Free Gratis



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People in the News



Dr. José Limón Joins the Notre Dame Faculty

José Limón, one of the country's foremost scholars of Latino literature has joined the Notre Dame Professor of American Literature.

Limón, who was a professor at UT Austin for more than 25 years, is the author of three major books in the field of Latino studies— American Encounters: Greater Mexico, the United States and the Erotics of Culture, Dancing with the Devil: Society and Cultural Poetics in Mexican-American South Texas, and Mexican Ballads, Chicano Poems: History and Influence in Mexican-American Social Poetry and more than 35 articles.

A Texas native, **Limón** holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy, a master's in English, and a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology, all from the **University of Texas at Austin**.

Of his journey northward Limón remarks, "When I was a little boy attending little Catholic schools in south Texas, my mother often said, 'Quiero que algún día vayas a Notre Dame,' [I want you someday to go to Notre Dame] even though she didn't have the slightest idea where it was except somewhere in 'el norte.' Well, I finally made it," he says. "I am honored to be joining such a stimulating and forwardlooking English department and the excellent Institute for Latino Studies at such a distinguished institution."



State Representative Carol Alvarado Steps Up Her Leadership

Carol Alvarado is a dangerous woman. When she walks into a room most people see a nice sweet young lady. She smiles, walks around the room and shakes hands with everyone. But behind all that pleasantness is a woman who undertstands power and politics.

Last month during the debate over a bill requiring women to view a sonogram before having an abortion, Alvarado stood before the Texas State Representatives and held up the probe that doctors would be using to perform the procedure. This sonogram procedure that this bill would require, is not the jelly on the belly procedure many of you think will be performed. This, 10 inche long device is what we are talking about. The major news media jumped on the drama and Alvarado was all over the news.

Alvarado got into politics early. She worked on many campaigns in the 1980s and in the early 1990s worked for U.S. Congressman Gene Green. In 2001, she ran for a spot on the Houston City Council and won. She served from 2002 to 2008 and then ran for the state representative seat Rick Noriega had left open to run for the senate.

Now in second term in the **Texas House**, **Alvarado** is showing she is not afraid to step forward and speak up. She is also showing that she knows how to get with regard to legislation.

Carol Alvarado is a native Houstonian and graduated from the **University of Houston** with a bachelors degree in 1992 in political science and a masters degree in business administration in 2008. Keep you eye on **Carol Alvarado**. She is someone we are going to hearing a lot more from and about in the coming years.

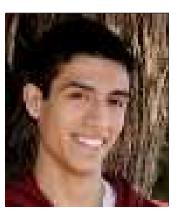


Conjunto Pioneer Layton Dies in Motorcycle Accident

Benigno "Benny" Layton, long time music educator and leader of the conjunto Los Hermanos Layton passed away on March 26, 2011 in a motorcycle accident in the Texas Hill County.

Layton, 60, taught music for a long time and was the President of the Edcouch-Elsa School District in the Rio Grande Valley. In 1990, he started one of the first conjunto music programs at the high school level in the United States and was invited to bring his students to the Smithsonian Institute's Folk Life Festival in 2000.

Benny Layton and his family started recording in 1957 and were well known in the Valley. Juan Tejeda, organizer of the *Tejano Conjunto Festival* in San Antonio, stated that Mr. Layton was going to be inducted this year into the Tejano Conjunto Hall of Fame during the annual festival in May.



Adam Garibay Named a Gates Millennium Finalist

Adam Garibay, a senior at Crockett High School, has been informed that he is a Gates Millennium Scholars finalist. The Gates Millennium Scholars program will select 1,000 talented students from across the United States to receive a good-throughgraduation scholarship, to use at any college or university of their choice.

Gates Millennium Scholars are provided with personal and professional development through its leadership programs, along with academic support throughout their college career.



Dr. Angela Valenzuela Receives 2011 AERA Award

Angela Valenzuela, a Professor in the School of Education at The University of Texas at Austin is the recipient of the 2011 American Educational Research Association Hispanic Research Issues SIG Research in Elementary, Secondary, or Postsecondary Award. She will receive this award on Saturday, April 9, 2011 at the Hispanic Significant Interest Group business meeting at AERA conference in New Orleans. This organization in the largest, most prestigious educational conference for education research in existence. This award is given to scholars that have produced outstanding research in the area of Latino/as and education.



Antonio Ambriz Garza Passes Away in San Antonio

Antonio "Tony" Ambriz Garza, age 73, of Poteet, passed away Sunday, March 27, 2011, in San Antonio. Tony has always loved music and was taught at an early age by his Uncle Adolpho Garza (Tio Fito) how to play a guitar. As time passed he taught himself the accordion. He started his own musical group which was known as Tony Garza Y su conjunto.

He later married and started his family and stopped playing but his passion for music was always with him. He later professed to his wife Barbara that when his children grew up they were going to be musicians. His dream started to be fulfilled when he began teaching his oldest son David Lee the accordion at the age of 11. Antonio decided to name the band after his son and it later became known as David Lee Garza y Los Musicales. His dream of playing with his sons was fulfilled for about 30 years when he decided to step off the stage and manage the band.

PRODUCTION

Editor & Publisher Alfredo Santos c/s

Managing Editors **Yleana Santos Kaitlyn Theiss**

> Graphics Juan Gallo

Distribution **Tom Herrera**

Contributing Writers Francisco Cepeda **Desaray Garza** Nereyda Vazquez **Franco Martinez**

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> Por cualquier pregunta, **llamanos**: 291-9060 944-4123

American workers got what they deserved

Holland, Michigan

Are you an American employee? If so, today's column will likely offend you. If you'd rather not be offended, read no further. If you continue and then complain, I'm sorry, but that simply proves you're, well, stupid. But then again, stupidity plays a large role in today's topic.

Still reading? OK. You've had fair warning.

So you're an American employee. Maybe you make car parts. Maybe you're an engineer or designer. Maybe you're an accountant, store clerk or tradesman. Whatever you do, you're probably stupid or lazy. Yes, I wrote it, and I mean it. You are either stupid or lazy. Maybe both.

Now, I'm not referring to your work ethic or job performance. No, most of you are competent and devoted to your profession or vocation. I'm addressing the way you view economics and employment. I'm challenging your gumption to advocate for yourself and your fellow Americans. Here's what I mean.

Remember the Reagan standard? Are you better off today than you were a decade ago? Two decades? Three?

Unless you make more than \$380,000 a year, the answer is no. In fact, your standard of living over the last quarter century has actually decreased while millionaires have added 30 percent to their net wealth. Why? Two reasons.

First, hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs went overseas while the politicians you elected did nothing to stop them. Yet you continue to elect leaders who offer nothing but tax cuts, as if that would stem the flow of disappearing jobs.

Did you demand your leaders address America's trade imbalance or continuous outsourcing of jobs? Did you demand your leaders require foreign countries to buy a dollar's worth of American goods for every dollar of goods they sell here?

No and no. You didn't bother. You simply crossed your fingers and prayed, "I hope my job's not next." You made concessions to your employer and hoped that would stem the exodus of jobs, or at least yours. How'd that work for you?

Second, you bought into the myth that unions are the cause of America's demise. You didn't bother to learn America became a world power when union

-LIGHT CARPENTRY

membership was at its peak. You didn't bother to learn America became the envy of the world while 1 of every 3 Americans was a union member.

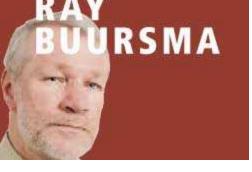
So, how are things going for you? How do your benefits compare to a quarter century ago? Are you paying a higher or lower percentage of your income for health insurance? Does your company offer a pension plan, or do you now fund your own 401(k)?

Maybe you're thinking, "I'm not a union worker, so this doesn't affect me."

Stop being stupid. Union benefits provide a standard other companies have to match, or at least come close to. When those benefits are cut, yours are, too. Or do you think you operate in vour own little employment vacuum?

To make matters worse, you're again being played for a chump. The same puppets who did nothing while your standard of living decreased are now using the oldest gimmick in the book - jealousy - to continue their assault on American workers. Rather than protect Americans' jobs, they deflect your attention





through jealousy.

"Cut the pay of government workers," they cry. "Increase their health premiums. Decrease their pensions. Break their unions. After all, you've suffered so they should suffer too." And in your misery, you buy their argument while more jobs head oversees. Pretty stupid, eh?

If their antics weren't so pathetic, if the consequences weren't so dire, if they didn't prey on your stupidity, and if you didn't buy into their convoluted reasoning, this whole situation would be laughable. But of course it's not.

warned you I'd likely offend you, and I suspect I did. But once you overcome your anger, consider my analysis. Then, either wise up and do something about it, or resign yourself to a lower standard of living for the next decade.

This article first appeared in the Holland Sentinel in Holland, Michigan and went viral within a week with 100,000 plus hits.

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Virginia Raymond

info@texasafterviolence.org

Latino Community Awards Deadline is April 4th, 2011

The Austin School District invites the community to submit award nominations for citizens and organizations supportive of Latino students or services that enhance the academic achievement of Latino students.

Three Latino Community Awards will be presented in conjunction with the District's Latino Academic Achievement Awards event honoring outstanding students. The Community Awards are:

Latino Community Service Award: Any *individual*, not currently an Austin ISD staff member, *Latino or not*, who has provided public and civil service to benefit Latino students and/or families in public education in the greater Austin area for a minimum of *two consecutive* years.

Latino Excellence in Advocacy Award: Any organization, Latino or not, which has provided outstanding support in advancing Latino academic achievement and promoting educational outcomes in the greater Austin area for a minimum of *two consecutive years*.

Latino Parent Volunteer Award: Any *individual* of *Latino origin* and parent of a current Austin ISD student, who has volunteered a significant amount of service in a school-specific or district-wide capacity for a minimum of *two consecutive years*.

Nominations can be submitted at <u>http://tinyurl.com/</u> <u>laacommunity</u>. The deadline for nominations is 8 a.m. on Monday, April 4. Individuals with questions may contact **Evangelina Orozco** with AISD's Department of English Language Learners at 414-6427.

The Latino Academic Achievement Awards ceremony will be held at 2 p.m., on Saturday, May 14, at the LBJ School of Public Affairs Auditorium, University of Texas

443-8800

Treviño Launches New Website

A click on Latinopia's

Art section will take the

visitor to video profiles

of Chicano, Puerto

Rican and Cuban

painters and muralists

such as Gilbert "Magu"

López, César Martínez,

Rupert García, José

artists,

Ester

Frank

Yolanda

American

Hernández,

Lujan,

Romero,

Music, recipes, poetry, art, cinema, theater and history make up the rich cornucopia of Latino culture showcased on www.Latinopia.com launched on March 19, 2011.

The brainchild of veteran Los Angeles television director and documentary filmmaker Jesús Salvador Trevino, the video-driven

website is designed as a one-stop web destination for all things Latino.

"As U.S. Latinos enter the digital age, we need a website that can offer videos about all aspects of our history culture and life," explains **Jesús Trevino**, whose television credits include programs like Law and Order-Criminal Intent, The Unit, Criminal Minds and Resurrection Blvd and who shot and edited much of the video footage on Latinopia.com.

"We're starting with five-minute videos in seven subject areas—interviews, music performances, short films, theater plays and authors reading from their works,"**Trevino** explains. "We are excited that top Latino writers, artists and musicians from around the U.S. have seen the value of Latinopia.com and are enthusiastically sharing their time, stories and creativity."



Jesús Salvador Treviño

Montoya, Gronk, Judy Baca, Carmen Lomas Garza, Zarco Guerrero as well as print interviews and special features.

The Literature section features a timeline on the emergence of Chicano, Puerto Rican and Cuban-American literature in the United States in addition to listings of Latino books. Video interviews include such important Latino writers such as Rudolfo Anaya, Pat Mora, Dagoberto Gilb, Judith Ortíz Cofer, Alberto Rios, Denise Chavez and Luis J. Rodríguez. Dramatic reenactments and additional footage bring their works to life.

The website's **Theater** section includes video interviews with Chicano, Puerto Rican and Cuban American playwrights, actors and stage directors and groups like **Culture Clash** as well as excerpts from plays written performed and directed by Latinos in **New York, Los Angeles, San Antonio, Chicago, Miami,**

443-8800

Los Angeles and **San Francisco**; among them *Crystal City* 1969, *Gaytino*, *Regeneración*, and *The Silver Dollar*.

Interviews with leading Chicano, Puerto Rican and Cuban musicians are an attraction in the **Music** section: Los Lobos, Little Joe and La Familia, Flaco Jimenez all discuss their art. There are also performances by such groups as Mitote, Los Pochos, La Santa Cecilia, and Olmeca.

In Cinema and Television many of the nation's leading Latino actresses and actors discuss their work and making their way in Hollywood: Hector Elizondo, Lupe Ontiveros, Jimmy Smits, Edward James Olmos, America Ferrera, Evelina Fernandez and are among those to be featured. Behind the camera talent will also be featured such as writer/ producer Dennis Leoni (*Resurrection Blvd*), Director of Photography Rey Villalobos (*Nine to Five, Urban Cowboy*) and Director Leon Ichaso (*El Cantante*).

