

# La Prensa Texas

VOL. 8 • NUM 08

[www.LaPrensaTexas.com](http://www.LaPrensaTexas.com)

23 de Febrero de 2025



# 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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Sales Info:

Our Circulation

45,000 Printed

And Distributed Weekly

English And Spanish

Send Press Releases And

Advertising Inquiries To:

Info@LaPrensaTexas.com

2 1 0 - 6 8 6 - 0 6 0 0

Digital Team:

The Social Being



# Let's Talk About It

## The State of Our Country: A Nation in Turmoil or a Democracy at Work?

### By Yvette Tello

*The current state of our country feels more divided than ever. Political tensions are at an all-time high, economic uncertainty looms, and social issues continue to spark heated debates. Many Americans are frustrated, questioning the direction in which we're headed. Some feel we are witnessing democracy in action—messy, passionate, and ever-evolving—while others see chaos, dysfunction, and a system that seems to be failing its people. For those watching from abroad, how do you view the situation in the United States? Do you see a nation struggling through necessary growing pains, or does it appear as a cautionary tale of deep polarization? As we navigate these uncertain times, one thing remains clear: people are engaged, voices are being heard, and change—whether for better or worse—is inevitable. The real question is, what will we do with this moment in history? How do you feel about the state of our country? And for those outside the U.S., what's your perspective on this unfolding chapter in American politics? Let's talk about it... #letstalkaboutit*

**Tammy Assu:** “There was a time when there was appreciation for all things in life. After the wars, society rebuilt and understood freedom. So sad no one can remember how our ancestors fought for our futures.”

**Carmelle Cyr:** “Well, I'm from Canada and I'm praying for all of you and us. It is not looking good. There is no way we're going to give up our beautiful country. Please pray for all of us.”

**Vinny Villegas:** “We need God more than ever. Both parties were installed to work together to help our people and instead they are just playing a consistent game of one up.”

**Cynthia Lee Boynton:** “It's a mess. Thanks to Trump and Musk.”

**Blaine Radley:** “We are saving the Country from Socialist Democrats right now.”

**Tony Orso:** “It's not a mess . . .unless you voted for Kamala”

**Gale Tate:** “I hope other countries look at us with pity as that man has been in office for not even a month yet and has thrown the whole work force into chaos with all the "firings" that was his old catch phrase when he was a failing actor. Those of us like me, who only have Social Security to live on because I am

old and disabled, wake up on the 3rd of each month to see if we have rent money or will be homeless. Such a sad situation we put ourselves in (not me, I didn't vote for him).”

**Stacy Clausen:** “It is in total chaos.”

**Sylvia Goldmanis:** “This is not about Taylor Swift, Elon, JLo, democrats, republicans, left, right, black, white...It is about we the people!! Their method of operation is to divide and conquer. Keep us distracted and in opposition of one another. What I see here is their "agenda" succeeding. We must unite as one, putting our differences aside! Humanity, at its core, depends on this. Standing up to these bullies is where our true happiness, as a whole, begins. We have been brainwashed to forget we are love...love is the cure for all fear and hate...love is the answer! Please help spread this love.”

**Pauline Robinson:** “Love your people but don't like the evil administration. He is treating Canada badly. All these years, we have been great allies and now he is trying to destroy our country. We don't want to be part of the USA. We will be friends but we are a sovereign country and will decide on the future for our country. When your country has had problems, 9/11, fires in California etc., we were always there for you.”

**John Caesar Archangel Jr.:** “I feel that the current state of America is a \$h!+ show. Elect a clown into office and you get a circus. I have zero problems with any person regardless of their political alignment. Americans as a whole are kind and caring people, it's the government that I despise.”

**Llewelyn Santos:** “Well, we couldn't control the political issues regarding the many problems of our country. We just ride along. We are all individuals, so try to live well.”

**Karen Grout:** “I'm thanking God for blessing us again! Hope is back!”

**Sheila Jarvis:** “I was born in 1934 and lived through the war, bombings, running to air raid shelters, people looking after one another, never like it is today. Most don't know their neighbor.”

**Juanita Vargas:** “Laughing stock of the world.”

**Linda Straubhaar-Foose:** “We are Finally seeing the Truth. Pray for our Leaders and our Country.”

**Jeannie Atkins Pegram:** “So glad I was born in 1936 and graduated 1954 from Luttleton High School. One thing for sure: people were nice and kind. My Dad used to say if you do not have something nice to say about a person then just do not say anything. I will never understand how people can be so hateful and spend their time on Earth being so mean and hateful. It's a lot easier smiling and being nice.”

**Rhonda G Pennington:** “They are cleaning all the mess the democrats left behind.”

**Melanie Pope:** “I'm scared, I understand going after spending money that's not yours, but stop saying all democrats; it's Republicans that spend more money that's not theirs too. Now that we have money, let's cut taxes on the working people ( middle class ) and the social security people. Let's lower gas and groceries. Let's lower health costs.”

**Phyllis Breeding:** “Our country has gone to HELL with Trump and President Musk at the top. Trump promised to help our country but all he is doing is making everybody pay for him being held for his criminal actions. Musk is the only reason he didn't pay for his crimes, that is why Trump is letting Musk get away with what he is doing. President Musk is getting paid billions of dollars by government contracts while the people are losing their jobs to pay him. If it had been us that did that, we would be in jail. We are an embarrassment and other countries see us as an easy target.”

**Lucille Atkinson:** “Not Good! We are in big trouble!”

**Colin Menzies Mcnicol:** “War is coming.”

**Abdullahi Sa'idu Umar:** “God help us all, Amen.”

**Russ Aylsworth:** “A whole bunch of people who think they know everything but don't know anything. They are running the country into the ground.”

