

Gerardo A. Muñoz, M.A., Ed.

EDUCATION

University of Denver, Morgridge College of Education Denver, CO
Ph.D in Curriculum and Instruction ant. 2027
Praxis: Recruitment and Retention of Educators of Color; Culturally Sustaining
Community Praxis, Community-Based Research, Teacher Education

University of Denver, Morgridge College of Education Denver, CO
M.A. Ed. Curriculum and Instruction 2009
Praxis: Critical Pedagogy and Culturally Responsive Education

University of Colorado at Boulder Boulder, CO
B.A. History and Latin American Studies, University of Colorado 1999

CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

Denver Public Schools
DPSM (Management) October 2023–January 2024

Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS)
National Principal Leadership Academy August 2022–May 2023

Metropolitan State University of Denver Denver, CO
Secondary Social Studies Teaching License 2002

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Educational Leadership

CareerWise Colorado

Director, Pathways, 2025–2026

- Led Colorado's statewide teacher degree apprenticeship sponsor and intermediary strategy to expand educator pipelines.
- Managed partnerships with 16 school districts and 6 higher education institutions to redesign accessible pathways into teaching.

- Translated state policy into operational strategy for districts and universities.
- Developed innovative compensation and training models for apprenticeships across multiple states.
- Strengthened cross-functional collaboration and championed values-based leadership across teams.

Denver Public Schools

Denver, CO

Senior Manager, Learning & Development (Internal Pathways & Development)

2022-2025

- Manage programs for aspiring and new teachers to Denver Public Schools
- Set vision in alignment with the Denver Public Schools Strategic Roadmap
- Improve recruitment and retention of teachers from historically marginalized background
- Manage and set budgetary priorities using Title II funds and General Funds
- Hire, coach, and evaluate team of four specialists
- Plan, facilitate, and delegate responsibilities to a team of four
- Maintain strong working relationships with six teacher preparation partners
- Set and carry forth guidelines for para-to-teacher program
- Manage Teaching Academies in DPS to grow our own teachers and extend the runway for new teachers
- Supervise the planning and execution of New Educator Welcome each August
- Develop and cultivate cross-team and departmental working partnerships to move learning and development work forward
- Support initiatives and projects with other teams, including Talent Acquisition, Culture, Equity and Leadership, Growth and Performance, Leader Pathways, Growth and Performance, Transformative Social Emotional and Academic Learning, Multilingual Education and Special Service Providers
- Envision and plan future pathways and pipelines into roles our DPS students need most

Educational Policy

National Network of State Teachers of the Year (NNSTOY)

Voices for Honest Education Fellow

August 2022-August 2023

- Write, speak, train, and research student-affirming educational policies and practices, including culturally affirming and sustaining education, honest history, age-appropriate identity topics
- Advocate with state and local policymakers in the name of student-affirming education

- Present and facilitate workshops, conferences, and summits to strengthen student-affirming education

Secondary Education

Denver Center for International Studies at Baker

Denver, CO

Cross-Disciplinary Senior Team Lead (STL)

2014-2017; 2021-Present

- Coach, support, and evaluate teams of teachers from multiple departments and grade levels, including Social Studies, English Language Arts, Drama, and Science,
- Mentor and train teachers of grades 6-12 in a racially and linguistically diverse school community in multiple aspects of culturally responsive classroom praxis

Senior Team Lead: Student Voice

- Develop systems and practices to center student voice and leadership
- Support student engagement and self-advocacy
- Amplify Student Voice and Leadership best practices at building and district level
- Coach and evaluate team of teachers in the centering of student voice in at the classroom level

Social Studies Teacher

Denver Center for International Studies at Baker (DCISB), 2007-2022

- Teach and develop curriculum for multiple Social Studies courses grades 6-12.
- Taught Advanced Placement World History for twelve years
- Created Critical Hip Hop Studies course
- Advise and support grade level cohorts throughout their time at DCIS addressing academic, social/emotional, and engagement needs for students and families.
- Established student interest clubs, including Drama Club, Debate Team, Latinx Student Alliance, Black Student Alliance

