- 2019 Presenter, “El Gran Comediante’: The Political Death of Marco Antonio Diaz Infante and the Crusade of the G.I. Forum,” Western History Association Annual Meeting.
- 2019 Presenter, “The Concerned Latins Organization: The Pursuits of a ‘Sleeping Giant’ and Its Failure to Cross the Color Line,” Midwestern History Association Annual Meeting.
- 2018 Presenter, “*La Colonia Del Harbor* vs. Paul E. Kelly: The Pursuit for a Mexican-less City,” James A. Rawley Conference. University of Nebraska, Lincoln.
- 2018 Presenter, “The Ratio of Inclusion: The Concerned Latins Organization’s Pursuit of Representation in East Chicago’s Municipal Workforce,” Building Sustainable Worlds: Latinx Placemaking in the Midwest Symposium.
- 2017 Presenter, “Forging and Repatriating a Community: Mexican Laborers in Northwest Indiana, 1919-1936,” Borderlands Literatures and Histories Symposium, Northwestern University.
- 2017 Presenter, “Or did Christ die in Vain?: Ricardo Cruz, Católicos por La Raza, and the St. Basil’s Demonstration,” Student Research Day, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2016 Presenter, “No More Cathedrals:” Retaking the Colonial Mission for La Raza,” Loyola History Graduate Association.
- 2016 Presenter, “The Primary of 2016 and its Preservation through *Corridos*,” Indiana Academy of Social Sciences Annual Meeting.
- 2016 Presenter, “A Dream Deferred: Education Policy for Undocumented Students within Texas,” North Central Council for Latin Americanists Annual Meeting.

### **Courses Taught**

Undergraduate: Introduction to Latina/o History; Latina/o Civil Rights Movement(s); Latinidad in Chicago & The Midwest

### **Professional Development**

- 2023 Senior Division Judge, Chicago Metro History Day.
- 2023 Junior Division Judge, Chicago Metro History Day.
- 2021-2022 Fellow, Kaplan Public Humanities Graduate Practicum, Northwestern University.
- 2021 Participant, Digital Pedagogies Workshop at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.



- 2021 Participant, Future Faculty Diversity Program at Virginia Tech.
- 2021 Participant, Chicago Humanities Initiative, Center for Civic Engagement, Northwestern University. Researcher: “Unlocking Chicago’s History” at Northeastern Illinois University.
- 2021 Participant, “Latinx Oral History Workshop,” Organization of American Historians.
- 2020 Participant, “WriteNow Access, Fall Session,” National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity.
- 2020 Participant, “Intergenerational Storytelling Initiative,” Center for Civic Engagement, Northwestern University
- 2020 Participant, “Public Writing Workshop,” Center for Civic Engagement, Northwestern University.
- 2020 Participant, “Remote Teaching Preparation,” Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences, Northwestern University.
- 2020 Participant, “Digital Humanities Workshop: Audio and Visual Research Methods,” Media and Design Studio, Northwestern University.
- 2019 Participant, “Digital Methods for Archival Research with Tropy,” American Historical Association.
- 2019 Participant, “Getting Started in Digital History Workshop,” American Historical Association.

## Service

### To University of Notre Dame

- 2023 Commentator, “The ‘Sound Social Base of Every Great Civilization:’ Family Farms, Catholic Priorities, Farmworkers, and the Bracero Program,” Deborah Cohen (University of Missouri, St. Louis), Mexican Working Group.
- 2023-Present Member, Department of History, Intellectual Life Committee.

### To Profession

- 2023-Present Editorial Board, *Rust Belt Studies*.
- 2023 Reviewer, *Journal of American Ethnic History*.
- 2023-Present Member, Conference Committee, Midwest History Association.
- 2023-Present Editorial Consultant, *The Annals of Iowa*.

- 2023-2025 Board of Directors, Urban History Association.
- 2022-Present Co-chair, Newberry Seminar in Borderlands & Latina/o Studies, Newberry Library.
- 2022-Present Board Member (At-Large), Indiana Association of Historians. Conference Program Committee (2023) James H. Madison Prize Committee (2023).
- 2020 Reviewer, *World History Connected*.
- 2019-2023 Member (2019-2022), Chair (2023), Hamlin Garland Prize Committee, Midwest History Association.

### To Community

- 2023 Senior Division Judge, Chicago Metro History Day.
- 2023 Junior Division Judge, Chicago Metro History Day.
- 2021-Present Director, Board of Directors, Calumet Heritage Partnership. Chairperson, Education Interpretation & Curation Working Group (2022-Present)
- 2021-Present Member, Steering Committee, Steel Exhibit Committee.
- 2021 Conference Organizer, Calumet Heritage Conference, “Placemaking in the Calumet Region” at Indiana University Northwest.

### To Northwestern University

- 2021-2022 Graduate Intern, Weinberg College’s Arch Scholars Program, Northwestern University.
- 2019-2020 Professional Development Coordinator, History Graduate Student Association, Northwestern University.
- 2018 Panelist, The Graduate School Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), Northwestern University.

### To Purdue University Northwest

- 2016 Chair and Comment, Clement S. Stacy Memorial Undergraduate Research Conference, Purdue University Northwest.
- 2016 Member, Upward Bound Program, Assistant Director Search.
- 2015-2017 Graduate Assistant, Academic Center for Excellence, Purdue University Northwest.

### **Professional Memberships**

Indiana Association of Historians  
Immigration and Ethnic History Society  
Labor and Working-Class History  
Association

Midwestern History Association  
Organization of American Historians  
Urban History Association  
Western History Association