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# **La Voz** *de Austin, Texas*

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## People in the News



### Eva Longoria to Start Masters Program in Chicano Studies

Desperate Housewives star **Eva Longoria** is now back at college in a Masters Program in Chicano Studies at **Cal State Northridge**. According to Longoria, she wanted a better and more authentic understanding of her community has gone through so I can help create change."

**Longoria**, who grew up in **Corpus Christi, Texas** and received her bachelors's degree from **Texas A&I University** is a past board member of the **Dolores Huerta Foundation** in **California**.

She is currently active with the **National Council of La Raza** and served last month as one of the hosts of the **ALMA Awards**. Longoria is great example of someone who has found success and remains committed to the ideas of social justice.

**Eva Longoria** is married to **San Antonio Spurs** forward **Tony Parker**.



### Williamson Joins Martinez Staff

**Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez** announced that **Laura Williamson**, former Executive Assistant for Council Member **Chris Riley**, will be joining **Mayor Pro Tem Martinez's** staff in the same title.

**Laura Williamson**, previously campaign manager for **Martinez's** reelection effort and an intern in the **Place 2** office, will be taking **Jazmin Cavazos's** place in **Mayor Pro Tem Martinez's** office as she pursues further academic interests.

"I am so pleased that **Laura** will be joining our team today, and grateful to **Council Member Riley** for letting my office steal her away. She was an invaluable service to me during the campaign and I know she will continue that quality work in my office. I know **Jazmin** has always had a passion for academics and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors," said **Mayor Pro Tem Martinez**.



### Eva Guzman Appointed to Texas Supreme Court

**Houston Judge Eva Guzman**, was appointed to the **Texas Supreme Court** by **Gov. Rick Perry**. She is the first Latina serve on the **Texas Supreme Court**. **Guzman**, 48, as "a strict constructionist with an unmatched work ethic" and a "principled conservative" stated **Perry** at a ceremony in **Houston**.

Prior to this appointment, **Guzman** served on the **Houston based Texas 14th Court of Appeals**, where she has written more than 900 opinions and gained a good reputation among local bar lawyers. **Perry** appointed **Guzman** to that position in 2001, and she won election to that bench in 2002 and 2004. **Guzman** earned her undergraduate degree from the **University of Houston** and her law degree from **South Texas College of Law** in 1989.



### Raul Alvarez Decides to Run for County Commissioner

In what promises to be a very interesting electoral contest during next year's primaries in March, **Raul Alvarez** will be challenging incumbent **Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gómez**.

**Alvarez**, a former **Austin City Council member** from 2000 to 2005 is now a current member of the **Board of Trustees of Austin Community College** held his first campaign event at **Juan in a Million Restaurant** on October 14, 2009 and is preparing large literature drops.

**Gomez**, who has served as a **Travis County Commissioner** since 1995, served as a **Travis County Constable in Precinct 4** from 1981 to 1994 and has a long history of being involved with the **Democratic Party**. This contest will be one of the most interesting to watch.



### Sonia Sotomayor Takes Her Seat on the High Court

**Justice Sonia Sotomayor** may be new, but she is not shy. She quickly established herself this week as a significant force in Supreme Court arguments, asking clipped, pointed and sometimes impatient questions.

Her predecessor, **Justice David H. Souter**, was also an active questioner. But his inquiries tended to be elaborate and beautifully calibrated. **Justice Sotomayor's** questions sometimes sounded more like a cross-examination.

In the first argument on Monday, in a case about when questioning may resume after a criminal suspect asks for a lawyer she showed little mercy and showed her firepower with questions that cut to the quick

We should expect to hear more from **Justice Sotomayor** as she is not going to be a quiet mouse in the corner wait for her cheese.

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## Pensamientos y Comentarios

Bienvenido otra vez a *La Voz de Austin*. Let me start this month's editorial by complaining about the Cash for Clunkers program that was sweeping the country last month.

I don't know about you, but personally, me molestó bastante that people were being paid to turn in their old cars. But more than that, I did not like the fact that perfectly good vehicles were being called "clunkers." ¿Cómo que Clunkers? Qué mal se oye. Personally, I have two old cars, a 1978 **Chevy Van** and a 1985 **Mercedes Benz**. These vehicles, *para mi, no son clunkers!* Son mis "back ups" por si acaso se me quebra el 2002 VW or el 2008 Honda que tenemos.

I know a lot of Raza who were also offended que sus carros were dubbed as "unfit for duty." Just because the government says something, it does mean it's true. *Es todo.*

On a different note, in this month's issue of *La Voz de Austin*, we bring you the second installment of Wayne's World. The author, a young man from the **Dove Springs** area of Austin, is really getting down, como quien dice, with his compelling stories of life and times. I encourage everyone to take a read. I also invite other young people to think about submitting their own stories. We pay 10 cents a word for stories that we print. If you write a 1,000 word story, you are looking at a quick \$100.00 dollars. *Piensalo!*

Also in this edition of *La Voz de Austin* is an interview with **Alicia Perez**. Mrs. **Perez** is one of the **Travis County** employees who was fired recently by the **Travis County Commissioner's Court** when they could not get to the bottom of a problem with the Director of the Human Resources Department.

On a similar matter, we had hoped to do a story on **Rosalia Cruz**, the former **Project Advance Director at Travis High School** who was also recently terminated. We interviewed a lot of people who were involved in **Mrs. Cruz** termination and knew the all circumstances. But when we contacted **Mrs. Cruz** for an interview, she refused to speak. She also did want us to contact her attorney.

In the almost 40 years or so that I have been doing journalism, when the main character in an event goes silent, it means something is not on the up and up si me entiendes como. More on the **Cruz** situation is expected in the future

On page 4 of this issue you find a short note on our efforts to identify the **25 Hardest Working Community Activists in Austin, Texas**. A few years ago we, along with the help of many others, identified the **Top 25 Most Influential Latinos in Austin, Texas**. We partnered with **TACHE** (Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education) and had an awards ceremony and gave out plaques of appreciation. We hope to do the same this year. If you have someone you would like to nominate, send in their name and phone number and we will take it from there.

