The Program for Deaf Adults & the Deaf Studies Program present
The 13th Annual Celebration of Deaf History, Culture and Language:
The Latinx Deaf Experience
April 21st, 2017
7:00-9:00 pm Panel Discussion  Little Theater  M Building
Panelists

Patricia Ordoñez
Patricia Ordoñez, who goes by the name “PattyG”, was born in Buffalo, New York and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia with her family where she attended the oral boarding school Clarke School for the Deaf in Northampton, Massachusetts. Her parents were born in Colombia, South America, and she is the middle of three children, with two hearing brothers, Carlos and Franco. PattyG is a struggling fashion and costume designer; she designs and produces clothing for private clients. She also “up-cycles” old clothing by giving them a facelift and a whole new vibe with her personal and creative touch, and she has received recognition in both print and television for her original brand of sustainable handbags called “These are my EX’s jeans.”

Andres Piedrahita
Andres was born in Venezuela to Colombian parents. He immigrated to the United States with his family when he was 3 years old and attended Lexington School for the Deaf in New York City. He graduated from Gallaudet University with a Bachelor’s degree in Finance/Economics in 2007 and received a Master of Public Administration degree from New York University in 2016. He is currently a Budget Analyst in the University Budget Office at the City University of New York (CUNY). Prior to his current position at CUNY, he held finance/accounting positions at several organizations, such as the Queens Botanical Garden, the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, and the New York City Housing Authority.

Ana Vianna-Balzano
Ana was the first Deaf teacher in Porto Velho, Rondônia in the northwest part of Brazil. She wasn’t happy with the deaf education system there, and she decided to study at Gallaudet University in 1995 to learn about deaf education here in the United States. She studied at the English Language Institute (ELI) at Gallaudet to learn ASL and English. She fell in love with American Deaf Culture; she ended up living in New York to pursue her education at LaGuardia Community College, and graduated from Hunter College with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology.

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