

81st Texas Legislature
Begins 140 Day Run

Austin City Councilmember
Mike Martinez Announces Candidacy

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Francisco Cigarroa Named Chancellor of The University of Texas System

AUSTIN – The governing board of **The University of Texas System** unanimously named **Francisco Cigarroa, M.D.**, president of the **UT Health Science Center at San Antonio** and a pediatric transplant surgeon, as the sole finalist for chancellor of **The University of Texas System**.

"We are extremely pleased Dr. Cigarroa has agreed to be considered for the position of UT System chancellor," Regents' Chairman H. Scott Caven, Jr. said. "The UT System is a national leader in higher education and health care, therefore the selection of a chancellor is one of the most important decisions this governing board will ever make. Dr. Cigarroa is an accomplished administrator, scientist and faculty member with the experience and proven track record that would be invaluable in advancing the interests of the System and our nine academic and six health institutions. The Board selected him from among an extraordinary group of candidates, and on behalf of the board I would like to thank all the candidates who have taken part in this very important process."

Cigarroa has served as president of the **UT Health Science Center – San Antonio** since 2000. A member of the **Institute of Medicine**, he is a recognized pediatric transplant surgeon and researcher whose articles on the principles of surgery in infants and children have appeared in several scientific publications. During his tenure as president of the health science center, sponsored research expenditures increased from \$86.1 million to \$146.3 million.

He joined the health science center faculty in 1995, where prior to his appointment as president he was director of pediatric surgery and director of abdominal transplant surgery. He serves on the medical staffs at **Christus Santa Rosa Hospital**, **Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital** and **University Hospital**, among others. An accomplished fundraiser, **Cigarroa** was the first Hispanic appointed to lead a major academic health center in the United States. He announced last October that he would be stepping down as president of the health science center.

Cigarroa received a bachelor's degree from **Yale University** and his medical degree from **UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas**. He was the chief resident at **Massachusetts General Hospital** and completed a fellowship at **Johns Hopkins Hospital**. **Cigarroa** is a fellow of the **American College of Surgeons** and a diplomate of the **American Board of Surgery**. He serves on the board of several organizations, including the **Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce** and the **San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**.

Cigarroa and his wife, **Graciela**, an attorney, have two daughters. Despite a very busy schedule, **Cigarroa** is an excellent guitar player. He begins work at his new job on February 2, 2009. **Cigarroa** is a native of **Laredo**.



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Se Murio Ricardo Montalban a la edad de 88 años

Ricardo Gonzalo Pedro Montalbán y Merino, the Mexican born actor who made it big in Hollywood passed away on January 7, 2009 at the age of 88. Montalban who started his acting career in 1934 was best known for his *Fantasy Island* TV role as **Mr. Roarke**.



In addition to acting **Mr. Montalban** was involved in social justice issues and founded the organization called **Nosotros** in 1970 to improve the image of Latinos/Hispanics as they are portrayed in the entertainment industry, both in front of and behind the camera. Original board members included **Desi Arnaz, Vikki Carr** and **Anthony Quinn** among others.

Nosotros has been instrumental in furthering the careers of many actors such as **Edward James Olmos, Salma Hayek, Lupe Ontiveros** and **Lorenzo Lamas**.

Manuel Castillo Passes Away in San Antonio, Texas

Manuel Castillo, Jr., Executive Director of **San Antonio Cultural Arts** passed away on January 6, 2009 after a short battle with cancer. He was 40 years old.



A graduate of **Holy Cross High School** in **San Antonio**, **Castillo** started his cultural arts organization in 1994 as a way help young people realize they had talent. Over the years the organization sponsored a number of programs and projects including a **Community Mural Public Arts Program**, a community based newspaper called **El Placazo**, and a **Video Oral History Program** that taught film and video production skills through the production

of oral histories and documentary programs focusing on the history, culture and community of **San Antonio**, specifically the **Westside community** surrounding **San Antonio Cultural Arts**.

To help raise funds for all of the programs and projects, **Manny** helped organize the annual **Huevos Rancheros Breakfast Gala and Art Auction**. Held in mid October, the event proved to be very successful. Another community event that drew wide support in the **Westside of San Antonio** was the **San Antonio Cultural Arts (SACA) Dia De Los Muertos Barrio Procession and Community Altar**.

It was a peaceful event intended to bring together people of all walks of life, and is a time and place created to remember and pay homage to friends, family and even enemies who have passed on. Hundreds would turn out for this yearly event.

Manuel Castillo, Jr. ya se fue. Nacido en **San Antonio** en el año 1968, el año del Hemisferio, y pizotó la tierra por 40 años. Todo que le conocieron nunca se van a olvidar de le. c/s

Gov. Perry Appoints Cuevas Presiding Officer of TABC

Governor **Rick Perry** named **José Cuevas, Jr.**, as the new presiding officer of the **Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission**. This appointment marks the first time in the agency's history that a Hispanic has been named to the highest position at the agency. The commission supervises and regulates all phases of the alcoholic beverage industry.

Cuevas is the founder and CEO of **JumBurrito, Inc.**, and **JumBurrito Franchises, LLC**, which operates out of **Midland**,



Texas. He has served on several boards and committees including the **Texas State History Museum Foundation**, and the **Community National Bank of Midland**.

Perla Cavazos Preparing Run for Austin City Council

While she has n't declared which **Austin City Council** seat she is going for, **Perla Cavazos** has been pouring the foundation for this move for a long time.

As an **Austin** resident for the past 11 years, she been actively involved in public policy, women's issues and the arts. She has been widely recognized for her community service and leadership.

Perla served on the **City of Austin Planning Commission** for two-and-a-half years and on the **City of Austin Commission for Women**, where she was vice-chair. She is the immediate past president of the **Austin Women's Political Caucus** and is president-elect of the **National Women's Political Caucus-Texas**. She is a member of the **Leadership Austin Class of 2008** and a Democratic precinct chair.