We want to take a moment in the editorial section to congratulate **Mona Gonzalez, Executive Director** of the **River City Youth Foundation**. Since I first move to Austin in 2004 and met Mona, I have been very impressed by her commitment and courage in **Dove Springs**. She is one of the few people I know who is passionate about her work and belief that all kids can succeed if only they are given a chance.

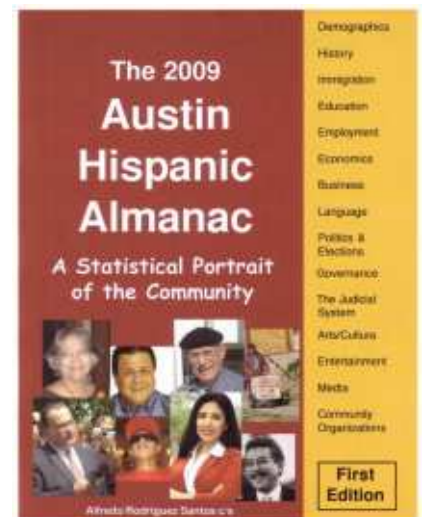
Last item: **The 2009 Austin Hispanic Almanac** is now out and quickly picking up speed in terms of distribution. Visit our website if you would like to order a copy: [www.austinhispanicalmanac.com](http://www.austinhispanicalmanac.com)

## Editorial



**Alfredo R. Santos c/s**  
Editor & Publisher

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## Texas Lawmakers Who Voted Against The Recovery Act Now Beg For Stimulus Funds For NASA

Every single Republican in the House voted against the \$819 billion Recovery Act in January. Among the Republican senators who voted against the stimulus were **Texas' Kay Bailey Hutchison** and **John Cornyn**. Both of them complained that they wanted to see more tax cuts rather than government spending.

But now, both **Hutchison** and **Cornyn** are pressuring the **Obama** administration to give **Texas** \$3 billion in stimulus funds. The co-signers on the letter are a bipartisan group of the **Texas** delegation in the House, including 19 Republicans, all of whom also voted against the funds for which they're now begging. The letter was drafted and circulated by **GOP Rep. Pete Olson**. From the letter:

Therefore, to ensure the U.S. maintains its leadership in human space exploration, we respectfully ask that you include in your promised amended budget request for NASA's Exploration Systems a request to Congress to reallocate the necessary funds for NASA from the funds that we anticipate will remain available from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). As of last month, less than 15 percent of ARRA funds had been expended.

Since the stated purpose of the stimulus package was to secure good jobs and stabilize our economy, there is no better investment that could be made than the addition of up to \$3 billion to NASA in FY2010, and the projection of at least that level of increase, as recommended by your Committee, at a 2.4% rate of inflation in the out-year projections included in the initial FY2010 Request.

**Cornyn** said that while the stimulus funding "that has already been spent [is] clearly not working, it is my hope that the Administration will use a portion of the remaining, authorized, unspent stimulus dollars to safeguard our nation's space program."

**Texas** isn't the only state showing this stimulus hypocrisy. Some other examples:

— **Rep. Frank Wolf** (R-VA) is now criticizing **Gov. Tim Kaine** (D) for being "slow" to spend the stimulus money allocated for **Virginia** — even though if Wolf and his Republican colleagues would have had their way, there would be no extra money for the state at all. "We could use that money desperately," **Wolf** told reporters. "We're in a critical situation."

— **Sen. Chuck Grassley** (R-IA) also voted against the Recovery Act and has since called it a failure. The stimulus, **Grassley** told the **National Review** last week, "is not working." In June, he had harsher words, saying the stimulus had no positive impact on the economy, "none whatsoever." But recently, **Grassley** announced two grants totaling \$399,875 to **Goodwill Industries of Central Iowa** and **Goodwill Industries of the Heartland** through the Homeless Veterans Reintegration program. "These funds will give a hand up to our veterans who have fought bravely and selflessly for our country," **Grassley** said. The funds were authorized by the Recovery Act.

In Louisiana, **Gov. Bobby Jindal** (R) continues to put his ideology over his state's needs, refusing to listen to state officials' requests for high-speed rail funding



## The Hardest Working Community Activists in Austin, Texas

**La Voz de Austin** is currently accepting nominations for the "Hardest Working Community Activists in Austin." Just send in your nomination of who you think should be recognized. There is no criteria or explicit qualifications. *Esto se trata de su opinión.* P.O. Box 19457 Austin, Texas

## Changing Latino Pathways to Adulthood: More Work, More School But Gaps Remain

Latino youths (ages 16 to 25) are more likely to be in school or in the workforce now than their counterparts had been in 1970. Yet significant gaps remain, not only between the educational attainment of Latino and white youths, but between the high value that Latino youths place on a college education and their more modest aspirations to get a college degree themselves, according to a pair of analyses of new survey data and Census data by the **Pew Hispanic Center**.

A new Pew Hispanic Center nationwide survey of Latinos indicates that nearly nine in ten Hispanic youths say that a college education is important for success in life, but that only about half that share say they themselves plan to get a college degree. The biggest reason young Latinos cut their education short is financial pressure to help support a family.

The new survey findings are in the "**Latinos and Education: Explaining the Attainment Gap**" report. A supplemental analysis of **Census Bureau** data from 1970 to 2007, "The Changing Pathways of Hispanic Youths Into Adulthood," finds that Hispanics — who account for 18% of all youths in the United States ages 16 to 25, up from 5% in 1970 —

are more likely now than in the past to be engaged in skill-building activities such as work or school. However, all youths in the United States are more likely now than in 1970 to be engaged in school or work, and the gap between Hispanics and whites on this measure has not closed.

