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This grass roots publication is the life source for a community that is not easily afforded viable access to diverse and accessible media. San Antonio and the surrounding counties have become accustomed to relevant news brought to them in both English and Spanish since 1913.

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Let's Talk About It

2023 New Year's Resolutions

By Yvette Tello

The last few years have been tough when it comes to making resolutions. Some of us are just happy to be alive. As the year's end closes in on us, we tend to look to the future with a new hope and renewed strength to accomplish our resolutions. What are your 2023 New Year's Resolutions? What are you thankful for? Is it a healthier you? A happier you? Is it just building on what you already have? Is it providing food or time to talk to family and friends to help alleviate burdens together rather than trying to do it on their own? Let's talk about it...

Jenny Miller: "New Year's resolutions are impossible to keep."

Charlotte Char Taylor: "I don't do New Year's resolutions! That being said- What I will always do is try to be a better person each day. Try to show more love each day. Try to encourage one more person each day. Help my family and friends as much as I can each day. Help a stranger in need, without needing to get "likes" for doing so. I'm not trying to match anyone's energy- bad or good. Never have. Trying to match someone's energy is giving their action power over your feelings. Nah- I'm sending out my own positive energy- to everyone. Take it or leave it. It's available. I'm enjoying watching my womb fruits flourish in their happy places. Watching my gorgeous grand babies grow up! Oh yeah, they are all gorgeous! God has been so good to me. I'm in a good place. I'm vibing. In my own zone. Having fun. Enjoying special friends. Resort hopping. All that!! 2023 Travels on deck! Y'all- I'm focused on preparing a legacy and financial foundation for my lineage. That being said. The only energy I'm matching is the energy God sends to me- to keep pushing - He blessed me immeasurably In 2022. 2023 Excites me! Let's all strive to be Great in 2023."

Francisco Ramirez: "Most importantly, I want to take care of my health. I've been neglecting it for too many years."

Paul Nimnicht: "Thankful for my friends, family in my life, good health and being employed. All with the help of the good Lord up above.. Overwhelmingly thankful. Amen."

Melody Mike: "I don't make resolutions. But those topics you mentioned are something to strive for every day, no need to make a resolution about it. It should be something ingrained. My thoughts are if you help another whether family or not, it builds that happiness that one should aspire for. It builds a foundation in oneself. Health? My liver might have some thoughts on that subject."

Stefani Shamloo: "I haven't made resolutions in years. I just strive to do better with a grateful and thankful heart always."

Felizamin Fresnosa: "There is no other resolution but to keep God within our hearts and look forward to that ETERNITY with Him."

Jen Smythe: "I'm not making a resolution this year. It would be to lose weight in a healthy way, but I am having huge motivation problems and low will power. My hope is to create an area in front of my south window to grow greens inside from seeds soon."

Jordan Dyer: "To be healthy... To improve my physical appearance, to get my life in order...to be happy."

Tommy Barnes: "Get my abs back!"

Mlm Guru: "My New Year's Resolutions are- I hope to become a great person, someone people would willingly pay attention to. I want people to see that I am a trustworthy and wise person who is leading an exemplary life, then they would want to know what I do and listen to what I have to say. I wouldn't need to impose my will on others, and wouldn't be offended even if people do not agree with me."

Ferns Rhi: "My New Year Resolutions- Start a meditation practice. Learn something new each day. Pick up a hobby. Play more. Eat fewer calories. Set aside One-Hour-A-Day to achieve my dreams. Spend more time with nature. Enjoy the little things in life."

Rajesh Kumar Sapra: "My new year's resolutions are - "Exercise more. Lose weight. Get organized. Learn a new skill or hobby. Live life to the fullest. Save more money / spend less money. Quit smoking. Spend more time with family and friends. Travel more. Read more."

Clifford Fernandes: "Strike a Better Work-Life Balance; I'll disconnect from the bustle of everyday work life to relax and plan activities with friends and family. Stay more Organized; I'll get rid of old notes on my desk and clear out my computer desktop. Stop caring about what others think by building self-confidence; using practices like daily affirmations. Manage Time Well by maximizing my productivity within specific blocks of time. Make Healthy Lifestyle Changes like resolving to eat something healthy every day."

Ábu Sáddám Molla: "For this new year my new year resolution will be-

1. Control my anger :- At times I lose my temper and it harms the closest persons in my life so I'll control my anger in a proper way, and join a meditation class which makes my mind peaceful.
2. Get a job: As this is the last year of my graduation, I'll prepare myself for the competitive world and secure myself a good job and make my parents proud that now their son is finally overcome their expectations
3. A HOLIDAY PLAN FOR MY PARENTS: My parents are getting older. It will be the best idea to plan a holiday trip for them from my very first salary from the new job.
4. FIND MY INNER SELF: As I'm getting busier day by day, it's really hard to get the peace of mind, so I'll join a meditation class and listen to inspirational speeches

5. Make myself fit: I'll lose some weight this year and do some regular exercises to make my body flexible and light and have physical fitness.

6. Do some charity: After getting my first job, I'll donate 10 % of my salary to the needy.

7. Enhance my hoppy: I've always loved to play the guitar, I've learned the initials but can't move further because of my busy schedule, but this year I'll spare some time and enhance my guitar skills.

8. Make the love of my life happy: I have a very special person in my life but I've realized that I've never done something special for her so this year I'll pamper her and make her feel like she's my world.

9. Visit orphanages and old age homes once in a month: These people really need us for their support and make them feel that they are not alone. I do visit orphanages and old age homes but not regularly. This year, I will.

10. Enjoy; I'll love myself for who I'm and will enjoy every moment of my life as it comes. I'll give and have happiness all the time."

Kumudben Modhia: "My New year resolution is "To lead a healthy and active lifestyle". This can be achieved through a balanced diet, weekly 150 mins of moderate-intensity exercises, maintaining a calm mind and a cheerful deposition. Importantly, I would like to take care of the health of the people around me."

Sunita M: "Learn to only focus on controlling the things I can control. Too often we stress about things we really can't control, and it just makes us put unnecessary worry and pressure on ourselves."

