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La Prensa Texas

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 Cultural Taboos in the U.S.A

By Yvette Tello

The U.S. is a melting pot of cultures, but there are still unspoken rules that many follow. Topics like religion, politics, and money often spark heated debates, making them sensitive areas to navigate. Public displays of affection beyond a certain level can make people uncomfortable, and openly criticizing someone's personal choices (like parenting or lifestyle) is generally frowned upon. Even something as simple as not tipping at a restaurant can break social norms. What do you think are the biggest taboos in American culture? Are there any you've experienced or found surprising? Share your thoughts below! Let's talk about it...

Aaron Dunfee: "I would definitely begin with swearing. You must be careful and judge your settings correctly if you choose to use vulgar words (ex. Don't swear inside a church, or around young children, or older people, etc.). Speaking of talking, there are 3 conversational topics I was taught to never talk about around the family dinner table: money, religion, and politics. These 3 topics tend to be considered very unsettling around family and are most often discouraged (as well as conversations about sex). Discussing matters of intimacy is also considered taboo. Actually, sex in general is very taboo where I live. Nudity and sexual intercourse in general are considered far worse and more scandalous than violence and killing. And sex outside of marriage is the worst thing you can possibly do."

James Pearson: "Don't use 'bad words' in front of people you don't know, or in a professional context. (at work) In a more casual context, some swearing is accepted, but certain words still aren't a good idea. American women will barely bat an eye at 'fuck, shit' or similar words, but the word 'Cunt' will get you a very angry response. Among particularly religious people, using 'Jesus Christ' as an expletive is considered rude. You can ask what people do for a living. It's seen as a way to get to know someone. Do not ask how much money they earn, that is considered rude. I would recommend staying away from political discussions. Unless you know that every person present supports the same candidates and positions, they are a fast route to an argument"

Abraham Bowen: "There is truth in what you said but as you know the US is complex and diverse; what's accepted in one circle is not accepted in others."

Doug White: "Cutting in line. Not forming a line (but simply surging forward). Violating personal space. Asking how much someone earns. Failing to yield the left lane to faster-moving traffic. Failing to merge, in alternating fashion when the signs say to do so. Not wearing deodorant-antiperspirant. Ridiculing someone for being different in some factor beyond their control. Proselytizing in a work setting. Attempting to negotiate with a cashier at a retail store, when other customers are waiting. Disregarding the 'n items or less' at an 'express' cash register. The more metropolitan the area, the more likely the rising generations have been taught that prejudice is wrong. I actually think similar school-based lessons may reach public school curricula nation-wide. True, some in education may purposefully dilute or even muddy the message. But it is hard to make the lessons stick when the only community the kids know seems so homogeneous."

Felipe Chica Duque: "Atheist: being openly atheist is political suicide. In addition, people have a hard time understanding what atheism is, and view it as a devilish thing. To a lesser extent, being religious but not Catholic: This one is hardly a taboo anymore, but it used to be, so there are probably remnants of that way of thinking, mainly among older generations. Non-heterosexuality: Being gay, bisexual, etc, is still viewed with prejudice, even though legally the LGBT population is well protected. Being transgender: Probably even more taboo than the previous ones. It's sickening to see how so many people are repulsed by the idea of someone being trans, and how some think it's not a real thing or that trans women in particular "are not real women. Then there are minor ones, which are pretty much only taboo for older generations, such as tattoos, piercings, colorful hair dyes, etc."

Gary Clifton: "Although OK in some other countries, do not, in public: spit, fart, burp, scratch your privates, piss, poop, clear your sinuses, change your clothes, or allow your baby to piss or poop in the open."

Ann Smith: "Using the name of Jesus Christ as a swear is enormously offensive and unnecessary. There are so many other swears to use - why do people think it's ok to curse the name of the Christian God, but wouldn't dream of doing that with the Islamic deity."

Juan Sebastián Naranjo: "As new generations become older those taboos with the new global place with the internet will start to be broken down like the Berlin Wall. Also the possibility of people traveling outside to the world, with middle classes becoming thicker by the development of the country and the attraction of tourism which will we hope to be much better in coming years; to also leave some of those taboos you mention specially out of the new generations; because how you said old generations, they tend to be very conservative. You will find this in any country. It's normal for the elderly to become more and more conservative of what their times were. I go to the US and I still find a lot of Taboo from older people, and with it I mean racism; they don't like us speaking our Spanish while we are at a nearby table. Perhaps the same does not happen in NYC and perhaps Bogotá is more advanced in closing the Gaps with those destroy-full taboos, in order for respect for humanity and the country's cultural development."

Dario D'Amico: "I would say talking sex openly sometimes even between friends is a no no. I once listened to a dialogue between an English woman and her father talking jokingly about their sex life. This is completely unheard of and would be completely inappropriate and embarrassing here, we are very conservative in that compartment. Bragging about your wealth looks very bad also, people will judge you very negatively. Getting drunk in public looks really really bad. Any other peculiarity is that when we complain about things here (something we do a lot) if you are a foreigner you are just allowed to listen, never say we're right or even worse add your complaints in the discussion, the moment you do that you will be hated."

