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La Voz

Informando a la comunidad





Monica Martinez Awarded Carnegie Fellowship for 2017

The Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program provides fellowships advancing research in the social sciences and humanities. The anticipated result of each fellowship is the publication of a book or major study.

Dr. Monica Martinez, an Assistant Professor at **Brown University**, is one of 35 individuals who received a fellowship for 2017. The 2017 **Andrew Carnegie Fellows** will provide new perspectives on topics such as countering extremist narratives on social media, violence against women in politics, opportunity and education, and immigration enforcement and future of American democracy.

Originally from **Uvalde, Texas**, **Dr. Martinez** earned her Ph.D in American Studies from **Yale University**. At **Brown University** she offers courses in Latinx studies, immigration, histories of violence, histories of policing, and public memory in US History. Her research has been funded by the **Woodrow Wilson Foundation**, the **Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project**, the **Brown University Office of Vice President of Research**, and the **Texas State Historical Association**. Her first manuscript, **The Injustice Never Leaves You: Anti-Mexican Violence in the Texas Borderlands**, is under contract with **Harvard University Press**.

People in the News



Dr. Valenzuela to be Scholar in Residence in Colorado

Angela Valenzuela will be this year's Scholar in Residence in the **School of Education** at the **University of Colorado** in **Boulder**.

She will in residence at the **University of Colorado in Boulder** this summer from June 19-30, 2017 where she will be offering a course for masters and doctoral students titled, "Curriculum for Multicultural Education."

Dr. Valenzuela has taught at **Rice University**, the **University of Houston** and is currently a Professor at in the **College of Education** at **The University of Texas at Austin**. She is the author of **Subtractive Schooling: U.S. Mexican Youth and the Politics of Caring** and **Leaving Children Behind: How "Texas-style" Accountability Fails Latino Youth**.

She also founded and operates an education blog titled, **Educational Equity, Politics, and Policy in Texas**, and is also the director of the **National Latino Education Research Agenda Project (NLERAP)** that aims to create a teacher education pipeline for Latino/a youth, nationally. **NLERAP** has been housed at **The University of Texas at Austin** since November 6, 2009.



Texas Tech Professor Announces for U.S. Congress

Dr. Miguel Levario a Professor at **Texas Tech University** in **Lubbock** announced his candidacy for the **United States Congress District 19**.

Levario was born and raised in **El Paso, Texas**. He left home to pursue his education at **Notre Dame** and **Stanford**. He finished his PhD in History at **The University of Texas in Austin** before taking a position in 2007 as a professor at **Texas Tech University**.

He has always been a determined activist, serving as a faculty adviser for the **Tech Student Democrats**, working with the 2012 and 2013 **LULAC Youth Summit** and was a panelist at the **2016 Lubbock Regional Latino Policy Summit**.

But with the current state of affairs in **Washington** and the tone-deaf response constituents are receiving from their current representation, **Miguel** recognizes the time to stand up is now.

While battles about bathrooms and border walls continue, the livelihood of farmers and their workers are being threatened by moneyed interests, children's public education is on the

chopping block and our clean energy resources, which are poised to create tens of thousands of jobs in our region, are being stifled.

As the political climate of our democracy deteriorates, **Miguel** understands these issues have no time to be ignored and is ready to represent the people of the **Texas 19th Congressional District** in **Washington D.C.** while remaining available to his constituents.



Romeo Rodriguez Passes Away in San Antonio, Texas

Romeo Rodriguez, long time editor and publisher of **ARRIBA Newspaper** passes away on March 31st, 2017. **Romeo** was originally from the **Corpus Christi** area and came to **Austin** to attend **The University of Texas at Austin**. He was active in the **Chicano Movement** and started **ARRIBA** in 1986. He will be honored at the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center** on May 20th, 2017 during the **Awards of Excellence** event.



Olga Campos Benz Has a New Book Out

Olga Campos Benz has a new book titled, **It's News to Me**. Over the last several weeks she has held book signing events around the **Austin** area.

Campos who was a former news anchor for a major television network here in **Austin**, shares insights and reflections from her long career in the media. Originally from **Houston, Texas**, **Olga** graduated from **The University of Texas at Austin**.

Visit her Facebook page to learn how you can order a copy of her book.



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Pensamientos

Pues aqui estamos en mes de Mayo. Primeramente, Happy Mother's Day a todas las madres, especialmente a la mia que ya lleva 90 años!

The other special day que voy a compartir con todo ustedes es que voy a completar 65 years, si Dios quiere. I never thought I would make it this far. My father died when he was 31 years old and for a long time I carried around this idea that I would not live a long time.

Reflecting back on my years, when I was a young man I became involved in the Chicano Movement and wanted to save the world. As I have gotten older, I still share the ideals and dreams of a fair and just society, but the size of the group I want to save has gotten smaller. Now that I am getting ready to hit 65, I just want to save myself.

So many of my friends have passed away over the last 10 to 15 years and I know my time on this earth is also getting shorter. When I think of the 168 hours I have in a week, (24x7) I am very cautious about I spend that time. I often myself just sitting in a chair thinking about family or a friend

who is no longer among us. As they say, your health is your wealth. I recently underwent surgery to remove a tumor in my shoulder. The biopsy came back and now the doctors are going to have to go back in. It is an aggressive tumor and we do not know what lies ahead. But I will continue to publish **La Voz** as long as I can.

Cambiando de Tema

Ok, no more personal reflections. I want to call to your attention the remarks by **Dr. Emilio Zamora** starting on Page 11. **Emilio**, his wife **Angela**, **Juan Tejada** from **San Antonio**, **Tony Diaz** in **Houston** and many others have spent much time in the fight to get **Ethnic Studies** into the high school curriculum in **Texas**.

They have gone before the **State Board of Education** on many occasions, lobbied the **Texas Legislature** here in **Austin** and attended numerous conference throughout the state to inform people of what is taking place. They deserve our respect, attention and help in making positive changes to the high school curriculum. When you can,

send them a note, volunteer to participate in a hearing or march and if you really feel strongly, write a check. They are after all, standing up not just for their children, but for everyone's children.

