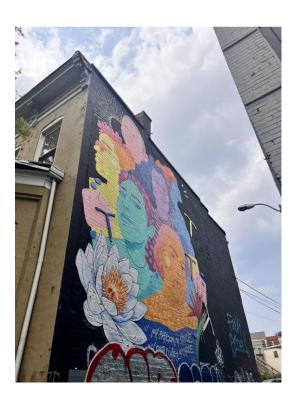The National HEPCAMP Association DC Internship

Weekly Journal Entry
Name: Antonio Gutierrez Estrada
Date(s): June 19 – June 25

Monday

Today is a holiday, Juneteenth, so I didn't have to go to work. I had a slow morning and around 2:00 pm Maria, Annai, and I decided to check out Juneteenth events and walked around the city for about 30 minutes. We took the metro to Chinatown for lunch. Lunch there was expensive but really good. After we returned home and I took a nap, Maria and I went to Chris's suite to hang out with other CHCI interns and play card games for the rest of the day.

Tuesday

I feel like I have adopted a system where I work from home Mondays and Tuesdays. On Wednesday and Thursday go to the LBJ building which is the Department of Education. Today I didn't do much, I worked from home and finished some tasks and attended meetings. After work I got ready to attend the Tri-caucus which was a networking event with APAICS, CBCF, and CHCI. At first, I got lost trying to find the building. I called Maria for directions and after 20 minutes of wandering around I found the entrance and I still managed to be one of the first ones that got there. It was a great event, I enjoyed talking to many interns and I met Jordan. Jordan is a 3rd-Year political science major from Sac State which was very exciting. Stingers-Up!

Wednesday

Wednesday was a rainy day just like the rest of the week. It had not affected me because I had been working from home, but today I went to work at the office. Today was a slow day at the Department of Education. I worked on some tasks and got invited to have lunch with the other DE interns which was around 20 of us. The others were not able to join us because they were working remotely. After lunch some interns and I attended a department event celebrating pride month where I met admiral Rahel L. Levin, the Assistant Secretary for Health. After work, I went home and in the afternoon I went to the bookstore, Kramers. It was around a 20 minute walk, which I wanted to do but when I went outside it was raining and windy so I decided to take the metro. After 30 minutes of looking around the store I opted to get the Solito: A Memoir by Javier Zamora book. After making my selection, I decided to call it a day.

Thursday

I woke up early today because Irene Bueno invited us to the state visit of Prime Minister Modi from India. It was great but there were so many people. We arrived at 7:20 am, but the ceremony didn't start until 10 am. After the 2 hour wait we got to the south lawn of the White House and then it started to rain really bad. It was rainy and I was starting to get tired, but was able to make it through the entire ceremony. Afterwards, I took the Metro back to Foggy Bottom and worked for the rest of the day.

Friday

Fridays are something different than what they used to be before but today it was very exciting. We went to the Washington Center for CHCI programming for about 3 hours. During this time we discuss topics like colorism and racism and a lot more. After, we went to the National Museum of African American History & Culture where we spent the rest of the day. The museum was a powerful and emotional experience, but exciting at the same time. I got to see the original Black Panther suit and as a very big fan of the Marvel Universe that was amazing! After the museum I walk home.

Weekend

Saturday I woke up early and made some breakfast and at 8:30 am I went down to the lobby and waited for the bus to arrive because we were going to a course rope that CHCI set-up for us. We talked a lot and did two activities. One of them was about trusting your partner and the second one was a Zipline which was so exciting and fun. We got back at 6 pm and I decided to take a nap. At 8:30 pm, we went to the natural history museum because they were open until midnight and at 11 pm I got home. Sunday I went to have breakfast and after I saw the movie transformers which brought back memories of when I was a kid.