A visit to the **History** page will reveal videos of important historical events in Chicano and Latino life along with event timelines, biographies and documents. It includes profiles of important Chicano, Puerto Rican and Cuban American leaders and historical figures such as **Jose Marti, Cesar Chavez** and **Dolores Huerta.**

Latinopia Food offers Latinopia's recommendations on the best places in major cities in the United States to eat Mexican and Latino food along with "how-to" videos on making great Mexican food enchiladas, guacamole, Spanish rice, salsa— as well as Puerto Rican and Cuban American cuisine.

> "We are launching modestly with a few dozen videos," **Jesús Treviño** explains, "but we add new videos each week and will grow the site into more than hundred videos by the end of the first year. Seeing is believing. Check us out at www.Latinopia.com "

Si no cabe en su casa, hay espacio en la nuestra



Get the second month free

If it doesn't fit in your house, there is more space in ours

1905 East William Cannon Dr. Austin, Texas 78744

URBAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE OVER HALF A MILLION DOLLARS TO BE AWARDED FOR THE 2011/2012 SCHOOL YEAR TO TEXAS STUDENTS

DALLAS, TX – In light of the anticipated educational budget cuts severely limiting the availability of financial aid to those in need, The **Texas Association of Developing Colleges** (TADC) has announced it will administer more than \$500,000 in scholarship funds to eligible Texas students as they matriculate to higher education.

The TADC Urban Scholarship Fund is a need-based financial aid program. Awardees may attend any school located in the United States. Selections are based on a lottery system of eligible applicants who are **Texas** residents, U.S. citizens; full-time undergrad students who demonstrate financial need by an Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) up to but not exceeding 0050 on the Student Aid Report (SAR). Eligible applicants must have graduated from a high school in one of the eligible cities. With the completion of the 2010 U. S. Census, additional eligible cities have been added increasing the previous number of cities from 19 to 29.

Eligible applicants who graduated from high schools in the following 29 Texas cities can apply: Abilene, Amarillo, Arlington, Austin, Beaumont, Brownsville, Carrollton, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Fort Worth, Frisco, Garland, Grand Prairie, Houston, Irving, Killeen, Laredo, Lubbock, McAllen, McKinney, Mesquite, Midland, Pasadena, Plano, San Antonio, Waco or Wichita Falls.

The Urban Scholarship Fund was created in 1995 when Texas State Representative Yvonne Davis attached an amendment to House Bill 2128, the omnibus telecom bill, creating a pool of funds derived from unclaimed telephone service deposits. The 2011/2012 Urban Scholarship Fund represents funds deposited by AT&T and Verizon Wireless to be distributed to eligible applicants. Selected students attending community colleges, technical colleges and other 2-year non-profit institutions will be eligible to receive \$700, public four-year college and university award recipients will be eligible to receive \$1,000 and private four-year college and university students will be eligible for \$2,000.

Eligible applicants are requested to complete the on-line application at <u>www.txadc.org</u> and follow the submission requirements. They can also contact their high school guidance counselor, college financial aid officer or call the **Texas Association of Developing Colleges** at 214.630.2511. The postmark deadline for all applications is July 15, 2011.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Hawkins (214.630.2511)





2010 Census Facts about the Hispanic Population

According to the Census Bureau, the total population of the United States in 2010 was 308,754,538.

From 2000 to 2010 the Hispanic population in the United States grew from 35,305,818 to 50,477,594.

One in 6 Americans are of Hispanic descent.

About 75% of Hispanics live in the nine states that have long-standing Hispanic populations — Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York and Texas.

New Mexico has the largest percentage of Hispanic residents at 46.3%

The Hispanic population more than doubled in Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, South Carolina and North Carolina.

In Texas, the Census Bureau counted 25,145,561 total residents.

The number of minorities in Texas came in at 13,748,236, thus making Texas a majority minority state.

In Harris County, the number of Hispanics surpassed the one million mark with 1,671,360 residents or 40%

In Travis County the 2010 Census shows the Hispanic population at:

The 2010 Census shows the Hispanic population in the cityof Austin, Texas at:

308,754,538

50,477,594

46.3%

2x

25,145,561

13,748,236

1,671,360

343,129

277,707

New Book *The Tejano Diaspora* Notre Dame Professor Examines the

Crystal City, Texas Connection to Chicano Activism in Wisconsin

Each spring during the 1960s and 1970s, a quarter million farm workers left Texas to travel across the nation, from the Midwest to **California**, to harvest America's agricultural products. During this migration of people, labor, and ideas, Tejanos established settlements in nearly all the places they traveled to for work, influencing concepts of Mexican Americanism in **Texas, California, Wisconsin, Michigan**, and elsewhere. In The Tejano Diaspora, **Marc Simon Rodriguez** examines how Chicano political and social movements developed at both ends of the migratory labor network that flowed between **Crystal City, Texas,** and **Wisconsin** during this period.

Rodriguez argues that translocal Mexican American activism gained ground as young people, activists, and politicians united across the migrant stream. **Crystal City,** well known as a flash point of 1960s-era Mexican Americanism, was a classic migrant sending community, with over 80 percent of the population migrating each year in pursuit of farm work. Wisconsin, which had a long tradition of progressive labor politics, provided a testing ground for activism and ideas for young movement leaders. By providing a view of the Chicano movement beyond the Southwest, **Rodriguez** reveals an emergent ethnic identity, discovers an overlooked youth movement, and interrogates the meanings of American citizenship

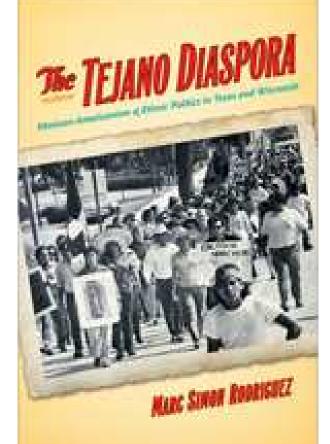
About the Author

Marc Simon -Concurrent Assistant Professor of Law Fellow of the Institute for Latino Studies

Field

United States History, Latino/a History, Legal History

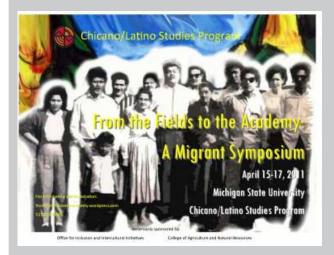
Profile





Working within the fields of Mexican American and American legal history, **Marc Rodriguez** focuses on the relationship between migration, ethnicity, youth politics, state reform, and labor after 1945. **Rodriguez** came to the University of Notre Dame in 2003 after spending the 2003-04 academic year as The Bill & Rita Clements Research Fellow for the Study of Southwestern America at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. Before this, Rodriguez was an assistant professor in the Department of History at Princeton University where he also held the post of Executive Secretary of the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies. He most recently completed two edited volumes dealing with international and North American migration in comparative context. In 2007, Rodriguez received a Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Rodriguez holds a M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Northwestern University (2000) and a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School (2001).