Cambiando de Tema

As you flip through the pages of this issue of **La Voz**, take note of all the events that are taking place around the state. If you have never been involved before, make plans to attend one of these events, meet new people, find out how they approach a particular issue.

Making connections will open doors for you that you never imagined. You will not only surprise yourself, you will surprise your family and friends as they discover that you are indeed a different person.



EDITORIAL



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor and Publisher

La Raza Round Table



Where friends and enemies come together for breakfast tacos every Saturday and discuss the important issues of the day. We meet at 4926 East Cesar Chavez Street in Austin, Texas every Saturday at 10:00am



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THE GUADALUPE

CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center will host the 36th Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival May 24-28, 2017, at the historic Guadalupe Theater and Rosedale Park in San Antonio, Texas. The festival expects to draw over 5,000 Conjunto music lovers from across Texas, the U.S., Mexico, as well as international visitors. Executive Director Cristina Ballí will direct and curate the festival and Juan Tejeda, founder of the Tejano Conjunto Festival, will serve as advisor.

The festival will feature about 30 of the very best and most popular bands in Conjunto music complemented by plenty of dancing, food and beverage booths in a family-friendly environment. The festivities include special events such as the presentation of new inductees into the Conjunto Music Hall of Fame at a special gala event; a free Seniors Conjunto dance; an Accordion Tuning workshop; the Tejano Conjunto Festival Poster Contest; and the opportunity to win top-of-the-line Hohner accordion.

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10:45 a.m. Breakfast & Mariachi
12:00 p.m. Spanish Mariachi Mass

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FM 812. Look for the sign "Mass."

For more information: (512) 826-0280
Welcome Home!



Profile



Yovana Pena

Writing Teacher for East Austin at Secondary Campus 6th- 8th Grade



Yovana Pena was raised and is a graduate from **San Diego, TX**. She attended **Texas A&M University in Kingsville, TX** and received her three degrees there: Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Science, and Master of Education.

Yovana served as a teacher at **Alice Independent School District**. Last year she and her family moved to **Austin**. Her husband, **Dr. Ruben Pena** is currently the Principal at **East Austin College Prep- Secondary Campus**. She worked at the elementary campus last year as an art teacher and this year she is the writing teacher at the secondary campus.

Yovana loves to find ways to be creative in her spare time. She loves to do art and take photos. She is currently working on writing and illustrating her own children's books. She has also been involved in **Destination Imagination** at both school districts that she worked for. Another thing she loves to do is travel around **Austin** with her husband and daughter.

Your goals for EAPrep and your students: My goals are that EAPrep will continue to succeed and do well like it did last year. My goal for my students is that they strive to achieve, pass their grades, be motivated, and never give up.

Your Favorite Books: Picture Books: *Fancy Nancy* Series by Robin Preiss Glasser and *Pinkalicious* Series by Victoria Kann; Youth Books: *The Unwanteds* by Lisa McMann

Your Personal Hero and Why: My husband, he has overcome a lot of obstacles to get to where he is today. He is still wanting to try new adventures and pursue new dreams. I consider him the most smartest man that I know.

What Animal Best Represents You and Why? A panda, aside from it being my favorite animal, I admire this animal because it has needed to adapt to the changes and is still striving to survive despite the challenges it faces. I can relate to this unique creature, in which my personal and educational life will continue to change and I just need to adapt.

What is Your Greatest Strength? Wanting to try new things, not being afraid to extend on learning, and being able to adjust to new environments, and very soon a new culture!

Interesting Fact About Yourself: I was actually born overseas (in Germany) and I will be moving overseas this upcoming school year!



Know Your Rights Presentation for the Immigrant and Refugee community

Presentación de Derechos de Inmigración para la comunidad inmigrante y refugiados

Friday, May 19, 2017
Viernes 19 de mayo 2017

Barbara Jordan Early College Prep
**6711 Johnny Morris Rd
Austin, TX 78724**

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.



Questions?/¿Preguntas?
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(512) 472-1124

Emergency Room Options

Routine Health Care Now Easier for Medical Access Program (MAP) Patients in Travis County

A visit to the emergency room (ER) is not always the best place to receive care – especially for minor illnesses, such as ear infections, seasonal allergies, or the flu. However, some families may not know they have options to the ER.

Members of **Central Health's Medical Access Program (MAP)** can now by-pass the ER and get routine care at 19 convenient **RediClinics** and **FastMed Urgent Care** clinics throughout **Travis County**.

RediClinics are available within select **H-E-B** and **H-E-B plus!** neighborhood grocery stores in **Austin**. **FastMed Urgent Care** centers are free-standing clinics. The clinics are open seven days a week, with extended evening hours on weekdays. **MAP** families can also get health screening tests, vaccinations, and immunizations; and pay only a \$10 copay.

MAP is a local program provided by **Central Health** that helps **Travis County** residents who are low-income and uninsured get health care, including primary care, prescriptions, specialty care, and hospital care. Increasing access to care supports **Central Health's** mission of creating a model healthy community. The new initiative is part of the Community Care Collaborative partnership between **Central Health** and **Seton Healthcare Family** to better manage the care of **Travis County's** safety net population.