**Ingrid Streussnig:** “I feel so optimistic!! It's been an amazing month and the best is yet to come!”

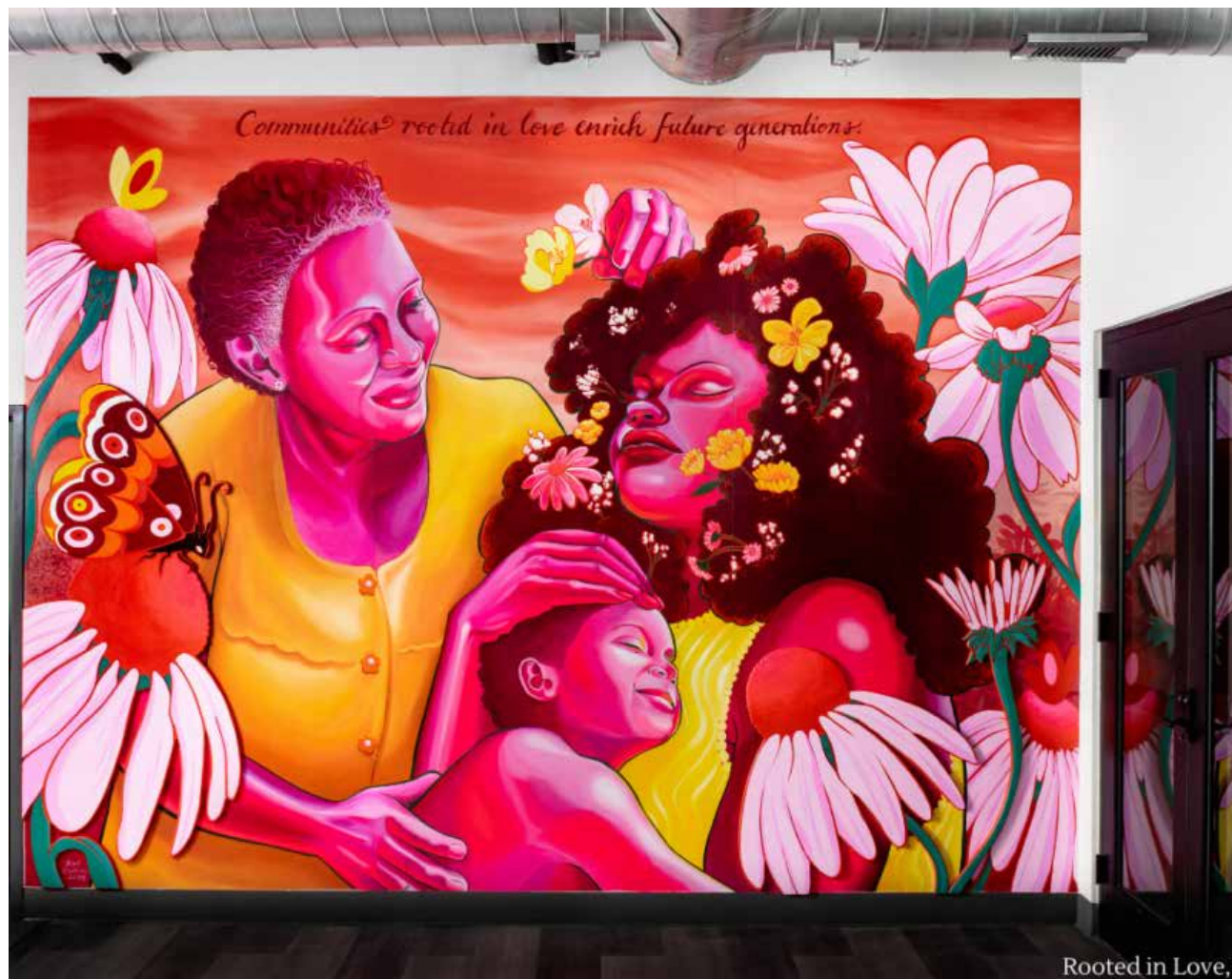
## About the Cover Artist: Kat Cadena

Courtesy of [getcreativesanantonio.com](http://getcreativesanantonio.com)

Kat Cadena is a multimedia artist, celebrated muralist and independent illustrator. She was raised by multiple generations of strong, proud and fierce mestiza women in San Antonio, Texas. Cadena's bright pink portraits and murals depict unflinchingly emotional subjects, most often, women. Surrounded by monumental, flowing medicinal herbs and flowers, her works are a nod to a simultaneous keeping of tradition and an intentional breaking of cycles.

### Artist Statement of Work

"In my work, I often personify difficult feelings women experience that some of us have survived and some were unable to overcome. The forces that push my hands to create are a mix of personal and ancestral trauma; entangled feelings of pride and shame, desperation for safety and inevitable terror, and the intricate, knotted feelings that so many women endure and attempt to heal throughout their often painful lives. Learning from my grandmother and elders, I incorporate traditional medicine into my work, hoping to spark interest or uncover memories of community and self-healing using the native plants around us. Through this creative, reflective process, I join hearts with my sisters, empower each other through our mutual understanding, and seek to inspire awareness, care, and transformation of our condition and position in society. Despite the dark themes driving my work, it is often colorful, light, refreshing and energizing in appearance. Such is life; sadness, happiness, terror, and glee can all happen within a few moments. The idea is that beyond the darkness lies power, resistance, community, growth, and love. Despite all odds, we bloom."





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# CONFLUENCE OF CULTURES

*Nuestra Gente, Cultura y Comida*

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# Noche del Vaquero with Pesado

**By Ramon Chapa, Jr.**

LPT Community Liaison Ramon Chapa Jr attended the SA Stock Show and Rodeo at the invitation of Johnny and Lilian Guerra! An array of beautiful friends joined them to include Judge and Mrs. Orlando Garcia, the lovely Dottie of the Sour, Rudy Rodriguez, Jane Macon, County Judge and Mrs Peter Sakai, Adam and Jorge, Hays County Judge and Mrs. Ruben Beccera and Clyde Foster. What an amazing evening of sheer fun as Grupo Pesado was the headlining artist performing!