Perla earned an undergraduate degree from **Stanford University** and a Master of Public Affairs from the **LBJ School of Public Affairs** at the **University of Texas at Austin**. **Perla** and her sister, **Ruby**, and brother, **Arturo**, were raised by their grandparents in **San Benito** along the **Texas-Mexico** border.

Ms. Cavazos worked as a senior policy analyst for **Texas State Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr.** for six-and-a-half years. She advised **Senator Lucio** on policy issues related to education, business, and taxes. Prior to her employment with **Senator Lucio**, she served as a program specialist at the **Texas**



Association of Community Development Corporations, an organization dedicated to affordable housing and economic development.

Antonio Leal is New Head of the Texas Rangers

Antonio "Tony" Leal has been named chief of the **Texas Ranger Division**, becoming the first Hispanic to lead the elite crime-fighting force.

"**Tony Leal** is a 24-year veteran of **DPS** and brings the experience and leadership skills needed to guide the **Texas Rangers** in the coming years," said interim **DPS Director Stanley E. Clark**. "He is the first Hispanic and the youngest person ever named chief of the **Texas Ranger Division**."

Leal, 44, was born in **Sugarland** and raised in the **Fort Bend County** area. He began his career with **DPS** in June 1984. He started as a **Highway Patrol** trooper in **Stafford and Rosenberg** and then moved to **San Antonio** as a **Highway Patrol** sergeant, before promoting to the **Texas Rangers** in 1994.

"My dream as a young man was to become a **Texas Highway Patrolman**, and I never imagined becoming a **Texas Ranger**, much less the **Texas Ranger chief**," said **Leal**, who will also carry the rank of **Senior Ranger Captain**. "I appreciate the confidence and support of the **Directors** and the **Commission**. It is my goal to continue to uphold the **Ranger tradition**, while moving ahead with the goals of the **Department** as a whole."

The **Rangers** specialize in investigating felony crimes such as murder, white-collar crime and public corruption. The **Texas**



Rangers are one of the six major divisions that make up **DPS**, along with the **Highway Patrol**, **Criminal Law Enforcement**, **Driver License**, **Emergency Management** and **Administration** divisions. The **Ranger Division** includes 160 people, including 134 **Texas Rangers**.

UT Professors Receive Promotions

Deborah Paredes Assistant Professor Education: **Ph.D., Northwestern University** Director, Arts and Community Engagement, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement



Research Interests: *Latina/o Performance and Popular Culture; Race and Feminism in Performance; and Comparative Ethnic Studies.*

Luis Urrieta, Jr. Assistant Professor Education: **Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**



Research Interests: *Identity, Agency, and Social Movements in Education with a focus on Chicana/o Education in the U.S. and Indígena (P'urhepecha) Education in Mexico; Native Methodologies and Educational Research; and Citizenship and Social Studies Education.*

John M. González Assistant Professor Education: **Ph.D., Stanford University**



Research Interests: *Latino/a Literature; Chicano/a Literature; Late Nineteenth-Century U.S. Literature and Culture; Narrative Theory; Postcolonial Theory; and Cultural Studies.*

Emilio Zamora is on page 9

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On the Economic Crises ¿Qué Piensas?

So you work hard all your life. You sacrifice and invest your money for a better tomorrow. Each month you review your financial statements and smile as you watch your investments grow. You go to bed at night knowing that as you sleep, your money is hard at work.

Te levantas the next morning, you get up in the morning and lo and behold your favorite newscaster is reading a report with the grim news that the stock market has dropped 3%. The next day it drops some more. Throughout 2008 it's all bad news for the stock market . . . and you, because you had your money tied up in a "safe" retirement account or hedge fund didn't really see it coming.

Now here you are at the beginning of 2009 and you have just learned that your money . . .

Now here you are at the beginning of 2009 and you have just learned that your money, the money you worked so hard for and the money that worked so hard for you as you slept soundly, is gone. Not all of it. Just 43% of it. What are you to do?

This is the state of a good number of people today. As they slept, they were in essence robbed! How is one suppose to feel about that? Certainly if someone were to pull a pistol on you in a parking lot outside of **Target** and demand your wallet, you would be mad as hell. If you were to peek outside your window and you happen to notice someone taking the tires off your car you would be furious! So how do you feel about the loss of your retirement or the diminished value of your investments?

Some people say they are mad. Some people are afraid to say anything because when they were making all the money they said too much too often with a comfortable assist from a glass of wine. Now they are too

embarrassed to admit that they are a member of the 43% crowd. Some people just can't believe they have worked all their lives and now, after doing the math, have come to the conclusion that they are going to have to continue working well into their 70s.

And then there are those of us who silently realize that after quietly smiling

There are those who would like to blame someone. There are those who want to hold someone responsible for our loss. And then there are those of us who silently realize that after quietly smiling all those years every time the quarterly financial reports arrived with the good news of an increase in the net value in our retirement portfolio, there is there is no one they can point the finger to except to the mirror on the wall. Because in the world of finance, as in the world of biology, everything that goes up . . . must come down. *Así es.*

To be sure, all those who faithfully followed the rules, followed the general path of the American Dream of working hard, doing without, sacrificing and saving for a better tomorrow, now feel betrayed or bamboozled. But this financial crises or meltdown was not without signals.

More than two years ago, there were hearings in **Washington, D.C.** about the fiscal soundness of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. (the two government backed housing corporations that have helped millions of people get homes for the first time in their lives) And more than two years ago the warning bells were being sounded.

But many did not want to hear the warning bells or believe that something wasn't right. There was just too much money to make. Too many big bonuses being paid out at Christmas time. So the brokers, the investors and everyone else acted like everything was fine.