“In the past, some of the people we serve felt the only option they had when they were sick or had a medical situation – especially after hours - was to go to the emergency room,” said **Larry Wallace**, **Interim President and CEO of Central Health**. *“Now they have another, more accessible and convenient option.”*

With **RediClinics** and **FastMed Urgent Care**, when **MAP** patients need routine care, they can skip the ER - not their health



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36th Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival en San Antonio, Texas

Accordion Wars

Hosted by Alamo Music Center

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Doors Open 6:30 PM

Competition Starts at 7:00 PM

Sam's Burger Joint, \$5 at the door

Hall of Fame Gala

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Guadalupe Theater, 6:00 PM

\$65/ticket or \$1,000/table

Induction of New Hall of Fame Honorees

with a performance by Bene Medina y el Conjunto Aguila
and Special Hall of Fame Presentations

Friday, May 26, 2017

Rosedale Park, \$15

5:30 PM Opening Ceremonies & Poster Contest Awards Presentation

6:00 PM Flavio Longoria y Los Conjunto Kings

7:00 PM Retoño

8:00 PM Mando y La Venganza

9:00 PM Rio Jordan and Juanito Castillo

10:00 PM Ricky Naranjo y Los Gamblers

11:00 PM Boni Mauricio y Los Maximos

Saturday, May 27, 2017

Rosedale Park, \$15

1:00 PM Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center Accordion Students

& Conjunto Heritage Taller

2:00 PM South Side High School Conjunto Cardenales (Anna U. Bustamante,
Director) & The Big Squeeze Winners including Aaron Salinas and Rito Peña

3:00 PM Miguel Perez y Conjunto San Antonio de España

4:00 PM Katie Lee Ledezma

5:00 PM Hector Gonzalez X2G

6:00 PM Los Morales Boyz

7:00 PM Ruben Garza y La Nueva Era Musical

8:00 PM Ruben De La Cruz y su Conjunto

9:00 PM Los Monarcas de Pete y Mario Diaz

10:00 PM Lazaro Perez y su Conjunto

11:00 PM Tony Tigre y la Rosa de Oro

Sunday, May 28, 2017

Rosedale Park, \$12

1:00 PM Conjunto Halcon of Los Fresnos High School

& Canales Elementary School Conjunto de Brownsville

2:00 PM Inevitable

3:00 PM Los Enmascarados

4:00 PM Los Leones de Alberto Solis

5:00 PM Linda Escobar y Conjunto Amable

6:00 PM Conjunto Los Borregos

7:00 PM Santiago Jimenez Jr y su Conjunto

8:00 PM Eva Ybarra y su Conjunto

9:00 PM Flaco Jimenez y su Conjunto

10:00 PM David Lee Garza y Los Musicales

Locations:

Historic Guadalupe Theater
1301 Guadalupe St., San Antonio, TX 78207

Rosedale Park
303 Dartmouth, San Antonio, TX 78227

Center for Mexican American Studies Hosted a “Salón Cultural: Race, Writing, and Culture”

Dagoberto Gilb did not know much about his white father, but one thing has stuck with him since his youth. “*Never tell anyone you’re Mexican, say you’re Spanish,*” his father used to tell him.

Gilb, who grew up with his Mexican mother, remembers his anger and the moment he became aware of the racism that came with his Mexican culture. “*The passive racism my father would sort of let happen, we accept it,*” **Gilb** said. “*It’s not a black-and-white divide for us. It’s brown and white.*”

The Center for Mexican American Studies hosted a “Salón Cultural: Race, Writing, and Culture” panel discussion to explain the role of Mexican American literature in a time when focus is being placed on the border with **President Trump’s** executive orders and the proposed reduction of government funds for the arts.

The panel consisted of writer **Gilb**, who is the editor of **Huizache**, a Latino magazine that focuses on voices from the Southwest. It also included English associate professor **John Morán González** and **Emmy Pérez**, a poet and associate professor at UT-Rio Grande Valley.

The panelists said Latino and Chicano literature must be considered prominent in American literature as it has always been present within the U.S. “*We’ve always had a literary presence here,*” **González** said. “*Here before the United States, before English really came to be the dominant language here.*”

Pérez said she has been writing poems of resistance ever since she first started writing as a Latina living in the U.S. “*With Trump coming around and seeing some little kids*



ABOVE: Emmy Perez, Dagoberto Glib and Dr. John Morán González

chanting, ‘Build the wall,’ I am becoming more overt in my responses, but this resistance has been going on for a long time,” Pérez said. “A lot of us are going to continue to be more overt in their writing, as poets.”

However, even when **Trump’s** mantras place Mexicans in a negative light, the panelists said they wanted to share their experiences in their writing, reminding readers that they are true Americans by reaching out to broader audiences.

“I don’t like it when people call me a regional writer because it feels like a backhanded compliment,” Pérez said. “My students want to write more universal stories, not just stories about the (Rio Grande) Valley. But these stories are universal because they have real emotions and we all have real emotions.”

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National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies Awards Luncheon March 24, 2017 in Irvine, California

On March 24th, 2017, **Dr. Emilio Zamora**, Professor at **The University of Texas at Austin** was honored in **Irvine, California** with the **Scholar of the Year** award from the **National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies**. **Dr. Angela Valenzuela**, also a Professor at **The University of Texas at Austin**, provided the introductory remarks at the event. Below are the transcripts of both addressess.

Dr. Angel Valenzuela speaking:

Emilio embodies everything you would want to see in a **NACCS Scholar**. He has been a prolific award-winning scholar with three single-author books, three co-edited anthologies, a co-author of a high school history textbook and another on the way, the editor and translator of a WWI diary, and an E-book with the **Texas State Historical Association (TSHA)**.

Emilio has received seven best-book awards, having received all the possible book awards in **Texas** in Mexican American and **Texas** history.

Emilio just received **La Estrella de Tejas NACCS Tejas Foco Lifetime Achievement Award**. He is deeply involved in the **Austin** community—organizations and politics. **Emilio** is the chief content person for the co-constructed curriculum used in the **Austin AISD**-sponsored **Academia Cuauhtli**, a partnership-based, cultural and language

revitalization project that administers a Saturday academy at the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center (ESB-MACC)** in **Austin, Texas**. He is also a co-founder and member of the **Raza Roundtable**, the only community Latino forum in **Austin**, and a member of **Austin's Hispanic-Latino Quality of Life Advisory Commission** (he tried to get off it, but his colleagues begged him not to) and the **Mayor's Committee on Institutional Racism**. He has also served three terms on the Board of the **ESB-MACC**.

Emilio is currently a Professor of history at **The University of Texas at Austin** and holds the **George W. Littlefield Professorship** in American history. He is a member of the Board of the **TSHA** and is serving as the second Vice-President of the organization (in line to become the President of **TSHA** in two years). **Emilio** is a lifetime **Fellow** in **TSHA** and a lifetime member of the **Texas Institute of Letters**.