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Join us in creating delicious baked goods and be a part of our growing team!

# Los Spurs De Regreso A San Antonio

## Por Franco

Los Spurs de San Antonio, estarán de regreso en su arena Frost Bank Center, el miércoles 26 de febrero para recibir al visitante Rockets de Houston en el horario de las 8:30pm.

Su larga gira anual con motivo del tradicional Rodeo y Exposición Ganadera de San Antonio, así como de las espectaculares participaciones del NBA All-Star Game celebradas en la ciudad de San Francisco, California, sede del equipo Warriors de Golden State, donde el pasado fin de semana participaron el novato escolta Stephon Castle (5), y el delantero francés Víctor Wembanyama (Wemby).

Castle, destacó con el equipo NBA Rising Stars siendo elegido MVP y Wemby con el representante de la conferencia del oeste.

Para ambos fueron excelentes experiencias que de seguro les abrirán camino

en sus futuras contiendas del presente circuito.

Spurs el primero de marzo visitará a Grizzlies de Memphis en el horario de las 7pm, regresando a la ciudad de El Álamo el 2 de marzo para ser anfitrión contra Thunder de Oklahoma City (7pm), y el 4 de marzo contra el visitante Nets de Brooklyn (7pm).

Cabe anotar que Los Spurs antes de partir a su tradicional gira anual, el 31 de enero en gran partido con mucha intensidad sobre la duela lograron imponerse ante los Bucks de Milwaukee, con pizarra de 144 a 118, destacando Wemby ante 17,804 fanáticos encestando 30 unidades con 5 de 11 disparos triples.

La noble afición lo ovacionó y a la vez le desearon al equipo todo lo mejor a lo largo de su gira por seis plazas de la NBA en las conferencias oeste y este.

Spurs en su encuentro contra Bucks agradeció la participación de la gallarda escolta militar US Coast Guard y del coro The Montessori School of San Antonio que interpretaron el Himno Nacional. Además

de rendir solemnemente un minuto de silencio en memoria de las personas fallecidas en el lamentable accidente aéreo sucedido en Washington D.C.

Así como de las coloridas promociones y participaciones

del evento "Build a Burguer" presentado por Whataburger y animado por la mascota The Coyote. La HEB Fan Camera, la porra Spurs Hype Squad.

[Fotos de Franco].



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# The Latino Spirit in Fiesta and Beyond

By Yvette Tello

Mexican American heritage has a rich tapestry of history, resilience, and creativity, woven together through centuries of cultural evolution and adaptation. Our past is marked by struggles and challenges, yet it is also defined by an unwavering spirit to transform adversity into beauty and strength. One of the most vibrant examples of this resilience is the Fiesta, particularly the Battle of the Flowers Parade, which celebrates our heritage while showcasing our ability to thrive despite obstacles. The roots of Mexican American history in the United States are deep and complex, shaped by colonization, migration, and cultural exchange. From the indigenous civilizations like the Aztecs and Mayans to the waves of immigrants seeking new opportunities, each chapter of our history has contributed to the rich cultural landscape we see today. The stories of our ancestors, marked by both struggle and triumph, remind us that we come from a lineage of survivors who have turned challenges into stepping stones. The Battle of the Flowers Parade, a key event of Fiesta in San Antonio, Texas, is a testament to the Mexican American spirit. Originating in 1891 as a way to honor the memory of the Battle of

San Jacinto, it has evolved into a grand celebration of culture, creativity, and community. The parade features intricately decorated floats, vibrant costumes, and lively music, showcasing the artistry and talent within the Latino community. This event is not just a parade; it's a symbol of how we have taken the stones that have been thrown at us—historical oppression, cultural erasure, and social injustice—and built something beautiful in response. Fiesta exemplifies our ability to transform pain into pride, creating a space where our voices are heard, our stories are told, and our culture is celebrated. While

it's essential to acknowledge our struggles, it's equally important to embrace our present and celebrate how far we have come. Today, Mexican Americans are making significant contributions across various fields, from arts and entertainment to science and politics. We are not just survivors; we are innovators, leaders, and changemakers. The stories we tell today reflect our resilience and our commitment to building a better future for ourselves and the generations to come. Through community initiatives, educational programs, and cultural celebrations, we continue to

uplift one another, ensuring that our history informs our present and shapes our future. Telling our truth is an essential part of our journey. It involves acknowledging the challenges we've faced while also celebrating our achievements and the richness of our culture. From the music that fills our streets to the flavors that tantalize our taste buds, our culture is a vibrant mosaic that reflects our diversity and strength. As we continue to share our stories, let's highlight the triumphs that emerge from our struggles. Let's emphasize how, despite the odds, we rise, adapt, and flourish. Fiesta and the Battle

of the Flowers Parade serve as powerful reminders that we are more than our past; we are a living testament to resilience and hope. The Latino spirit is one of perseverance and creativity. Our history is filled with challenges, but it is also a story of triumph and transformation. As we celebrate events like the Fiesta and the Battle of the Flowers Parade, let us continue to tell our stories, share our truth, and inspire future generations. Together, we will build upon the stones that have been thrown at us, creating a legacy of resilience, pride, and community that will endure for years to come.



# Latino Representation of Food and Culture in Confluence



Daniela Talamantes Martinez, "La Ceremonia de la Barbacoa." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



Cruz Ortiz, "Yanaguana Near the San Juan Mission and Mission Espada." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



Ashley Perez, "The Three Sisters, Mother, Row Boat, and AP." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



Eva M. Sanchez, "Field Notes." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas. Photo by Ricardo Romo.



Manuel Davila, "Acequias of Memory." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas. Photo by Ricardo Romo.