The reports, "**Latinos and Education: Explaining the Attainment Gap**," authored by **Mark Hugo Lopez**, Associate Director, **Pew Hispanic Center**, and "**The Changing Pathways of Hispanic Youths Into Adulthood**," authored by Richard Fry, Senior Research Associate, **Pew Hispanic Center**, are available at the **Pew Hispanic Center's** website, [www.pewhispanic.org](http://www.pewhispanic.org).

The **Pew Hispanic Center**, a project of the **Pew Research Center**, is a nonpartisan, non-advocacy research organization based in Washington, D.C. and is funded by The **Pew Charitable Trusts**.

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## Project Summary

This project will consist of a commemorative exhibit created by the Austin History Center, a Division of the Austin Public Library. The exhibit will celebrate Mexican Americans (alive or deceased) who have lived in Austin and Travis County and who were the first to blaze a trail within their perspective communities in the areas of Education, Politics, Business, Social/Public Services, Health/Medical, Communication (Journalism/Media), Entertainment (Theater/Art/Music), Science/Technology and Sports.

The exhibition will be displayed at the Austin History Center during the months of August 2010 to January 2011. A full scale replica of the same exhibit will also be created into a traveling exhibit. Tour of this exhibit will begin in September 2010 at the Mexican American Cultural Center and then will travel to other locations throughout Austin and Travis County. Both exhibits will be inclusive of short oral histories, photographs, artifacts and other archival material housed at the Austin History Center.

Due to available exhibit space at the Austin History Center, only (36) thirty six nominees will be selected as Trailblazers. There will be approximately four nominees per the (9) nine categories mentioned in the Project Summary above. The (36) thirty-six nominees chosen as Trailblazers will be showcased in the exhibits.

A publication commemorating the exhibit will also be published. This publication will highlight a chronological timeline of the Mexican American communities in Austin and Travis County along with other historical documentation depicting the Mexican American culture in Austin. Full biographical information along with their photographs of the (36) thirty-six Trailblazers will be included in the publication.

All other nominees not selected as Trailblazers will receive Honorable Mention distinguishing and shorter biographical information along with their photographs will also be included in the publication.



## Nomination Criteria

Nominees must have lived in Austin or Travis County for a significant number of years

Nominee(s) must fit the definition of a Trailblazer "one who blazes a trail to guide others; an innovative leader in a field; a pioneer". Nominee(s) must have been the first for example to have been elected to a political position in Austin or Travis County; started a business that has existed in our community for years, etc. Nominee(s) must have made significant contributions to the Mexican American community in Austin and Travis County

Nominators may nominate more than one person per category. Mexican American Firsts: Trailblazers of Austin and Travis County Nomination Form must be submitted to Gloria Espitia, Neighborhood Liaison for the Mexican American Community at the Austin History Center by either mail (Gloria Espitia, Neighborhood Liaison 810 Guadalupe Street Austin, Texas 78701 or P.O. Box 2287 Austin, Texas 78768-2287), e-mail (gloria.espitia@ci.austin.tx.us) or fax (512-974-7483). Nominations will not be accepted by telephone.

All questions relating to this project will be referred to Gloria Espitia, Neighborhood Liaison by e-mail (gloria.espitia@ci.austin.tx.us) or telephone (512-974-7498).

Nomination deadline will be Saturday, October 31, 2009.

# *Estoy aqui para servirle.*

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Sinceramente,

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## Background

On July 28, 2009, the **Travis County Commissioners Court** severed the employment of two of their highest ranking minority employees. In a motion made by **Judge Sam Biscoe** and seconded by **Commissioner Margaret Gomez, Alicia Perez, Executive Manager of Administrative Operations** and **Linda Moore Smith, the Director of Human Resources** were told to "vacate their personal belongings from the county by noon", the next day.

After, almost 15 years of public service to **Travis County** and more than 32 years in public administration, **Alicia Perez** told **La Voz**, "I couldn't believe what they were doing. I was in shock. People started coming to my office and asking what did they do? I replied, I think they just fired me." **Alicia** told us that she instinctively started to pack. She called her husband, her best friend, the local head of **AFSME** and a former Commissioner to tell them what had happened. The custodians, who knew **Alicia** from her long days at work where she regularly kept late hours, came to ask how they could help. They packed hurriedly to meet the Court's imposed dead line. "Me senti decepcionada y triste..... despues de tanto trabajo, porque es que se portadon tan mal?" **Alicia** closed the door to the office where she had worked for the last 15 years and bid a tearful good-bye to **Travis County**. She was out of her office by 10:00 PM the same Tuesday the Court dismissed her.

Some confusion followed the July 28<sup>th</sup> Commissioners Court Action. Sources report that **County Judge Sam Biscoe** made several calls to Latino leaders about **Perez's** "suspension" but failed to mention the termination of employment. According to the **Austin American Statesman**, both employees had been feuding" over the last five years and termination of both employees was the last option for the Court. On August 4, 2009 the Commissioners Courtroom was packed with many Latino Community Leaders and others who had worked with and for **Alicia Perez**. Thirty-Two people testified on **Perez's** behalf. **Judge Sam Biscoe** for the first time known cut off the sign up for citizens communication. Many others would have signed up if he had not stopped those who wanted to speak at thirty two. Many supporters addressed **Perez's** accomplishments, among those were representative from **Unidos, LULAC, APD's Hispanic Officers Association - Amigos in Azul, Texas State Hispanic Officers Association** and community leaders such a **Marta Coteria, Paul Saldana** and business leaders **Mari Rodriguez Barr** of the Barr Company and **Jerry Bragg**, President of the **Republic of Texas Biker Rally**.