Emilio has been a member of **NACCS** since its formation and is currently active with the K-12 Committee of the **Tejas NACCS Foco**. He has also been active in policies and

politics associated with the **Texas Legislature** and the **Texas State Board of Education**.

Emilio is also a person of great faith and of great love of his children, grandson, and most especially his really amazing, life-long partner...ME!

I'll borrow from **Martha Cotera** who unfortunately could not be with us and who sends her regards to all; she says that ours is a love that has survived marriage.

In all seriousness, I admire Emilio greatly for his love of community and for modeling precisely how one moves effortlessly and seamlessly as a scholar from theory to action and back. That is, his advocacy is not that of a parachutist or lone wolf that presents itself in an episodic, calculating way. Rather it is substantive with a deep, ongoing level of engagement as a trusted, beloved member of our community.



I often think of his way of living as epitomizing **Reverend Martin Luther King's** notion of the Beloved Community. This is a slow and patient process premised on deep, life-long relationships that enable effective action, big and small, in a way that fosters community development, presence, and voice through the affirming ethos of spiritual uplift that naturally results and evolves. The proverbial call in **Mexican American Studies** for "community engaged scholarship" is hardly an abstraction in **Dr. Zamora's** case, but rather a way of life.

Please join me in welcoming this year's recipient of the **NACCS Scholar Award!**



Dr. Emilio Zamora

The Mexican Fight for Ethnic Studies in Texas: The Biography of a Cause

by Emilio Zamora, Ph.D.

Thank you **Angela**. I also wish to thank everyone who made possible the award that the **National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies** is giving me today. I am honored and humbled because of what you think about my work.

In the short time that I have, I wish to talk about a recent and extraordinary victory that we won in **Texas**. The victory was the successful statewide effort by the K-12 Committee of the **NACCS Tejas Foco** that convinced the **Texas State Board of Education** to reject a technically flawed and culturally offensive textbook to teach **Mexican American Studies** in our majority-minority public school system. The victory was not limited to the rejection of the racist text and the symbolic value that it carries as an act of recovering, defending and affirming our knowledge.

We also demonstrated our ability to come together in the thousands and to affirm our ability and desire to promote social justice. We understand that the attempt to get a racist text adopted by the State Board may have sought to elicit such a response to gauge the ability of intellectuals to connect with our communities. It really doesn't matter that the opposition is watching us. What matters is that the strength in our organization and organizing fortifies us and prepares us for future fights.

I'll start by saying that victories in our business of creating knowledge and promoting a better world do not often receive enough attention. We should acknowledge the victories when they occur even if we only use the occasion to credit persons and organizations who contributed and to lift up dejected spirits. I want to talk about our victory for an added reason. I believe that **NACCS** is granting me the **Scholar Award** in large part because I participated in the **Reject the Text** campaign that produced the victory for us.

I also want to recognize that the effort involved thousands of people and that the victory—occurring as it did, soon after the announcement of the election of **President Donald Trump**—served as an important reminder that we can win and that we can rise up and above the significant challenges that we often face.

I also want to reiterate our special responsibility as socially committed persons who work and study at colleges and universities, a responsibility that is noted in our foundational **Plan de Santa Barbara** and that people like our esteemed **Professors Rodolfo Acuña** and **Juan Gómez-Quíñones** has for so long reminded us. We must remain bound to our communities, knowing that we can break through the academic strictures of language, method and conceptualizations when working with and on behalf of communities in struggle for dignity and equal rights.

Before I talk about this victory, however, I should note some the challenges that we face in **Texas**, including:

- The malicious anti-immigrant rhetoric, the unmerciful deportation raids and detention centers;
- An antiquated school finance system;
- Voucher proposals intending to weaken our public school system;
- Successful legislative initiatives to limit minority voting;
- Grinding poverty and persistent inequality;
- Embarrassingly poor Democratic Party leadership; and
- A form of Republican—mostly White—rule that takes as much pleasure in espousing conservative views as

in preempting and disrupting our cause for dignity and equal rights.

We also enjoy good and promising fortunes in **Texas**:

- We continue to grow demographically and our voter turn-out rates are increasing;
- Our political representation has improved;
- Mexican Americans have made significant inroads in the numbers of principals and superintendents in Texas school districts;
- Increasing numbers of Latinas/os are graduating from high schools, colleges and universities;
- The number of Mexican organizations and their collaborative ties have grown; and
- The **NACCS Tejas Foco** (Chapter) has assumed a major statewide leadership role in the area of educational reform.

In the last three years, the K-12 Committee of the **Texas NACCS Foco** has been involved in:

- The establishment of at least three new Chicana/o Studies programs in Texas colleges and universities;
- The adoption of Ethnic Studies in the curriculum in well over twenty-four school districts;

Continue on the next page

The Mexican Fight for Ethnic Studies in Texas: The Biography of a Cause

- The approval by the Austin ISD of a pipeline project in Ethnic Studies from the fifth grade to university studies;
- Two statewide Mexican American Studies summits and three annual conferences; and
- A legislative bill on Ethnic Studies.

I now turn to our special recent victory that speaks to one of NACCS's singular concerns, the mis-education, and under-education of our public school youth.

Our effort involved numerous organizations, the most of important of which was our NACCS Tejas Foco and its K-12 Committee. The allies included MALDEF, the Texas Freedom Network, the Mexican American School Board Association, the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education, LULAC, the American G.I. Forum and many more. At the heart of the cause were faculty, staff and students from Texas colleges and universities—like the community colleges of San Antonio, UTSA, UT-RGV, South Texas College, Austin Community College, UT Austin, the University of Houston (central and downtown), community colleges in Houston and the many other colleges and universities from throughout the state. Popular support also involved tens of thousands of signatures in an electronic petition, hundreds of participants in our rallies and press conferences, many letters of support from groups such as the leading Mexican American school superintendents from throughout the state, about 15 Mexican American legislators who spoke in our rallies and in the State Board hearings and approximately two-hundred students, faculty, teachers, parents and others who testified in our favor during two all-day hearings.