Social Studies Teacher

Contemporary Learning Academy, 1999-2007

- Facilitated Aggression Replacement Training (A.R.T.) to new students
- Taught and wrote curriculum for Ethnic Studies courses, including Hispanic American History, Chicano/Mexican American Studies, History of Native American Peoples, and Minority Cultures.
- Planned and executed Project-Based Learning (PBL) experiences

Higher Education

University of Denver

Interdisciplinary Research Institute for the Study of (In) Equality (IRISE)

2022-23 Visiting Scholar/Fellow

Researched and developed podcast series featuring the stories and wisdom of teachers of color who teach Ethnic Studies

Adjunct Professor of Curriculum and Instruction, 2010-2017

History of American Education, 2014

University of Colorado at Denver

Co-taught course with Dr. Antwan Jefferson

University of Colorado Teacher Preparation Site Facilitator, 2013-14

University of Colorado at Denver

Support and Mentorship of in-Building Teacher Candidates from the University of Colorado at Denver

Secondary Social Studies Methods, 2012

University of Denver

Morgridge College of Education

Secondary General Methods , 2010

University of Colorado at Denver

Critical Pedagogy and Methods, 2010

The Teacher's Institute at La Academia

Alternative Licensure Program in Partnership between the Colorado Department of Education and Metropolitan State University of Denver

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AND INTERESTS

- Vision development and implementation
- Culturally Sustaining Employee Coaching
- Community Engagement and Empowerment
- Project Planning
- Facilitation: Adult Learning & Development
- Student voice and leadership
- Project-Based Learning

- Restorative Justice and Practice
- Abolitionist Pedagogy and Praxis
- Community Schools
- Ethnic Studies Curriculum, Coaching and Implementation
- Popular Culture and Education
- Liberatory Pedagogy and Praxis

Current Projects

Produce and Co-Host: *Too Dope Teachers and a Mic* podcast

- Center the experiences and knowledge of educators of color.
- Curate and share stories
- Build community

Student Voice Lead

- Co-design of Senior Team Lead role at the Denver Center for International Studies at Baker
- Lead, implement, and center student voice and leadership across curriculum and grade level.

Facilitator and Storyteller

- Curated testimonials and narratives of educators of color
- Project funded and supported by the Center for American Progress #WeBuildEDU initiative in conjunction with the EduColor Collective
- *Too Dope Teachers and a Mic* Live Show Houston NEA Racial and Social Justice Conference, Houston, TX June 2019
- *Too Dope Teachers and a Mic* Live Show with Dr. Bettina L. Love, NEA Racial and Social Justice Conference, June 2020

AWARDS

2021 Colorado Teacher of the Year

Selected to represent the teaching profession in Colorado both locally and nationally. Participate in Colorado Department of Education Commissioner's Teacher Cabinet. Organize events, connect with teachers state-wide and develop a comprehensive message about teaching and communities served.

2023 Western Governors University Elevate Award Recipient

Awarded to an education professional who works to create multiple pathways into education and empowers communities.

2023 Kudos for Customer Service Award

Awarded to Denver Public Schools employees who received positive recognition in the area of customer service multiple times.

2021-2023 Colorado Department of Education Commissioner's Teacher Cabinet

Amplify and elevate teacher voice at the state level; communicate with fellow cabinet members and recommend action to meet the needs of students state-wide.

2022 California Casualty Excellence in Teaching Award

Awarded to outstanding NEA member teachers nationwide, granting access to national networks of teachers and policymakers.

2021 Colorado Education Association Golden Apple for Excellence in Teaching

Awarded to an Association member who has made outstanding contributions in the areas of education excellence and teacher image.

2021 Know Justice Know Peace the Take Malcolm X Award

One of the inaugural Know Justice, Know Peace: The Take's Black History Month awards which recognizes "someone who is unapologetic in the promotion of black excellence and community needs. This person is not afraid to speak out and speak up against systematic oppression."

