

Cultural Formulation and Character Strength in *A Million Miles Away* (2023)

Moderator: Christopher Carlos Jaime, D.O., PGY3

A) Introduction

- 1) Movie made in 2023 that takes place in the second half of the 1900s based on the autobiography of José Hernandez: *Reaching for the Stars*. The star-studded-cast and crew headlined by actor Michael Peña portray Hernandez and his family during his journey from migrant farm worker in California to NASA astronaut and STS-128 Mission Specialist.
- 2) ACGME definition of CME: continuing medical education consists of educational activities which serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession.
- 3) Educational Activity: For this movie, we will provide a note sheet and pen for those watching to observe the cultural identity of the film's characters (with a focus on the main character/hero and his family), the stressors characters face in the story, the cultural strengths and supports for the hero/main character and his family, and which VIA Character Strengths are demonstrated by the main character. Please provide brief comments (<2 minutes) about your observations.

B) Breaking the film into 3 parts - just under 80 minutes of movie time, full film available on *Amazon Prime*

- 1) 00:00 - 33:40 - childhood and early adulthood, discuss cultural identity and stressors
- 2) 33:40-01:14:05 - character strengths demonstrated in film in journey from agriculture to outer space
- 3) 01:48:31 - 01:52:17 - the reappearance of the monarch butterfly, and the real life footage and epilogue