About the Cover Artist: Larry Portillo

Courtesy of larryportillo.com

Larry Portillo was born in Texas and raised in New Mexico. Larry Portillo infuses his work with images from Mexico, Anglo, Indian, and Spanish cultures, drawing on the people and landscapes of the Rio Grande Valley and Texas.

Larry Portillo's artistic talent was recognized when in High School. His Master teacher Steve Edwards discovered that he had talent for the art scene placing first place in various art shows. Edwards taught Larry; etching, and how to use watercolors and acrylic paint in his art. Larry was introduced to airbrushing by James Wagner and mural painting and fine art by Leo Tanguma. Larry also became educated on the use of varied painting techniques and sculpting by well-known artist Luis Jimenez.

Larry always had a passion for color. Larry uses a variety of media to create works that celebrate the simple pleasures of life. He uses acrylic and oils on canvas and wood panels to create an impressionistic effect. Portillo's art is characterized as having a distinctive meaning for each brush stroke color. The use of a palette of vivid colors brings the canvas to a unique life. Each painting may have a different interpretation to the viewer. Larry Portillo tries to transmit the beauty and excitement of each landscape. He wants the eye of the viewer to enjoy the experience with the opportunity to facilitate an interaction between them and the art.





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Snowden Living to begin accepting HUD waitlist* applications Dec. 26.

HUD Waitlist* Applications for the for the newly opened Snowden Living (7223 Snowden Rd.) two-bedroom units will be accepted starting Dec. 26. Eligibility screening for applicants selected from the HUD waitlist* will begin next month.

To qualify, applicants and their household members must meet the following criteria:

- All members of the household must be 62 years of age or older
- Meet HUD requirements for citizenship or immigration status
- Meet the applicant selection criteria and complete an application appointment.
- Pass screening for criminal activity and demonstrate acceptable rental history.
- Ensure no household family members are involved in drug-related or criminal activity that poses a threat to the life, health, safety or peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
- Have an annual income that does not exceed HUD's income limits (no more than 50% of Area Median Income (AMI) based on household size).
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*HUD Waitlist guidelines for 62+ property.



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Trees & Torque: Car, Bike, & Truck Show

Courtesy of Bexar Branch Alliance Join us for an exciting day of cars, trucks, motorcycles, community, and conservation at Trees & Torque 2025! This one-of-a-kind event will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2025, at Palo Alto College and promises something for everyone.

From sleek classics to rugged trucks and powerful motorcycles, Trees & Torque brings together vehicle enthusiasts and tree lovers to raise awareness about the importance of trees for clean air and shade in our communities. With sustainability-focused activities and family-friendly fun, this event is a can't-miss opportunity to connect with others who care about our environment and love cool rides. We need your help!

Here's how you can get involved:

Register Your Ride: Whether you've got a classic car, a custom build, or an EV, we want your wheels to shine! Vehicle registration is open now.

Become a Sponsor: Align your brand with sustainability and community engagement by sponsoring Trees & Torque. Custom sponsorship packages are available to fit your goals.

Volunteer: Help us make this event a success! From set-up and greeting guests, we have a variety of roles for volunteers to join the fun.

Sign Up as a Vendor: Showcase your products or services to an engaged audience! Vendors promoting sustainability, automotive themes, or local goods are especially welcome.

Trees & Torque isn't just about cool rides—it's about building a

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Gregg Popovich Agradeció El Apoyó Qué Le Han Dado

Por Franco

Recientemente la empresa Spurs Sports and Entertainment (SS&E), propietaria del club silver and black Los Spurs de San Antonio, en boletín informativo oficial comunicó a los medios especializados sobre el agradecimiento que hizo Gregg Popovich [Pop], entrenador en jefe y presidente de esa progresiva empresa con sede en el estadio Frost Bank

Center.