The story began last summer when we heard that Momentum Books had proposed to the Texas State Board of Education a textbook for adoption to teach Mexican American Studies in the state's public schools. We

suspected a problem when we discovered that the owner of the publishing house was **Ms. Cynthia Dunbar**, a former conservative member of the State Board, an Assistant Law Professor at **Jerry Falwell's Liberty University**, a recent **Trump** delegate to the **Republican Party Convention**, and a co-chair of **Senator Ted Cruz's** presidential campaign. The selection of the book's authors, **Jaime Riddle** and **Valarie Angle**, also raised concerns.

Riddle posted a bachelor's degree in psychology from **Duke University** and a master's in education from **Regent University**. **Riddle's** reported claim to fame was her selection as Amazon's Top 1000 reviewers in 2013. **Riddle** is known to have stated that she has focused on "exposing subtle anti-Western themes in popular children's literature," that have a "particular emphasis on socialist, anti-modern, and anti-American motifs" and "revisionist history."

Angle has a B.A. in early childhood education from the **University of Central Florida**, Master's in leadership studies from **Hollins University** and claims to be an education specialist. She has taught and served as an instructional coach, infant toddler development specialist, principal at a Christian academy and a wellness advocate. Like **Riddle**, **Angle** does not claim training and experience in Mexican-American studies.

Upon reading portions of an electronic copy of the book that the State Board had posted, we discovered that it was unabashedly and tauntingly racist in its depiction of our communities, and it was full of errors of facts, interpretation and omission. By the time that the K-12 Committee had met during its state education summit in **San Antonio**, we had decided that NACCS should review the book and recommend its rejection by the State Board. This was a daunting task given the highly involved process of thoroughly reviewing a book and the expected difficulty of

convincing a highly conservative State Board to reject it.

We had been busy working within our K-12 committee to build a statewide campaign to develop Mexican American curriculum, sponsor professional development workshops for teachers and building partnerships with local school districts. Many of us dreaded a repeat of early defeats when the State Board held its periodic hearings on reforming the standard curriculum and disregarded our critiques of the mis-representation and under-representation of Mexicans, Indigenous persons, Blacks and women. A group of us scholars in the NACCS Foco K-12 committee, nevertheless, accepted the challenge of demonstrating that the proposed text was fraught with historical errors and racist interpretations of Mexicans in history and contemporary society.

Our group came together as an advisory committee to Mr. **Ruben Cortez**, one of three Mexican American members of the State Board who also constituted the lone progressive bloc in a board of fifteen elected members. Expecting yet another dismissal of our concerns, our advisory committee conducted an initial review of the text. We found hundreds of factual, omission and interpretation errors. Three members of the review team—**Chris Carmona**, **Trinidad Gonzales** and myself—presented the findings during an October hearing. The other members of the committee included **Juan Carmona**, **Rogelio Saenz**, **Guadalupe San Miguel**, **Angela Valenzuela**, and **Aimee Villarreal**.

In accordance with established book adoption procedure, the publisher responded to our findings with a refusal to accept our findings and even offered new text with their own proposed revisions. I electronically convened a second group of thirty-six scholars who found well over four-

The Mexican Fight for Ethnic Studies in Texas: The Biography of a Cause



hundred new and uncorrected errors in the second round of reviews. **Carmona, Gonzalez** and I presented the second set of findings during the Board's November public hearing. Our review team reported 407 errors in a spreadsheet of 931 rows (see below for a copy of our second report to the State Board of Education).

The most egregious errors were claims that Mexicans were lazy and that we represent a political and cultural threat in U.S. history especially during the early years of our current social movement. An error that strained logic was that Communists in Latin America have caused natural disasters, attributing supernatural powers to a failed cause in Mexican American history. The most absurd and recurring statements were that the publisher was not bound to say anything about Mexican Americans and that we—the authorities on record—were mistaken in every instance that we pointed out a factual, interpretation or omission error.

The authors never appeared during the hearings to defend our critique as is typical in textbook adoption hearings, suggesting that they had not written the text, but that a ghost team of writers that were more familiar with Latin American and U.S. history prepared the disjointed narrative. The fact that the text only devoted approximately one-third of the text to Mexican Americans underscored this possibility. The Board eventually voted unanimously—15 to 0—to reject the text. This was unprecedented and extraordinary in large part because the majority of the conservative members of the State board exercised their responsibility to youth as an ongoing principle in the deliberations alongside with the smaller liberal group of three Mexican American members.

In hindsight, the victory was predictable. The numerous factual errors in the text and **Dunbar's** obstinate behavior made it almost impossible for the State Board to approve the text. The claims in the text that Mexicans were political