Pathak Ramanand Vijay: "Learn to control my emotions: Uncontrolled anger can get you into a lot of trouble, but things like jealousy and pride are destructive in all circumstances. Gaining control over your feelings allows you to keep a level head and think more rationally, even during emotionally charged conflict situations."

Fayeriane Barrera: "I promise myself to make time for my own self care. As a Mom, I spend so much time focusing on my kids that I often neglect myself. Then when I have time for ourselves, I feel so guilty! Taking care of my needs is vital so that I can be a better mom. A well rested Mom is a happy Mom. And a happy Mom is a great Mom. Last year, I was the mom who had "be a better mother" as one of my New Year's resolutions. My goals were saddled with plans to go on weekly play dates, take my kids on adventures, and help them meet their milestones. So maybe it's no surprise that last year was also one of the most physically and mentally draining ones to date. I was taking on more than I could handle and I didn't know how to stop. I knew I couldn't do that any more, so I decided that the only New Year's resolution I would have this year is to take care of myself too. For me, it starts by accepting that it's not possible to "do it all" every day and maintain my mental health and well-being. When I finally accepted that, putting myself first became more of a tangible New Year's resolution."

About the Cover Artist: Cruz Ortiz



Provided by SAWS
Cover Photo by
Dr. Ricardo Romo

San Antonio Water System partnered with the Texas Water Foundation on a new Southside water-themed mural by acclaimed artist Cruz Ortiz. The mural, located at 1419 Roosevelt Ave., was showcased at an unveiling event Wednesday, December 14.

Cruz Ortiz is an American Contemporary Artist who uses multiple mediums examining connections to nature, hope, healing, beauty, endurance, and the cosmos. He uses bold graphic screen prints, figurative abstract portraiture, dream-like landscape paintings, temporal guerrilla installations, utilitarian machines, hand carved wood sculptures, large scale public art, video, and performance art. He is interested in the exhausting narratives searching for love and the sense of home land. Ortiz is constantly working in the studio, jumping from traditional studio methods such as painting and sculpture to commercial printmaking and print design projects. Most of his works are created with a sense of exigency, only so he can keep up with the ever evolving ideas and visual manifestos eager to be revealed. Early in his career he would thrash through photography, screen prints and video projects in a very punk skater rasquache manner, which involved staged performances and make-shift projection art parties.

Currently, Ortiz has been exclusively working on painting as a romantic

art historical form of documentation. It is through the use of this archaic form that he is taking risks of institutionalizing subject matter. In a time where everything is now digital and virtual, Ortiz is mixing oil paintings and painting from direct observation, while detecting the importance of painting for the future. He is also very interested in how painting pushes the critical contextualization of social political issues. His artistic projects aim to center the periphery to capture moments in history, especially the settler state that has tried, over and over, to erase from collective memory. With a great sense of urgency to record, preserve, and disseminate, he paints.

The mural is the second to be commissioned by the Texas Water Foundation under its statewide water campaign, Texas Runs on Water. The campaign is working to address the state's growing water supply needs by inspiring Texans to value water.

"We know that teaching the value of water is critical to helping people conserve it," said Robert R. Puente, SAWS President/CEO. "Cruz Ortiz has done a great job of illustrating that importance going back to San Antonio's beginnings. It has been a real privilege to both serve on the board of the Texas Water Foundation and to help share this wonderful mural here on the city's South Side."

Texas Runs on Water is built on Texas' strong sense of local pride and is intentionally designed to be localized across the state. In San Antonio,



the campaign celebrates the city's history and its deep connection to water. The artwork features a depiction of the San Antonio River, once known as the Yanaguana River, and the inhabitants who relied on the water source as they shaped and settled the land.

"We are proud to partner with SAWS and work with Cruz Ortiz on a community focused mural," says Sarah Schlessinger, CEO of the Texas Water Foundation. "Bringing a Texas Runs on Water mural to San Antonio is our way of celebrating and honoring a city deeply connected to water. We hope the mural inspires San Antonians to feel how water continues to shape its story. Everything we love about San Antonio - runs on water".

In addition to highlighting the importance of water to our community, murals like this one are an important step in investing in and highlighting the importance of our diverse San Antonio communities.

Led by the Texas Water Foundation, Texas Runs on Water (TROW) is a first-of-its-kind statewide water campaign, working to address the state's growing water supply needs

by inspiring all Texans to participate in a viral cultural movement that spurs action and conversation around water. The Texas Runs on Water campaign links the value of water to pride in all things Texas. The state's thriving economy, wild landscapes, and beloved Texas products and pastimes all exist because of water. Launched in 2021, this campaign is intentionally designed as an umbrella concept that can be localized by region, audience, or water use. TROW has already garnered millions of views in Houston, the Texas Hill Country, and the Panhandle, with plans to expand across the state. The Texas Water Foundation hopes that through this campaign, all Texans will embrace that everything they love about Texas is rooted in water. Learn more at [TexasRunsonWater.org](https://www.texasrunsonwater.org) or follow along @TexasRunsonWater on Facebook and Instagram, and @TXRunsonWater on Twitter and TikTok.

The Texas Water Foundation is now accepting applications for the Texas Water Leaders Program, an annual leadership program that provides water professionals stepping into positions of leadership with the tools, training, and opportunities to expand

their potential. Water professionals from all sectors who are stepping into or are already in positions of leadership should apply by February 15, 2023. A Texas Water Leaders class of 2023 information webinar will be hosted on January 13th at 11 AM for interested applicants who'd like to learn more about the program. Ideal candidates have between 5-15 years of experience in Texas water. More information can be found here <https://www.texaswater.org/water-leaders-program>.

San Antonio Water System provides water and wastewater services to more than 2 million customers in the San Antonio region and continues to set the standard for service and water conservation within our industry. SAWS is the national leader in water innovation with the largest direct recycled water system in the country, a state-of-the-art inland desalination plant, and the largest groundwater-based Aquifer Storage & Recovery facility in the nation.

