

MARGARITA MUÑOZ AT A GLANCE

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A photo of Margarita

“What I really wanted to do was to make a difference in the life of others.” - Margarita



(Tony, 2025)

“Heritage, and culture, and values, it follows you anywhere you go.” - Margarita

COMMUNITY STORY

Margarita Muñoz

Born in the rural town Xilocintla within Guerrero State, Mexico, Margarita Muñoz has made her way to working as the Georgia Department of Education Senior Program Manager of Migratory Education while living in Statesboro, GA. While born in Xilocintla, Margarita’s true childhood took place in Iguala, Guerrero where she made many life-long memories. From climbing mango trees to sitting around the table at large community gatherings, Margarita cherished her time there being close to family.

As her childhood came to a close, Margarita moved to live in Mexico City, along with a population of 7.6 million people in 1997, where she enjoyed many social interactions and opportunities to explore art. It was there that Margarita discovered her love for theater and teaching, leading her to pursue a bachelor’s degree in both. After obtaining her master’s degree and teaching in Mexico, Margarita migrated to the United States to continue her career.

REFLECTION: FUNDS OF KNOWLEDGE

As a passionate educator, Margarita sees the value of language and culture in teaching. This sets her apart as she works to increase access to relevant education for all students. Margarita’s personal experience with navigating the complexities of multiple cultures equips her with insights beyond a textbook that enable her to guide other teachers on how to respect, honor, and teach through the lens of students’ cultures.

PRIMARY SOURCES



Pictured above (top left) is a clay artifact from Margarita’s time in Mexico. Pottery was a specialized skill and clay objects were often used as decorations and gifts. The other clay object (top right) was a gift she was given as an attendee of a child’s baptism, a common practice there. The painting (middle) her mother made in her later years of going through Alzheimer’s, and Margarita described it as a hybrid of what her mother saw here in the U.S. and what she remembered from Mexico.

WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS

Through this project, we learned about the cultural roots and variety of backgrounds that are represented by residents in our community. Specifically, we learned about Mexican culture in a much deeper way than we otherwise would through a reading or lecture.

Practically, we learned historical preservation skills, and how to conduct interviews. Technologically, we learned how to create transcripts and how to digitize photos of artifacts.

In our future teaching, we could use community archives across content areas as a tool for students to learn and interact professionally with others, seek information related to the content, and make historical connections to our own city.

ORAL HISTORY

REFERENCES

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