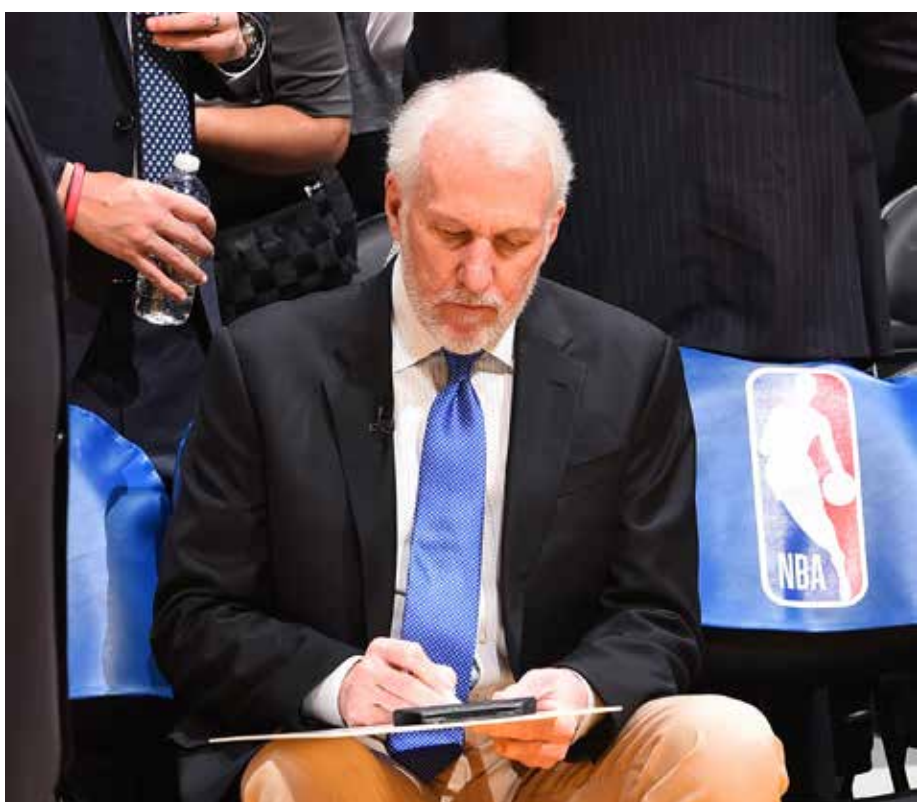
Pop, quién se encuentra en su 28a temporada dirigiendo a Spurs en la NBA el mejor circuito del baloncesto mundial, y con cinco trofeos Larry O'Brien conquistados los cuales se exhiben en el sector Plaza Level junto con los valiosos anillos, en su debido tiempo encontrándose en programa de recuperación física indicó lo siguiente. "Han sido inesperadamente seis

semanas para mi familia y yo. Cómo hemos venido trabajando juntos por mi recuperación, quiero tomar un momento para compartir el inmenso apoyo que hemos venido recibiendo, durante este tiempo lo cual se ha convertido en los mejores resultados. Por lo pronto mis deseos son de retornar con todos ustedes. Por lo pronto les digo que mi familia y yo siempre estaremos agradecidos.

Estamos muy agradecidos por siempre con nuestra maravillosa comunidad, así como la entera organización de Spurs, nuestra familia y amigos. Nadien está más emocionado que yo de que pronto regrese, por igual agradezco al talentoso equipo que ha encabezado el proceso de mi rehabilitación".

Pop, ostenta un sinnúmero de galardones en la NBA, con los cinco campeonatos ganados

en las temporadas, 1999, 2003, 2005, 2007 y 2014. Actualmente es el head coach con más victorias en la NBA y miembro del Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. Felicidades coach Pop y se te desea pronto regreso a tu querido equipo pentacampeón Los Spurs de San Antonio. *Fotos de Pop sentado y de pie son cortesía de SS&E, en rueda de prensa Media Day 2024 fue captado por Franco.*





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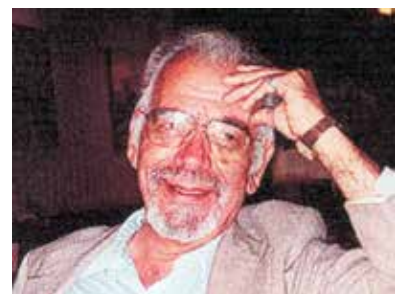
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Origin of Spanish Names/Porque Te Llamas Así



By J. Gilberto Quezada

During our recent stay in Zapata, I checked a bilingual book from our vast personal library that Richard G. Santos had given me many decades ago. The name of the book is, Origin of Spanish Names, Cómo te llamas y por qué te llamas así (1981). I would like to share his research and findings with you, which I think are very interesting and informative.

To place the origins of Spanish names in their historical perspective, I am going to quote Dr. Santos: "A long time ago, in a country now called Spain, there were no names. One of the earliest group of people who lived in the land were called Basque....The Basque people gave themselves and each other names which described them, or which described the place where they lived. At about the year 1000 BC the people called Phoenicians, Etruscans and Celts came to the land. The Celts called the land 'Iber.' This word meant 'the river.' The Celts also called the people who lived in Iber by the word 'Iberians.' For names, the Celts used words which described the people. It is believed that the Jewish people also started coming to the land about the year 1000 BC. They called the land Sepharad....The Jewish people also introduced many names to the land.... The people called Carthaginians and Greeks came to the land in the year 600 BC. The Carthaginians called the land 'Spania'....The Greeks also brought many different names which were adopted by the people....In the year 218 BC the Romans came to the land. They called it 'Hispania.' The Romans introduced the Latin language to Hispania. They also introduced Latin names....At about the year 200 AD the Christians began to arrive at Hispania. The Christians introduced not only the Christian religion, but Christian names as well....In the year 400 AD a group of people called Visigoths arrived at Hispania. The Visigoths spoke a germanic, or teutanic language....In the year 700 AD the Moors came to Hispania from North Africa....The Moors introduced a great number of words and names to Hispania....By the year 1100 AD a new language

began to develop in Hispania. The language was a mixture of all the languages which had come to the land....At first the language was called 'Romance.' Later, it became known as the 'Spanish' language. New names then began to appear in the new language...."