(Photo Credit: <https://www.texasrunsonwater.org/regions/san-antonio> <https://www.cruzortizart.net/>)

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2	3	4	5	7	8	9	14
17	20	21	22	24	25	26	28
30	34	42	43	44	51	64	67
75	76	77	88	93	95	96	97
100	202	251	296	502	509	515	522
524	534	552	603	604	611	620	651

Para más información sobre cómo estos cambios podrían afectar sus viajes,
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Phoenix Symphony Conductor and Rising Star Violinist Join San Antonio Philharmonic in its Fifth Concert Program



Muñoz previously served as Music Director of the Opéra National de Lorraine and the Orchestre symphonique et lyrique de Nancy in France. He also has held positions with the Cleveland Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and the Aspen Music Festival, and led collaborations with the Joffrey Ballet, including the orchestra’s first staged performances of Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring.

Muñoz, a first-generation Ecuadorian born in New York City, has appeared with many of the most prominent orchestras in North America and maintains a strong international conducting presence.

Signed to Decca Classics in 2020 at the age of 24, Randall Goosby made his debut with the Jacksonville Symphony at age nine. At age 13, he performed with the New York Philharmonic on a Young People’s Concert and became the youngest recipient ever to win the Sphinx Concerto Competition, among other early accolades. A graduate of the Juilliard School, he continues his studies there under Itzhak Perlman and Catherine Cho. He has performed with orchestras across the country and in London.

In June 2021, Decca released his debut album, “Roots,” which explores the evolution of African-American music. Collaborating with pianist Zhu Wang, Goosby pays homage to the pioneering artists who paved the way for him and other artists of color.

Goosby plays a 1735 Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù on loan from the Stradivari Society.



The San Antonio Philharmonic launched with classical concerts on September 16 and 17 in 2022. It was created by musicians of the former San Antonio Symphony to provide high-quality orchestral performances and educational opportunities that reflect San Antonio’s beautiful history, diversity, and culture.

As a core belief among the orchestra’s founders, 40 percent of all concerts (36 in total) are free-admission Young People’s Concert performances performed at nine local high school auditoriums this season, bringing the music directly into students’ communities.

For further information, see SA-phil.org.

(Photo Credit: Dario Acosta & © Kaupo Kikkas)

By Nancy Cook-Monroe

Tito Muñoz, acclaimed music director of The Phoenix Symphony, will lead the San Antonio Philharmonic in the orchestra’s fifth concert program of the 2022-2023 season on Jan. 13 and 14.

In the same concert, Itzhak Perlman protégé Randall Goosby will perform Tchaikovsky’s ever-popular Violin Concerto.

Concerts are on January 13 and 14 at 7:30 p.m. All concerts take place at First Baptist Church, 515 McCullough Ave. Tickets, \$30 to \$65, are available at the door and at SAphil.org.

Keeping the energy high, the Philharmonic will perform Beethoven’s Symphony No. 4 and Buxtehude’s Chaconne in E

Minor, reimagined in a colorful orchestration by the dean of Mexican composers, Carlos Chavez.

“The spring 2023 portion of our inaugural season spotlights established and emerging conductors and soloists of color,” said Brian Petkovich, president of the Philharmonic. “It’s an honor to have Tito Munoz and Randall Goosby perform together in San Antonio. The concert will introduce two great artists and create a memorable concert.”

Praised for his versatility, technical clarity, and keen musical insight, Tito Muñoz is internationally recognized as one of the most gifted conductors on the podium today. Now in his seventh season as the Virginia G. Piper Music Director of The Phoenix Symphony,



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LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for A Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Permit (BG) for La Moreliana Meat Market to be located at 23345 Mathis Rd. Sandy Oaks, Elmendorf, TX. The Officer of La Moreliana Meat Market is Israel Lopez Gaona.

G.R.E.A.T. Community Resource Fair!

EAST MEADOWS

Come for free information and resources from local community partners for you and your family! Enjoy free activities for kids, free food for all who attend, giveaways, AND MORE!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Jan 7, 2023

11am-2pm

Phillis Wheatley Park

723 ARTHUR ST, SATX 78203

LIVE TO BE GREAT!



NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

SUBMISSIONS DUE: JANUARY 31, 2023

The City of San Antonio is seeking nominations for the position of Poet Laureate! The San Antonio Poet Laureate is an honorary position whose role is to promote the literary arts and literacy within the community and create a greater appreciation of the poetic arts through the reading and writing of poetry.



Visit SanAntonio.gov/Arts for submission guidelines



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Lo Excelente del Año 2022

Por Franco

En nuestra cada día más próspera y deportiva ciudad de El Álamo (San Antonio, Texas), sus residentes y visitantes pudieron disfrutar de la excelencia que diversos deportes nos dejaron a lo largo del año 2022.

Por citar algunos grandes eventos. Tuvimos al pentacampeón Los Spurs propiedad de la empresa Spurs Sports and Entertainment (SS&E), qué por segunda temporada en la NBA abrieron su estadio AT&T Center en toda su capacidad tras superación a la pandemia Covid-19.

Así cómo también el equipo de fútbol soccer SAFC también propiedad de SS&E, con sede en el estadio Toyota Field, dónde tras haberse destacado en Segunda Division USL Championship bajó la dirección del director técnico Alen Marcina, ganaron la Conferencia del Oeste y de pasó el banderín absoluto ante su rival del playoff Louisville FC (LouCity FC), al qué derrotaron 3-1 goles en Toyota Field con espectacular actuación del arquero Jordan Farr. SAFC en su sexta temporada nos dio el placer de verlos

pasear la Copa USL Championship durante su desfile en el legendario Paseo del Río San Antonio (San Antonio Riverwalk).

También la elección del guardia argentino Manu Ginobili quién fue entronado en el Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2022. Ginobili se hizo merecedor por 16 temporadas qué jugó vistiendo la playera No.20 con Los Spurs lapso en el qué aportó sus habilidades y liderazgo en los campeonatos ganados durante las finales NBA 2003, 2005, 2007 y 2014.

En el béisbol independiente de San Antonio, el club Astros de Pedro Espinoza en categoría Masters 50+ de Liga Potranco, obtuvo su primer banderín, y en Liga Abierta dominical Potranco las Águilas de Veracruz conducidos por Luis Cerros y Nicho Jacome, sé coronó campeón con lo qué

dejó ver su clase campeonil ya qué anteriormente se habían coronado dos temporadas consecutivas en la legendaria Colt Baseball League.