Editorial



Alfredo R. Santos c/s
Editor & Publisher

Now here comes **President Barack Obama**. He has a plan. At least he says he has a plan. But as **Paul Krugman**, the winner of the 2009 Nobel prize in economics stated in his weekly column in the **New York Times**, there are banks that are "zombie banks, still operating, but the reality is that it has already gone bust. Their stock isn't totally worthless — they still have a market capitalization of \$20 billion — but that value is entirely based on the hope that shareholders will be rescued by a government bailout."

As the new President tries to get Congress to work on the economic crises, there are to many who are too close to the greedy ones who are to blame for this mess. Will the President have the courage to face up to those whose heads must roll? As of this writing will he have the courage to dump **Timothy F. Geithner** as the Treasury Secretary? Will **President Barack Obama's** eloquent words match the deeds that must accompany them if he is to be taken seriously?

As was stated earlier, as in the world of biology, everything that goes up must eventually come down. After the honeymoon is over, and few more Wall Street types go missing, the President is going to have put his foot down. *¡Es todo!*



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El Programa de Galletas de las Girl Scouts Desarrolla a Líderes

La venta de galletas comienza el 21 de enero

Girl Scouts of Central Texas les pide que ayuden a Girl Scouts a desarrollar valor, confianza y carácter a través del programa anual de galletas (*Cookie Program*). "Las galletas de las **Girl Scouts** son deliciosas", dice **Theresa Claiborne**, gerente de productos, "pero también son parte de un programa educacional que desarrolla las habilidades de las niñas al enseñarles como presentar en público, establecer metas y como administrar dinero efectivamente".

Aunque la venta de galletas solo dura 38 días, las Girl Scouts pasan meses preparándose para la venta. Los talleres de preparación se concentran en establecer metas, hablar con confianza, administrar el dinero con responsabilidad, y proveer una alta calidad de servicio al cliente. Las lecciones y las actividades son adaptadas a las edades y niveles de aprendizaje de cada niña. Girl Scouts mayores, por ejemplo, que demuestran madurez, toman el papel de liderazgo como instructoras para las niñas menores a través del programa de Capitanes de Galletas o *Cookie Captains*.

"Las destrezas adquiridas por el Programa de Galletas, especialmente la administración de dinero y establecimiento de metas, les servirán para toda la vida", dice Claiborne. "El Programa de Galletas pone estas destrezas complicadas e importantes en una situación donde las niñas puedan comprenderlas, practicarlas y dominarlas".

Para asegurar la mejor experiencia educacional posible, Girl Scouts of Central Texas pide que los clientes les hagan las siguientes preguntas:

- ¿Que galleta recomiendas y por qué?
- ¿Cuál es tu meta de ventas?
- ¿Qué has aprendido del Programa de Galletas y de las Girl Scouts?

Al contestar las siguientes preguntas y al alcanzar sus metas de ventas, las Girl Scouts desarrollan confianza en si mismas y la habilidad para salir adelante. Niñas que son seguras de si mismas se convierten en líderes que hacen del mundo un mejor lugar por consiguiente, logran la misión de las Girl Scouts. La venta de galletas es de 21 de enero al 27 de febrero. La galleta nueva de esta temporada es Daisy-go-Round, una galleta de canela que viene en paquetes de 100 calorías.



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Información sobre como encontrar un puesto de galletas cercano o como inscribirse en las Girl Scouts, se puede encontrar en www.gsctx.org.

Sobre las Girl Scouts of Central Texas :

Girl Scouts of Central Texas sirve a más de 20,000 niñas en grados Kinder-12 y a más de 12,000 voluntarios adultos en 46 condados del Centro de Texas. Con su oficina principal ubicada en Austin, Girl Scouts of Central Texas tiene centros de programas en Brownwood, Bryan, Killeen, San Angelo y Waco. Mediante oportunidades de liderazgo, las niñas descubren su potencial máximo, se relacionan con los demás y toman acción para mejorar sus comunidades. Girl Scouting ofrece una gran variedad de programas divertidos y educativos que se enfocan en las bellas artes, ciencias y tecnología, matemáticas, el medio ambiente, servicio comunitario y destrezas necesarias para triunfar en la vida. Girl Scouts dirigen con valor, confianza y carácter, para hacer del mundo un mejor lugar.

CONTACT: Girl Scouts of Central Texas

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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ABOVE: Diana Maldonado at a fundraiser at Lulu Flores home. Facing Diana is United States Congressman Lloyd Doggett.

**Congratulations to
Diana Maldonado
de parte de
*La Voz de Austin***

*Your voice will be heard
all over the State of Texas
as a State Representative*

E3 Alliance helps Central Texas know the education numbers

**Foundation awards \$145,000 in grants to help Central Texas
access regional education trends and outcomes**

The E3 Alliance (Education Equals Economics Alliance) was awarded a \$145,000 grant by the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** to support more effective P-16 Data Analysis and education performance management, including improved state data access and strategic student data systems design, as well as a regional model for transparent information sharing with business, education, and community leaders.

In addition, the grant supports the execution of The Blueprint for Educational Change™, the Central Texas community's unprecedented strategic plan to build the strongest educational pipeline in the country. The grant funds continued regional community deliberative dialogues to support target setting, drive community action plans, and develop public will.

This year three additional communities (Hutto, the Leander ISD area, and Pflugerville) joined the deliberative dialogues process. These dialogues allow people from all perspectives to come together to create common action plans for preparing our students for the 21st century, as well as to continue to develop The Blueprint for Educational Change™ action strategies. Well over 1,000 people have now participated in community dialogues to drive data-based systemic change in education.

San Marcos CISD Superintendent Dr. Patty Shafer commented, "For smaller districts like San Marcos, having common approaches to data analysis from the E3 Alliance helps us in strategic planning and in setting goals for performance improvement." **Dr. Jesus Chavez**, Superintendent of **Round Rock ISD**, stated that, "The Blueprint for Educational Change is unprecedented in that it provides our entire region a framework for target setting and data-based decision making that will be driven by educators and community members working together, and will benefit our students and our economy."