Denver Nuggets December 2020 Most Valuable Teacher Award

The Denver Nuggets honor teachers in Colorado through the Denver Nuggets Most Valuable Teacher (MVT) program. Financial award

Denver Public Schools 2012 Mile High Teacher

University of Denver Summit Award

Student-to-student award given in the University of Denver's Morgridge College of Education Graduate Program.

Grogan Family Foundation Inspirational Teacher Award, 2006

Award given in conjunction with the Polis Foundation, recognizes an inspirational teacher with a \$5,000 cash award.

Publications

Articles

Muñoz, G. (2027) *Been through the storm: State and national teachers of the year of color remember their early careers* [in-process unpublished dissertation]. University of Denver.

Muñoz, G. (2023). *As a teacher, I'm waiting for our leaders to take a bold stand for honest education*. (2023, March 3). Chicago Sun-Times.
<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2023/3/3/23623904/illinois-education-pritzker-media-corruption-firearms-letters>

Muñoz, G. (2022). Word is bond: Stayin' dope on roads untraveled. In B. King and G. Calabria (Eds.), *Hot button: Teaching sensitive social studies content* (pp. 54-82). Gibbs Smith Press.

Muñoz, G. (2022). Forget 'lost learning.' What we need most right now is healing. *Angela Watson's Truth for Teachers*.
<https://truthforteachers.com/forget-learning-loss-what-we-need-is-healing/>

Muñoz, G. (2021). [Returning to the place of origin](#). *Learning for Justice* 66(1)

Muñoz, G. and King, E. (2008). Nobody's son: Applying Banks' stages of ethnicity. *Race Equality Teaching* 27(1) 7-10.

Scholarly Presentations and Workshops

Muñoz, G. (2026). 2026 School Board Symposium. [panelist]The teaching profession at a crossroads: Leadership strategies for retention and renewal. Denver, CO, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2026) [forthcoming] FirstGen Podcast with Lori Marie Huertas. Denver, CO, USA

Muñoz, G. (2026) The cypher: Building educator community through story, flow, and joy. National Network of State Teachers of the Year Teacher Leadership Virtual Conference.

Muñoz, G. (2026) Rooted stories: Ethnic studies as exploration of place, community, & belonging. Colorado Council for Social Studies 38th Annual Conference. Denver, CO, USA

Muñoz, G. (2026) Pass the mic: From talking *at* to talking *with*. Colorado-National Association of Multicultural Education (CO-NAME) Annual Conference. Thornton, CO, USA

Munoz, G. (2026, February 14). *An evening with Samin Nosrat* [Moderated public conversation]. Kroenke Sports & Entertainment/The Paramount Theater, Denver, CO, USA

Arthur, J. (2025) What if ICE comes to my school? [podcast guest] The Teachers Caucus Podcast. Virtual, USA.

Muñoz, G. & Kietzman, F. (2025) Neuro-equity en la comunidad [workshop] 2025 EDIT Leadership Conference. Kansas City, MO, USA.

Muñoz, G. et al. (2025) Critical intersections of K-12 education and racial diversity. [AERA invited speaker session] AERA 2025 convention. Denver, CO, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2024) Flippin' the Script on the Culture Clash. 2024 Teachers of Color and Allies Summit. Boulder, CO, USA

Munoz, G. (2024) More than a code to switch: Language, identity, and power. Closing keynote. 2024 CO-TESOL Fall convention. Northglenn, CO, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2024) Opening keynote. Oregon Collective Summit. Portland, OR, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2024) Literacy and student-driven, community-based advocacy. [workshop] Park Ridge, IL, USA.

Munoz, G. (2024) I belong here. TEACH Colorado live. [webinar] Denver, CO, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2024). Future Latiné Teacher Webinar [panel facilitator] Denver, CO, USA.