Por otro lado cabe anotar qué Juan Sánchez (El Rielero Mayor), y su comité organizador del tradicional torneo abierto Thanksgiving Day (2022), una vez más logró salir adelante nombrando al joven político Mayito López, alcalde de Nueva Rosita, Coahuila, cómo el Padrino del cuadrangular qué tuvo la participación de los equipos: Agujita, Cervecedores, Tuzos SA y el visitante Vaqueros de Austin qué repitió ganando el flamante trofeo bajó la dirección del manager Hugo Franco y el coach Wenceslao Ruiz. Agujita del manager Juan Pedro Reza y su sobrino Brayan Guerrero sé quedaron con el trofeo de subcampeón.

En las fotos aparecen: Los Spurs en saqué de pelota en el AT&T Center. Manu Ginobili en rueda de prensa. Los Astros. Mayito López. Jordan Farr. Fans presentando emblemático del SAFC en Toyota Field. Acción de Spurs. (Fotos de Franco).



From Valentine, Texas, With Love!

By Rick Melendrez

Valentine's Day is a day of love for everyone, especially our Moms.

We are barely a couple of days into the new year and already stores are stocking their shelves with Valentine candies and gifts. Love will soon be in the air all over the world in a few weeks.

Everyone has fond memories of Valentine's past. My first memories of Valentine's Day date back to 1960, when I was in the first grade at St. Michael's School. The day before Valentine's Day, Mom took me to the "Kress Chiquita" downtown at the corner of Flores and West Commerce to purchase a 29¢ red cellophane covered cardboard box full of Valentine's Day cards for my classmates. I carefully inspected the variety of boxes and chose mine. Mom also treated me to a 10¢ bag of hot popcorn!

I enjoyed my popcorn and treasured box of Valentine cards as we rode the Nolan bus home. Once home, I quickly opened it and laid out the cards on the bed. Colorful little cards galore with cute caricatures of children, cowboys, cowgirls animals and envelopes. There was one card that was bigger and it was for my first grade teacher, Sister Mary Laura, CDP. In my best penmanship I quickly began to print names on the envelopes and messages on the cards for my classmates. I thoroughly sealed them.



The next day at school after the 8am Mass we exchanged envelopes in class. We would all shuffle around and leave envelopes on each other's desk. We'd then go one by one, rank and file and present Sister Mary Laura her Valentine card.

Sister Laura then took out a box of oatmeal & pecan cookies that my Mom had made the day before and gave a cookie to everyone along with a bottle of chocolate milk and paper straw. The paper straw wrappers began flying across the classroom.

Mom was a room mother and whatever Sister Laura requested, Mom always came thru for her. I liked that Mom was a room mother, that meant that I got to enjoy extra goodies

that she made for the class!

After school at home I'd read the Valentine's cards I had received over and over, especially the ones from my pretty classmates!

I was 8 years old when I received my first piece of official United States mail. The envelope was addressed to me and postmarked from Valentine, Texas. I opened it and found a beautiful Valentine card of a young cowgirl lassoing a cowboy and it read "Be my Valentine!" and it was mysteriously signed, "Love, Your Secret Admirer." I was puzzled, who sent me this card? Immediately everyone became a Valentine suspect. With card & envelope in hand I questioned everyone in the neighborhood but to no

success. Just who was my "Secret Admirer" from Valentine, Texas?

As the years went by I kept on receiving these secret Valentine cards. Until one day I uncovered the evidence!

I was 14 years old and my Mom had left on the dining room table, stamped Valentine cards addressed to me and others in a large open envelope that was addressed to the Postmaster, Valentine Texas. I put everything together and made her confess. Mom lovingly pleaded guilty. Mom told me she had read an article in a national magazine some years back and decided to send out her "secret Valentines cards".

Mom was a kind and gentle

woman, always seeing the good in the world and sharing it with me. Not a day went by that she didn't spread her love and kindness. She once told me, "Why does Valentine's Day just have to be one day? It should be everyday son!"

My lifelong "Secret Admirer" went to heaven in 2018. Mom passed away peacefully in her home. Mom had Alzheimer's and I was her caregiver for eight years. Everyday with her was a blessing and a labor of love. Caring for her made me a better human being. Today I share with you Mom's Valentine spirit.

If you are blessed to have your Mom, this Valentines Day, go see her, hug her, call her, send her flowers. I surely wish I could. Your Mom is your first Valentine.

Affectionately through the years I have kept up this tradition of love.

In 2005, I took Mom to that mythical place called Valentine, Texas. We spent a couple of hours there. The town of Valentine, Texas is humble, the Valentinians are warm and wonderful people. Valentine got its name from a Southern Pacific Railroad construction crew, which reached the site Feb. 14, 1882. Trains first arrived in 1883 and the first post office was established in 1886. It's the only adobe post office in Texas. This little village has the biggest heart in Texas when it comes to Valentine's Day.



Now let me tell you how to send your special Valentines cards postmarked from Valentine, Texas!

With technology now, so many Valentine's messages are sent via email, I call that the lazy way. Why not send an old fashioned snail mail Valentine card! Nothing compares to receiving a card addressed to your loved ones with a personal handwritten message.

Here's all you need to do:

Love is in the air all year in Valentine, TX. And for a few weeks every February, Valentine's Day greeting cards also fill the air at the Valentine Post Office.

For years, the Valentine Post Office has offered a customized pictorial postmark to add extra thoughtfulness to that special Valentine. A new postmark design is selected every year from a contest held among local Valentine students.

Hopeless romantics have been sending valentines to the Valentine Post Office for decades. Due to the post office's remote location, most requests are received by mail from all

over the country, as well as several requests each year from other countries around the world.

A mail-in request is simple. Address the card to that special person, affix a First-Class Mail postage stamp, like the Love 2022 Forever Stamp, and put it into a larger envelope, also with appropriate postage. Address the larger envelope to:

VALENTINE'S
DAY POSTMARK
POSTMASTER
311 W CALIFORNIA AVE
VALENTINE, TX 79854-9998

The Valentine, TX, Postmaster, who is a 2001 winner of the postmark design contest, will hand-cancel every valentine. As many as 12,000 valentines in one year have been received requesting this very special cancellation.