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En La Comunidad



ABOVE: Travis County Precinct 4 Constable **Maria Canchola** is sworn in for her third four year term by **Justice of the Peace Raúl Arturo Gonzáles**. Standing behind Maria is long time friend **Teo Ruedas**.



ABOVE: Deputies from **Travis County Precinct 4** were sworn in by **Constable Maria Canchola** on January 5, 2009



ABOVE: Austin City Manager **Marc Ott**, **Frank Fuentes** of the Hispanic Contractors Association and **Former Texas State Senator Gonzalo Barrientos** stand for this photo at the Hispanic Contractor's Luncheon in January at the Raddison Hotel.



ABOVE: Some of the attendees at the Hispanic Contractor's Luncheon from left to right are: **Jaime Palomo**, **Assistant City Manager Rudy Garza**, **Frank Fuentes**, Austin City Councilman **Lee Lefingwell**, and **Michael Von Ohlen**.

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In the Community



ABOVE: City Councilman Mike Martinez gives Proclamation for the up coming Dia De La Raza Parade to be held in Austin on October 18, 2009. Standing next to the councilman is **Marcelo Tafoya** District Director of LULAC District 12 and National Civil Rights Commissioner.



ABOVE: Dove Springs students attend Austin City Councilman Mike Martinez's kick off announcement at Nuevo Leon Restaurant. From left to right: **Oscar Guerrero, Roger, Mike Martinez, Juan Chavez** and **Wayne Sanchez**. They are all students at Akins High School



ABOVE: Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gómez speaks at the S.W.Key Accreditation at the S.W.Key celebration. **Dr. Juan Sanchez**, President and CEO of **Southwest Key** presents Commissioner Gomez with the awards.



ABOVE: Other **Mike Martinez** supporters are from left to right: **Fred Cantú**, of Austin Tejano Democrats and **Sylvia Camarillo**.

Coming soon: The 2009 Austin Hispanic Almanac
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for more details



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Latino Workers in the Ongoing Recession: 2007 to 2008

by Rakesh Kochhar

A small but significant decline has occurred during the current recession in the share of Latino immigrants active in the U.S. labor force, according to a **Pew Hispanic Center** analysis of **Census Bureau** data. In a year when jobs have become scarce for everyone, the proportion of working-age Latino immigrants participating in the labor force has fallen, at least through the third quarter of 2008, while the proportion of all non-Hispanics as well as of native-born Hispanics has held steady.

Jobs attract many Hispanic immigrants to the United States, and their labor force participation rate — the proportion of the working-age population that is either working or actively seeking work — is typically higher than the rate in the native-born population. That remains the case now.

However, among Latino immigrants, 71.3% were in the labor force at the close of the third quarter of 2008, compared with 72.4% a year earlier. This 1.1 percentage point decrease follows on the heels of a steady increase in the labor force participation rate of foreign-born Latinos since 2003 when the economy started its recovery from the 2001 recession.¹ The drop in labor market activity was about twice as high among immigrants from **Mexico** and among immigrants who arrived in the U.S. since 2000. Among all non-Hispanics, the labor force participation rate was essentially unchanged during this period — it was 66.2% at the end of the third quarter of 2008, up marginally from 66.0% a year earlier. Among native-born Hispanics, the rate was 66.4%, up from 66.0% a year earlier.

The absolute number of immigrant Latinos in the labor force did increase slightly — by 150,000 — between the third quarters of 2007 and 2008. But this increase is much smaller than it had been in previous years. And because it is also much smaller than the growth in the working-age population of Latino immigrants, the share that is active in the labor force has declined.

It is not possible to conclude from these data whether or not some of the foreign-born Latinos who left the labor force have returned to their countries of origin. The growth in the immigrant Latino population has leveled off in recent years, but it is not clear whether this has been due to an increased outflow of migrants. Passel and Cohn (2008) do find a decrease in the annual inflow of undocumented migrants to the U.S. since 2005. About four-in-five undocumented migrants come from Latin America.

The labor market data do not paint an unrelentingly negative picture for Latino immigrants, who make up about 8% of the total U.S. labor force. Their unemployment rate in the third quarter of 2008 was 6.4%, not much higher than the 6.1% rate for the total U.S. workforce and much lower than the 9.6% rate for native-born Hispanics (who account for about 45% of the Hispanic labor force in this country). However, workers who withdraw from the labor force are not counted among the unemployed. If foreign-born Latinos had remained as active in the labor market in 2008 as they were in 2007, their unemployment rate would be much higher today.

These findings emerge from the **Pew Hispanic Center's** analysis of the latest data from the **Bureau of Labor Statistics and Census Bureau**. Most of the data are from the Current Population Survey, a monthly Census Bureau survey of approximately 55,000 households. Data from three monthly surveys were combined to create larger sample sizes and to conduct the analysis on a quarterly basis.

Zamora publishes book tracing Mexican workers employment opportunities during WWII

Professor Emilio Zamora continues his longstanding scholarship on Mexican-origin workers, civil and labor rights during World War II with the publication of a new book entitled *Claiming Rights and Righting Wrongs in Texas, Mexican Workers and Job Politics during World War II* with Texas AandM University Press (January 2009).

The book covers Mexican workers fight for equal rights in transnational settings, an enterprise that has allowed him to make recognized contributions in various fields, including Mexican American, Texas, labor and Mexico history.