Michigan State University to Hold Migrant Farm Worker Symposium



The Chicano/Latino Studies Program at Michigan State University together with several partners is sponsoring a symposium from April 15 to the 17, 2011 titled <u>From the Fields to the Academy</u>. This 3 day event will highlight the journey of former farm workers who found their way into higher education and went on to earn doctoral degrees in a variety of academic fields.

The symposium was an original idea from ChicanoLatino Studies doctoral candidate Juan Vasquez. Juan, who is originally from Austin, Texas started doing an assignment on migrants and found that many people who were in the academy were originally migrant workers. He saw a need to collect the stories of these scholars and professionals.

He brought this vision to the **Chicano/Latino Studies** office where he was working as a graduate assistant and found support and funding for his idea. Together with the **CLS Director, Dr. Sheila Contreras, Juan** developed a planning committee, worked on a grant and pounded out a schedule.

The goal of the symposium is to record the stories of former migrant farm workers, provide a venue for current students to see how this group of individual overcame their hardships to become professionals, and create a space to dialogue. The conference will be held at Michigan State University, at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, Michigan 48824. For more information visit the website: http:// fromthefieldstotheacademy.wordpress.com/ or call: (517) 353-8685

Adriana Garza: Living Her Dream

by Yleana E. Santos

Adriana Garza is woman who followed her dream and is now working as an actress, director and producer in Los Angeles, California. While in Austin during South by Southwest, she shared her story of how a telephone call landed her an appointment with comedian Paul Rodriguez, which ultimately led to the job that provided her with the opportunities she need to eventually her own production company.

Adriana was born to Mexican parents in Brownsville, Texas. As a result her childhood consisted of traveling between Mexico and the United States, making her fluent in both languages. Her ballerina mother, Mercedes Cortazar, put Adriana in dance classes at the age of three and theater at the age of ten. She studied with Bellas Artes ballerinas Laura Urdapilleta and Ingriberd Hoiser and performed in several musicals at the University of Texas - El Paso. Pageants also became a part of her life, and she went on to be crowned Miss Teen Expo Spokesmodel 93' in her hometown of El Paso, Texas.



But Adriana was looking for something else. She decided to leave El Paso and headed South

to **Mexico City** to study Fine Arts at **Televisa's Conceptos**, helmed by **Producer Luis de Llano**. While she was there she appeared in her television debut in **Agujetas de Color de Rosa**. In 1996 she was still searching and made the move to **Los Angeles** to study at The **American Academy of Dramatic Arts**.

Since moving to Los Angeles Adriana has appeared in four episodes of Placas on Spanish network Telemundo, in the Univision TV film Mi Barrio alongside Ugly Betty'sTony Plana, and in several national commercials for Dodge, Burger King, Bank of America, and Reddi Wip to name a few. Ten years after arriving in Hollywood. Adriana conceived, directed, produced, and performed in a monologue play entitled <u>"The Art of Being"</u>. This led her to being awarded the 2006 Toyota Moving Forward Award in conjunction with the Glamour Magazine's 2006 Women of the Year Awards. She won from over 2,500 women nationwide and was the first Latina to win the honor.

Adriana followed "The Art of Being" with her second production under Adriana Garza Productions, a short film titled <u>"The Experimental Witch"</u>, which she adapted, produced, and starred in. The short film was for world-renowned author of The Alchemist Paulo Coelho's film competition and based on his novel The Witch of Portobello. On August 24, 2008 her film was announced the winner of The Experimental Witch International Film Competition which received over 6000 entries in fifteen categories. As the winner her short became part of the final movie which Paulo Coelho produced using the film competition's winning shorts. The film had its world premiere at the 2009 Rome Film Festival in October.

Adriana is currently in pre-production for <u>"Bearing Fruit"</u>, which will mark her third production under her company's name and her first feature length film. During our interview she shared that filming would take place in San Antonio, Wimberley ,and Austin. Adriana hopes to cast local actors in the film and to have the casting completed by the end of April. La Voz de Austin will be following the production and progress of this project over the several months.

Festival Latino de Nuevas Obras Teatrales en Austin Austin Latino New Play Festival

in collaboration with the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center and ScriptWorks

April 21-23 8 pm • Admission is free • Reservations Suggested

Thursday, April 21 Lightning Strikes by Erica Saenz Friday, April 22 Mariachi Girl by Roxanne Schroeder-Arce Saturday, April 23 Dos Pocitos by Raul Garza

These workshop-style presentations are lively readings with props and movement on stage, riding the fence between staged reading and full-out production. After each production the playwright and audience will participate in moderated talk-back sessions so attendees can provide feedback to the playwrights. Though the productions have Latino roots, they explore cross-cultural age-old themes and modern dilemmas that will surprise, challenge, engage and push the dramatic envelope for audience members accustomed to one-way conversations at the theater





The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and City of Austin are studying a proposed Urban Rail system to improve mobility, promote investment, and enhance connections to Central Austin destinations and the regional transit system.



Photo: Michael Knox

Your input is important.

FTA and City of Austin Public Scoping Meetings

April 4, 2011 • 2–5 pm Austin Convention Center 500 E. Cesar Chavez April 6, 2011 • 5-8 pm SEDL @ Mueller 4700 Mueller Boulevard

City of Austin Urban Rail Open House Meetings

April 7, 2011 • 11am–2 pm • AT&T Center @ UT 1900 University Avenue April 7, 2011 • 5-8 pm • Carver Museum 1165 Angelina Street April 9, 2011 • 11am-2 pm • Ruiz Branch Library 1600 Grove Boulevard

You can submit written comments at public meetings, or by mail to Urban Rail Project, Austin Transportation Department, P.O. Box 1088, Austin TX 78767, or online at AustinUrbanRail.com.

Comments after public meetings must be postmarked on or before **April 29, 2011** to be included in the public record.