## Ricardo Romo, PH.D

To honor the upcoming 10th anniversary of San Antonio's World Heritage designation, including a UNESCO Creative Cities Network in gastronomy, the City Arts and Culture Office joined with the local World Heritage team to celebrate "dynamic, diverse, and vibrant cultural heritage through the lens of local artistry." The Confluence of Cultures: Nuestra Gente, Cultura y Comida exhibit at the Plaza de Armas showcases the art work of twenty San Antonio artists.

Native Americans [Natives] first settled the region of South Texas twelve thousands years ago. Their ancestors migrated across the Bering Strait over the period 30,000 and 10,000 BC. The local descendants of those Natives crossing the land bridge from Asia into North America are the true discoverers and

original settlers of Texas. The Natives cultivated many food sources including the three sisters of intercropping—maize [corn], beans, and squash.

They also harvested wild rice, sweet potatoes, cacao, and sunflower seeds. The Indigenous people introduced the Europeans to plants and fruits that grew naturally in the region, such as pecans, avocado, and nopales [cacti].

The first Spanish explorers of Texas in the early 1500s, beginning with Francisco Coronado in 1540, were only interested in finding gold. The task of establishing the first Spanish towns, presidios, and missions fell to padres and soldiers arriving in the period between 1690 and 1750. These early Spanish settlers occupied the land with the purposes of claiming the region for the King of Spain, Christianizing the Natives,

and extracting wealth from the conquered territory. When South Texas proved barren of mineral wealth, the region grew slowly. The gold seekers passed through Texas while the Spanish priests stayed to administer religious services and provide Christian education to the Natives.

The art exhibit Confluence of Cultures: Nuestra Gente, Cultura y Comida recognizes that "the arrival of the Spanish created an interweaving of cultures whose tangible remnants can still be seen today and are evident in the art,

architecture, and archeology." The newcomers introduced new flavors, spices, and ingredients from Europe, Asia, and Africa, along with new cooking methods and preservation techniques. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated the five San Antonio Missions as a World Heritage Site in 2015. San Antonio is the only city in the United States that is home to a UNESCO World Heritage site and is also named a UNESCO

Creative City of Gastronomy. The UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in the field of gastronomy promotes collaboration among cities that use their culinary heritage and creativity as tools for sustainable urban development. To be designated as part of the Creative Cities Network, San Antonio had to meet specific UNESCO criteria, including a well-developed gastronomy characteristic of the region, a vibrant culinary community with traditional restaurants and chefs, and use



Adriana Garcia, "Passing Time." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas.  
Photo by Ricardo Romo.

of Indigenous ingredients and traditional cooking methods.

The Confluence of Cultures: Nuestra Gente, Cultura y Comida exhibit features San Antonio artists who explore the ways merging cultures have shaped their homes and experiences. For the Confluence exhibit, oil painter Eva M. Sanchez, a native of San Antonio, created 20 small paintings of herbs and plants, such as radish, squash, chile pepper, pecan, and tomatoes—mainstays of Mexican cooking. There is also a butterfly hovering over a blue blossom and a bright red rooster. Eva Sanchez explained to art critic Wendy Bowman Butler, "My work is a celebration of cultural identity. I paint food because it's so closely tied to how I experience and think about my culture." While Sanchez is best known for her photorealism of Mexican food, she is also a highly accomplished muralist.

Sanchez grew up on San Antonio's Southside and at age 16 began additional art training at the Southwest

School of Art. Following her graduation from Earlham College [Richmond, Indiana] in 2013, she spent nine months in Mexico City studying Spanish, Mesoamerican art, and art conservation. In Mexico City she expanded her interest in food and culture. She believes there is beauty in everyday food objects and is known for larger-than-life paintings of South Texas products such as Mexican pan dulce, paletas, and salsa or fruit cups.

Sanchez's food artwork is also about making us look and think about something tasty and delightful. To do this, Sanchez relies heavily on color selection and exemplary technique and execution. Art critic Butler wrote, "Sanchez is a hyper realistic painter who investigates cultural identity through the fusion of man-made and organic materials. Her color, precision, and larger than life canvases create a sensory explosion for the viewer."

Ashley Perez, also a local artist, specializes in painting

and drawing and received her first formal training in art at SAY Si, a nonprofit youth art program in San Antonio. She earned her B.F.A. in painting from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 2010. She describes the goal of her four paintings of food and landscape as exploring "themes of land use, sustainability and human resources development aligning with UNESCO's goals."

In her artist statement, Perez explains the concept of companion planting in which certain plants thrive together supporting each other's growth—as seen in the "Three Sisters"—squash, corn, and beans. The "Three Sisters" planting method originated in Mesoamerican and was adopted by Indigenous people across North America. It involves the interplanting of maize, beans, and squash in a symbiotic relationship that maximizes soil fertility, conserves resources, and enhances crop yields. In two of her paintings, Perez also includes birds, the ultimate pollinators in the gardens of the "Three Sisters."

A painting in a three-dimensional glass box by

Adriana Garcia features a family dining inside their modest home on the outskirts of San Antonio. According to Garcia, the painting honors "the foods of our

Yanaguana [Indigenous tribe] ancestors, like yucca, pecan, mesquite beans, prickly pears, fish, and rabbit." The artwork shows the inside of a dining room where a grandmother serves a



Blas Lopez. "Missions Festival." Courtesy of Plaza de Armas.  
Photo by Ricardo Romo.

family dinner. The artist also painted scenes in the glass box depicting areas outside the house including the San Antonio River nearby with turtles, frogs, and rabbits on the banks. In the far distance, one can see the San Antonio skyline.

The preparation of food was the subject of several artists, including Kat Cadena, a University of Texas at San Antonio graduate. An artist, muralist, and illustrator, Cadena acknowledges the proud mestiza women who raised her. She also dedicated a painting to her herbalism mentor, Beto Davila De Leon. In her painting "Beto Making Pinole de Nuez," Cadena notes that "Beto carries on the legacy of traditional foodways from generations past in the South Texas region, grinding pecans to make pinole de nuez." The curators noted that Cadena's works "are a nod to a simultaneous keeping of tradition and an international breaking of cycles."