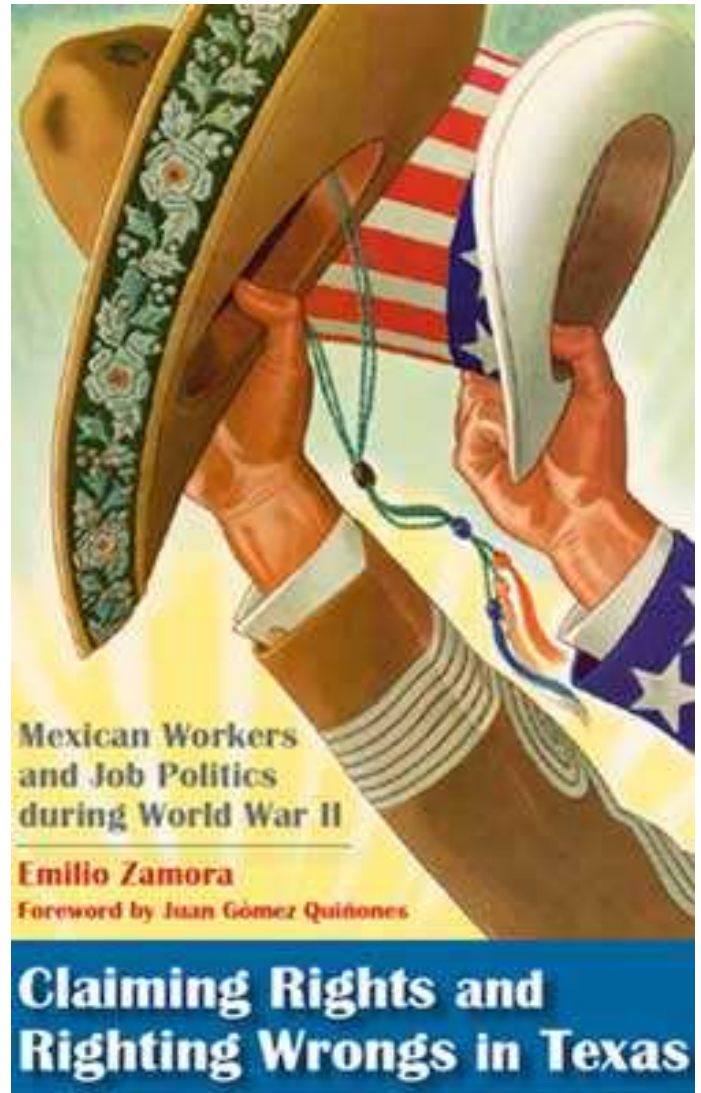
In *Claiming Rights and Righting Wrongs in Texas*, **Zamora** traces the wartime experiences of Mexican workers as they moved from rural to urban settings in search of improved employment opportunities. Zamora contends that although the expanded wartime economy allowed many of them to improve their occupational standing, discrimination slowed their movement from agricultural to nonagricultural employment and reinforced inequality.

Zamora also points out that the fight against discrimination and inequality—a historic concern in the Mexican community—achieved added importance during the war years in large part because they energized Mexico's advocacy policy of Mexicans in the exterior and prompted the State Department to promote the Good Neighbor Policy principles of wartime understanding and good will in the domestic arena.

Inserting the cause for equal rights among Mexicans as a defining concern in intergovernmental relations meant that race had assumed hemispheric importance. Texas, according to **Zamora**, became a point of contention as Mexico isolated it as a test site for the application of a Good Neighbor Policy and the State Department rendered aid and advice to policy makers in Texas to win the favor of the U.S.'s principal ally in the Americas.

The State Department's response to Mexico's interventions included an inter-agency focus on Mexicans in the United States that Zamora assesses with an examination of the work of the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) in Texas. Although the FEPC's efforts at enforcing the nation's nondiscrimination policy in wartime industries did not achieve great success, they stood in contrast to the policy of the United States Employment Service to discourage the movement of Mexicans out of agriculture.

Against a backdrop of a booming wartime economy, heightened intergovernmental relations and inconsistent U.S. government policies, Zamora also examines the civil and labor rights activity of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). Although other organizations spoke out against discrimination and inequality, LULAC became the favored intermediary between the Mexican and U.S. governments. Its members worked closely with Mexican consular staff and FEPC officials to advance pan-Americanism, equal rights and a political identity as Americans in the original (hemispheric) sense of the word.



Coming soon:
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Oklahoma lawmakers try for official English law

By TIM TALLEY

OKLAHOMA CITY – Oklahoma voters may get a chance to make English the state's official language, a proposal that was bitterly opposed by Indian tribes last year.

Republican state lawmakers said Wednesday they will work for a second consecutive year to send the constitutional amendment to voters.

A group of lawmakers led by Rep. Randy Terrill, R-Moore, author of Oklahoma's sweeping anti-illegal immigrant law, said they are refining legislation that was unsuccessful last year to make English the official language of Oklahoma government. Lawmakers say the bill is designed to save taxpayer money and help legal immigrants assimilate into U.S. society.

"As our common American language, English and the 'melting pot' process it supports has made the United States the most successful multiethnic nation in history," Terrill said. However, he said "politically correct multilingualism" has divided the nation into separate communities within the same geographic location.

If approved by voters, the official English law would end bilingual or multilingual driver's license tests and prohibit official state forms or signage in any language but English, unless covered by one of the exceptions.

Supporters said the bill exempts the languages of Oklahoma's 39 federally recognized tribes and allows the use of both Braille and sign language in government services.

American Indian leaders expressed opposition to a similar bill last year because it might change tribal language programs. One of them, Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith, repeated his opposition.

"We have Indians in this state who have lived under a regime of English-only; that was the rule in Indian boarding schools in Oklahoma for generations," Smith said in a statement.

"We've seen what English-only has done to native communities, where bilingual speakers are rarer today than ever," he continued. "I can't see that Oklahoma is a better place because whole generations were punished for violating an English-only policy."

The legislation also contains other exceptions for things like public health and safety as well as trade, commerce and tourism.

But Smith said the exceptions do not make the measure more acceptable.