The Commissioners Court allowed **Perez** and **Smith** to use their sick and vacation leave until September 1, 2009. When, as if to add insult to injury the **Travis County Commissioners Court** took a second vote to terminate the employment of **Alicia Perez** and **Linda Moore Smith**. Again both women of color were fired but this time the vote had changed with Commissioner **Margaret Gomez** voting **no** on the motion made by **Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt** and seconded by **Commissioner Karen Huber**. The vote this time was 3-2 with **Biscoe** joining the two Anglo members of the Commissioners Court to dismiss **Perez & Smith**. The Chronicle has also reported on this case and many of the facts are disputed and documents show a different story than that presented by the Commissioners Court about the feuding managers and personality conflict. We at **La Voz de Austin** wanted to know what really happened and the following is an interview with **Alicia Perez**

# An Interview

## Former Executive Manager

**La Voz:** **Mrs. Perez**, you have been in the newspaper a lot lately. In fact, you were even featured in an **Austin American Statesman** editorial. Your situation at the county has generated a lot of questions. So let's start by asking you what is going on?

... these two women just could not get along so we had to get rid of both of them. The paper made it sound like we were peers. I was not her peer, I was her supervisor.

**Mrs. Perez:** Well lo que esta pasando es un ejemplo de prejuicio y discriminacion. I have worked in public administration for 32 years. I worked in **Boston, Massachusetts, Corpus Christi**, served as the only Latina Assistant City Manager in the History of **Austin** and served **Travis County** for almost 15 years. I am a professional and the **Austin American Statesman** only printed what **Judge Biscoe** said, that, these two women just could not get along so we had to get rid of both of them. The paper made it sound like we were peers. I was not her peer, I was her supervisor. And as for the \$50,000 spent on the matter, \$40,000 went for investigation on complaints against **Smith**. It is not true that the money went to fix a problem between me and **Smith**.

I worked very hard for **Travis County**, among my accomplishments is the completion of over \$300 million in construction projects and property acquisition that has expanded **Travis County** services into the communities it serves. For three years in a row there have been no increase in premiums for employee health care insurance plus the **Employee Wellness Program** won Administrative Operations a Best Practice Award from the **Texas Association of Counties** in 2008. Two other Best Practice Awards were received during my tenure with **Travis County**. "I built those departments and was responsible for a lot of successful programs and cost saving measures being implemented at **Travis County**."



**Alicia Perez**

**La Voz:** Now, tell me what exactly was your title with the country.

**Mrs. Perez:** I was the executive manager for administrative operations. There are 6 executive managers that take directives from the elected officials.

**La Voz:** What departments were in your portfolio?

**Mrs. Perez:** Human Resource, Facilities Management, Information Technology Systems, Records Management and Communication Resources. I was responsible for over 155 million dollars of budget and I had over 300 employees in these divisions

**La Voz:** When you think back about what happened with this event that led to your and **Mrs. Smith** dismissal, where did it start?

**Mrs. Perez:** There were a lot of employee complaints on **Mrs. Smith**.

**La Voz:** These were EEOC complaints?

**Mrs. Perez:** Some were formally filed others were complaints that came to me and the Commissioners Court.

**La Voz:** Now what was **Mrs. Smith's** title?

**Mrs. Perez:** She was the director of HR (Human Resources)

# with Alicia Perez

## for Administrative Operations for Travis County



Linda Moore-Smith

concerns with **Mrs. Smith**. And every time I spoke to her about a complaint, it was always the employee's fault. After a while it became un disco rayado. (scratched record) *Pero no solamente eso, como todos hiban estar mal menos ella? Eran muchas las quejas. Era mi obligaci3n responder.*

**La Voz:** So then you were her supervisor?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes. I was her supervisor.

**La Voz:** So there were complaints about **Mrs. Smith**?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes. There were complaints about how she treated people. They stated that she was abusive. There were employees who felt she was not open to debate or dissenting opinions.

**La Voz:** When **EEOC** complaints are filed, where are they filed?

**Mrs. Perez:** They are filed with **Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**.

**La Voz:** What kind of agency is this?

**Mrs. Perez:** This is a state workforce commission

**La Voz:** So the complaints that have been filed against **Mrs. Smith** were filed with an agency outside of Travis County?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes.

**La Voz:** So when would you find out about the complaint?

**Mrs. Perez:** Well, the complaints sometimes came to me first. The employees complained and I addressed

**La Voz:** OK, so the complaints came to you first. When did the State become involved?

**Mrs. Perez:** At different times. The employees came to me and then I talked to **Mrs. Smith**. The employees would also go to the Commissioner's Court. So when the Commissioner's Court says that they don't know anything about it, that's not true.

**La Voz:** Let me understand, employees would go to you and to the Commissioner's Court with their complaints?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes.

**La Voz:** So they were in essence leapfrogging. Were they doing this because they had exhausted their options with you?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes. I guess you could say that. They were frustrated. Some of them understood that my hands were tied with **Mrs. Smith** because of **Judge Biscoe**.

**La Voz:** When you say your hands were tied because of **Judge Biscoe**, what do you mean?

**Mrs. Perez:** *El Judge Biscoe no la queria desocupar. (Judge Biscoe did not want to fire her.) El siempre fue su protector. Eso fue racismo.*

**La Voz:** So as I am hearing it, there were problems between **Smith** and her subordinates and there were so many complaints that employees went to the Commissioner's Court to seek resolution.

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes.

**La Voz:** So what did you do about the complaints?

**Mrs. Perez:** I knew there problems with management style and that she might not be the appropriate person to head that department. I spoke to the judge about it, I spoke to the court about it. I went to the County Attorney. A year ago a memorandum for her termination was submitted to **Judge Biscoe** and the County Attorney's office. Again on July 1, 2009, another memo with the same recommendation was submitted to the entire Commissioner's Court. The judge kept putting it off. He kept telling me to forget about it. He told me to stop bringing it up. He asked me why I keep bringing this issue up?

**La Voz:** And what did you say?

**Mrs. Perez:** I said I am bringing it up because it is important. It's going to happen again. There were a lot of unhappy folks in HR and we needed to make a change. This is not just one instance or one case. This is four **EEOC** complaints from four employees. There were also other complaints by other individuals. This was a pattern of behavior that could no longer be ignored or covered up.