In order to make sure greeting cards receive the special postmark and are delivered in time for Valentine's Day, requests should be sent to the address above by Feb. 5.

There is no charge to customers for requesting up to 50 Valentine, TX, pictorial postmark cancellations. Customers submitting requests for more than 50 cancellations will be charged five cents for each additional cancellation.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses, and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

You have enough time, now do it!

Happy Valentine's day!

Share the love!

Rick Melendrez, is a native San Antonian. Melendrez considers himself fortunate to have been born in San Antonio, just 3 blocks from the San Antonio de Valero mission (the Alamo) at the former Nix hospital on the riverwalk and to have attended Catholic grade school on the southside and on the riverwalk.

Catholic education is very close to his heart. Melendrez attended St. Michaels for five years (1960-65) and then attended St. Mary's School on the riverwalk (1965-68) and



onto Cathedral high school in El Paso, Texas.

He is the former publisher of the El Paso Citizen newspaper and former chairman of the El Paso County Democratic Party. He writes a page on Facebook titled "Sister Mary Ruler, Growing Up Catholic In San Antonio". Everyone is invited to read about the San Antonio of the 1960's

You may contact Melendrez via email at rickym8241@aol.com or by phone, 915-565-1663 (landline).

San Antonio Latino Artists' Studios.

Photos By Ricardo Romo



Luis Valderas paints in his extra living room in San Antonio. His recent paintings have been exhibited at the Centro Cultural Aztlan and Centro De Artes of San Antonio.



Mexican-born Abraham Mojica paints in his living room apartment in South San Antonio. He recently had a solo exhibition at the Frost Bank lobby.



San Antonio artist Eva Marengo Sanchez in her Southside studio. Sanchez was recently recognized in an "Emerging Artist" exhibit at the McNay Museum of Art.

ronment in which they complete their work.

The first artist studio that I recall visiting in the U.S. was that of the ASCO group in East Los Angeles. Willie Herron, one of the famed Chicano foursome, opened his studio to us in the early 1970s. From all appearances, the other members of ASCO, which included Patti Valdez, Gronk, and Henry Gamboa all used the same studio space. The ASCO team became the first Chicano artists to exhibit in a major U.S. museum when their "Los Four" show opened at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in 1974. We also visited the Self Help Graphic studios in East Los Angeles founded by one of the pioneering promoters of Chicano art, Sister Karen Boccacero.



Jenelle Esparaza's home studio is in the San Antonio Woodlawn neighborhood. She recently exhibited her textile works at the McNay Museum of Art and in Fort Worth, TX.

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

The first studios we ever visited, those of Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Mexico City, fascinated me and my wife Harriett. Fifty years later we can

still picture those studios. Since that time Harriett and I have been interested in the studios where artists do their work. For many artists, how they create has much to do with the envi-

My family and I moved back to Texas from California in 1980, and our fascination with artists' studios continued. Over the next forty years we became serious collectors of

Chicano art. Our love for Chicano art led us to donate more than 2,000 of the

prints we had collected in California and Texas to art museums and educational institutions where others can also come to know and appreciate Chicano art. The photos included on this page are a small sample of our favorite images of Latino artists in their studios.

As Hemisfair Welcomes Four Million Visitors, Even Bigger Things are to Come in 2023 New Features include The Hemisfair Civic Park, Toddler Play Area, and New Restaurants



By Meredith Balzen

This holiday season, Hemisfair welcomed four million visitors to Yanaguana Garden since opening in 2015. Eighty-five percent of visitors to this beloved downtown park come from every Council District in San Antonio, and 2023 is looking to be even more promising. With several new restaurant openings, new additions to Yanaguana Garden making the park ultra-family friendly, hosting some of San Antonio's favorite events and the opening of Civic Park Phase I, Hemisfair will continue to be the place where 'San Antonio Meets.'

Hemisfair has quickly become a foodie destination with the opening of Dough Pizzeria Napoletana, Commonwealth Coffeehouse & Bakery, The Box Street Social, and wonderful places for treats from Paletteria San Anto-

nio, Lick Honest Ice Cream, and Re:Rooted 210. Looking towards 2023, the district is planning on welcoming four more spots: Kunstler Tap and Brat-Haus, Bombay Bicycle Club, Jerk Shack, and the newest addition by the owners of DASHI Sichuan Kitchen + Bar, Kusch Faire. Each food concept will restore and occupy a nineteenth century home, breathing new life to these historic structures.

"Hemisfair will offer diverse ethnic food choices that honor the vision of the '68 World's Fair, 'Confluence of Civilizations,' by bringing in the flavors of San Antonio that have resulted from our city's melting pot" Andres Andujar, CEO of Hemisfair said. "It's important for us to welcome a diverse group of tenants – because that's who our city is."

Creating a welcoming spot that all ages can enjoy has always been a major goal in redeveloping the Hemisfair district. Now, the littlest visitors will have a spot to call their own. Construction will begin on the Toddler Play Area in January and will be on the Bank of America Promenade near The Box Street Social. With five climbable vignettes that mimic a garden atop the squishy play surface that Hemisfair visitors already love, the area has plans to be open by spring break.

"Thanks to the generosity of individual donors in our community and major gifts from an anonymous foundation and the Jeanie Rabke Wyatt Family Foundation, the Toddler Play Area will create a new opportunity for smaller San Antonians to come and enjoy Hemisfair," Hemisfair Conservancy Executive Director Anne Krause said. "We take 'Hemisfair is for all' very seriously here and this space helps us achieve that notion."

Hemisfair will continue to play host to some of San Antonio's most significant cultural gatherings. Kicking off the year with a bang, Celebrate SA will be the place to ring in 2023. With live music, food, and fireworks, Hemisfair is looking forward to hosting the celebration in the heart of the city. Other large events such as Muertos Fest, Diwali, and Lymphoma Leukemia Light the Night, will continue to be hosted at Hemisfair along with the weekly Story Time at Hemisfair and monthly Super Fun Saturday with H-E-B. With the opening of Civic Park in the fall, a new event footprint will lend itself to event organizers making Hemisfair one of the largest festival locations in the city.