Learn more at AustinUrbanRail.com

Information line 512-974-2503

ASMP





PROPOSED RAIL PROJECT

- 15.3-mile streetcar system
- mostly dedicated-running
- 700 foot extension of Red Line to Brazos

2 OVERLAPPING ROUTES:

- Seaholm-Mueller: 6.7 miles (10 minute headways)
- ABIA-UT: 9.9 miles (10 minute headways)



As we plan for the future of **Austin, Texas**, I ask that you consider what an Urban Rail system might mean for the city. We are interested in hearing what you have to say about your mobility concerns. Please note the dates and times of the upcoming meetings on this issue. **Mike Martinez**

Finalists for ACC President to Participate in College and Community Forums

ACC hosts three finalists April 4-6

AUSTIN, Texas (March 30, 2011) – The Austin Community College District will host the three finalists for the position of college president/CEO April 4-6. The finalists will visit the college individually, taking part in internal forums (for faculty, staff, and students) and community forums. The Board of Trustees named the finalists in early March. In alphabetical order, they are:

Dr. Donald Doucette – Ivy Tech Community College (Indianapolis, Indiana), Senior Vice President and Provost

Dr. Katherine Persson – Lone Star College System (The Woodlands, Texas), LSC-Kingwood President Dr. Richard Rhodes – El Paso Community College (El Paso, Texas), President

The forums open to the community will be at the following times.

Monday, April 4 Dr. Katherine Persson11:30am to 1:00pmTuesday, April 5Dr. Donald Doucette11:30am to 1:00pmWednesday, April 6Dr. Richard Rhodes11:30am to 1:00pm

The forums will be at Eastview Campus (3401 Webberville Rd., Room 8500)

The college launched a nationwide search for a new president last summer, when Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow announced his plans to retire in 2011 after 34 years of service to the college, including six years as president. The Board of Trustees is expected to announce the new president in May, and an official start date will be determined following the selection.

Trenes Urbanos ¿Qué opina usted?



La Agencia Federal de Transporte (FTA) y la Ciudad de Austin están estudiando un sistema de Trenes Urbanos para mejorar la movilidad, estimular inversiones y realzar las conexiones hacia el centro de Austin y al sistema regional de transporte. **Su aporte y opinión son importantes.**

FTA y la Ciudad de Austin organizan varias reuniones públicas de alcance (Scoping Meetings)

4 de abril, 2011 • 2–5 pm • Austin Convention Center (Centro de Convenciones de Austin) 500 E. Cesar Chavez

6 de abril, 2011 • 5-8 pm • SEDL @ Mueller 4700 Mueller Boulevard

Reuniones públicas de la Ciudad de Austin referente a los Trenes Urbanos (Open Houses)

7 de abril, 2011 • 11am-2 pm • AT&T Center (Centro AT&T) @ UT 1900 University Avenue
7 de abril, 2011 • 5-8 pm • Carver Museum (Museo Carver) 1165 Angelina Street
9 de abril, 2011 • 11am-2 pm • Ruiz Branch Library (Biblioteca Ruiz) 1600 Grove Blvd.

Usted puede entregar sus comentarios escritos asistiendo a las reuniones públicas o enviarlos por correo a Urban Rail Project, Austin Transportation Department, P.O. Box 1088, Austin TX 78767 o en el portal AustinUrbanRail.com. Comentarios enviados después de las reuniones públicas deberán de ser sellados por el correo a no mas tardar el **29 de abril del 2011** para así ser incluidos en el expediente público.



Para mas información visite el portal AustinUrbanRail.com Línea Informativa 512-974-2503



The Green Flag Republic



The Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin and the Bexareno Genealogy Society of San Antonio invites you to the 5th annual reenactment of the reading of the First Texas Declaration of Independence proclaimed by Jose Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara on April 6, 1813. This event will take place at the Spanish Governors Palace 105 Plaza de Armas in downtown San Antonio Sunday April 10th from 2-5 PM.

Recently the State Board of Education approved adding the "Battle of Medina," the biggest and bloodiest battle ever fought on Texas soil, as part of the 7th grade social studies curriculum. Author Dan Arellano, whose testimony was adopted by the SBOE, will be speaking along with US Army Major General Alfred Valenzuela (retired), past President of the Texas Historical Society Robert Thonhoff, and Texas History Professor from Sam Houston State University Dr Carolina Castillo Crimm; also Joey Cardenas Texas LULAC Director with Master of Ceremony Maclovio Perez.

On April 1st 1813 flying the **Emerald Green Flag of Freedom**, the 7th flag of **Texas**, **Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara** and the **Republican Army of the North** captured **San Antonio** and by April 6th Texas had it's first written Declaration of Independence. As **Leonidas** and his 300 Spartans stood and fought to the last man at **Thermopylae** so too did our Tejano ancestors at the Battle of Medina." This event brings a historic and a



renewed sense of pride to our Tejano community with a story that belongs to them, their families, their history and their hearts.

The event is free, bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an afternoon of Tejano History. For more information contact: **Dan Arellano**, President **Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin** darellano@austin.rr.com www.tejanoroots.org 512-826-7569



RIVER CITY YOUTH FOUNDATION 13th ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT IN **DOVE SPRINGS**

More than 1,000 children in southeast Austin will celebrate the holidays at the 13th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at River City Youth Foundation. This is one of the largest free community events held annually in Dove Springs. Children will participate in activities such as a golden egg hunt, educational game booths, and photos with the Easter Bunny. River City Youth Foundation is looking for volunteers and sponsors to help with egg baskets, games, and event decorations. To show your support or to get more information, email PR@RiverCityYouth.org or visit www.RiverCityYouth.org.

NEW WEBSITE HIGHLIGHTS **OPPORTUNITIES IN** SOUTHEAST AUSTIN

It's an area of town cited as one of the fastest-growing communities of Austin with the largest populated zip codes and a burgeoning Hispanic population. But only three out of 10 Austinites when surveyed are familiar with the southeast side or have ever visited the area. A new bi-weekly web magazine is hoping to reverse this trend.

AustinSouthEast.com will debut in April to give readers a snapshot of one of the most diverse areas in the city and provide ways to get more involved in helping the community. The magazine will feature the everyday faces of Southeast Austin residents and leaders who are working to increase education, health, technology, and business capacity in an area that is home to 85,000+ people.

AustinSouthEast.com is founded by Oné Musel-Gilley, a local marketing/PR strategist and social entrepreneur who's been volunteering in southeast Austin for 15 years. She is the marketing/PR ambassador of River City Youth



Foundation, a 27-year old award-winning organization based in southeast Austin's Dove Springs, founded by her mother, Mona Gonzalez, another longtime community champion. Together they've worked through the years to help thousands of youth and families in southeast Austin get an education, learn workforce skills, and improve their community. "Southeast Austin has its challenges, but there are great pockets of opportunity," said Musel-Gilley.

"I felt it was time to start increasing awareness with a different set of tools and strategies to help draw the needed resources and help for the area." Musel-Gilley is also the co-producer of FeriaParaAprender.com, the nation's largest Spanish language educational event which started in Austin five years ago by CommuniCard and has expanded nationally. For more information or to send news, email communitynews@austinsoutheast.com Be sure to check out the new AustinSouthEast.com in early April!