**La Voz:** So let me ask you, did any of these complaints see resolution that does not see someone leaving?

**Mrs. Perez:** No.

**La Voz:** So all of these people ended up leaving?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes. All of the people that complained against **Linda Moore Smith** were either transferred to other departments, resigned because they could not take it anymore or were fired. That includes me.

**La Voz:** So what we the general public read in the **Austin American Statesman** is that things were not getting resolved, and that people were working in a bad work environment. We also read that an outside firm comes in at a cost of \$50,000 and doesn't really come up with much and the Commissioner's Court decides to resolve the issue by firing both of you?

**Mrs. Perez:** Yes. If they were going to fire the black woman they had to fire the Mexican. That is what I was told.

**La Voz:** You are saying you were fired because you are a Mexican?

**Mrs. Perez:** Without a doubt, racial and gender prejudice contributed to their decision. None of those employee complaints were against me. In 32 years of public service I have never had one **EEOC** complaint filed against me. The Court did not do their due diligence before they moved to fire me. None of my department heads were asked what kind

of a boss I was. Elected officials were not surveyed on my service to them nor were my past evaluations taken into account. The **Travis County Commissioner's Court** could not differentiate between me and **Linda Moore Smith**. They just saw two women of color, acted on their prejudice and decided it was easier to dismiss us both, one for cause and the other just because. . . *No es Justo!*



Travis County Judge  
Samuel Biscoe

**River City Youth Foundation (RCYF)** is looking to the future while honoring its past. Recently, this youth and technology center helmed by its longtime founder **Mona Gonzalez** celebrated its 25th anniversary with an event titled "Creating the Future." The milestone makes **RCYF** the oldest locally-based independent youth organization in **Austin**. Landmarking this gala event with nearly 200 people in attendance, including longtime community leaders and officials, is just the latest milestone in **RCYF's** long history of supporting the Austin community.

"We started out at a **Meadowbrook** housing project in the 1980s," said **Gonzalez**, executive director of **RCYF**. "Within ten years we were serving the most challenging neighborhoods all over Austin with counselors and after-school forward-thinking activities."

A native of **Brownsville, Texas**, **Gonzalez** came to **Austin** in the 70s to get her Sociology degree from the **University of Texas at Austin**. After graduation, she started her career working for a **San Marcos** youth organization. It was there she quickly realized the need for effective neighborhood based strategies.

In 1998, **RCYF** received a two-acre piece of land located in **Dove Springs** in southeast **Austin**. In a strategic move to focus efforts in an area that was at a "crossroads," **RCYF** decided to centralize its satellite centers which at the time were located in other Austin areas and focus on a zip code that today remains **Austin's** fastest-growing, most diverse population.

"I was very compelled by the loss of opportunity I saw in young people," **Gonzalez** said. "Rather than going to college they were going to jail. I knew we needed a neighborhood-based approach to really touch the heart and needs of the families and to intervene for **Austin**."

In the 90s, at the request of the mayor, **RCYF** took a lead role in galvanizing efforts on a city and state wide level. At the time, **Austin** was labeled as an "emerging gang city." Through its efforts, **RCYF** led city task forces and campaigns to help diminish this negative classification.

Today many of its earlier programs, which have won awards by groups such as **National Keep America Beautiful** and its local affiliates, have inspired longstanding change throughout **Austin**.

Part of **RCYF's** efforts include scores of best practices programs throughout its 25 year history. Programs include the "My Hero" mentoring program, Positive Leadership Youth Development Program, Youth Vision Multimedia Program, and many more. **RCYF** has also taken a leadership role with a number of community events in southeast **Austin** that have drawn thousands of families, such as its annual Father's Parade, a March for Neighborhood Pride, and the **Merry Memories Holiday**. Its community development, capacity building, and youth development work has been recognized by regional, national, and even global groups ranging from **Americorps** to the White House.

This fall, **RCYF** is launching Case by Case Family Strengthening Services for families hit the hardest by the recession. In addition to specialty programs designed to help families and children alike, **RCYF** also provides year round after school programs, even during summer break and holidays.

**Viviana Martinez** is just one example of how **RCYF** has positively impacted the children of **Dove Springs** community, academically and on a personal level.

"I like all the classes they have to offer," 13-year-old **Martinez** said. "It challenges me

to get ahead and stay ahead and succeed and I love how the teachers interact not only as teachers but as friends." **Viviana** was the keynote youth speaker at the **RCYF** anniversary event.

At the event **Gonzalez** was thanked for her dedication to **Austin** and recognized by her colleagues, mentors, and supporters, including **Travis County Commissioner Margaret Gomez**, former **County Commissioner Richard Moya**, **Representative Mark Strama**, **Representative Eddie Rodriguez**, **City Manager Marc Ott**, **Austin Fire Chief Rhonda Mae Kerr**, **Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez**, **Councilman Chris Riley**, **Councilman Bill Spellman** and many others. The event also featured a speech by **Luis Patino**, **Univision TV General Manager** and Vice President and emcee entertainment by **Ronald Oliveira**, **KEYE News Anchor**.

"The future of **RCYF** and southeast **Austin** is intertwined with the goal of a better tomorrow," said **Gonzalez**. "Even though we don't see the seeds that we plant today, we must plant them knowing that we may never see the ultimate result but knowing that they will yield

protection, support, and inspiration for decades to come."

**RCYF's** immediate goals include creating healthy and safe activities for children within walking distance of their homes, eliminating juvenile delinquency issues, creating new partnerships, and building greater education and workforce resources and facilities in southeast **Austin**.

As part of its forthcoming GROW campaign (Growing Resources, Opportunities & Work), **RCYF** is also getting closer to its dream of launching a new facility on its two-acre parkland that will be four times the size and will provide greater access to technology, meals, and skills development for youth and parents.

"In the next 25 years, I want to engage everyone in the building of the 'beloved community,' the community of which **Martin Luther King** dreamed," **Gonzalez** said. "I want us to continue to be a beacon of light and engage everyone in the mission to make lives safer, healthier, and more prosperous."