Daniela Talamantes Martinez, a graduate of UT Austin, captures the tradition of preparing barbacoa in a South Texas family backyard, noting that gathering around a fire has been a human ritual for centuries. Barbacoa is traditionally prepared by

placing a cow's head in a deep hole dug in the earth and cooked with ample burning wood. Sufficient wood or charcoal is placed in the ground oven to last overnight. I was fortunate to have prepared

barbacoa in our backyard with my dad, allowing the meat to cook for hours, a process that resulted in very tender beef rolled into corn tortillas.

Martinez painted whirling smoke moving up from the barbacoa pit to an impressionistic blue sky—a South Texas version of Van Gogh's "Starry Night." The multigenerational scene includes youngsters, middle-aged parents, and grandparents. A bag of charcoal is nearby and a young man uses a shovel to add fuel to the fire. Numerous families sit in the backyard plus the family dog, several cats, and a table hosting a Big Red soda.

The paintings in the Confluence of Cultures: Nuestra Gente, Cultura y Comida masterfully explore themes of food and culture in South Texas. Located in the Plaza de Armas Building, the exhibit is on display until January 16, 2026.

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# Edgewood Education Foundation Hosts 2025 Hall of Fame Awards on March 1

Courtesy of Yvonne M. Pena

Edgewood ISD and the Edgewood Education Foundation announce the 2025 Hall of Fame awards on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at the Estancia del Norte Hotel on 410/McCollough. This year we will honor four Edgewood ISD alumni and one Community Proud Award.

## Hall of Fame Award Recipients:



**Colonel Sandra Smith-Mason** retired from the Army National Guard after 26 years of distinguished military service. She is a highly decorated officer who has served in Afghanistan. She continued a civilian career in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as the Director of Warrior Care. She dedicated her professional career and life's work to the physical and mental well-being of both military troops and civilian health care.



**Constable Leticia Vazquez** joined the Bexar County Sheriff's Office in 1994, serving over 25 years as a Deputy Sheriff, detention officer, and in the S.C.O.R.E unit. In 2019, she was sworn in as Constable of Precinct 2. Since taking the position, she has been recognized for outstanding service and for her involvement in community service for children and the elderly. Community Proud Award



**Rosie Canamar Padilla** made significant strides as a civil service employee at Kelly Air Force Base. While initially working as a secretary, she played a pivotal role in expanding opportunities for women within management roles. She was one of the first females to break into the predominantly male management positions at the base. Her technical experience combined with her Business Management degree advanced her to a higher management position and retired as Supervisor Production Controller.



**Yvonne Montoya Pena** worked for Edgewood ISD Public Relations Office for 32 years. In retirement, she founded Westside Stories Magazine and Cafecito in the Westside Podcast. She is a publisher, editor, writer, photographer, and producer who focuses on inspiring the Edgewood ISD community. Yvonne also advocates for animal welfare, LGBTQ rights, LULAC, and the elderly.

**Lineberger Law** is the recipient of the Community Proud Award. Lineberger Law has been involved in the Education Foundation's mission and vision for numerous years. Their participation in the success of the foundation has been instrumental in meeting the financial needs for scholarships for students and innovative teaching grants. The Hall of Fame is one of two major fundraisers for the Foundation. Tickets are available by visiting our website: <https://eefsa.charityproud.org/eventregistration/index/19248>

**AVISO PÚBLICO**

**DETERMINACIÓN DEL ALCANCE PARA UNA DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL BAJO LA LEY NACIONAL DE PRESERVACIÓN HISTÓRICA**

**DEPARTAMENTO DE ASUNTOS DE LOS VETERANOS DE LOS EE. UU**

**Propuesta de Reubicación del Centro Médico de Asuntos de Veteranos**

**Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital, San Antonio, Texas**

El Departamento de Asuntos de Veteranos de los EE. UU (VA por sus siglas en inglés) solicita comentarios e informa al público, a las agencias y a las partes interesadas que se va a preparar una Declaración de Impacto Ambiental (EIS por sus siglas en inglés) para una nueva instalación de aproximadamente 1,600,000 pies cuadrados brutos para reemplazar el Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital (VAMC) actual, ubicado en 7400 Merton Minter Boulevard en San Antonio, Texas. El objetivo de la Medida Propuesta es brindar servicios de asistencia médica excepcionales a la población creciente de Veteranos en la región del sur de Texas. La Medida Propuesta se necesita para abordar limitaciones críticas de infraestructura, funcionalidad, y espacio en el VAMC existente. Detalles adicionales sobre el proyecto están disponibles en el aviso de determinación del alcance publicado en <https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/>.

El VA lo invita a compartir sus comentarios en cualquiera de las dos reuniones públicas en persona sobre la determinación del alcance o a través de [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). El VA llevará a cabo dos reuniones públicas de la determinación del alcance en marzo de 2025. Las reuniones se realizarán el martes 11 de marzo de 2025, de 6:00 P.M. a 8:00 P.M., y el miércoles 12 de marzo de 2025, de 9:30 A.M. a 11:30 A.M. Ambas reuniones se llevarán a cabo en el Auditorio del Edificio 5 del Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital (7400 Merton Minter Boulevard en San Antonio, Texas).

Las reuniones de la determinación del alcance aportarán una oportunidad para aprender sobre el proyecto y aportar comentarios sobre el proceso de análisis ambiental. Ambas reuniones cubrirán el mismo material. Durante las reuniones de la determinación del alcance, el VA proporcionará un resumen del proyecto y detalles sobre el proceso del EIS y la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA).