Munoz, G. and Rivera, A. (2024) Keep the fire going: Opportunities for state teachers of the year. Workshop. National Network of State Teachers of the Year Teacher Leadership Conference. Denver, CO, USA.

Munoz, G. (2024) Activists in Every Era: Empowering Educators as Agents of Change. IEA Aspiring educator spring conference. Opening & closing keynotes. Bloomington, IL, USA.

Munoz, G. and Nagayoshi, T. (2023) How to talk to your legislators. Workshop. American Federation of Teachers Conference. Washington, DC, USA.

Munoz, G. and Dier, C. (2023) Voices for honest education: Teaching in a time of gag orders. National Network of State Teachers of the Year Conference. Louisville, KY, USA.

Muñoz, et al. (2023) Addressing anti-Blackness in education: advancing youth as global citizens. [conference side session] United Nations 2nd session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent. New York, NY, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2023). Sustaining pedagogies: Teachers of color teach Ethnic Studies. [residency]. Pasadena, CA, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2023) Encountering opposition: How to engage in a productive way [teach out]. Washington, DC, USA [virtual].

Muñoz, G. (2023). Lunch & Learn: Combatting anti-CRT rhetoric, decolonizing instruction, and racial battle fatigue [workshop]. Boulder, CO, USA.

Munoz, G. (2023). Learning to be human: Centering spiritual healing, humanizing practices, and the dignity of students within education [IRISE R.A.G.E. podcast, season 6, episode 11]. In M. Parker (Host), *The R.A.G.E. Podcast*. Denver, CO, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2023). Honest Education in America: Building Truth and Inclusion in the Classroom [panel participant] Portland, OR, USA.

Munoz, G. (2023). *Decolonizing higher education* [Invited faculty residency and workshop series]. Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA, United States.

Muñoz, G. (2023). Pieces of Me: My Journey Toward Humanness [university presentation]. University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, USA.

Muñoz, G. and Muñoz, C. (2023). *Si se puede*: Leveraging Your Power as a Teacher and a Parent against a broken system. We Are Bilingual Generation Brillando Bilingüe Alumni Speaker Series, virtual, USA & Denmark.

Muñoz, G. & Kietzmann, F. (2023). Neuro-Equity en la comunidad [conference presentation]. Association of Latino Administrators & Superintendents National Conference, San Antonio, TX, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2023). Parents v. Educators: Healing the Growing Divide in a Time of Anti-Honest Education. National Family Engagement Summit, Alexandria, VA, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2023). Ethnic Studies & Teacher Retention. [scholarly residency]. Pasadena Unified School District, Pasadena, CA, USA.

Muñoz, G., Dier, C., Washington, M., Nance, T., Nagayoshi, T.. (2023) Addressing Anti-Blackness in Education: Advancing Youth as Global Citizens. United Nations Second Session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent, New York City, NY, USA.

Muñoz, G. and Washington, M. (2023) Ethics of Honest Education, Howard University, Washington, District of Columbia, USA.

Muñoz, G. (2023). Decolonize to THRIVE [workshop series]. Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA.

Muñoz, G. (2022). Pieces of Me: The Urgency of Whole-Child Equity Work in Schools [conference presentation] 2022 Choosing to See Conference, Bakersfield, CA.

Muñoz, G. (2022). The Future is NOW: Student Voice and Leadership [conference presentation] 2022 Oregon Collective Summit, Portland, Oregon, United States,

Muñoz, G. (2022). BIPOC Oregon Teachers of the Year Panel [moderated discussion]. 2022 Oregon Collective Summit, Portland, Oregon, United States.

Munoz, G. (2021). [*Teaching contentious history: King Leopold's Ghost*](#) [conference presentation]. Teaching Black history conference, St. Louis, Missouri, United States

Muñoz, G. (2020) [*Beyond code-switching: Language identity and power in the secondary classroom*](#) [conference presentation]. Youth Celebrate Diversity Conference, Denver, Colorado, United States.