I have selected some of the names and surnames from Dr. Santos' book and only in the English version.

A = Arabic
Ger = Germanic
S = Spanish
B = Basque
Grk = Greek
C = Celtic
H = Hebrew
E = Egyptian
Lat = Latin

Surnames

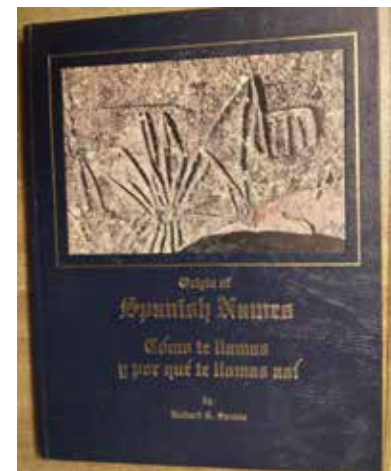
Aguirre (S) To War! Name of a Spanish Town
Alanis/Alaniz (C+S) son of the Celt
Balderama (B+S) branch of the Valdes family
Barragán (A) sheep skin jacket
Benavides (Lat + S) Child of he/she who leads a saintly life
Bernal (Ger) strong man
Bravo (S) brave, fierce
Bueno (S) good
Canales (S) canals
Calderón (S) large kettle
Carrasco (B) pine tree
Cárdenas (Lat) principle
Castañeda (S) chestnut grove
Cavazos (Lat) hoe for tilling land
Chavarría (B) new house
Cortés/Cortéz (Lat + S) son of the court
Cuéllar (S) yoke
Durán (Ger) battle wolf
Elizondo (B) by the church
Esparza (Lat sparsus) barren place
Fariás (Lat + S) fairs
Flores (Lat + S) flower + son
García (Lat artza) fox
Garza (A al garsha) gray; (S) heron
Gómez (Ger + S) son of man
Guerra (S) war
Gutiérrez (Ger) son of Walter; (Lat + S) son of the good earth
Guzmán (Ger) good man
Herrera (S) iron worker
Juárez/Suárez (Ger) army of the south
Landeros (S) of the land
Leal (S) loyal
León (S) lion
Lima (A) lime
Lira (Lat) lyrics
Longoria (S) long place
López (Lat + S) son of Lope
Lozano (Lat) luxuriant
Maldonado (S) mal=poorly + donado=endowed
Martines/Martínez (Lat + S) son of

Martin
Medina (A) the city; name of town
Méndez (Ger) son of fortress. The child was born in the fortress.
Mendoza (B) large mountain/forest
Miranda (S) lookout
Montalbo (Lat) white mountain
Montemayor (S) major mountain/forest
Montes (S) mountains/forests
Moreno (S) dark skinned
Murillo (S) small wall
Nava (S) plain. He/She who lives/comes from the plain
Navarro (S) from Navarra
Nieto (Lat) grandson
Ochoa (B) wolf
Oliveira (S) olive grove
Peña (S) high peak
Perales (S) pear + son
Peralta (S) high arch
Pérez (H) he who dares
Piña (S) high rock
Quesada (S) cheek
Ramírez (S) son of Ramiro
Ramos (S) branches
Rangel (Ger) mighty ruler
Río/Ríos (S) rivers
Rocha (C) rock
Rodríguez/Rodríguez (Ger + S) son of Rodrigo
Saenz (Lat + S) abbreviation of Sánchez
Salazar (S) large house
Salinas (S) salt beds
Samora/Zamora (A) music
Sánchez (S + Lat) abbreviation of Santos
Sandoval (Lat + S) holy valley
Santos (Lat) saints
Sauceda/Saucedo (S) willow trees
Serna (Lat) farm land
Solano (Lat) eastern wind
Sosa (S) salty place
Torres (Lat) towers
Treviño (Lat) three boundaries
Uribe (B) below the town
Vega (Lat) farmland
Villafranca (Lat) free town
Villanueva (Lat + S) new town
Villarreal (Lat + S) royal town
Zapata (A) shoe
Zúñiga/Zúñiga (Grk) he who frowns

Feminine Names

Masculine Names
Adriana (Lat) dark woman of the sea
Abelardo (Ger) ambitious
Alexandra/Alejandra (Grk) protector, helper of humanity
Adolfo (Ger) noble wolf
Alicia (Grk) truthful
Adrian (Lat) man of the seacoast
Alva (Lat) white, fair
Alfonso (Ger) prepared for battle
Ana/Anita (A) full of grace
Angel (Grk) saintly
Antonia (Lat) excellent
Anselmo (Ger) divine helmet of God