Rep. Luis Gutierrez taking **DREAM Act on the road to** Austin, Texas

Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.) will be in Austin, Texas at Cristo Rey Catholic Church 2208 East 2nd Street on April 9th, 2011 at 6:00 to discuss current immigration issues including the Dream Act which would provide a pathway to citizenship for young people. Among the sponsors of this event are: LULAC District VII, Proyecto Defensal Laboral, Iglesia Cristo Rey, Immigrant Rights Coalition, UT Social Justice Institute, Center for Mexican American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin and the Latin American Studies Program at UT. For more information please contact Emilio Zamora at (512) 739-0168



1st Annual Fiesta Akins Celebrating the Akins Latino Community Friday May 6, 2011 6-8:00pm Akins High School (courtyard) 10701 South 1st Street Free Admission! Live Performances By Paredes Middle School's Ballet Folklorico & Escolta Group

Perez Elementary School's Ballet Folklorico

...and many more!

Special Guest Speaker

Susana Almanza Co-Founder of PODER

Traditional Latino Foods. Games and Prizes.

Along with a Student Showcase Performance!

The Office of Police Monitor

by Louis Gonzales

The OPM was created and developed to promote mutual respect between the **Austin Police Department** (APD) and the community it serves.

Through our outreach efforts, we will educate the community and law enforcement to promote the highest degree of mutual respect between police officers and the public. By engaging in honest dialogue over issues and incidents that impact the community and law enforcement, the **Office of the Police Monitor** will enhance public confidence, trust, and support in the fairness and integrity of the Austin Police Department.

The OPM is the vehicle for citizens to voice and file complaints against APD officers. The OPM will:

- Assess citizens complaints
- Monitor Internal Affairs investigation
- Make recommendations on policy, procedures & discipline
- Monitor APD policies and practices
- Publish reports (6-months & annual)
- Conduct community outreach programs and educational forums

* The OPM is an independent City of Austin administrative office that works exclusively with APD as opposed to any other Travis County or State of Texas law enforcement agency. The OPM is **not** a part of APD, the OPM and the complaint process is restricted from providing any legal services and consultations regarding any traffic tickets, citations, lawsuits, and or criminal proceedings. The OPM deals exclusively with cases related to alleged violations of APD departmental policy.

Mail: P.O. Box 1088 Email: police.monitor@ci.austin.tx.us Ph: (512)974-9090 Fax: (512)974-6306

Office of the Police Monitor 1520 Rutherford Lane Bldg. 1, Ste 2.200A Austin, TX 78767

* The OPM also provides bilingual services as well as compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



Shame In A Name: Why It Was Embarrassing To Speak Spanish

"Franciiiscoooo, eh,?" That was the way my former roommate pronounced my birth name with just enough mockery and disdain to let me know there was something wrong with it. "Uh, no. Call me 'Frank," I proudly corrected him at the time. Whew! I thought to myself, glad I cleared that up! I remember this incident, which took place over 12 years ago, because at the time I believed that speaking Spanish and pronouncing Spanish words correctly was embarrassing.

During my elementary years, I recall my mother picking me up from school and asking me in Spanish how my day went. I would mutter, "No mamá, no me hables en español, háblame en ínglés y no me Ilames Pancho." Essentially, I forbade my mother to speak Spanish or address me by my nickname. Looking back, it's ironic that even my Latino peers and I would make fun of those who spoke Spanish! We thought that anything having to do with Mexico was dirty, poor, inferior, and just the mere mention of it brought shame.

For many years I introduced myself as "Frank," with the mentality that, if I lived in the United States, I should assimilate and become part of the mainstream predominately English-speaking culture — even if that meant dropping my name and denying my Mexican roots. Sadly, I did not realize it at the time, but in doing so I was essentially negating a part of my identity.

Perhaps it was Hollywood's negative portrayal of Latinos in the media, xenophobic attitudes, or fear of the unknown that lead to such hatred of my own culture. Either way, the fact remained that I was ashamed of my roots for a great portion of my childhood and

by Francisco Cepeda



adolescence. The negative consequences did not bode so well during cross-border family reunions. My siblings and I would make sure that we pronounced every Spanish word correctly for fear that if we mistakenly said something or mispronounced a word, our cousins would make fun of us.

Our insecurities turned out to be true when one of my siblings referenced the English word tuna in Spanish believing it meant the same thing. Much to his embarrassment, one of our cousins immediately corrected him, "*¡Es atún, guey.!*" Much to our dismay, as much as we wanted to become closer to our relatives, these reunions were the source of much anxiety just as we tried to ensure we would speak Spanish properly.

This anxiety did not lessen with time as one of my siblings overheard a cousin referring to us as "los primos pochos," the pocho cousins. Or, as the dictionary defines it: A pejorative term used by native-born Mexicans to describe Chicanos or Mexican-Americans who are perceived to have forgotten or rejected their Mexican heritage to some degree. Typically pochos lack fluency in Spanish.

For me, the catalyst to fully embrace my background without shame occurred during the early 2000s when Latino pop culture soared to incredible and unthinkable proportions when Latino musicians like Ricky Martin, Marc Anthony, and Jennifer Lopez made being Latino trendy. Latino pride consumed me from one moment to the next. I no longer was ashamed of being Mexican-American. From then on, I introduced myself as Francisco Cepeda to anyone without fear or embarrassment. I became engrossed in my desire to learn more about my culture and speak Spanish perfectly. I even studied abroad for one semester in Monterrey, Mexico to improve my written and spoken Spanish. No longer was it a stigma to be a Latino.

Even during my television stint in Corpus Christi, (city with a high Latino population), my news director at the time notified me that a viewer had called the station to complain that I was not pronouncing the names of adjacent and neighboring towns "correctly." The caller was referring to the way I pronounced Spanish names like, Hidalgo and Nueces, I pronounced them in Spanish, not in their Anglicized form like many others did. I immediately knew it was the caller who was mistaken. Presumably, it could be that with each passing generation, one unknowingly distances him or herself from their Latino roots.

Today, I can fully embrace and respect being bicultural without fear of having to define or stand up where I come from. It feels good to be **Francisco Cepeda**. And so, it's this peace of mind that helps me understand others who have chastised or discriminated against me on either side of the fence in the past. So while I can't help but be disappointed that it took pop culture, and not my own developmental maturity, to fully embrace my biculturalism, I'm grateful that I finally came around.