"The fact that the English-only policy being put forward today will not be applied to Indian languages does not mean that we think it is OK to do to another people what was done to our fathers," he said.

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St. Edward's University selected to receive \$25,000 Monsanto Fund Grant to support the College Assistance Migrant Program

Austin, TX—St. Edward's University has received a \$25,000 grant from the Monsanto Fund, the philanthropic arm of Monsanto Company. The grant will provide scholarships to outstanding students majoring in the natural sciences and other select majors that are enrolled in the College Assistance Migrant Program or CAMP. In 1972, St. Edward's was one of four schools chosen to host the federally funded program, which was created to provide the children of migrant and seasonal farm workers with access to higher education.

Monsanto is an agricultural company that helps farmers learn sustainable practices so they can be successful, produce healthier foods, better animal feeds and more fiber, while also reducing agriculture's impact on the environment.

"Monsanto's support has made a difference in the lives of many of our students. Scholarships and internships have led to practical career decisions," said CAMP Director Esther Q. Yacono, "One of our students, Larry Macias, decided to pursue his PhD after working at Monsanto and now is in the post doctoral program at the University of North Carolina."

Established as a freshman level scholarship program, CAMP is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and St. Edward's University. CAMP has served to educate more than 2,400 students since 1972. Each year, 35 students are chosen to participate in the program. Now in its 36th year, CAMP holds the honor of being the longest continuously running program of its kind in the nation.

"Monsanto is proud to support farm workers through this program at St. Edward's University," said Deborah Patterson, president of the Monsanto Fund. "CAMP offers participants the opportunity to further their education, and many are the first in their families to attend college. We are pleased that we can contribute our resources to their education."

The following students were selected as scholarship recipients: Laura Gonzalez of McAllen, Texas, Ana Rodriguez of Edinburg, Texas, Alyssa Ruiz of Donna, Texas, Marisol Serrano of Weslaco, Texas, and Sonia Salinas of Bastrop, Texas.



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Professional Profile of the Month

YVONNE CASTILLO

[Texas Society Architects](#)

Family: Married, Alex Veltman, 1 child, Elan Castillo-Veltman, 1 mischievous golden retriever named "Chula."

Areas of practice: General Counsel and lobbyist for the Texas Society of Architects.

Education: B.S. in 1990, Architectural Studies – University of Texas; and J.D. University of Colorado in 1994, Boulder.

Culinary talent: Great cook...terrible baker (it's too precise). Cooking works for me because it's about what feels right, smells good, and tastes great.

Mentors/heroes: Mary Kelly, Austin Environmental Attorney.

Most important career lesson: No matter what the client's problem, I can solve it. That's what they hired me for, that's what my education/training did for me. In a word, "confidence."

Latest pursuit: Collage work – mixed media of paint, photos, papers, found objects, and pastels.

Current project: Getting my mom transitioned to Austin.

Pet peeve: Clutter in the house. If it's not beautiful (and on display) or functional, it's out.

Secret for staying young: Fresh air...lots of outdoor time with friends and family.

Favorite TV program: I can't admit that publicly. TV watching is my greatest weakness...I know it's bad for my brain, but sometimes it's just the right thing to help me escape.

Favorite music/musician: Love all music – classical to jazz to rock.

Favorite movie: Terms of Endearment.

Favorite magazine: Natural Home.

Favorite sport: Swimming, running.

Favorite food: Mexican, Thai, Sushi.

Favorite restaurant: Ranch 616.

Hobbies: Hanging out with my beautiful son, Elan, and my wonderful husband, Alex.

Memorable vacation: scuba diving in Bonaire.

My favorite weekend retreats are: Anything outdoors, especially camping with friends and family or any time spent at the beach.

If I had more time, I would: Travel.

The part of my job I do best is: Advocating for policy that positively impacts the architectural profession.

The best piece of advice ever given to you and by whom: If a client comes to you for help, you say "Yes, I can help you with that," even if you haven't a clue, then go figure it out. This advice was given to me by a not-so-nice managing partner at a firm I worked for in Denver, Colorado. While working for him drove me crazy, I learned a lot about the business of law.

If you could be anyone else for a day, who would it be? President-Elect Obama.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing attorneys today? Not taking your client's problems home with you.

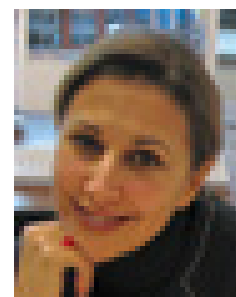
What's the turning point that made you decide to become an attorney? Working for an attorney, Mary Kelly, in Austin. She was smart and an independent thinker and made me recognize how strong women can be.



Recommended Reading

María Eugenia Coteria Releases New Book

Native Speakers
Ella Deloria,
Zora Neale Hurston,
Jovita González,
and the
Poetics of Culture



In the early twentieth century, three women of color helped shape a new world of ethnographic discovery. *Ella Cara Deloria*, a Sioux woman from *South Dakota*, *Zora Neale Hurston*, an African American woman from *Florida*, and *Jovita González*, a Mexican American woman from the *Texas* borderlands, achieved renown in the fields of folklore studies, anthropology, and ethnolinguistics during the 1920s and 1930s.

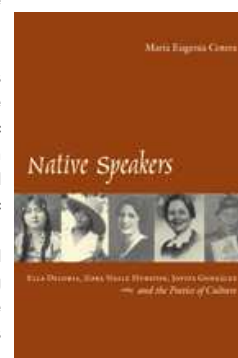
While all three collaborated with leading male intellectuals in these disciplines to produce innovative ethnographic accounts of their own communities, they also turned away from ethnographic meaning making at key points in their careers and explored the realm of storytelling through vivid mixed-genre novels centered on the lives of women.