Araceli (Lat) golden
Antonio (Lat) excellent
Beatriz (Lat) she brings joy
Armando (Ger) army man
Belinda (Lat) wise and immortal
Arturo (C) strong as a rock
Berta (Ger) shining
Arnoldo (Ger) strong as an eagle
Blanca (S) white, fair
Basilio (Grk) kingly
Carla (Ger) she who is strong
Carlos (Ger) man
Carmela (H) God's vineyard
Cristán (Lat) a Christian
Cecilia/Celia (Lat) musical
David (H) beloved one
Christina/Cristina (Grk) follower of the savior
Donato (Lat) gift
Cynthia/Cintia (Grk) a moon goddess
Eduardo (Ger) prosperous
Déborah/Debra (H) the bee
Eliás (H) The Lord is God
Elizabeth/Isabel (H) consecrated to God
Felipe (Grk) a lover of horses
Elvira (Lat) blonde; (S) like an elf
Fernando (Ger) bold adventurer
Esperanza (Lat) hope
Francisco (Ger) a free man
Gloria (Lat) glorious
Gilberto (Ger) bright pledge
Guadalupe (A) valley of the wolf
Gustavo (C) noble staff
Hortensia (Lat) of the garden
Héctor (Ger) steadfast
Idalia (Grk) she who sees the sun
Hugo (Ger) intelligent
Irma (Lat) high ranking woman
Ignacio (Lat) the fiery one
Isabel (H) consecrated to God
Jorge (Grk) a farmer
Josefina (H) she shall add
José (H) he shall add
Leticia (Lat) joyous
Juan (H) God is gracious
Linda (S) beautiful
Leopoldo (Grk) patriotic
Magda (Grk) elevated one
Luis (Ger) famous in battle
Magdalena (H) like a tower
Manuel (H) God is with us
Marta (A) a lady
Noah (H) peace
Minerva (Grk) wise woman
Patricio (Lat) noble
Mónica (Lat) advisor
Pedro (Grk) rock
Natalia (Lat) child of Christmas
Ramón (Ger) protector
Olivia (Lat) peaceful one
Reimundo/Reymundo (Ger) wise
Patricia (Lat) of nobility protection; (S) king of the earth
Petra (Grk) rock
Ricardo (Ger) wealthy and powerful
Sandra (Grk) helper of Humanity
Roberto (Ger) bright fame
Sulema (A) sane and healthy
Sergio (Lat) attendant



Verónica (Lat) like a true image
Sebastián (Grk) respected one
Yolanda (Grk) violet flower; (Lat) modest
Xavier (A) bright

Some New World Names

Aztlán (Nahuatl) place of herons
México (Nahuatl) the God of war
Moctezuma/Montezuma (Nahuatl) the lord who seems angry.

I first met Richard Santos in the fall of 1967 at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, when we were both students of Latin American history. He graduated in May of 1968, and I received my B.A. the following year. We were both student of our mentor and muse Dr. Félix D. Almaraz, Jr. Richard became the first archivist for the Bexar County Archives and later became the Director of Ethnic Studies at Our Lady of the Lake University. He and I stayed in touch over the years and got together for lunch on many occasions. I knew that he had done a lot of research on the Sephardic Jews in Texas and the Southwest. He was a wonderful speaker and historian of Hispanic culture. And he spoke extensively about the Jewish influence on Texas Hispanic culture, and particularly the cuisine. I remember that he said that the Spanish Jews cultivated so many bitter herbs that they grow wild in South Texas! This is very interesting! In the late 1990s, he needed a job, and I highly recommended him to the South San Antonio High School principal to teach history. Richard was teaching at the high school when his book cited above was published. We kept in touch after he left South San. Lamentably, he passed away on February 22, 2013, at his home in Pearsall, Texas, at the age of 73. This coming February 22, 2025, will commemorate the twelfth anniversary of his death.

Selena Vive! Isabel Marie Sanchez and Felipe Tristán Bring Selena's Music to Life



Isabel Marie Sanchez, *Selena Vive!* with conductor Felipe Tristán
Photo by Ricardo Romo.

By Dr. Ricardo Romo

Award-winning conductor Felipe Tristán, a native of Monterrey, Mexico, dazzled a Texas audience for three days as he led the San Antonio Philharmonic orchestra in honoring Selena, the famous Tejano singer and her iconic music at the Majestic Theater last week [January 3-5, 2025]. Grammy-nominated vocalist and Tejano Music Award winner, Isabel Marie Sánchez, gave a magnificent *Selena Vive!* performance singing many of Selena's most popular songs.

Isabel Marie Sanchez grew up in San Antonio and was discovered at the Mercado [Market

Square] not far from the Majestic Theater. She was eleven years old when the famous Mexican music show *Sabado Gigante* agents saw her perform and asked her to enter their singing contest. She won \$1,000 for singing *La Malagueña* for a Father's Day singing competition. That same year she joined the popular Mexican reality television show *La Voz Kids* and won acclaim for her stirring rendition of *Cucurrucucu Paloma*, a song made popular by Lola Beltrán, one of the young singer's early inspirations.

After the splendid San Antonio Selena tribute, Isabel Marie Sanchez stood in the Majestic

Theater lobby greeting fans. It was there that Harriett and I met Isabel's parents Carlos and Ramona Sanchez. The event was a coming-home for the Sanchez family who raised their daughter in San Antonio. The parents noted that after their precocious daughter's performances with *La Voz Kids*, she signed with Selena's father Abraham Quintanilla of Q Productions. Isabel Marie recorded her first songs in the Quintanilla studios where Selena had recorded some of her biggest hits.