No One is Going to Hold Me Back, Not Even Myself

by Desaray Garza

The day I came back to school was August 23rd 2010. The beginning of the year I was excited to be back but upset because I'm suppose to be a junior and only had enough credits to qualify as a sophomore. But it's nobody's fault but mine because I messed up.



This year I am a different person. The old me is gone. I don't know that girl anymore. I am focused on my future and now have a goal in sight. I want to go to college. I want an education. The first six weeks back in school here at Travis I made As and Bs. That was a shocker for me but I felt good when I saw my report card.

To be honest, I don't know what got into me this year, but I decided to come back to school. If I had to guess, I would say that part of my problem was that I was hanging around with the wrong people. After a while I got bored partying with the same people, telling the same stories, and laughing at the same jokes. For me a joke is only funny the first time I hear it.

My grandma use to tell me that my lil' cousins are going to catch up to me. I always said, "No they are not! You're just trippen!" Well, Io and behold, they did catch up to me. Now we are in the same grade and it sucks. In fact, it's embarrassing. But I don't care. I am focused on graduating and doing something with my life. I don't to be homeless or an 18 year old always relying on my parents.

I can say that this year I changed a lot. I'm sure a lot of people that know me see that I am proud of myself and I am thankful that I have people to help me out at Travis High School. I know I still have a short temper but I have learned how to bite my tongue and not saying anything stupid that I will regret later.

It's very hard though because I use to cuss people out and would walk out of class to wander the hallways or go home. But I now understand that if I want to change my life, I have to handle my business and keep my mind in the books and stay out of trouble.

So this year that is what I am doing. I am staying focused on school. I am playing sports and writing stories for this newspaper La Voz de Austin. And I love the new me. I am determined to graduate and nobody is going to hold me back, not even myself.

An Experience I Won't Forget

by Franco Martinez

When I turned seven I had a birthday party and sleepover, all my cousins came over for my party; we played football,

basketball, hide and go seek and before you know it was time for bed. We all fell asleep early because we were tired; hyper little kids on sugar.

We woke to the aroma of pancakes, eggs and bacon. We ate breakfast, watched dragon ball z and played Nintendo. My mom decided that it was time to take my cousins back to their house. We jumped in the SUV and started fooling around. We got to my cousins **Roger** and **Michelle's** house, and

they got off. Then we started for my others cousins house. We were on **Palo Blanco**, about to cross **Stassney** road.

At the time it was a four stop instead of lights. We stopped at the stop sign and accelerated. I was jumping around without my seat belt, when I turned to my left and saw this car coming. He did not stop at his stop sign and rammed us from the driver's side.

I was sitting behind the driver, when this happened but I ended in the back of the truck. I stood up and climbed over the back seat, and noticed I was bleeding. I cuffed my hands and put them under my chin, as soon as I did that; they filled up with blood. I panicked and started feeling woozy. I remember getting carried away by a firemen and set my on the side of the road. He started cutting up my shirt, I looked up, it was a beautiful day. You wouldn't have expected this on this day. I heard people yelling, screaming out my name, and then came the dark.

I woke up in an ambulance, and looked around. I saw my cousin **Claudia** sitting next to me. She wasn't conscious she was just laying there lifeless. *"How are you feeling"* the paramedic asked. I couldn't speak. I looked around for a while

then again came the dark. I woke again in the hospital, I asked for my mom and cousins. They told me that they were ok and they were in their rooms I replied *"take me.*" they walked me to my cousins **Oscar's** room. I walked in and asked **"you're okay?"** *"Who are you"* he replied *"Franco... your cousin"* I answered He asked *"do I know you?"* I walked out feeling sad.

I couldn't believe it; my own cousin did not remember me when just a few hours ago he was at my birthday party. Doctors say he had got hit in the head and had



amnesia. I didn't know if this was a dream or not. I was stuck in deep thoughts; I asked to see the rest of my family. My mom at

the time was pregnant with my little brother **Bryan** but she was not hurt or anything. She was in my little brother's room by his side, he was ok and was asking for me when I entered. I looked at him, delicate little boy that didn't deserve his beautiful skin bruised.

Again, I walked out searching for my other cousins **Claudia** and **Alex**. I walked in this room, it was quiet my cousins were there resting. **Claudia** had this big bruise oh her face that ran from her lower cheek to the top of her eye. "She's

okay," the nurse said. "What about Alex?" I asked. "He's fine" she replied

They were not awake, I couldn't asked them myself. How do you think I felt. I felt anger at the time because I seen how it changed my family; I also had changed, I had two gashes a small one under my chin and a big one right on my jaw. Now there just scars, I was lucky that the cut was not a little lower were my jugular vein was. Or, things would of turned out different.

I remember the driver's face when it happened. He was distracted; laughing not even looking at the road. He did not know that there was a stop sign coming. I also remember glancing at his face after he hit us. He had sorrow, fear and disgust in it. I have not seen him since but if I did, I would tell him that I forgive him because I know he probably has not forgiven himself.

Five little kids he hurt but, everyone makes mistakes and that's what life is about but it's up to you whether you learn from them or not. Therefore I had to forgive him, or face living with this hate towards him that would of ate me up inside. Today all my family recovered from it even my cousin that was dealing with amnesia. I'm thankful for no tragedies, severe injuries. The power of forgiving is special and can help you a lot in life.



Calendar of Events

April 1, 2011 - The 2011 Hispanic Leadership Summit Doing Well and Doing Good: Ethical Business Leadership Presented by AT&T Friday, April 1, 2011 12:00PM to 5:00PM Reception to Follow Etter-Harbin Alumni Center 2110 San Jacinto Boulevard For reservations and sponsorship opportunities, please visit the website: http://new.mccombs.utexas.edu/HLI/HLI%20Summit.aspx For more information call 512-232

April 2, 2011 - Candidate Forum at the Dove Springs Recreation Center (5801 Ainez Dr.) in Austin, Texas. Event starts at 6:00pm. For more information contact Ron Solis at 512-826-5438

April 2, 2011 - LULAC meeting at the Guadalupe Valley Electric Corporation Meeting Room 927 HWY 46 North Seguin, Texas Event starts at 10:00am. For more information please contact Paul Castillo at (830) 743-3214

April 7, 2011 - A Viva Voz! Machetes, Mariachis and Spy Kids: Elizabeth Avellán Makes Movies from 7-9pm Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection Sid Richardson Hall Unit 1. This is the ninth annual ¡A Viva Voz! celebration of U.S. Latino culture sponsored by the Benson Latin American Collection. You are cordially invited to an evening with film producer Elizabeth Avellán, co-owner and vice president of Troublemaker Studios and owner and president of EYA Productions, at the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection. The evening will include a brief introduction by Dr. Charles Ramirez-Berg (Department of Radio-Television-Film) and a reception with light refreshments after Ms. Avellán's presentation. Please RSVP to Eve McQuade by April 4 at emcquade@austin.utexas.edu or call 512-495-4363. Parking in Lot 38, adjacent to Sid Richardson Hall. Entry from Red River Street.