Para enviar los comentarios por medios electrónicos, visite a [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Escriba "San Antonio VAMC EIS" en la barra de búsqueda y luego haga clic en el botón que dice "comment" debajo del primer resultado de búsqueda, la cual será el aviso de la determinación del alcance del Registro Federal para este proyecto. Luego, siga las instrucciones para enviar su comentario. Los comentarios deben recibirse a más tardar el 18 de abril de 2025.

El VA anticipa publicar el Borrador del EIS para un período de revisión y comentarios públicos de 45 días a finales de 2025 o principios de 2026. El VA notificará a las partes interesadas por correo electrónico y publicará un aviso de disponibilidad del Borrador del EIS en el Registro Federal y en periódicos locales de amplia circulación. El Borrador del EIS estará disponible para revisar en el sitio web del VA: <https://www.cfm.va.gov/environmental/> y en bibliotecas locales.

Para más información, comuníquese con el Sr. Bruce Mack, Ingeniero Ambiental, Oficina de Gestión de Construcción e Instalaciones (003C2), El Departamento de Asuntos Veteranos, en [vacoenvironment@va.gov](mailto:vacoenvironment@va.gov). Incluya "San Antonio VAMC EIS" como asunto en su correspondencia.

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# Groundbreaking 'Black Cowboys: An American Story' returns to the Witte Museum

Courtesy of  
**Alyssa Sailor-Tynes**  
*Photos by Ricardo Romo*

Explore the lives and work of the numerous Black men, women and children – enslaved and free – who labored on the ranches of Texas and participated in cattle drives before the Civil War through the turn of the twentieth century in *Black Cowboys: An American Story*, returning to the Witte Museum on June 15, 2024. Updated and redesigned for its encore presentation, this powerful exhibition offers insight into legendary cowboys, a clearer picture of the Black West and a more diverse

portrait of the American West with artifacts, photographs and documents depicting the work and skills of Black cowboys.

For its return to San Antonio, Witte experts have added new information about the Hawkins Ranch, George Ranch, and Jones Ranch. This new information highlights the contributions of entrepreneurs John Dolford “Bob” and Almeady Jones, leaders in the Southlake community. It recognizes Matthew “Bones” Hooks, a founder of the Black community in Amarillo. A new film in the exhibition explores the history and evolution of Black rodeos, from the historical exploits of Nat Love to formal rodeo competitions of today.

“The Witte is excited

to welcome back this exhibition, showcasing the powerful stories of Black cowboys,” said Witte Museum CEO & President, Dirk Elmendorf. “This is the culmination of an amazing collaboration between our community of cowboys, ranchers and scholars to give a more complete perspective on the history of Texas. This exhibition gives you a view from the saddle of the importance of Black cowboys in the American West.”

This exhibition shares accounts of Black cowboys who exercised courage in the face of discrimination, skill to overcome great odds and success through generations of ranching and becoming leaders in their field. Museum visitors will discover how Black cowboys tamed and trained horses, tended livestock and rode on the trail with thousands of cattle across America. Over time, the role of Black cowboys evolved as they used the skills they learned on the ranch and trail to own their own ranches, serve as lawmen, ride in rodeos, become singers and perform in movies. Today, the lives and legacies of Black cowboys have inspired new generations to explore the past through music, film, fashion and design.

Central to the exhibition is a film about Hector Bazy, portrayed by distinguished actor and playwright Eugene Lee. Born enslaved on a

plantation in Grimes County, Texas in 1851, Bazy wrote an autobiography in 1910 describing the exhilarating and dangerous work of cowboy life. In the film, Lee speaks Bazy’s own words to describe his experiences.

“Black cowboys were integral to the growth of Texas’ cattle industry immediately after the Civil War,” said Ron Davis II, Witte Museum Curator of American History, who co-curated the exhibition alongside Witte Museum Texas History Curator Bruce Shackelford. “In fact, one in four cowboys who went up the trails was a Black cowboy.”

Black Cowboys originally opened at the Witte Museum on November 6, 2021 and ran through April 3, 2022. Since then, the Witte has traveled the exhibition nationally to other museums, including the African American Museum of Dallas, the Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum, the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum and the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, where it served as inspiration for musical artist Leon Bridges’ Met Gala suit.

Black Cowboys: An American Story will run June 15, 2024 through February 9, 2025 in the first floor of the Robert J. and Helen C. Kleberg South Texas Heritage Center at the Witte Museum. Entry is included with General Museum Admission; tickets can be



reserved at [WitteMuseum.org](http://WitteMuseum.org). Following the exhibition’s conclusion at the Witte, Black Cowboys will continue to travel to other museums, including the Autry Museum of the American West in California and the Kalamazoo Valley Museum in Michigan.



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## Possible INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Immigration services invites you to an event for community leaders and community members seeking resources and information on immigration policy.

**Saturday March 8th 2025**  
8:30am - 2:00pm  
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# Broncos De Cierre Ganó A Rangers

## Por Sendero Deportivo

El clásico dominical categoría Masters 50+ lo ganaron Broncos de Reynosa al trabuco de Rangers con pizarra de 10-4 carreras.

Broncos en la apertura del séptimo capítulo perdía con pizarra de 4-2 carreras.

La esperanza nunca murió y el coach y jugador Macario Rosas (padrino de la temporada), junto con sus compañeros entraron al

bateo decididos a remolcar el marcador.

Broncos se creció en su defensiva y anotó ocho carreras para irse arriba 10 por 4 carreras. Rangers del Venado Benito Martínez, vinieron al cierre, sin lograr remontar el marcador contra la serpentina del relevista Robert Calvert quien se agenció la victoria, luego quien entró al relevo del abridor Erick Carey.

Por Rangers abrió el legendario José Luis Gómez (Liga Mexicana), siendo relevado por Ervey Vela, quien se ayudó pegando doblete, siendo relevado por Hugo Méndez.

“La esperanza no muere hasta el último out. Todos los Broncos respondieron y siguieron las señales por lo que así seguiremos”, dijo Rosas.