In a 2022 interview, Isabel Marie Sanchez told magazine writer Fátima Ramírez of *Acción Latina* that singing had always been in her blood. Isabel Marie's father was a musician and her mother sang at home. Isabel Marie explained: "My parents always showed me different genres. We would go from Lola Beltrán to Whitney Houston, then to Mariah Carey, then Vicente Fernández. And then like Earth, Wind & Fire, then Michael Jackson. So it

was like always all over the place, and Andrea Bocelli. So I always loved that because I grabbed inspiration from different artists."

In 2016, Sanchez became the youngest recipient to be honored as the Best New Female Artist at the Tejano Music Awards. Her second album, *Sígueme* (2017), was nominated for Album of the Year, while her third studio effort, *Xoxo - Hugs and Kisses* (2018), achieved significant sales.

Sanchez has a bright future. The young singer told Fátima Ramírez in a 2022 interview, "If I'm blessed enough to be able to do what I love every single day, and do that for my job then I'm definitely going to bless people back— at least make them smile by singing them a song. I would love to be able to do that for the rest of my life."

Selena, the most popular Latina singer of her generation, was with us for too short a time. In that time, she lifted Latina and Tejano

music to new national and global heights. She became the undisputed Queen, or Reina, of Tejano and Cumbia music. Her records have sold more than 18 million worldwide, making her one of the best-selling female artists in Latin music. She was the only female artist to have five albums on the Billboard 200 simultaneously

Selena's music empire included fans from the United States, Mexico, and beyond. Her songs crossed international borders and were sung in English and Spanish. Selena, who had started a band, *Selena y Los Dinos*, when she was eleven years old, became a rising young singer by her early teens.

Her songs recorded in the album *Entre a mi Mundo* were influenced by R&B, pop, and disco, but also by her personal style of Colombian cumbias. Music critic Nili Blanck commented that Selena merits the title as the "queen of cumbia" because she was one of the first musicians to sing

in a tecnocumbia style, which incorporated hip-hop beats and disco-style dance movements.”

Selena’s first Tejano album “Ven Conmigo” recorded in 1990 had sold over 500,000 copies by the time she received her Grammy Award in 1993. Her album "Dreaming of You" was a groundbreaking success—selling 175,000 copies on its first day of release, a record for a female vocalist at the time. The album debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard 200, selling 331,000 copies in its first week on the Billboard. That album became the first predominantly Spanish-language album to debut and peak at number one on the Billboard 200 chart. Despite her emerging star status, she changed little and gave her fans abundant time and attention.

Selena’s popularity grew as evident by the 70,000 attendees who saw her perform at the Féria Expomex in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico in September 1993. That same year over 55,000 fans saw her perform at the Houston Astrodome. She was named the U.S top-selling Latin artist of the 1990s decade by Billboard magazine. Selena remains the best-selling Tejano recording artist in history and her fan base expanded as Mexican radio stations began playing her recordings. Selena’s music included a special Latino rhythm that appealed to South American audiences as well. Her album "Amor Prohibido" was certified multi-platinum for a remarkable production of 3.54 million units in the US.



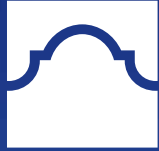
Isabel Marie Sanchez, Selena Vive! with a purple jacket similar to one worn by Selena. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



Selena photo for the poster by Al Rendon of San Antonio, Texas.



*San Antonio Philharmonic conductor Felipe Tristán at Selena Vive!
Photo by Ricardo Romo.*



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Palo Alto College and La Prensa Texas Announce Exciting Collaboration to Empower the Community Through Culture, History, and Journalism

By LPT Staff

La Prensa Texas is proud to announce a transformative partnership with Palo Alto College, set to launch in 2025. This collaboration aims to serve the local community by cultivating culture, teaching history, and empowering students through journalism, thereby uplifting residents and enriching the community.

As part of this partnership, La Prensa Texas will establish its offices on the Palo Alto College campus, located on Villaret Street in the Executive Building. This new presence will facilitate closer collaboration and engagement between the college and the publication, enhancing the resources available to students and community members.

Recognizing the rich cultural tapestry of our community, Palo Alto College and La Prensa

Texas are committed to providing educational programs and resources that celebrate our heritage and promote historical awareness. Together, we will develop workshops, seminars, and events designed to engage community members of all ages, fostering a deeper understanding of our shared history and cultural identity.

"This collaboration represents a significant step forward in our mission to empower our students and community," said Dr. Robert Garza, President of Palo Alto College. "By partnering with La Prensa Texas, we can leverage their expertise in journalism and community engagement to create meaningful opportunities for growth and learning."

La Prensa Texas, a trusted voice in the community, shares this vision of empowerment. "We are excited to

work alongside Palo Alto College to uplift our community," stated Yvette Tello, Publisher of La Prensa Texas.

"Together, we will create initiatives that not only educate but also inspire our students and residents to take pride in their cultural heritage."

Key initiatives of this partnership will include:

- Cultural Workshops: Hands-on experiences that delve into various aspects of our community's culture, including art, music, and cuisine.