To be a part of **RCYF's** GROW campaign, email [GROW@RiverCityYouth.org](mailto:GROW@RiverCityYouth.org) or visit [www.RiverCityYouth.org](http://www.RiverCityYouth.org)

# RIVER CITY YOUTH FOUNDATION LI FOR 25 YEARS OF INSPIRIN



Design Credit: Page Southerland Page



# LEADER MONA GONZALEZ HONORED FOR YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT



**ABOVE:** Oné Musel-Gilley (RCYF Marketing/PR Ambassador), Mona Gonzalez (Founding RCYF Director), and Ronald Oliveira (KEYE News Anchor)

**LEFT:** Young up and coming vocalist Kimariee Lynn pays tribute to the late Willie Kocurek at the RCYF 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event



**ABOVE:** Police Chief Art Acevedo participates in the annual RCYF Dove Springs March for Neighborhood Pride that aims to promote peace and pride in southeast Austin



**ABOVE:** Mona Gonzalez conducts leadership training with children in the RCYF Summer of Safety program in far southeast Austin

**Photo credits:** Kimariee Lynn

# Where Are Austin ISD Students Going to College?

The **Texas Education Agency** which helps to oversee education in **Texas** collects vast amounts of data from school districts. Part of that data includes tracking where students who graduate from high school attend college. The data on these two pages is for high school in Austin, Texas. The most recent year being 2008.

There are a total of 14 high schools in **Austin, Texas**. Thirteen belong to the **Austin Independent School District** and the other is from the **Austin Can Academy Charter School**. (In the fall of 2008, the **KIPP Austin Collegiate High School** opened its doors for 9th and 10 graders)

From the data on these two pages the question that will be asked is where did the high school graduates go to college? Other questions that will asked and answered have to do with class size, the number of students that were not found and where students in fact went to college as per the tracking data of the **Texas Education Agency**.

**Question # 1 How many students graduated from each of the high schools in Austin, Texas?**

**Table # 1**  
**Austin High School Graduates**  
**by Number Graduated in 2008**

School	Graduates
1. Austin Can	51
2. Akins High	394
3. Anderson High	463
4. Austin High	480
5. Bowie High	630
6. Crockett High	351
7. Garza High	140
8. Johnston High	115
9. Lanier High	235
10. LASA High	195
11. LBJ High	168
12. McCallum High	358
13. Reagan High	121
14. Travis High	251
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,952</b>

As the table above shows, **Bowie High School** led the **Austin** high schools in the number of high school graduates followed by **Austin High School** and **Anderson High School**.

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AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE 6  
Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (2) 2  
Not trackable 4  
Not found 39  
Total high school graduates 51

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE 82  
TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS 28  
U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN 19  
U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO 8  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS 5  
Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (20) 32  
Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (7) 8  
Not trackable 37  
Not found 175  
Total high school graduates 394

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE 79  
U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN 51  
U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO 45  
TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS 22  
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY 19  
BLINN COLLEGE 10  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 10  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS 7  
TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY 6  
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY 5  
U. OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON 5  
Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (18) 28  
Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (1) 1  
Not trackable 19  
Not found 156  
Total high school graduates 463

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE 89  
U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN 33  
TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS 26  
U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO 26  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 14  
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY 12  
BLINN COLLEGE 9  
TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY 8  
SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY 5  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS 5  
Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (22) 37  
Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (6) 7  
Not trackable 37  
Not found 172  
Total high school graduates 480

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE 147  
TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS 47  
U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO 45  
U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN 32  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY 30  
BLINN COLLEGE 26  
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY 22  
ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY 14  
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY 10  
U. OF TEXAS AT DALLAS 8  
Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (23) 45  
Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (7) 10  
Not trackable 17  
Not found 177  
Total high school graduates 630

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE 68  
TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS 20  
University of TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO 18  
U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN 13  
ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY 7  
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIV 6  
Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (20) 28  
Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (3) 3  
Not trackable 24  
Not found 164  
Total high school graduates 351

# Where Are Austin ISD Students Going to College?

## Question # 2 Where are Austin High School Students Going to College?

**Table # 2**  
**College Destination of Austin High School Graduates by Number for 2008**

	Austin Community College	University of Texas at Austin	Texas State University
Austin Can	6	0	0
Akins High	82	19	28
Anderson High	79	51	22
Austin High	89	33	26
Bowie High	147	32	47
Crockett High	68	13	20
Garza High	27	5	0
Johnston High	25	5	0
Lanier High	49	16	0
LASA High	11	22	6
LBJ High	26	9	0
McCallum High	65	19	16
Reagan High	22	12	0
Travis High	33	12	10

As Table 2 shows, **Bowie High School** send the most Austin high school students to **Austin Community College** and to **Texas State University in San Marcos**. **Anderson High School** sent the most students to **UT Austin**.

In terms of "missing students" the **Austin** high schools that cannot account for what happened to some of their graduates are:

Austin Can	39 out of 51
Akins High	175 out of 394
Anderson High	156 out of 463
Austin High	172 out of 480
Bowie High	177 out of 630
Crockett High	164 out of 351
Garza High	86 out of 140
Johnston High	65 out of 115
Lanier High	92 out of 235
LASA High	79 out of 195
LBJ High	78 out of 168
McCallum High	148 out of 358
Reagan High	54 out of 121
Travis High	127 out of 251

AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	27
AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	5
AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (7)	12
AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (1)	1
AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	Not trackable	9
AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	Not found	86
AUSTIN ISD	GARZA INDEPENDENCE H S	Total high school graduates	140
AUSTIN ISD	JOHNSTON H S	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	25
AUSTIN ISD	JOHNSTON H S	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	5
AUSTIN ISD	JOHNSTON H S	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (8)	9
AUSTIN ISD	JOHNSTON H S	Not trackable	11
AUSTIN ISD	JOHNSTON H S	Not found	65
AUSTIN ISD	JOHNSTON H S	Total high school graduates	115
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	49
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	16
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS	5
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (10)	14
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (1)	1
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	Not trackable	58
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	Not found	92
AUSTIN ISD	LANIER H S	Total high school graduates	235
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO	24
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	22
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY	6
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS	6
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (12)	30
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (2)	2
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	Not trackable	15
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	Not found	79
AUSTIN ISD	LASA HIGH SCHOOL	Total high school graduates	195
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	26
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO	10
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	9
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (15)	21
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (3)	7
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	Not trackable	17
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	Not found	78
AUSTIN ISD	LBJ HIGH SCHOOL	Total high school graduates	168
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	65
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	19
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS	16
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS	14
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO	13
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY	6
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY	5
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (24)	47
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (6)	7
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	Not trackable	18
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	Not found	148
AUSTIN ISD	MCCALLUM H S	Total high school graduates	358
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	22
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	7
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (9)	16
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (2)	2
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	Not trackable	20
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	Not found	54
AUSTIN ISD	REAGAN H S	Total high school graduates	121
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	33
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	12
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	TEXAS STATE UNIV - SAN MARCOS	10
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	U. OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO	7
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	Other Pub/Ind 4-yr Inst. (9)	12
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	Other Pub/Ind 2-yr Inst. (2)	2
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	Not trackable	48
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	Not found	127
AUSTIN ISD	TRAVIS H S	Total high school graduates	251



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# Wayne's World

by Wayne

Ring Ring! My phone rang and I answered! It was my girlfriend, she wanted to know if I could give her twenty to get her nails done. Loving her so much, I gave it to her. She was gonna go with her friend **Erica** because **Erica** had a car. So they arrive to pick up my girlfriend 20 minutes later. At first I didn't think much of it and was happy to give her money. Little did I know that her friend was a backstabber. They took off and I went to kick it with my neighbor.

Around an hour or two later I get another call. It was my girlfriend's friend **Erica**. She tells me, "Hey **Wayne** come get your girl she's trippen!" So I go out there and my girlfriend is across the street crying. In the car, **Erica** and my homeboy from school are sitting there trying to lie to me about what happened. I asked my girlfriend what happened, but she's all drugged up and can barely walk.

### So I run outside with my girl in my arms and tell her friend to take me where they went that day.

So I carried her into my house, but my anger got to me. So I run outside with my girl in my arms and tell her friend to take me where they went that day. Well, turns out **Erica** took my girl to a party. There she slipped pills in my girls drink and took off. She left my girlfriend by herself and took off with my homeboy's big brother. Well that day my girlfriend got raped.

She was followed into the restroom, where my homeboy's cousin pulled down his pants and raped her as two other guys held her down and the rest of them took turns. Then she came out and six guys dragged her back into the restroom. So later on, her friend **Erica** comes back and acts as if she had nothing to do with it and they threw my girlfriend in the car and drop her off at my house.

### At the time I didn't know what was going on, but there I was on my way to my homeboy's house

At the time I didn't know what was going on, but there I was on my way to my homeboy's house ready to punch his face in, but then **Erica** calls for him to come outside. No one comes out. So she drops me back off at my house and I rush inside carrying my girl and I lay her down. Seeing my girlfriend like that crushed my spirit and I couldn't handle it. So I watched her sleep for about half an hour. I woke her up and tried to see

what happened. She tells me that **Erica** told her that they were going to give some dude a ride and that it would only take a second.

I felt lost for the first time in my life. I didn't know who to trust anymore. Sometimes I blame myself for it, but deep down inside I was just trying to make my girlfriend happy by giving her money. Somehow my plans were crushed. Who would have been able to stop it though?

It's kind of crazy how a friend from elementary can turn on you so quick and I blame him for it mainly because if he was a so called friend he would of spoke up or stoped it from happening. Instead, he added to it and recorded it on his phone. Everyday that I'm at school I hear them discussing it in class and sharing the story with classmates, But when I'm around they stay quiet. It gets to me and I feel like smashing their faces in.

Well what can I do? When my girlfriend called the cops all they did was put two of the guys in ankle bracelets. What is that supposed to do to them? Sure they talk about rape and how serious they take them, well open your eyes up cops, what would you call this situation? Oh and yes these dudes where over age! Ain't that enough evidence! The men, or should I say cowards admitted to it and still got away with it.

### To a young girl who is already doing badly, this event is killing her even more

To a young girl who is already doing badly, this event is killing her even more. I know because I am the one who walks her to class and to lunch everyday. Not only that, the girl, **Erica** is always yelling out to my girlfriend, "You're just mad because you got raped," and it gets to me and my girl. I ask my self everydaym what if I would have been there? Could I have stopped this? I try to be strong about it, and ignore it. But everywhere I am, there is always people coming up to me and asking if what they heard about my girl is true.

I write this story to show people how anything can happen when you least expect it. Yes it's hard at times but after a while, stuff like this gets old and you move on. Remember what doesn't kill you will always make you stronger! That's a quote I heard and have kept on my mind for the longest

Continued on next page

# Wayne's World

continued

*"Death is nothing, but to live defeated is to die everyday,"*

time. It kept me on my feet and from giving up. Another quote that I got from my brother in a letter from prison was, *"Death is nothing, but to live defeated is to die everyday,"* which at the time is relevant. It made me think of the situation as a task or an experience to learn from, and choose what ways are wrong from right. No matter what happen to my girlfriend we shouldn't act or feel defeated, because karma is a "bitch." Pardon my language but it is, and who knows what those rats (first friends now enemies) have waiting for them in there road up ahead.

Only the Lord knows and I'm going to leave it to him to punish them. Advice to the loyal and intelligent, *"keep your friends close but your enemies closer."* because they will be revealed in many ways, you just have to decide which is which. No matter what situation your in, don't be weak minded! Stay strong and don't take things too far, to where you think of committing suicide! That will only show you that your defeated.

This story was written by **Wayne**. **La Voz de Austin** encourages students to submit articles for publication. Students whose articles are published in **La Voz de Austin** are paid ten cents a word. Your support of our newspaper helps us to show young people about the power of the pen.

