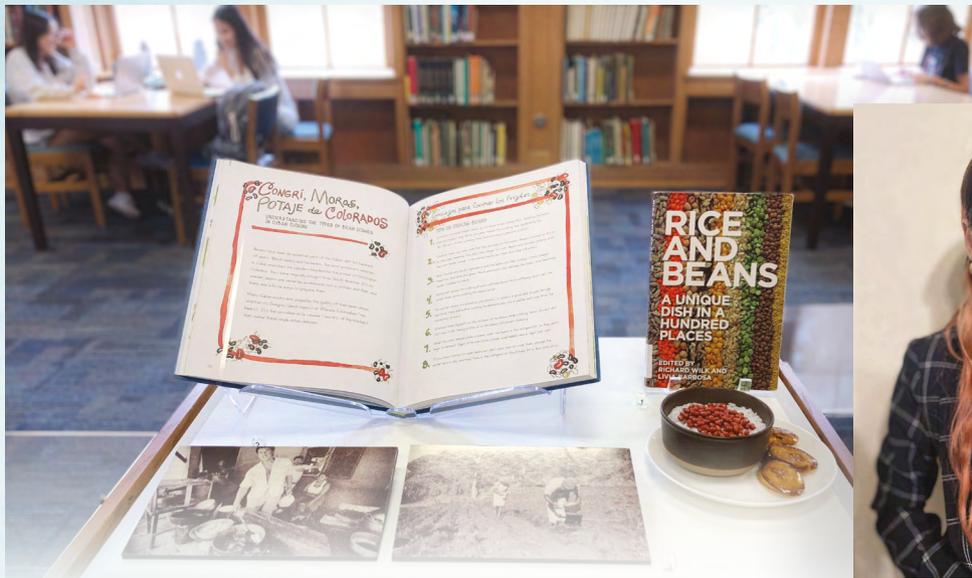


## SMATHERS LIBRARIES

# UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP IN FOOD, IMMIGRATION, AND IDENTITY (SUMMER 2020)

MELISSA JEROME / LACC DIGITAL INITIATIVES LIBRARIAN



During the Summer 2022 semester, undergraduate Daniela Torres worked with Melissa Jerome, LACC Digital Initiatives Librarian, to develop an exhibit on food and culture. Daniela expressed interest in exploring migration, and food proved to be an engaging way to help explore that concept. Throughout the summer, she researched and read through cookbooks available in the UF Libraries, primarily those found in the Latin American and Caribbean Collection (LACC). In researching, she decided stories of migration could be told through looking closely at food and how food and culture go hand-in-hand. To keep the scope narrow and ensure we could adequately tell a story in the available LACC exhibit space, we decided to center the exhibit around the combination of rice and beans as a dish. The physical exhibit, *Taste of Memory: Rice and Beans Across the Caribbean*, is on display in the LACC reading room (Figure 1 & 2). It explores how a common dish (pairing of rice and beans) is truly unique, varying in how it is prepared and served, and how these differences in preparation reflect the various cultures across the Caribbean. In addition to co-curating the exhibit, Daniela also developed a bibliography of cookbooks available in our library collections. A sampling of this bibliography is available in Zotero ([https://www.zotero.org/groups/4764862/uf\\_lacc\\_cookbooks](https://www.zotero.org/groups/4764862/uf_lacc_cookbooks)) and offers tags so users can filter cookbooks in the LACC by country/region. 

Fig. 1, Above, 2, Right: Photographs of a poster and one of the exhibit cases containing recipes, photographs, a book, and fake food included as part of the Taste of Memory: Rice and Beans Across the Caribbean exhibit installed in the Latin American & Caribbean Collection reading room.

*“Through my fellowship at LACC I was able to explore my fascination with food and culture. It was a very valuable and fun experience to be able to, under mentorship, freely research and learn about anything I felt inspired to investigate. I am very grateful for the experience as it allowed me to dip my toes into the world of library research and learn about exhibits.” - Daniela Torres*