In this book, *Coteria* offers an intellectual history situated in the "borderlands" between conventional accounts of anthropology, women's history, and African American, Mexican American and Native American intellectual genealogies. At its core is also a meditation on what it means to draw

three women—from disparate though nevertheless interconnected histories of marginalization—into conversation with one another. Can such a conversation reveal a shared history that has been erased due to institutional racism, sexism, and simple neglect? Is there a mode of comparative reading that can explore their points of connection even as it remains attentive to their differences?

These are the questions at the core of this book, which offers not only a corrective history centered on the lives of women of color intellectuals, but also a methodology for comparative analysis shaped by their visions of the world.

María Eugenia Coteria is Assistant Professor of American Culture at the *University of Michigan*. She is the author of *People of the Border: The Thesis of Jovita González*, and coeditor of *Caballero*, a novel by Jovita González.



Recommended Reading

Bonnie Mata Has a New Book

Book Title: FAITH

Author: Bonnie S. Mata

Publisher: Siren Publishing

Artist Cover: Jinger Heaston

Publication Date: January 15, 2009

Genre: Erotic Romance/Romantic
Suspense

ISBN: 1-60601-216-9

Word Count: 93,000

Price: \$5.99

Website: www.bonniesmata.com

About the Author

Bonnie was raised as a little girl out on a ranch in **Los Ojuelos, Texas**, where Texas Rangers were once stationed back in 1850 to protect the trade route to **Laredo** and **Corpus Christi, Texas**. She came close to being born out at the **Los Ojuelos** ranch, but with her mother's prayers they made it into town which was 45 miles away. They ran out of gas, but were close enough to the hospital to run up the hill of the old **Mercy Hospital** in **Laredo, Texas** to get a wheelchair.

Bonnie is of Irish and Mexican descent and is the youngest of her family of four growing up in a small town in **Mirando City, Texas** where everybody knew everyone. Back in the 70's, there wasn't much to do in a little town with only two TV stations dedicated to soap operas during the daytime, leaving Bonnie to sit on the front porch and watch the few cars pass by while daydreaming. In her mind there was always the question of, "What if?"

As she grew older, the county opened a small library in town where she would read every single Harlequin Romance novel that was there to read, reading about far away places. Now here she is writing her own romance stories. "Who would have thought!"

she said excitedly. Time has since passed, with so many beautiful memories of old Mirando City and she is now married. This December will be 21 years of marriage plus adding an addition 5 years of dating for a total of 26 years with her husband and best friend. She has two children with her husband, a son who just graduated from high school and a daughter who is in junior high, which have kept Bonnie pretty busy these past years at their school, as she always volunteered for room mother for her children. Bonnie currently looks forward to the special holidays where she and her siblings along with their children get together to catch up on what has been going on in their lives. "I love my brothers and my sister and all of my nieces and nephews dearly and believe that family is so important!" she says. "Yes sometimes we disagree, but just as the Mexican saying says, 'As you look at your hand your fingers are of the same hand, but they are each different and the same goes for family siblings.' "What is important is that we should never take things to heart and remember that we all have our own opinions and that's what makes us different and interesting."

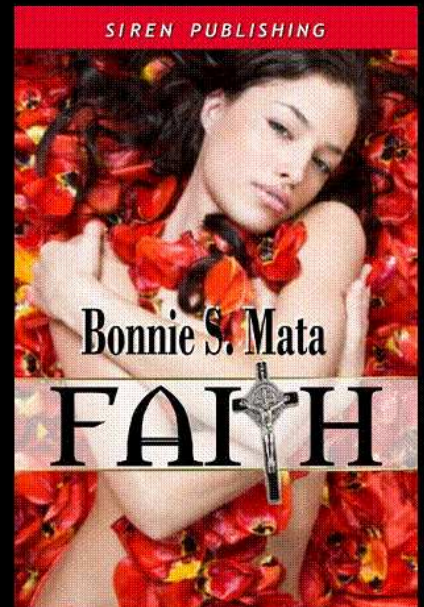
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www.bonniesmata.com

For a sneak peek at the book visit her website

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This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Houston through the Miller Theatre Advisory Board, the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts, with support from Hohner Inc., SugarHill Recording Studios, Embassy Suites Austin-Downtown, the Mexican American Cultural Center, The Raven Grill, Gabbanelli Accordionists, and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that "a great nation deserves great art."

Word Power

En 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 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*.

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 a nuestros lectores de *La Voz de Austin* una lista de palabras en español con sus equivalentes en inglés.

Te dije

I told you

Es la pura verdad

It is nothing but the truth

Nomás pa que vez

Just so you can see

Pues por aquí estaba

Well, it was around here

Compralo en el HEB

Buy it at the HEB

Sacame de esta duda

Remove this doubt I have

Qué tal el Presidente

How about the President

Era tiempo

It's about time

Terco el John Cornyn

Stubborn that John Cornyn

Dile la verdad

Tell him the truth

El país se esta cambiando

This country is changing

Nosotros también

We are also

Apague la televisión

Turn off the television

Ahora, apague la luz

Turn off the light

Ahora duermate

Now go to sleep

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Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center Names New Executive Director

Elda Silva from the San Antonio Express News

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center has announced the appointment of a new executive director: **Patty Ortiz**. A San Antonio native, **Ortiz** is coming to the **Guadalupe** from the **Museo de las Américas** in **Denver, Colorado** where she serves as executive director and curator. She will officially take the helm of the organization from interim director **Pedro Rodriguez** in March — two years after the resignation of former executive director **R. Bret Ruiz**. Before introducing **Ortiz**, **Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center** board chairman **Sammy Nieto** acknowledged the contributions of **Dan Gonzalez**, who held down the fort as interim director through this month. **Gonzalez** stepped down to resume teaching at **UTSA's** architecture school. During his tenure, the center, which has struggled to keep afloat in recent years, rebuilt its board and conducted a search for a permanent head. "You kept (the Guadalupe) alive through a very difficult period," **Nieto** said. In addition to her administrative and curatorial work, **Ortiz** is an artist. She is known for her public art, including "Experimental Aviation," an installation of 148 3-foot steel "paper airplanes" suspended from the ceiling at the **Denver International Airport**. "In my recent visits I've envisioned so much potential for the Guadalupe," **Ortiz** said.