- Historical Education Programs: Courses and lectures that highlight significant historical events and figures that have shaped our community.

- Journalism Training Programs: Workshops and internships through the Communication Department, providing students with practical

skills in reporting, writing, and multimedia storytelling to better serve their communities.

- Student Engagement Opportunities: Internships and volunteer programs that allow students to actively participate in community outreach and cultural events.

Through this collaboration, Palo Alto College and La Prensa Texas aim to uplift and empower local residents, fostering a sense of pride and belonging. By working together, we can ensure that our culture is celebrated, our history is preserved, and our youth are equipped with the skills needed to become effective communicators and leaders.

For more information about this partnership and upcoming events, please contact

Yvette Tello
Publisher
La Prensa Texas
210-686-0600
y.tello@laprensatexas.com

About Palo Alto College:

Palo Alto College is dedicated to providing quality education and fostering a diverse and inclusive environment for all students. With a commitment to community engagement, the college plays a vital role in promoting cultural awareness, academic excellence, and the development of future journalists.

About La Prensa Texas
La Prensa Texas is a leading publication serving the San Antonio community, focusing on issues that matter to the Hispanic population.

With a rich history of journalism, La Prensa Texas is committed to informing, educating, and uplifting the community it serves.

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Following Major Revelations About CIA Surveillance of the Latino Civil Rights Movement, Reps. Castro and Gomez Lead 30+ Congressional Hispanic Caucus Members in Push for Transparency from FBI

By Geneva Fuentes

Congressman Joaquin Castro (TX-20) and Congressman Jimmy Gomez (CA-34) led 32 of their fellow Congressional Hispanic Caucus members in a letter calling on President Biden to direct the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to release long-buried files on the historical surveillance of the Latino civil rights movement.

The letter follows the recent release of 55 documents related to Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) surveillance of the Latino community. The CIA documents were released in response to a previous request to the FBI and CIA from Castro and Gomez.

In the letter, lawmakers wrote: “The Latino civil rights movement took place during a pivotal period in our nation’s history, marked by the struggle for equality, justice, and recognition of the fundamental rights of all Americans. During this time, the FBI and CIA used their authority to

inappropriately monitor, infiltrate, and disrupt the peaceful activities of American citizens. Much of this surveillance is a matter of public record through press reports and previous U.S. government disclosures, but our understanding is many documents from this period remain unreleased.”

“The FBI has neither provided a timeline for the release of any documents nor committed to releasing anything new, instead directing Members of Congress to submit a Freedom of Information Act request. This is particularly concerning given the FBI’s historic role in the surveillance of the civil rights movements, including the Latino civil rights movement. Given this lack of action on the part of the FBI, as members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and in light of the substantial historical significance and public interest in these materials, we request that you direct Director Wray and the FBI to immediately take

actions to identify and release these historical records to provide transparency, as the CIA has done,” lawmakers continued.

The full letter is available here. Signers include Senator Alex Padilla and Reps. Nanette Barragán (CA-44), Salud Carbajal (CA-24), Greg Casar (TX-35), Lou Correa (CA-46), Jim Costa (CA-21), Gil Cisneros (CA-31), Henry Cuellar (TX-28), Veronica Escobar (TX-16), Adriano Espaillat (NY-13), Maxwell Frost (FL-10), Jesús "Chuy" García (IL-04), Robert Garcia (CA-42), Sylvia Garcia (TX-29), Vicente Gonzalez (TX-34), Raúl M. Grijalva (AZ-07), Pablo Hernández (PR-ATL), Teresa Leger Fernández (NM-03), Sam Liccardo (CA-16), Robert Menendez (NJ-08), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14), Nellie Pou (NJ-09), Delia Ramirez (IL-03), Emily Randall (WA-06), Raul Ruiz (CA-25), Andrea Salinas (OR-06), Linda Sánchez (CA-38), Norma Torres (CA-35), Lori Trahan (MA-03), Juan Vargas (CA-52),

Gabe Vasquez (NM-02), and Nydia Velázquez (NY-07).

Media reporting and public disclosures indicate that U.S. intelligence agencies conducted an extensive campaign of surveillance, infiltration, and disruption directed at the Latino civil rights movement, motivated in part by concerns about the growing political power of American Latinos. Notable targets of these activities include the labor leader Cesar Chavez and the moderate American G.I. Forum. In recent decades, U.S. intelligence agencies have declassified and released extensive archival materials related to government surveillance of various activist movements, but the historical record with regard to the Latino civil rights movement has remained incomplete.

In March 2024, Congressman Castro and Congressman Gomez formally requested the declassification and publication of FBI and CIA files related

to the surveillance of the Latino civil rights movement. During a subsequent hearing of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Congressman Castro secured a commitment from CIA Director William Burns to improve transparency and declassification efforts related to surveillance of the Latino community, but FBI Director Christopher Wray declined to make a similar commitment.