Martínez, dijo lo siguiente. “Jugamos bien por igual Broncos. Solo queda ver para adelante”.

En resultado aportado por José Sánchez, compilador oficial, indicó que en buen partido el tricampeón Yankees de Luis Velázquez doblegaron al sublider Astros de Pedro Espinoza con pizarra de 7-4, con victoria para Will Martínez en relevo al zurdo Moisés Cervantes.

Rol de juegos domingo 23 campo dos de Potranco Baseball Field del artista Eloy Rocha bajo la presidencia de Simón Sánchez, a la 10am Astros Vs Rangers. 1pm Reds Vs Yankees.

Sánchez a la vez convocó a la afición para estar presente en el estadio Potranco para apoyar la apertura de la temporada

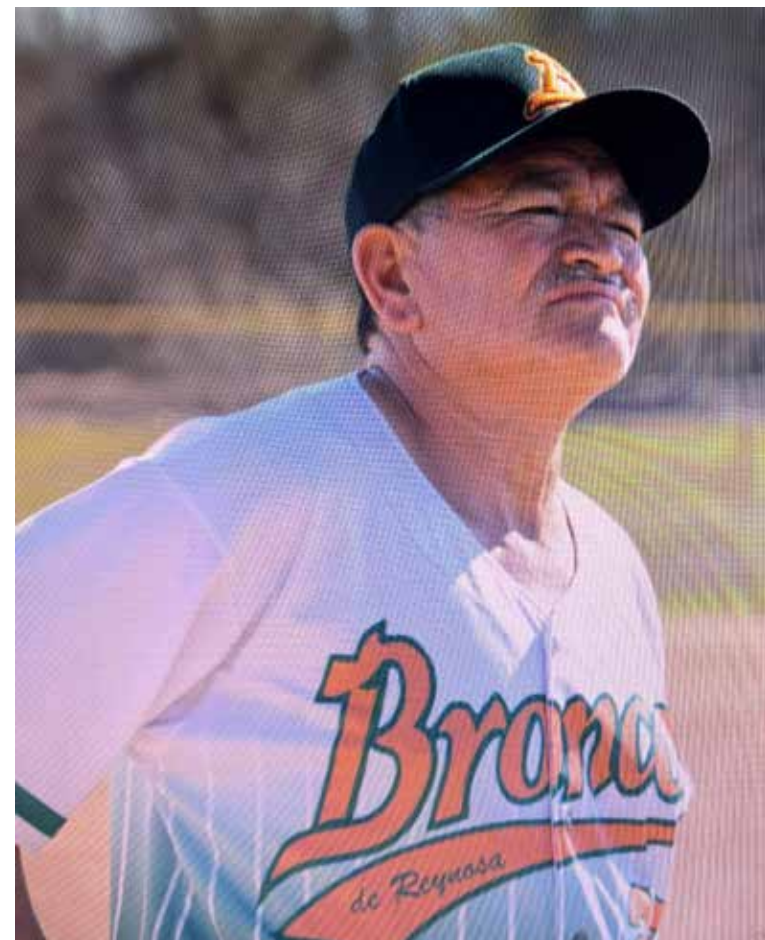
2025 que será en honor de los esposos Linda y Jesús Garza, quienes por diez años han apoyado el béisbol regional independiente con su campeonísimo club Broncos de Reynosa SA y patrocinios a otros equipos de gran calidad beisbolista como lo han sido Potros de Zacatecas de su compadre Eloy Rocha. Chuy Ramírez incansable timonel y jugador, quien ahora dirige a White Sox en asociación con el también gran beisbolista Freddy García, quien también lanzará la primera bola este domingo 23 de febrero en el

horario de la 1:30pm campo 1 del Potranco Baseball Field.

En partidos amistosos Potros derrotó a White Sox y Cachorros a Orioles.

Rol de juegos campo 1: 10am Cardenales vs Maceteros. 1:30pm Orioles vs Cachorros. En las fotos aparecen los esposos Jesús y Linda Garza. Macario Rosas, coach y jugador de Broncos quien celebró en grande el triunfo ante Rangers.

(Fotos de Franco).



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## RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Do you live in San Antonio and are struggling to pay your monthly rent and utilities? Are you experiencing eviction?

Online applications accepted from 1-2 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month.

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- ▶ Be the primary leaseholder
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Applications with an active Notice to Vacate and Court Ordered Eviction Citation will be prioritized. If approved, funding will be provided directly to the housing provider.

Important information about applying online:

- ▶ Have all required documentation
  - Identification of everyone living in the home
  - Documentation of financial need
  - Record from housing provider of all charges and payments (most recent ledger)
  - Income documents (paystubs, bank statements, SSI letters, etc.)
  - Proof of eviction status
- ▶ Have a valid e-mail address
- ▶ Submit a complete application
- ▶ Visit our webpage for common questions and answers

Applying does not guarantee assistance.



Visit [SA.gov/NHSD](http://SA.gov/NHSD) for more information



## Cold & Extreme Weather Preparedness

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Type	DAYTIME WARMING CENTERS Open during business hours for shelter, bathroom & charging stations.	CITY RESILIENCE HUBS Open for overnight shelter based on need.	MASS SHELTER Open for emergency sheltering situations.
Activation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32°F and dry conditions</li> <li>• 35°F with precipitation</li> <li>• 35°F with windchill of 32°F or below</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous weather conditions: snow, sleet, ice, dangerous wind chill</li> <li>• Prolonged electric outages lasting more than 24 hours.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency situations: hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, fire, explosion, or natural or human-made catastrophe</li> </ul>
Locations/Partners	Libraries, Senior and Community Centers during operating hours	Locations are available and opened as needed. Check SADEM for a complete list.	Alamodome, Convention Center

### HOMELESS SHELTERING

	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Activation	OPEN EVERY NIGHT December 1 - March 1	<32°F OR <35°F with precipitation or freezing windchill	
Bed Totals	<b>628*</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>120+**</b>
Operating Partners	Haven for Hope	Corazon San Antonio, Communities Under the Bridge (CUB), SAMministries	Community church partners



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On Level 2 activation, the City's Community Connections Hotline and street outreach teams will extend service hours, up to 24 hours, to transport unsheltered clients to shelter beds.