The much-anticipated Civic Park Phase I will open in the fall of 2023. The park's groundbreaking took place last January; San Antonio's 'Central Park' will be



welcoming visitors from across the globe in no time. Located along Market Street, in the same place that the west wing of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center was, The City of San Antonio Public Works Department contracted Skanska USA Building, Inc. to construct the \$27 million voter-approved project. Civic Park Phase I encompasses five acres of public parkland, including a shaded Promenade, the Springs water features and a Great Lawn for large events for up to 15,000 people in concert mode.

Philanthropic contributions augmented public and private funding to construct Civic Park Phase I, including a seven-figure gift from the Mays Family Foundation for the Peggy Mays Gardens which will open to the public in 2023.

"Hemisfair's Civic Park will

be the next huge step in creating one of the World's Great Public Places," Andujar said. "It's very rare that urban downtowns receive this significant of a park and gathering setting after the city has been well-established."

The Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Community Bond Committee recommended \$18 million in the 2022 Municipal Bond to complete construction of Civic Park Phase II, which includes the grand Source Plaza entrance adjacent to the Torch of Friendship, and a Zocalo with a built-in terrace for community performances. Civic Park Phase II went to public bid through The City of San Antonio on Dec. 20 and is estimated to be complete in late 2024, with the NCAA Men's Final Four celebrations taking place at Civic Park in early 2025.



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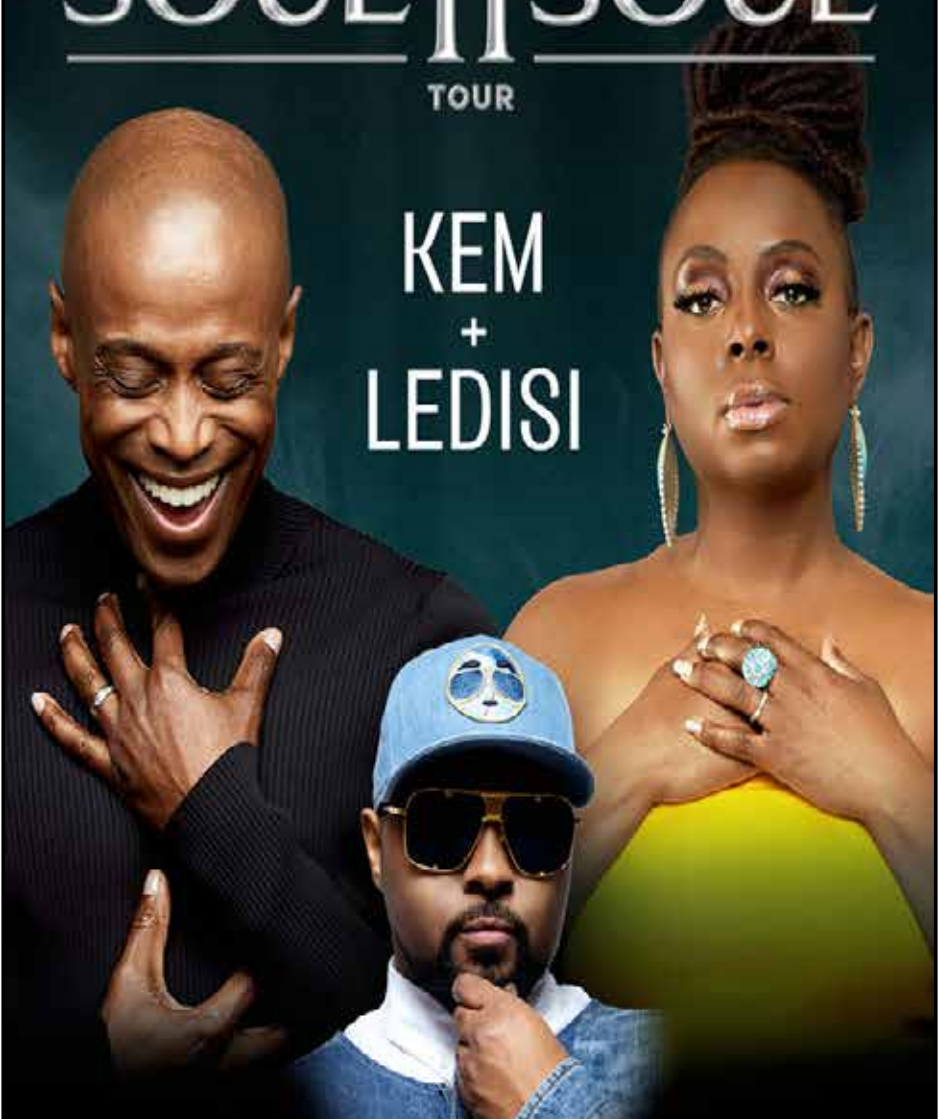
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Maceteros vs. Cardenales Clásico Del Año Nuevo 2023

Por Sendero Deportivo

El próximo domingo 8 de enero regresan a la acción los equipos que integran la Liga Potranco categoría Abierta que se está jugando en honor de los hermanos Kiko y Chiro Martínez (Martínez

Concrete), en el estadio Potranco Baseball Field del artista Eloy Rocha quien tiene de brazo derecho al presidente Simón Sánchez.

De acuerdo al timonel boricua Edwin Ortiz Jr., su equipo Maceteros que

tienen récord de 11 victorias por 2 derrotas. Se estarán disputando el clásico dominical contra Cardenales del manager y jugador Nacho García en el horario de la 1pm en el campo 1 del estadio Potranco.

En otros partidos enfrentaran Balandra vs. Bravos. Rieleros y Tomateros. Maceteros en su alineación cuenta con el valioso lanzador derecho José López quien tiene foja de invicto en cinco apariciones en el montículo. Lo cual tiene contento a Ortiz Jr., quien espera cerrar fuerte y así mantener el súper liderato que bien le puede redondear por segunda temporada consecutiva clasificarse como el equipo con más partidos ganados y de ser posible ser declarado "Campeón de Temporada 2022".

Todo ello depende del presidente Simón Sánchez quien además funge como comentarista y compilador oficial.