Keynote Addresses

Muñoz, G. (2024). (forthcoming) Teaching in Contentious Times [opening and closing keynote address], Aspiring Educator/Early Career Conference, Illinois State University, Springfield, IL, USA

Muñoz, G. (2023) Equity and Empathy in the Arts [keynote address], The Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO, United States.

Muñoz, G. (2022) [*We belong: Being the teachers our students need today*](#) [keynote address]. University of Northern Colorado Future Teacher Expo, Greeley, Colorado, United States.

Muñoz, G. and Rivera, A. (2022) [*Autumn Rivera, 2022 Colorado teacher of the year and Gerardo Muñoz, 2021 Colorado teacher of the year \[Keynote/ panel discussion\]*](#). Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) Winter Legislative Session. Denver, Colorado, United States.

Muñoz, G. (2021). [*You Should be a Teacher*](#) [keynote address] University of Colorado at Denver Future Teacher Expo, Denver, Colorado, United States.

Muñoz, G. (2021) [*To be seen in the social studies classroom*](#) [Keynote address] Colorado Council for Social Studies Education Conference, Denver, Colorado, United States.

Muñoz, G. (2021) *The power of their ideas: Transformative student-led academic discussions* [workshop session] Changemaker 2021 Virtual Conference, Denver, Colorado, United States.

Professional Service

National Service

Association of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (ALAS)

- Member since 2022

Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

- National Board Member

National Education Association

- Member 2001-2022
- Participation in national, state, and local organizing efforts

EduColor Collective

- [*Introduced 2021 National Teacher of the Year Juliana Urtubey*](#) for 2021 Summit
- Project funded and supported by the Center for American Progress #WeBuildEDU initiative in conjunction with the EduColor Collective

Choose

- [*Developed student-centered anti-racist unit and lesson plans*](#)
- Collaborated with secondary educators nationally to develop lesson plans to support the use of book *Tell Me Who You Are* by Choose founders Priya Vulchi and Winona Guo

State and Local Service

Latiné Education Advisory Council

- Member since 2023
- Advise Denver Public Schools on educational matters relating to Latiné communities

Colorado Association of Latino Administrators & Superintendents (CO-ALAS)

- Member since 2023

Project VOYCE

- Youth Engagement and Activism Organization
- Board Member since 2022

Words to Power

- Youth creative expression and empowerment organization centering on spoken-word poetry
- Board Chair since 2021

Colorado Education Association

- Diversity, equity, and inclusion trainings
- Represent and advocate for Colorado at national level racial and social justice work

Denver Classroom Teachers Association

- Participation and advocacy as part of the Ethnic Minority Educators Caucus and Latinx Educators Caucus
- Master of ceremony for rallies, 2019
- Building Association Representative

SKILLS

Language, technical skills, (if fluent), speaking (keynotes and facilitation)

- Conversant in spoken and written Spanish
- Exceptional writing, speaking, and communication skills
- Keynote speaker
- Experienced facilitator
- Organized and creative lesson planner
- Experienced and skillful in use of digital communication tools, including Google Slides, Microsoft PowerPoint, Headliner, Canva, Prezi, GarageBand, Zoom, Google Meets, YouTube and Vimeo
- Experienced website designer and web page manager
- Advanced social media communication skills

- Microsoft Excel, Word, and other tools
- Adobe Creative Cloud Applications
- Experienced researcher in quantitative and qualitative methods
- Exceptional public relations and marketing skills

Audio Media Producer, 2016–present

- Executive Producer of the Too Dope Productions
- Schedule and plan recording sessions for *Too Dope Teachers and a Mic*, *Habitually Disruptive*, and *The Exit Interview* podcasts
- Edit all episodes of Too Dope Productions
- Engineer, post, and publish all audio episodes to feeds and platforms
- Promote the podcast on social media, using digital tools including Headliner
- Manage funds and payments for podcast necessities, including hosting, RSS feeds, and other media-related expenses
- Produce questions and interview flow for all podcasts
- Build professional relationships and partnerships to support other Black and Indigenous People of Color-led initiatives and firms