In December 2024, the CIA released 55 documents pertaining to surveillance of the Latino civil rights movement. The documents, which date from the late 1960s through the early 1980s, detail an extensive pattern of CIA surveillance and infiltration directed against students, labor organizers, Chicano civil rights leaders, and advocates for Puerto Rican independence. A working summary of these documents is available from Congressman Castro’s office upon request.

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Potros Y Acereros Ganaron El Primero En Playoffs

Sendero Deportivo

Las series del playoff a ganar 2 de 3 partidos en Liga Potranco favorecieron a los trabucos de Potros que dirige Luis Cerros y Acereros del timonel y jugador Memo de la Cerda y el coach y jugador Luis Mendoza "El Tronco".

Ambos se adjudicaron el primer partido con holgadas pizarras.

Potros del artista Eloy Rocha (dueño del salón de actividades sociales Potranco Ballroom), blanquearon 5-0

a Cachorros, con victoria para Matt Harrell y derrota para Josh Gill con relevo de Barry Núñez.

Por los Potros destacó con el bate Rolando Estable con 4-3, y 1 RBI, El Caminante Víctor Mercedes pegó de 2-1, con carrera anotada.

Potranco Ballroom de Eloy Rocha, es el patrocinador de los playoff y por tan importante motivo se invita a los aficionados que tienen festejos en puerta y desean rentarlo pueden llamar al

teléfono (210) 381- 4416. Acereros en buen partido en el que dominó en gran pitcheo, ante el líder de temporada Pericos del magnate Memo Frausto, se agenciaron la victoria 11-3 carreras.

Víctor Mateo abrió por Acereros siendo relevado por Diego Dugarte, quien se acreditó la victoria con salvamento de Argelio Castro.

Por Pericos abrió Carlos Ávila, con relevos de Daniel Rincon, Cristian Arzola y Kevin García. Pericos dirigidos por Francisco Navarro, este domingo tiene el compromiso de empatar la serie en su partido a comenzar en el horario de las 10am estadio Potranco, donde por igual Cachorros de Martín Rodríguez a la 1:30 disputarán segundo partido ante los Acereros.

Simón Sánchez presidente del circuito anunció a los campeones de bateo Víctor Mercedes quién finalizó la temporada con promedio de .500, Josh Gill en pitcheo con marca de 7-0 (Cachorros) y Henry Pichardo de Acereros con 3 vuela cercas campeón de jonrones.

Resultados categoría Masters 50+ temporada

Macario Rosas. Astros 5 Reds 3. Lee Mann se acreditó el triunfo. La derrota fue para Carlos Cerda. Yankees 18 Broncos 3, Willie Martinez ganó con relevo de Gilbert Salazar, Humberto García "Flaco" fue el derrotado.

Rol de juegos campo 2 Potranco Baseball Field. 10am Broncos del magnate Roberto Garza y su coach y jugador Macario Rosas vs Rangers del venado Benito Martinez y el coach Ruperto Ortega. 1pm el clásico Yankees de Luis Velázquez contra Astros de Pedro Espinoza. Las acciones serán comentadas por José Sánchez, compilador oficial. En las fotos aparecen Henry Pichardo de Acereros. Carlos Ávila de Pericos y Diego Dugarte de Acereros. (Fotos De Franco).



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1 "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2024. 2 "Aging changes in teeth and gums", medlineplus.gov, 4/17/2022. 3 American Dental Association, Health Policy Institute, 2020 Survey of Dental Fees, Copyright 2020, American Dental Association.

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Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center Announces its Spring Academy Classes; Registration Begins on January 13

Courtesy of Laura Hernandez Aplin

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center announces its Spring Academy classes for children and adults of all skill levels. The new semester begins January 13, 2025, and interested students can register through February. All classes are held at the Guadalupe Academy, 723 S. Brazos St, San Antonio, TX 78207. Interested students can register online at www.guadalupeculturalarts.org <<https://www.guadalupeculturalarts.org>>.

Dance students must have appropriate dancewear and shoes to take class and will learn the art of Mexican Ballet Folklórico and/or Spanish Flamenco technique and choreography. Students can also enroll in Storytelling through Dance class to explore self-expression and creativity through movement.

The music program consists of a robust offering of mariachi classes led by Gino Rivera of Mariachi Azteca de América who teaches violin, vocals,

guitar, trumpet and piano along with master vocals instructor Jonathan Palomar. The program also includes National Heritage Fellow, Santiago Jimenez, Jr, who leads two accordion classes for beginners and intermediate level students, and Aaron Salinas who teaches accordion for teens and adults. Conjunto music students can also enroll in bajo sexto classes taught by Hunter Chavez. All music students must provide their own musical instruments.

Students who complete the semester which ends

in May will have the opportunity to perform in recitals which will showcase the talents of beginning, intermediate and advanced students. Go to the Guadalupe website www.guadalupeculturalarts.org <<https://www.guadalupeculturalarts.org>> to see the full schedule of

classes and tuition fees which range from \$200 to \$280 for the full semester. For questions about the Academy, call 210-271-3151, extension 225 or email education director Belinda Menchaca at belindam@guadalupeculturalarts.org <<mailto:belindam@guadalupeculturalarts.org>>.





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