Edwin Ortiz Jr, por éste conducto agradece el patrocinio del negocio Ambas Manos Tatoo Shop ubicado en 6643 San Pedro Ave. San Antonio, Texas.

"Se ha jugado para ganar y agradecerle a nuestro patrocinador la ayuda que nos dio para éste circuito dominical que es de gran calibre beisbolero", dijo Edwin Ortiz Jr.

En la categoría Masters 50+ de Liga Potranco que tiene su sede en el campo 2 del estadio Potranco, y juega los domingos, con anticipación a su tercera jornada de la 3era vuelta a jugarse el domingo 8 de enero, se tienen programados 3 espectaculares partidos de acuerdo al presidente Simón Sánchez y el scout Frank Torres quien ostenta el cargo de compilador y comentarista oficial.

9:30am Rangers SA vs Rieleros. 12pm Charros vs Dodgers. El clásico dominical se lo estarán disputando el campeón Astros vs. Yankees SA.

Astros marcha de súper líder y Yankees sigue adelante por ubicarse en el cuarto escaño.

"Nuestros mejores deseos para todos los equipos en el 2023. Gracias por su buena disciplina deportiva y por igual a sus respectivas bases de seguidores", dijo el scout Frank Torres.

"Liga Potranco les desea un feliz año nuevo y que sigan adelante en las categorías Abierta y Masters", indicó el presidente Simón Sánchez.

En las fotos aparecen: Logotipo de Dos Manos Tatoo Shop. MVP Onel Vega de Vaqueros de Austin, Torneo Thanksgiving Day 2022. Juan "Güero" Villanueva con trofeo del tercer lugar torneo Thanksgiving Day 2022. Nacho García, trofeo 4o lugar Torneo Thanksgiving Day 2022. (Fotos de Franco).



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By Clarlie





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District 5 Councilmember Named Recipient of 2023 Texas Houser Award



By Amador Salazar

Every year Texas Housers, the Texas Low Income Housing Information Service, a 501(c)(3) corporation, presents three Houser Awards to Texans whose efforts help low income persons attain secure, safe,

and decent housing in quality neighborhoods.


Texas Housers announced District 5 Councilmember Teri Castillo as the recipient for one of the 2023 awards, in recognition of her housing advocacy to secure funding

for public housing, prioritizing increased funding for home rehab programs, affordable housing, and flood mitigation.

“We must continue to organize with our community to continue to build a San

Antonio that works for all of us.” The District 5 Councilwoman continued, “I am honored to receive this recognition for the work our District 5 team does every day, as we advocate for dignified and affordable housing for all San Antonians.”

The Houser Award will be presented at a ceremony with affordable housing residents, advocates, and professionals at the Austin Public Library on February 21, 2023. More information on Texas Housers can be found at <https://texashousers.org/>




Upcoming Events


36th Annual Commemorative March

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January 12	Trinity Lecture Trinity University, Laurie Auditorium - 7 pm
January 13	Baptist Ministers Union Worship Service Antioch Missionary Baptist Church - 7 pm
January 14	Youth Power Jam The Espee @ St. Paul Square - 3 pm
January 15	Wreath Laying Ceremony MLK Plaza (N. New Braunfels @ E. Houston) - 2 pm
January 15	Inter-Faith Worship Service St. Gerard Catholic Church - 4:30 pm
January 16	Pre-March Program Martin Luther King Jr. Academy - 8 am
January 16	Pre-March Worship Service Pittman - Sullivan Park - 9 am
January 16	The March Martin Luther King Jr. Academy - 10 am
January 16	Commemorative Program & Public Awards Ceremony Pittman - Sullivan Park - 12 pm

For detailed information: www.sa.gov and search MLK






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South Texas College Continues to Strive for Percussion Prowess

By Clarissa Martinez

Rhythm, precision, melody and collaboration. There were several layers of sounds echoing through the South Texas College Student Union during the STC Percussion Ensemble's fall concert held earlier this month.

The student musicians embraced the opportunity to share what they learned and accomplished this fall with family, friends and classmates.

Members of the STC Percussion Studio, under the direction of Ron F. Schermerhorn, were invited to several competitions and community events this semester, all while balancing their classes and personal lives.

"The students are dedicated and could honestly do performances every week, but we can't push too much because they need to focus on their classes and work," Schermerhorn said. "They're often invited to perform for area high schools or for the community. We'll do early morning events so they have time to get back to their classes here. We always try to make sure that no one's going to miss class."

The STC Percussion Studio first began in 2011 and is open to music majors and non-majors. It includes the Percussion Ensemble and the STC Drumline and continues to push the envelope in all realms of percussion, Schermerhorn said.

The current studio includes students Gabriel Renner, Rey Gonzalez, Jorge Ruiz, Caleb Martinez and Abe Villarreal. The major highlights for the percussionists this year included two competitions and an invitation to be a featured ensemble at the nationally-known Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention.

The STC Drumline competed in the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Indianapolis,

Indiana last month. This marks the third time the group has attended the event.

"It's the most impressive group of percussionists in the country," Schermerhorn said. "It's an international convention where essentially all the big names in percussion - virtuosic artists, music industries, high schools and colleges - gather. It really is the biggest gathering for percussion in the world."

The STC students were able to attend clinics, masterclasses and musical showcases at PASIC.

This was the second year that music major Rey Gonzalez was invited to participate.

"It was amazing," Gonzalez, 22, said. "Just being there and watching all these levels of professionals perform and learning so much from other musicians was inspiring. I was just soaking it all in."

The STC Drumline also traveled to Corpus Christi for the Tierras South Texas Percussion Competition. A partnership between the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Texas A&M International University, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville and STC, Schermerhorn said the competition reflects the power of music and collaboration.

"It's a standard high school and collegiate competition, but the cool thing about this particular percussion collaborative is that it's between five institutions," Schermerhorn said. "So, we get together and create this really fun, rewarding event that pushes the boundaries of competitiveness, but with education as the primary goal and aspect."

Under Schermerhorn, the STC



students are able to study orchestral snare, marching percussion, marimba, timpani and much more.

All the percussion students agreed that once they learned what STC had to offer they were excited to join the department.

STC music major Jorge Ruiz, 21, said he was encouraged by his former high school director to join the STC department because of the quality of music education he would receive.