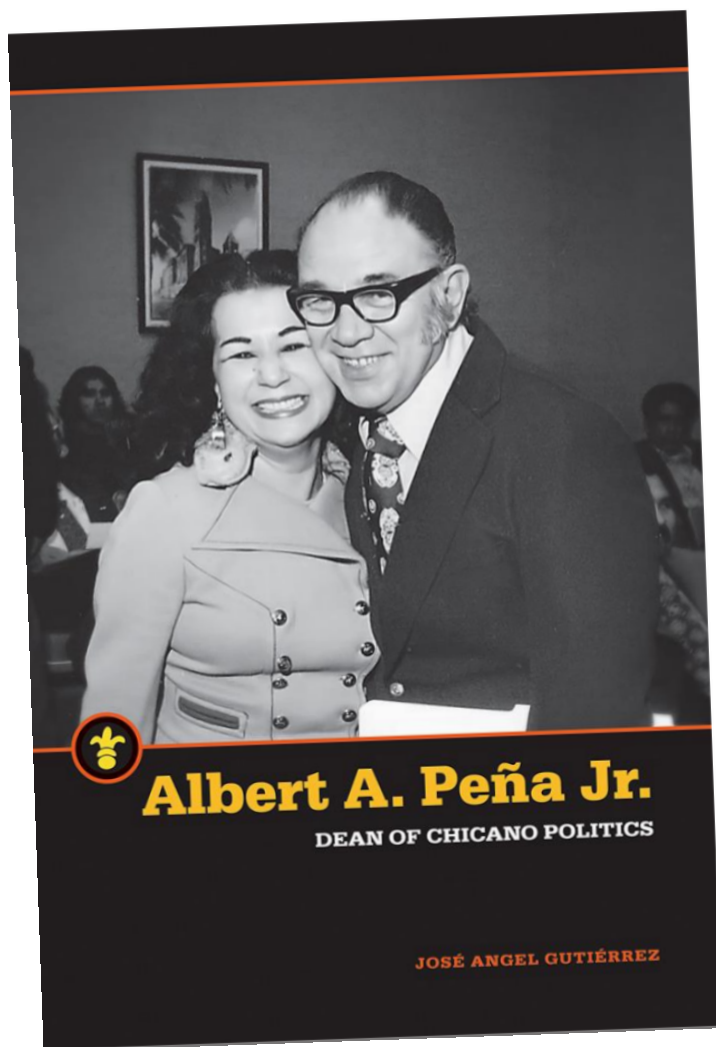
and cultural threats to U.S. society, that they were prone to being lazy, and subject to radical thought from a distant past in **Mexico** history made its adoption unacceptable. Added to this were our claims that a vote for the text was an approval of the racist characterizations in the text, as well as its wholesale dismissal of the vast literature on Mexican Americans produced since the early 1970s and a blatant disregard for the voice of the expert reviewers. In other words, we placed our University-granting authority on the line, we were the experts, they were not—and the State Board listened to our claim.

Also, our claims carried the moral weight of the large number of persons and organizations that supported our cause. It also helped that the **Texas Freedom Network** and **MALDEF** assisted the K-12 Committee to coordinate the effort and bring the necessary publicity to the **Reject the Text** campaign. Altogether, the campaign masterfully organized the support of leading community organizations and promoted the fight as a cause. It also struck a popular chord of deep concern regarding the negative representation of our communities in the public schools and a righteous sense of unity that accorded Mexican American scholars great respect as the guardians of historical knowledge and moral witnesses to truth.

Thank you for your attention. It has been an honor and a privilege to be a part of the "Reject the Text" campaign, and to now report to you on our extraordinary victory in Texas. We continue the fight for Ethnic Studies, curriculum and social justice pedagogy at state, local and district levels and celebrate our invigorating movement of which **NACCS** has been a part in otherwise bleak and challenging times.

Muchas Gracias.

New Books



Book Signing: “Albert A. Peña Jr., Dean of Chicano Politics,” by Jose Angel Gutiérrez

May 18 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Free

Special Guests: Albert A. Peña Jr. family members

The event will honor **Albert A. Peña Jr.**, Legendary Leader in Chicano Politics

FEATURED SPEAKER: **Jose Angel Gutiérrez**

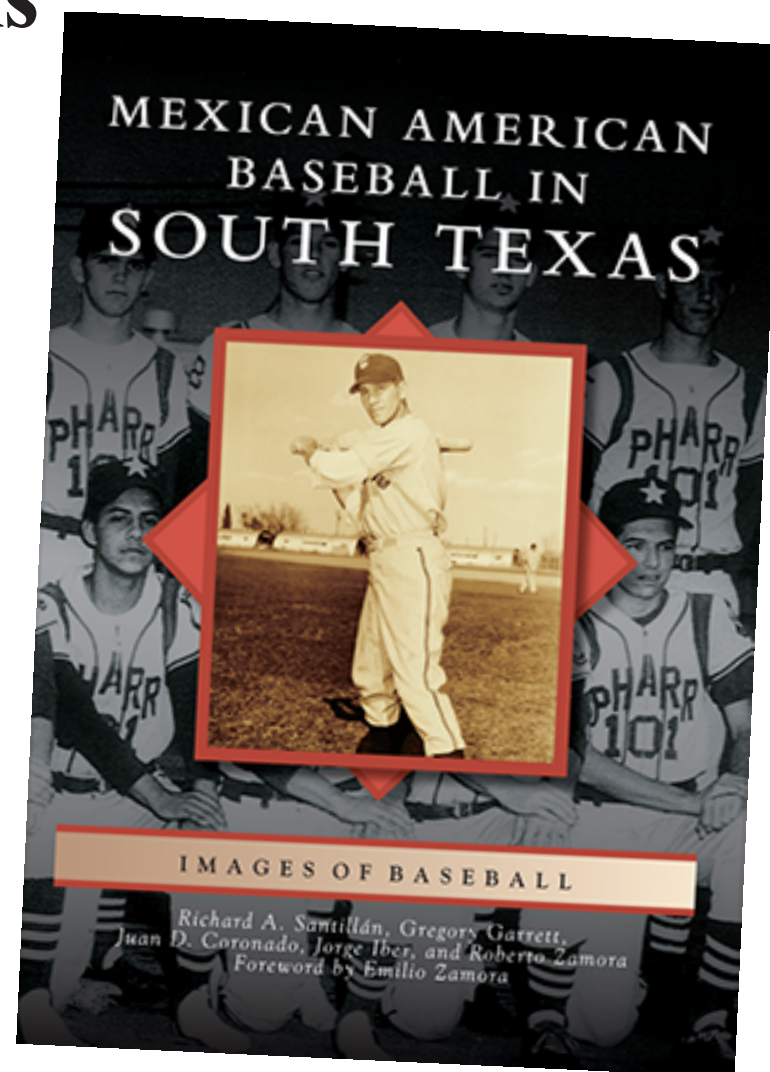
COMMENTS AND TESTIMONIALS:

Gabriel Quintero Velásquez, President, Avenida Guadalupe Association

Ignacio A. Pérez, Community Activist

Mario Compean, President/CEO, Academia América

Order your prepaid copy of the book Online now and pick it up at the event, Dr. Gutierrez will autograph it there. Shipping is not available. A portion of the book sale proceeds will benefit Academia America courtesy of **Dr. Gutierrez**



Mexican American Baseball in South Texas pays tribute to the former baseball teams and players from **Edinburg, McAllen, Mission, Pharr, Donna, Alamo, San Juan, Brownsville, Harlingen**, and other surrounding communities. From the late 19th century through the 1950s, baseball in **South Texas** provided opportunities for nurturing athletic and educational skills, reaffirming ethnic identity, promoting political self-determination, developing economic autonomy, and reshaping gender roles for women. Games were special times where Mexican Americans found refuge from backbreaking work and prejudice. These unmatched photographs and stories shed light on the rich history of baseball in this region of Texas.