National Hispanic Cultural Center presents the 7th Annual

National Latino Writers Conference

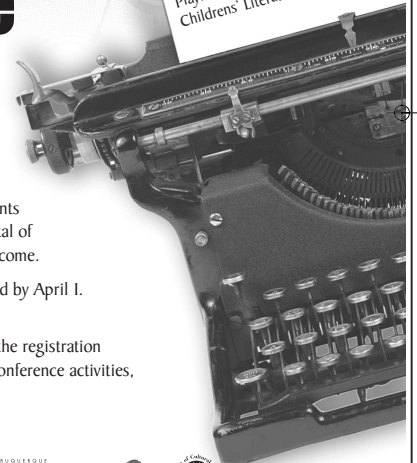
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May 21–23, 2009

Nationally prominent authors, agents, and editors will present in workshops and panel discussions. All attendees will have the opportunity to have three one-on-one appointments with an agent, author, and editor. Accepting a total of 50 fiction and nonfiction writers. Everyone is welcome.

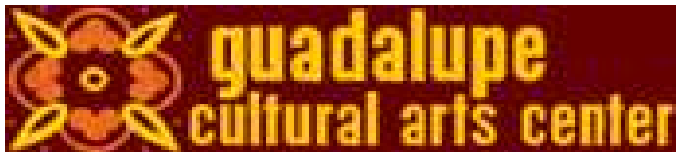
Authors will read manuscript samples if submitted by April 1. Workshops will include hands-on exercises.

Thanks to the support of the NHCC Foundation the registration price of \$250 covers all workshops, interviews, conference activities, refreshments and evening banquet.

2009 Literary Genres
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Calendar of Events

- February 3, 2009 Campaign Kickoff for **Perla Cavazos** at Nuevo Leon Restaurant 5:30pm to 7:30pm For more information please visit the website: www.voteperla.com
- February 6, 2009 A spotlight of 21st Century Best Practices in Education and Philanthropy. 8:30am to 12:00 noon at the Ballet Austin Board Room. For more information please visit: omg@visiblypr.com
- February 19-21, 2009 **National Association for Bilingual Education** holds its annual convention in Austin, Texas. This year's theme is "Strengthening America Through a Multilingual Society" For more information visit the NABA website at: www.nabe.org

Governor Rick Perry Appoints CPG Director Veronica Vargas Stidvent to Texas Human Rights Commission

AUSTIN, Texas, January 9, 2009—Texas Governor Rick Perry has announced the appointment of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs' Center for Politics and Governance Director Veronica Vargas



Stidvent to the Texas Human Rights Commission. Stidvent replaces Patricia Asip of Plano, whose term expires February 1, 2009.

The Texas Human Rights Commission investigates statewide employment and housing discrimination. The vision of the Commission includes assuring open access to the educational system, providing for Texas's transportation needs, meeting the basic health care needs of Texans, providing economic opportunities and growing businesses, and providing for the safety and security of all inside Texas' borders.

Stidvent has previously served as the Assistant Secretary for Policy at the U.S. Department of Labor, where she provided advice and counsel to the Secretary of Labor on the vast array of labor issues that affect the American worker, including immigration reform, worker health and safety, and job training. Prior to her appointment as Assistant Secretary, Stidvent served in the White House as Special Assistant to the President for Policy under the George W. Bush Administration where she helped develop policy on a wide range of issue areas, including labor, education, justice, homeland security, and regulatory reform. Before that, she served as a policy adviser in Office of Management and Budget's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. In that position, she provided counsel on federal regulatory policy and coordinated the implementation of new rules with the federal agencies and senior White House officials.

For more information about Veronica Vargas Stidvent, visit: http://www.utexas.edu/lbj/cpg/about/faculty_staff.php

Press Release

January 23, 2008

Contact: Elizabeth Villarreal
E-mail: elivp@mail.utexas.edu

National Association for Bilingual Education's 2009 Conference

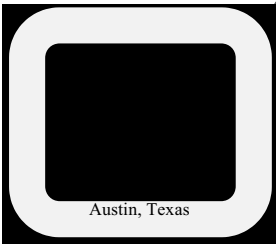
The National Association for Bilingual Education is the only professional organization at the national level wholly devoted to representing both English language learners and bilingual education professionals.

AISD Teacher Savings!
\$75 Special Saturday Offer
\$140 Discount Rate to Attend Entire Conference
Register by January 30, 2009



Over 5,000 educators are expected to attend the National Association for Bilingual Education's (NABE) 38th annual conference at the Austin, Texas Convention Center.

The theme for this year's conference is "Bilingual Education: Strengthening America Through a Multilingual Society." Internationally renowned speakers will address the participants on the many issues associated with culture, language acquisition and bilingualism. Over 400 concurrent sessions will be offered. Participants will also be able to sign up for visits to local schools. In addition to the concurrent sessions, there will be a product exhibition and job fair. Students, teachers, advocates, and elected officials will be recognized for their efforts to recognize and promote the importance of bilingualism.



NABE 2009 Bilingual Education: Strengthening America Through a Multilingual Society
February 18 - 21
Austin Convention Center
<http://www.nabe.org/conference>

Save the Dates!

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A Tribute to *Manuel Castillo, Jr.* Executive Director of San Anto Cultural Arts.

These are some of the murals **Manny Castillo's** team painted in **San Antonio, Texas** over the years. He believe in young people and knew that with just a little encouragement, they would perform wonders.
Qué en Paz Decanse Bro.