April 9, 2011 - El Concilio and The Travis County Mexican-American Democrats will hold a Candidates Forum on Saturday, April 9, 2011 at 2720 Lyons Road starting at 10:30am. Come join us as we ask the candidates questions. Pan Dulce and Breakfast Tacos will be served.

April 9, 2011 - Health Fair from 9:00am to 1:00pm at Holy Word Lutheran Church 10601 Bluff Bend in Austin, Texas 78753. Free food and entertainment. For more information please contact David Thornberry at 512-836-4264

April 10, 2011 - 2011 Accountability Session of 1,000 leaders at St. Ignatius Catholic Church at 7pm-8:15pm. This event is sponsored by Austin Interfaith. For more information contact Ofelia Zapata at (512) 669-0809

April 12, 2011 - Hispanic Network of Austin Monthly Luncheon at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Austin, Texas (290 and IH-35). Event starts at 11:30am \$16 prepay online, \$25 at the door. For more information please call 512-206-6999

April 10, 2011 - The Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin and the Bexareno Genealogy Society of San Antonio invites you to the 5th annual reenactment of the reading of the First Texas Declaration of Independence proclaimed by Jose Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara on April 6, 1813. This event will take place at the Spanish Governors Palace 105 Plaza de Armas in downtown San Antonio Sunday from 2-5 PM. For more information please contact Dan Arellano at 512-826-7569

April 21, 2011 - Austin Latino New Play Festival - Lighting Strikes by Erica Saenz. Admission is free. Reservations suggested. This is a workshop-style presentation with audience participation. Event will take place at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center 600 River St. Austin, Texas

April 22, 2011 - Austin Latino New Play Festival - Mariachi Girl by Roxanne Schroeder-Arce. Admission is free. Reservations suggested. This is a workshop-style presentation with audience participation. Event will take place at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center 600 River St. Austin, Texas

April 23, 2011 - Austin Latino New Play Festival - Dos Pocitos by Raul Garza. Admission is free. Reservations suggested. This is a workshop-style presentation with audience participation. Event will take place at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center 600 River St. Austin, Texas

April 30, 2011 - Mexic-Arte Museum's Gala del Museo: Arte y Glamour at the home of Dr. John Hogg and Davide Garza. Event starts at 6:00pm. Gala del Museo is an elegant fundraising event benefiting Mexic-Arte Museum's exhibition and education programs. Join us as we celebrates twenty-seven years in Austin with critically acclaimed exhibitions, exemplary education programs, exciting cultural events, and a growing permanent collection. Gala del Museo will take place in a private Westlake home featuring a spectacular view, exciting live Latin music, exquisite cuisine, and distinguished guests. For more information please call: Sylvia Orozco at 512-480-9373

Word Power En Palabras Hay Poder

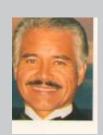
the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of *La Voz* de Austin.

No one can ever argue in | 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 de Austin una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

¿Por qué?	Why
porque	because
también	also
la verdad	the truth
la mentira	the lie
el chisme	the gossip
el escandalo	the scandal
¿deveras?	Really
dejame decirte	let me tell you
no me dijas	you don't say
¿apoco?	no kidding?

DareCo Realtors

Thinking of buying a house, then think of me. I have been in the real estate business for more than 20 years. I can help you realize your dream of owning your own home.



Dan Arellano



darellano@austin.rr.com



The *Austin Tejano Democrats* proudly endorse the following City of Austin Municipal Candidates

> Place 1: Chris Riley www.chrisforaustin.com



Su Voto es Su Voz

Early Voting starts May 2 Election Day - May 14

Place 4: Laura Morrison www.lauraforaustin.com



Join the Austin Tejano Democrats every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. Casa Garcias Restaurant, 1000 So. Lamar *AustinTejanoDemocrats@gmail.com*

Our guest speaker for April 13th will be Linda Chavez-Thompson



Paid Pol. Ad. by the Austin Tejano Democrats, 2544 Stoutwood Cr., Austin, TX 78745

Austin ISD Austin High School Students Featured in Chamber Leadership Video

Austin School Superintendent Meria Carstarphen and Austin High School students (left to right) Znobea Williams, Paige Gaston, Grace Salas, and Christopher Joseph will be featured in the Greater Austin Chamber's video, "Leadership: Achieving Performance Gains Under Fiscal Constraint." The video explores the characteristics of leadership, especially when faced with daunting challenges.

Superintendent Carstarphen shared her experiences about navigating development of the District's budget through unprecedented financial challenges. Graduating senior Williams, who will be the first in her family to go to college, discussed navigating her family through the application and college selection process. Math teacher,



and Student Council Sponsor Debra Windham noted that first-time college students like Williams often need faculty assistance cultivating parent support for out-of-town college attendance. Focusing on the shared goal that student, family, faculty and community partners like the Chamber support — earning a college degree and pursuing a professional career — is key to cultivating parent enthusiasm.

Williams noted that leaders exhibit patience, a willingness to invest time in causes they support, recognize the importance of timing when demonstrating assertiveness, and acknowledge the diversity of perspectives that individuals represent. Williams, pictured below with Austin High Principal Dr. Lucio Calzada and Dr. Carstarphen, plans to pursue studies in psychology or sociology, along with criminal justice.

The "Leadership: Achieving Performance Gains Under Fiscal Constraint" video is scheduled to open the Chamber's annual K-12 Metro Austin Education Progress Report luncheon on Thursday, March 31, at the Frank Erwin Center. The Education Progress



ank Erwin Center. The Education Progress Report is an annual publication that tracks improvement in college readiness among Central Texas school districts, including AISD. It is published by the Greater Austin Chamber, in partnership with local chambers of commerce and school districts.



Please Join US? 🕇



The Shout Out Awards are back for 2011! Austin Voices will award Shout Out Scholarships to student, parent and community leaders working to strengthen Austin's schools. Along with the Awards Ceremony, the evening will feature complimentary drinks and hor's d'oeuvres, great silent and live auction items and Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader? which will include local celebrity contestants and great live music!

For more information please call: (512) 450-1880

Event Information

April 12, 2011 6:00-9:00 pm The Highball 1142 South Lamar

6:00 - 7:00	Reception and Silent Auction
7:00 - 7:45	Awards Program
7:45 - 8:00	Live Auction
8:00 - 9:00	Are You Smarter Than a 5th
	Grader? and Live Music