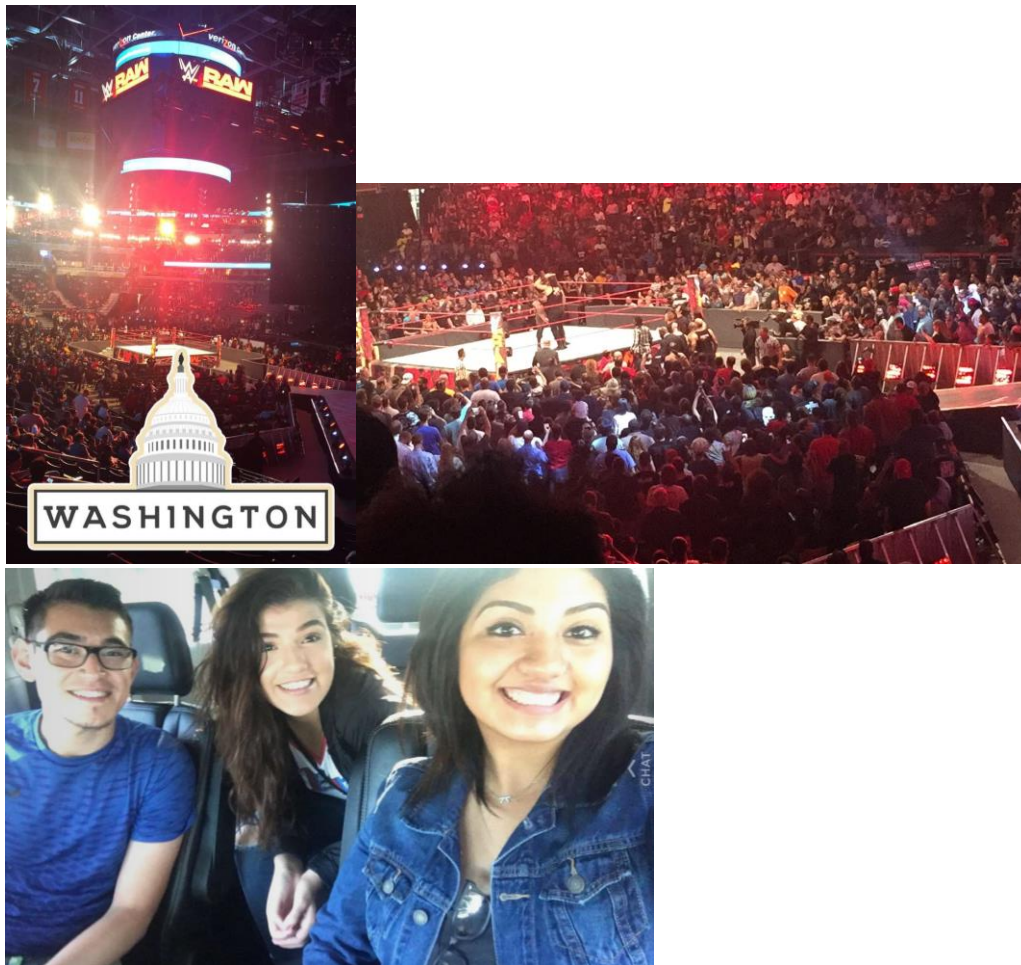


Lupe Perales
Week Seven - Continued Adventures

This week was a very productive one. On Monday, I received the opportunity to attend WWE Raw, an event that reminded me of my childhood. The interns and I enjoyed our time there and after the show we had a long conversation about our childhood memories watching WWE Raw on television. It was an amazing show!



A childhood dream becoming a reality!

Wednesday, I volunteered with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI). I chaperoned the rising seniors of the program CHCI R2L NextGen. The chaperones had to oversee the high school students at lunch and at their assigned meetings with Representatives and Senators. At the meetings, students were allowed to ask questions that involved their home state.



Thursday, was a very significant day for everyone who participated as an intern with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. We all graduated and received our certificate of completion. Interns, supervisors, and Congressional Representatives attended the graduation. Several of Congressional Representatives took time to speak at the event and motivated all of us to keep going and to become the leaders that our Latino community desperately desire and deserve. While I was enjoying the food, I realized that my two months in Washington D.C. had come to an end. I felt so proud of myself for all that I was able to accomplish. All of my hard work and dedication throughout my life allotted me the opportunity to experience Capitol Hill and this amazing internship. I know that very few migrant farmworkers have such an opportunity and I am grateful to be one of the few. I have acquired incredible mentors and supporters in my life that have helped me and have pushed me to transform into the unique individual that I am today. Although my parents are not with me to see me succeed, I know that they are extremely proud to have a daughter who has not let them down and they know that one day I will be able to provide them with the life they always deserved.

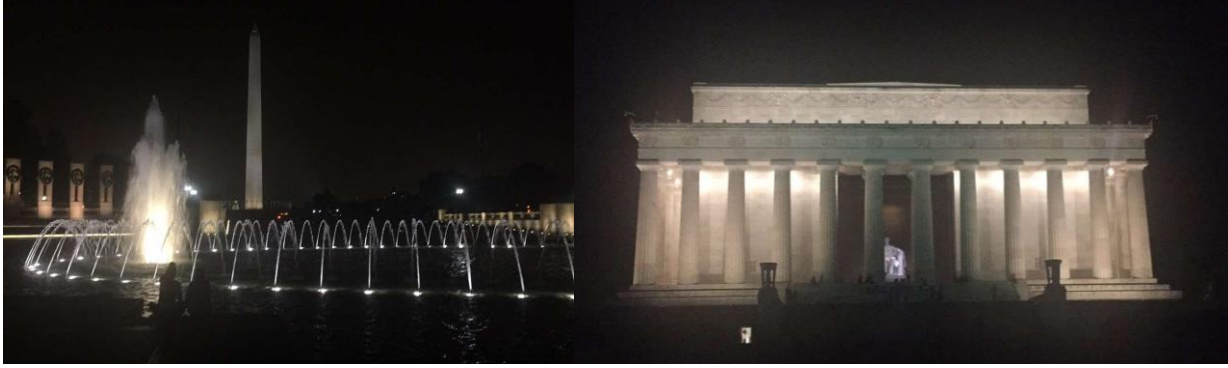




I am a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute alumna!

This week, I had the honor of becoming a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute alumna. My week only got better because my friend from MSU came to visit me. This was my friend's first time in Washington D.C. and I wanted to show him all of the fascinating monuments and the beautiful city attractions. Before beginning our tour, we decided to go to dinner. I wanted to try something new so we agreed to go to the Founding Farmers Restaurant. Their food was delicious. I had cornbread which contained real pieces of corn. That was the best part because it reminded me of my mother's baking. After dinner, we were so full that we did not want to walk anywhere, so we decided to Uber there. I never realized how far apart the monuments were from one another until we started walking. The walk was worth it.





What an incredible night!

This week, we also had the opportunity to travel and explore New York City. I never imagined that I would be able to go to a city that many individuals want to visit. I was blessed enough to have taken advantage of that opportunity. Times Square was my favorite part of the trip. I purchased souvenirs for my family and friends. I was also able to explore the M&M World. The bags given for a purchase were very nice. Because I wanted a bag, I had to purchase something from the store. After a couple of minutes of walking around, I decided to purchase two M&M mugs. They were big and heavy. At the cashier, I was told that because of my mug purchase I could get a blanket for five dollars. I decided to take the offer and purchase the blanket. I was extremely happy with all the items even though I did not buy any chocolate.





Without my friends this trip would not have been the same!