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# Calendar of Events

**October 2nd and 3rd, 2009** - US Latino & Latina WWII Oral History Project celebrating 10th year anniversary with dinner and conference. Location: AT&T Executive Conference Center at The University of Texas at Austin. Tickets are \$50 and include the dinner. To reserve seats call Raquel Garza at (512) 471-1924

**October 13th, 2009** - Eastside Memorial Celebration. Activities begin at 11:00am. Parent Open House at 6:00pm Food and Refreshments.

**October 14th, 2009 - Workers Defense Project Event** TIME: 6:30- 9pm LOCATION: Mercury Hall 615 Cardinal Ln For more information call, 512-391-2305 Tickets are \$25 per person Silent Auction, Food, and Live Music This years honorees are TateAustinHahn and David Adamson for their generous support to the organization.

**October 16th, 2009 - Margaret Gomez Annual Fish Fry** TIME: 5:00pm - 8:00pm LOCATION: Rabbit's Lounge, 1816 E 6th St INFO: Johnny Degollado and his Conjunto band will play. Fish will be served from 5:00-8:00. Tickets are only \$5.00 and can be purchased by calling 762-7016.

**October 16th, 2009 - An Evening with Myrna at the Long Center** - Back by popular demand! Austin's own multi-talented artist, actress, and singer, Myrna Cabello combines all her talents to bring you an experience that will make you laugh, cry, sing, dance, and beg for more. Myrna will take you on a journey through her debut CD "Letting Go" via a theatrical interpretation including video, dancers, music, storytelling and special guests. Location: Long Center, Debra & Kevin Rollins Theatre Time: 7 pm Doors, 8 pm Show

**October 16th, 2009** - The Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) in partnership with the Department of Theater and Dance (College of Fine Arts) will host the **Siglo XXI Modern Movimientos Danza Symposium** on Friday and Saturday, October 16-17, 2009 on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin

**October 20th, 2009** - Join the Hispanic Scholarship Consortium (HSC) and Con Mi MADRE for the **Define Tu Futuro/Define Your Future Bilingual College & Career Fair!** Geared at high school juniors and seniors and their families, the event will include colleges, universities and professionals from an array of backgrounds. Interested in volunteering as a translator, greeting families or just helping out any way you can? Contact Marisa Limon at [mlimon@hispanicscholar.org](mailto:mlimon@hispanicscholar.org) today. Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) 600 River St., Austin, TX 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. FREE

**October 20th, 2009** - Fidel "Ace" Acevedo for Justice of Peace What: Kickoff Campaign event for Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2 Time: 5:30PM to 8PM Where: El Sol y La Luna, 600 East 6th Street, Austin, TX Enjoy Marimba Tropical Music and join us for Happy Hour and Snacks More Info: Contact **Fidel Acevedo**, 512-775-7276

**October 20th, 2009** - The Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS), in partnership with the Center for Women's and Gender Studies, the Center for Women's and Gender Studies, the Gender and Sexuality Center, and the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection, University of Texas Libraries, will host a screening and discussion of the film, "**ALTAR. Cruzando Fronteras, Building Bridges.**" A documentary film directed by Paola Zaccaria and Daniele Basilio (2009). Professor Paola Zaccaria from the University of Bari (Italy) will be attending the event.

**October 24th, 2009 - Mexic-Arte Museum's Viva La Vida Fest!** Location: 5th Street Block (between Congress and Brazos) 2:00-10:00 PM Mexic-Arte Museum, the Official Mexican and Mexican American Fine Art Museum of Texas, will be celebrating its 26th Annual Día de los Muertos - Austin's largest and longest-running Day of the Dead festival featuring Latino artists and entertainment, an exhibition, and educational programs in the heart of downtown.

**October 31st, 2009 - Halloween Dance** at the Monarch Center 8:00pm to Midnight \$10.00 pre-sale Music by **Los Texas Wranglers**. For more information call Julian Fernandez at 512-933-1485

**November 11th, 2009** - Lamarfest an event at Lamar Middle School. Musica, Juegos, Premios, Comida Doors open at 6:00pm. Location: 6201 Wynaona Austin, Texas 78757

To get your events listed in *La Voz de Austin* please call: (512) 944-4123

## 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, 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*.

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.

Fired	Despedida
no reason	sin razón
just because	nomas porque
I said so	Yo dije
I need this job	Necesito este trabajo
It doesn't matter	No le hace
It wasn't me	Yo no fui
I don't know	Yo no se
What documents	A cuales documentos
She told me to	Ella me dijo
I do as I am told	Hago lo que me digan
It's your fault	Tu tienes la culpa
Your crazy	Estas loca!
I'll fiight this	Voy a pelear esto
I don't believe you	No te creo
Wait and see	Vas a ver
I told you	Te dije



**SUPPORTED BY:**

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**BALANCED****FAIR****EXPERIENCED**

During law school, Olga Seelig worked for the Travis County Criminal District and County Court at Law judges as a law clerk. She knew then she wanted to be a Judge. Her broad and balanced experience in the courtroom, as a prosecutor and defense attorney, led to her appointment to the bench of the Austin Municipal Court. She has been praised for her work as Judge by both defendants and law enforcement, where she proves her integrity with a fair and just court for all.

**OlgaSeelig.com****Vote March 2, 2010**

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RUTH ANN BROWN  
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WILLIAM "BILL"  
BROWNING  
SCOTT BRUTOCIO  
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CANDACE MANGES  
DUVAL

Juez con experiencia, designada  
por la ciudad de Austin

Abogada con una carrera de éxito,  
en defensa y acusación

Madre dedicada, con dos hijas lindas  
Chicana orgullosa, nació en El Paso,  
la hija de una inmigrante

Una democrata probada, trabajando  
por todos

# Olga Seelig

## Democrat

for

## County Court at Law 3

**Nuestro voto, nuestra voz!**

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