

Hispanic Heritage Month



My name is Diane Navarro. My heritage is Mexican, Aztec, and Spanish on my father's side. I have lived in Carthage, NY, our family owned 3 horses and lived on a 200 acre farm. When I was school age, my family moved to Auburn, NY where our family was one of the only Hispanic families. Unfortunately, I lost much of my culture since my father's parents came to Ellis Island from Mexico in a time in NYC where they discouraged people from speaking their native tongue. I am proud of my diverse, Hispanic heritage. I have lived in Rochester, Brighton, East Irondequoit, and now reside in Chili.



What brought me to MCC, initially was my education, I was a transfer student. I was a volleyball scholarship recipient earning a Bachelors' of Communications/Journalism degree from St. John Fisher College. I began as a *Rochester AmeriCorps member* for the national service program hosted at Damon City Campus. I served in *AmeriCorps* for two years before being hired as an Audio Visual assistant in Learning Resources.

Through Rochester AmeriCorps and MCC, I was first introduced to *Toastmasters*, which is an international speaking and leadership club. One of my professional honors was that I was the charter president of *MCC Toastmasters* which is still going strong since the 2003!

I am a Sr. Technical Assistant in the library helping students with access to their educational needs, technical help and presentation skills. I have been an advisor to the outdoor club, anime, and for over a decade I have served as the faculty advisor to the organization called *Campus One80*.

I love outdoor music and riding my motorcycle. My favorite pastimes are gardening, and spending time with my four children and family, *NY Lady Riders* and my Boston Terriers.