ABOUT the Authors

Richard A. Santillán is professor emeritus of ethnic and women studies at **California State Polytechnic University, Pomona**. Coauthors are **Gregory Garrett**, educational specialist, **Institute of Texan Cultures, University of Texas, San Antonio**; **Juan D. Coronado**, postdoctoral scholar at the **Julián Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University**; **Jorge Iber**, associate dean of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and professor of history, **Texas Tech University**; and **Roberto Zamora**, assistant professor of organization and school leadership, **University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg**.

Awards *of* Excellence 2017

Established in 2009 by the MACC Advisory Board, this award recognizes remarkable Latinos for the highest artistic excellence they bring to the cultural arts of Austin.

Individuals or groups from any artistic discipline who have demonstrated distinguished service, leadership, dedication, outstanding performance and a lasting contribution in the arts will be honored.

Join us on Saturday, May 20 at 7pm to attend the awards ceremony--

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Senator Gonzalo Barrientos

Recipients

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Patronage

Hector Carmona Miranda
Emerging Artist

Edgar Yopez
Arts Educator

Tomas J. Salas
The Arts

Arturo Lomas Garza
Posthumous

Gloria Mata-Pennington
Lifetime Achievement

John Treviño, Jr.
October 18, 1938 – April 4, 2017

Richard Moya
August 14, 1932 – February 16, 2016

Alfonso Ramos
October 22, 1936 – October 4, 2016

Guadalupe Bertha Duarte Martínez
September 28, 1942 - October 27, 2016

Romeo Rodriguez, ARRIBA News and Culture
January 20, 1948 - March 31, 2017

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NALEO 34th Annual Conference to Host Nation's Largest Gathering of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials in Dallas, Texas

Three-day event will take place from June 22-24, 2017

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Washington, D.C. – In less than three months, the **National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO)** will hold the **NALEO 34th Annual Conference**, the nation's largest and most prestigious gathering of Latino elected and appointed officials, in Dallas, Texas from June 22-24, 2017. The three-day event will take place at the **Sheraton Dallas Hotel**.

The **NALEO Annual Conference** is a unique source of professional development specifically tailored for Latino elected and appointed officials. Sessions at the Conference are designed to enhance the governance skills of participants and deepen their understanding of critical policy issues in a cross-jurisdictional context.

Conference attendees will have an opportunity to engage our nation's top executive and legislative leaders during the event. Past participants have included former U.S. Presidents, U.S. Vice Presidents, Cabinet members, leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, presidential candidates and corporate and business leaders.

The **NALEO 34th Annual Conference** will take place at a critical time, with our nation's Latino public officials navigating a rapidly changing national political and policy environment. A broad range of pressing policy areas will be addressed during this year's sessions to ensure participants have the information they need to be effective leaders in this climate, including education (early childhood, K-12 accountability), health care, economic development, workforce and innovation, homelessness and family economic success. Plenary sessions will also focus on politics and the media, foreign policy and the changing federal landscape.

Additional conference sessions will address Latina leadership, the Latino LGBTQ community, budgetary challenges, millennials and rural America. Several mobile off-site tours will also allow participants to experience innovative policy solutions and best practices in the Dallas area.

The **NALEO 34th Annual Conference** is made possible through the generous support of our Presenting Sponsors, Force Multiplier Solutions and Toyota. For more information about the event, please visit our website or follow us on Facebook or Twitter. This event is open to media. Advance registration is required. Please contact **Amanda Bosquez** at abosquez@naleo.org or Paula Valle Castanon at pvalle@naleo.org to register.

About NALEO - The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the non-partisan leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,100 Latino elected and appointed officials.



Aguilar Named Woman of the Year



At the LULAC District VII convention on April 27th, 2017. **Isabel Lopez Aguilar** received the Women of the Year Award. **Lopez** stated, *"It was a complete surprise and also extremely humbling to receive the highest recognition a chapter can give to a peer. I would like to thank my LULAC brothers and sisters, my children, friends and my community for all the support they have given me throughout the years. GRACIAS al Distrito LULAC VII por otorgarme el reconocimiento de: Mujer del Año."* In the photo from left to right: **Frank Rodriguez, Cynthia Valadez, Sr. Isabel Lopez Aguilar, Jill Ramirez and Frank Ortega.**

Seguin Stories - Historias de Seguin

"The Presence of Hispanics in Seguin"

Documentary Production

The "Historias de Seguin" Documentary is nearly complete - over 60 interviews have been filmed - but the producers are looking for a few more photographs to help tell the stories of Hispanic people in Seguin through the years.

The project covers a variety of subjects including:

Education

Religion

Business

Politics/Social Change

Music

Arts and Culture

In order to finish this documentary, we still need newspaper clippings, photographs, posters, and any materials that can illustrate the following from the 1800s through the present day:

Hispanic Businesses in Seguin - including stores, restaurants, service businesses, and manufacturers. These include Hispanic-owned businesses and other businesses where Hispanics worked, or that were integral to the community. Everything from the Seguin Tamale Company to the corner barbershop...

Schools and school events - sports, recitals, talent shows, class photos, graduation

Church events - feast days, church organizations, weddings, first communion, baptisms, fundraisers, youth trips, celebrations of all kinds

Festivals - church festivals, Diez y Seis, fairs, etc.

Community events - parades, pageants, etc.

Mother's Day

Political/civic organizations - All community groups

Juan Seguin Pool

Seguin Musicians - at concerts, dances, album covers, posters, etc.

