

Latinxs and Hispanics in the Mathematical Sciences



David Cruz-Urbe

Professor and Chair of Mathematics, The University of Alabama

David was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, a blue-collar mill town in northern Wisconsin. He was the youngest of six children. His father, Antonio, was an electrical technician at a local factory; his mother Lillian, was a full-time homemaker until his father retired, when she started working for social services as a case manager. He attended the University of Chicago as an undergraduate, graduating in 1985. He went to graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley and got his Ph.D. under Donald Sarason in 1993. He then had a postdoctoral position at Purdue University, working with Christoph Neugebauer from 1993 to 1996. In 1996, he joined the faculty at Trinity College, a liberal arts college in Hartford, CT. He was promoted to associate professor in 2002 and full professor in 2005. In 2015, he left Trinity to become Chair of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Alabama, the position he currently holds. David has an active research program and has written over 100 papers and 3 books. His 4th book, on the Stieltjes integral, will be published in 2023.

David's research is in harmonic analysis, particularly the study of weighted norm inequalities, variable Lebesgue spaces, and Rubio de Francia extrapolation. He is also interested in the applications of harmonic analysis to the study of degenerate elliptic and parabolic PDEs. He has created an annual colloquium series in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

David is on the board of the Consistent Life Network, a national pro-life, pro-peace organization that advocates for the consistent life ethic. He is also on the board of Theatre Tuscaloosa, a regional theater company. He serves on the local and regional fraternity councils for the Secular Franciscan Order. Previously, he was an anti-death penalty activist in Connecticut and contributed in some small way to the abolition of the death penalty there in 2012.

"For me, Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate our past, acknowledge our present successes and failures, and to build towards a better future. When they were growing up, I constantly reminded my kids, "Never forget where you came from." Looking at where we came from helps us to understand where we are now, and, seeing how far we have come, give us the energy and hope to move ourselves forward in the future."

Lathisms was founded in 2016 in order to showcase the contributions of Latinx and Hispanic mathematicians during Hispanic Heritage Month, which is celebrated in the United States from September 15 and October 15 every year. During this time, we feature/reveal a prominent Latinx/Hispanic mathematician daily. See all the featured mathematical scientists at [LATHISMS.ORG](https://lathisms.org).

Thanks to the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America for support of Lathisms.