\*The stated capacity. Enrollment may be limited to give priority to certain populations (e.g. older adults, people with disabilities). \*\*Subject to availability.

For more details, call 3-1-1 or visit [SAOEMPrepare.com](http://SAOEMPrepare.com)



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- FEBRUARY 27
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- MARCH 13
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## Eduardo Peñalosa: Pioneering Senior Care in San Antonio with Right at Home

By Yvette Tello

In an inspiring tale of courage and purpose, Eduardo Peñalosa, a former executive at AB InBev, has embarked on a transformative journey from Mexico City to San Antonio, Texas. With a heart dedicated to serving the elderly and a vision for a better future, Peñalosa has launched Right at Home San Antonio East & South, a senior care service designed to elevate the quality of life for seniors in the community. Peñalosa's career was marked by success in the corporate world, managing growth strategies for global giants like Walmart and Bayer. Yet, as he welcomed his second child into the world, he felt a profound shift in priorities. "I started to think about what kind of legacy I wanted to build for my children," he recalls. A pivotal moment came when a former boss posed a thought-provoking question: "What would you do if you were 100 times braver tomorrow?" This question ignited a fire within him to step outside his comfort zone and make a meaningful change.

Leaving behind a high-level position in Mexico, Peñalosa took the leap to move his family to the United States. His goal was clear: to create a business that not only served a purpose but also enriched the lives of seniors and their families. "I wanted to do something that connected my personal values with my professional life," he explains. Right at Home is a well-established brand with



over 30 years of experience in in-home care. Peñalosa is proud to be a franchisee, operating in a territory that spans from South San Antonio to Seguin. "What I love about this franchise is the robust support system and access to experts in various fields," he states. This collaborative environment allows him to provide comprehensive care tailored to the unique needs of each client.

The mission of Right at Home resonates deeply with Peñalosa. "We help seniors maintain their independence and dignity while extending their lives. Studies show that seniors receiving in-home care can live up to two years longer," he shares. This statistic highlights the significance of his work, reinforcing his commitment to improving the quality of life for the elderly. Understanding the challenges families face when caring for elderly loved ones, Peñalosa emphasizes the importance of community engagement. "Many families in San Antonio are multi-generational, and they often carry the stories of their ancestors," he notes. This

cultural backdrop motivates him to provide services that reflect the values of family care and support.

Peñalosa is particularly passionate about serving veterans and their spouses, recognizing the unique challenges they encounter in accessing care. Right at Home collaborates with Veterans Care Coordination (VCC) to facilitate funding and support for veterans seeking in-home care services. "This partnership is vital as it ensures that both veterans and their spouses can receive the care they deserve," he explains. As Peñalosa continues to establish Right at Home in San Antonio, he envisions a future filled with opportunities for growth and enhanced services. He hopes to expand the reach of his franchise, ensuring that more families have access to compassionate care for their elderly loved ones. "I believe that by providing quality in-home care, we can create a happier and more fulfilling society," he asserts. "I'm incredibly grateful to have such an amazing office team by my side—Jessica Salinas, Aimee



Peterson, and Grace Cooley bring so much dedication and heart to everything we do. And of course, James Tyler, our Care Director, has been instrumental in building strong relationships and ensuring we deliver the best care possible. His leadership and commitment, along with the incredible work of our team, give me confidence that we've found the right people to not only serve our community today but to grow, expand, and open new territories together in the future."

In his personal life, Peñalosa is motivated by the desire to build a better future for his children. "I want them to experience a life filled with purpose and community," he reflects. His journey is not just about professional success; it's about leaving

a legacy that embodies compassion, resilience, and dedication to family values. Eduardo Peñalosa's journey from corporate executive to dedicated senior care provider is a testament to the power of courage and purpose. With Right at Home, he is making a significant impact in the San Antonio community, ensuring that the elderly population receives the care they need to live fulfilling lives. As he builds this new chapter, Peñalosa invites families to join him in creating a supportive and caring environment for seniors in their community, fostering a culture of compassion and respect for those who have paved the way for future generations.

# STEP INTO THE FUTURE WITH SXSW

*Photo credit: Jane Smith*

**Join us from March 7-15 in Austin, TX for the 2025 SXSW Conference & Festivals.  
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We look forward to seeing you again!**

## Programa de Certificación en Paisajismo Nativo Introducción a los jardines nativos

Capítulo San Antonio de la Native Plant Society of Texas ofrece un clase en español Introducción a los jardines nativos el Sábado - 29 de marzo de 8:00 a.m. al 4:30 San Antonio River Authority - 100 Guenther St., San Antonio, TX Costo \$25.00

Conozca los beneficios de las plantas nativas, las plantas deseables para su área y las consideraciones de diseño para su jardín. NLCP es un programa estatal, pero las clases se enfocan en las características y plantas de la región en la que se enseñan. Este programa fue diseñado

por la Sociedad de Plantas Nativas de Texas para enseñar a las personas sobre el paisajismo de su jardín con plantas nativas.

Aprende el valor de incluir y preservar las plantas autóctonas en los paisajes

Comprender las diferencias entre el desarrollo sostenible y el convencional

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Familiarízate con 40 plantas nativas de Texas recomendadas para tu jardín y 5 plantas que debes evitar

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Inscripción: <http://npsat.org/wp/index.php/schedule>

Preguntas? Joan Miller [joanmiller@npsat.org](mailto:joanmiller@npsat.org)