



UTICA

COLLEGE

Diversity Committee



April 29, 2020

Dear Members of Fuerza Latina:

The Utica College Diversity Committee's *Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Fostering a Diverse Campus Community* is intended to recognize individuals at Utica College who work tirelessly to promote diversity by building a welcoming and inclusive campus community. Your student organization was nominated for this recognition and selected to receive this certificate, and it is a pleasure to present it to you.

As noted by your nominator, Fuerza Latina has provided a place for Utica College students to gain knowledge on the Hispanic culture. You have given students the opportunity to learn of significant events and traditions to this Hispanic community, providing a space and expanding the understanding of diversity within our student body but also within the Hispanic and Latinx communities.

Two programs in particular exemplify the educational events that Fuerza Latina members held, exploring different aspects of the Hispanic community. "Bridging the Gap" gave students the opportunity to learn about inequality in the education system and how it is affecting our communities. Breaking Barriers was an event that challenged racial stereotypes and provided an open forum to discuss the underrepresented minorities within the LGBTQIA community.

In addition to all you do on campus, you have led in natural disaster relief efforts, and provided events for UC students to learn of things occurring in our community and how that might affect others. As a contribution to the children in the area, Fuerza Latina holds an annual Spooktacular event, where you collaborate with a number of student organizations to provide activities for children you have invited to campus on Halloween, providing them with a safe space to trick or treat.

It is with great pleasure that the Diversity Committee recognizes your contributions by naming Fuerza Latina this year's student organization recipient of the "*Excellence in Fostering a Diverse Campus Community*" award.

Sincerely,

Alane Varga

Alane Varga, Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
Chair, Utica College Diversity Committee