Dance halls

Family gatherings and family photos

Baseball teams

Personal photos that help show daily life in Seguin through the decades

If you or someone you know may have some materials, please contact:

Mr. Ramón Salazar (Munchie)
munchie1944@yahoo.com (830) 305-4260

Dr. Ana María González
agonzalez@tlu.edu (830) 372-6086

Ms. Denise Crettenden
deniseandleigh@hotmail.com (830) 372-1928

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/historiasdeseguin/>

All materials are needed by May 26, 2017.



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Calendar of Events

May 16th, 2017 - The **East Austin Community School Alliance** will meet in the library on Tuesday, May 16, 8:30 AM to 10 AM for our last meeting of the school year. For more information about the **East Austin Community School Alliance** or to request topics for the Agenda, please contact: **Blanca Herrera, LMSW**, Director, Family Resource Center at Martin Middle School: blanca.herrera@austinsisd.org/512-841-2802

May 18th, 2017 - **Albert Peña, Jr. Book Signing** at 1306 Guadalupe St. en San Antonio, Texas. The event starts at 7:00pm. The event will honor **Albert A. Peña Jr.**, Legendary Leader in Chicano Politics
FEATURED SPEAKER: **Jose Angel Gutiérrez**
COMMENTS AND TESTIMONIALS:
Gabriel Quintero Velásquez, President, Avenida Guadalupe Association
Ignacio A, Pérez, Community Activist
Mario Compean, President/CEO, Academia América

May 19th, 2017 - Know Your Rights Presentation for Immigrant and Refugee Community sponsored by Education Austin. Event to take place at Barbara Jordan Early College Prep, 6711 Johnny Morris Road, Austin, Texas 78724. For more information call (512) 472-1124

May 20th, 2017 - The **Center for Mexican American Studies** will host its Twenty-First Annual Graduation Ceremony and Reception in the Student Activity Center starting at 10:00am.

May 20th, 2017 - **Awards of Excellence** at the **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center**, 600 River Street, Austin, Texas. The event starts at 7:00pm. See page 15 for more information.

May 20th, 2017 - **LULAC Council 4217** presents La Reina de Mayfest in New Braunfels. See the back page in this issue for more information.

May 20th, 2017 - **TEXAS ALLIANCE OF LAND GRANT DESCENDANT’S CONFERENCE**
Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Place: Baptist Temple Church 901 E. Drexel Avenue San Antonio, TX 78210. Featuring.....Guest Speakers, summary on specific cases regarding land grant issues, and an opportunity for YOU to get involved! Trish Champion Public Information Officer TX Alliance of Land Grant Descendants www.rootsoftexas.com

May 23rd, 2017 - **Austin City Councilmember Delia Garza** will be holding a **DISTRICT 2 TOWN HALL** from 6:30 - 8:00 PM at American Youthworks ;ocated at 1901 E. Ben White Blvd Austin, TX 78741. The focus on CodeNEXT Mapping, City Budget, and Corridor Mobility Updates for Slaughter Lane and William Cannon Drive. Spanish interpretation available. Light snacks will be served. If you have any questions, please contact our District 2 Constituent Liaison at eric.oeur@austintexas.gov or 512-978-2102

May 24 -28, 2017 - **36th Annual Tejano Conjunto Festival** in **San Antonio, Texas**. Visit www.guadalupeculturalarts.org for more information. See page 7 for the complete line up for this year’s Tejano Conjunto Festival.

June 10th, 2017 - Organizing for the **NACCS Tejas Foco Second Summit** on Implementing Mexican American Studies Pre-K-12 in Texas Schools, Saturday, June 10, in **San Antonio, Tejas**. Save the date and spread the palabra. #mastxsummit2017. For more information contact **Juan Tejeda** on his Facebook page.

Word Power

En las palabras hay poder

No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of **La Voz**.

Nadie puede averiguar en el nombre de la educación que es mejor saber menos que saber más. Siendo bilingüe o trilingüe es parte de ser educado en el siglo 21. Esperamos traer cada mes a nuestros lectores de **La Voz** una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

Today	Hoy
Yesterday	Ayer
Tomorrow	Mañana
Some day	Algún día
Night	Noche
Day	Día
Time	Tiempo
Second	Segunda
Minute	Minuto
Hour	hora
Week	Semana
Month	Mes
Year	Año
Decade	Década
Century	Siglo



BETO and the FAIRLANES

plays Long Center's 2017 Concert Club Series

Contact Information:

Michael Mordecai 512-477-7777

Mike@fablerecords.biz

www.betoandthefairlanes.com

AUSTIN, TX – Austin original Beto and the Fairlanes takes the stage at the Long Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday, May 25th at 7:30pm, as part of its "Concert Club Series". Tickets are available now.

The Fairlanes are currently celebrating 40 years of performing the music of Robert "Beto" Skiles who started the band in the fall of 1976 as a result of KUT-FM listener demand following the broadcast of a test recording and site reading of his compositions in the then new Studio 1A.

Original Fairlanes and renowned horn players John Mills (Texas Horns) on tenor sax and Michael Mordecai (Elephant Room Monday Night Jam) on trombone along with original bassist Spencer Starnes (formerly of Asleep at the Wheel) will be joined by newer members Rich Haering (Airmen of Note) on trumpet, Jake Lampe on alto sax, Steve Summer (Kirk Whalum) on drums and Laura Mordecai (Javier Chaparro and Salu'd) on percussion. Guest conguero Hartt Stearn (One World Theatre) and guest guitarist Mitch Watkins (Leonard Cohen) will join the ranks along with special guest artists Tish Hinojosa, Javier Chaparro, Tee Double and original Fairlanes Tomas Ramirez (the infamous Jazzmanian Devil) and Steve Zirkel (Strings Attached).

This full moon concert is part of the band's "40th Anniversary" celebration featuring 40 performances under 40 moons.



LULAC COUNCIL 4217

PRESENTS



La Reina de MayFest

May 20, 2017



We proudly announce our second
"La Reina de MayFest"
pageant. All Latinas are welcome to
become part of this exciting new event!
If interested & for further information
to qualify as a contestant, please
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LULAC Council 4217 or email us at
lulac4217@yahoo.com
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www.lulaccouncil4217.com