"My director told me about all the possibilities and everything that was available here at STC, and I was really amazed because I didn't know they had a drumline," Ruiz said. "I didn't know they had all this going on. That's what brought me here to STC."

Being a member of the drumline is also a highlight for Gonzalez.

"The vibe of the drumline is awesome," Gonzalez said. "And what everybody brings to the table is awe-

some. We all have a good time while we're playing."

Even though the fall semester just ended, the Percussion Ensemble is already making plans for spring. The student musicians were selected to be a featured performing College/University Percussion Ensemble at the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Convention in San Antonio in February 2023.

"The TMEA music convention is really the biggest in all 50 states and two territories," Schermerhorn said. "There's no music education convention that is bigger than this, so to get invited is very difficult and to play there is an honor."

Drumline member Caleb Martinez said he wouldn't choose to be anywhere else at this point in his education.

"My high school instructor was actually one of Schermerhorn's students

back in the day," Martinez said. "He recommended I go here, so I did. It's been one of the best decisions I've ever made because I feel like I've gotten better as a musician."

And, Schermerhorn will continue to search for new opportunities for his students.

"The exposure they get is amazing," Schermerhorn said. "It not only improves them as a musician but as a student and person."

For more information about the music program at South Texas College, visit www.southtexascollege.edu/academics/music/.

Photo Caption: The South Texas College Drumline includes, from left, Jorge Ruiz, Rey Gonzalez, Gabriel Renner and Caleb Martinez. Under the direction of Ron F. Schermerhorn, the student musicians have participated in several collegiate competitions this semester.

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- Saturday, January 7, 2023 9:30am-10:30am
- Wednesday, January 11, 2023 5:30pm-6:30pm
- Saturday, February 4, 2023 9:30am-10:30am
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San Antonio Parks Foundation Prepares for National CelebrateSA Coverage on Telemundo New Year's Eve Special

By Libby Day

Celebrate SA, the City of San Antonio's Official New Year's Eve Celebration returns to downtown on Saturday, December 31, 2022. Celebrate SA continues to draw in excess of 70,000 excited partygoers annually. The downtown area will be vibrant with revelers "Dancing In The Streets," the theme for the 2022 celebration. The live music event and fireworks show will take place on South Alamo Street between Market Street and Cesar Chavez Blvd, along Villita Street, and at the Arneson River Theatre. Official event hours are from 6:00 PM through 12:00 AM, on Saturday, December 31st, 2022. The event is 100% FREE to the public and all ages.

The event will be broadcast live across the nation on Telemundo as they present Bienvenido 2023 (Welcome 2023), a New Year's Eve special hosted from different cities across the nation, airing live on Saturday, December 31 at 10PM/9CST.

The three and a half hour broadcast will feature network stars Jacqueline Bracamontes, Chiky Bombom and Nacho Lozano from New York's iconic Times Square; Alix Aspe from Miami, and Andrea Meza and Carlos Adyan from San Antonio, with musical performances by Ana Bárbara, Gente de Zona, Joss Favela, Luis Figueroa, Manuel Turizo, Natalia Jiménez, Pablo Alborán, Pablo Montero, Silvestre Dangond, Zion & Lennox, and LA 45. Viewers will also be able to enjoy the exciting countdown to 2023 that will officially begin the famous Times Square ball drops.

Produced by the San Antonio Parks Foundation and the City



of San Antonio, Celebrate SA features live entertainment on the South Alamo Main Stage presented by Thomas J. Henry. South Alamo crowds will enjoy performances by iconic westside soul group, Eddie & The Valiants, indie rock powerhouse, John Charlie's Heavy Love, and open-format sets by countdown city favorite, DJ Isaiahfromtexas. LED screens flank the main stage with live feeds of performances and messaging from local businesses welcoming the new year.

Patrons can also expect live performances on the Boogie Bend stage at Arneson River Theatre along the beautiful San Antonio Riverwalk, complete with the annual festive holiday lighting. The Boogie Bend Stage presented by Southtown Vinyl features sets by LA 45, bringing the next generation of Chicano music to the stage; TexMex soul operators, JOAQUIN; and DJ Lovedocument

spinning a genre-bending mix of sounds highlighting Texas bands and musicians, taking Boogie Bend into 2023.

Bringing the celebratory theme to life is Studio Avi SA, one of San Antonio's premier fitness, dance fitness, and dance training studios. Through the vision of founder Roger Mendoza, the team at Studio Avi SA is working to build an inclusive and welcoming environment for all who are ready to shine. Catch the Avi Showman Elite performance company throughout Celebrate SA and dance into the new year!

"We're delighted to partner with Telemundo to showcase Celebrate SA on the national stage as part of Bienvenido 2023. The Foundation works tirelessly to develop collaborative opportunities that value and advance equity and access, not only to parks, but to diverse communities and cultures,"

says Libby Day, Director of Communication at the San Antonio Parks Foundation.

At the event, guests can look forward to fun facts about City and County parks, the history of the San Antonio Parks Foundation, as well as highlights from 2022 community events. There will also be a full array of family-friendly programming including a carnival located at the corner of South Alamo Street and César E Chávez Blvd featuring games, rides, and attractions for all ages. South Alamo and Villita Way will be lined with local food and artisan vendor booths offering diverse options. Beer and wine will be available for purchase along with hot drinks, beverage proceeds benefit SA and Bexar County parks. The night will be capped with a communal countdown at midnight, followed by the spectacular fireworks show.

The San Antonio Parks Foundation would like to thank all official sponsors of Celebrate SA including Michelob Ultra, Thomas J Henry, Hotel Valencia Riverwalk, Southtown Vinyl, City of San Antonio, The Fairmount Hotel, NBC4, Fox29, CW35, Telemundo, and iHeartMedia.

The City of San Antonio's Official New Year's Eve Celebration

Saturday, December 31st, 2022 | 6 PM - Midnight

South Alamo Street | Villita Street | Arneson River Theatre

Live on Channel Telemundo 60 San Antonio 9 PM – 12:30 AM CST

Live on Channel News4SA 10:30 PM – 12:00 AM CST



Happy New Year
from

La Prensa Texas

2023