



POLITICS AND REPRESENTATION

Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025. The In-Betweens: Introspection of Cultura, Identity, and National - What? Conversations of Redemption from Latinx Perspectives. Bilingual workshop exploring Latinx perspectives on culture, identity, nationalism, and the complex and redemptive intersections of heritage and community. Library, Room 131 (Collaborative Hub – 1st Floor), 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Dr. Laura E. Mendoza lemendoza2@utep.edu

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025. Digital Narratives in Cultural Hybridity: Podcasting as a Pedagogical Medium for Bilingual Development in Fifth-Grade Classrooms Along the US-Mexico Border. A panel discussion on using podcasting to help bilingual fifth-grade students in the US-Mexico border region express their bicultural identities and strengthen English and Spanish skills through culturally responsive, student-centered learning. Interdisciplinary Research Building (IDRB) Room 2.204, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Mr. Adrian Aragonese aaragonese@utep.edu

Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025. Visual Representation and Cultural Empowerment: The Role of Latina/o Superheroes in Comic Book Fandom and Mexican American Identity Development. A conversation on how Latino/a superhero imagery in comics and graphic novels shapes Mexican American identity and perceptions of borders. Interdisciplinary Research Building (IDRB) 2.204, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Mr. Adrian Aragonese aaragonese@utep.edu

Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025. Digital and Data-Informed Projects at the Borderlands. An interdisciplinary panel (Rhetoric, Visual Arts, Journalism, and Chicano Studies) of local scholars will share their digital projects rooted in the geographies, politics, and culture of the El Paso – Ciudad Juárez region. Borderlands Digital Humanities Center, Library Room 201, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Borderlands Digital Humanities Center. Contact: Dr. Elisabet Takehana eotakehana@utep.edu

Oct. 3 – 5, 2025. IA National Gathering Providing Passage Practicing the World We Want. The 25th Imagining America Gathering at NMSU brings together scholars, artists, students, and cultural organizers to address the most pressing issues of our time. New Mexico State University campus, Las Cruces, NM. Sponsored by New Mexico State University. Contact: Dr. Cynthia Bejarano cbejarano@nmsu.edu

Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2025. Spare Parts – A film about four undocumented Mexican American high school students who defy the odds in a Robotics competition against the nation's top universities. Templeton Suite, Union Building East, Room 313, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Dr. Irma Montelongo imontelo@utep.edu

Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2025. How the Built Environment Influences Voting on the Borderlands. A discussion of how multi-modal transportation, to include personal vehicles, public transit, walking, and cycling influence voter participation in El Paso County, Texas. Liberal Arts Building, Room 101, 12:00 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Contact: Mr. Johnathan Cereceres, jacereceres@miners.utep.edu

ART AND EXHIBITS

Sept. 15, 2025 – January 7, 2026. DIY: Zines in Special Collections Exhibit. This exhibit is intended to introduce students, faculty, and community members to our new collection of Zines that were mostly produced in Mexico and the U.S/Mexico Borderlands. The exhibit will include a brief historic overview of Zines as an informational and art form, a sampling of the Zines from Special Collections, and an introduction for Students and Faculty on how Zines can be utilized for educational and classroom activities. University Library, Third Floor Gallery, viewable during regular library hours. Opening Reception: September 15, 5:00 p.m. Sponsored by the University Library's Special Collections Department. Contact: Ms. Susannah Holliday slholliday@utep.edu

Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025. The Life and Work of Mago Gandara. Opening Exhibition. Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) 400 W. San Antonio Ave., 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Contact: www.epmacc.org

Friday, Sept. 26, 2025. A Chicano Giraffe. A mural painting event by veteran artist Victor “Mask” Casas at Familias Triunfadoras Inc. in San Elizario. Celebrating Chicano culture and teaching kids to be resilient against bullying. Familias Triunfadoras, Inc. building, 12500 Socorro Rd., San Elizario, TX, 5:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Social Work. Contact: Dr. Silvia M. Chávez-Baray smchavezbaray@utep.edu

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025. Andres Payan's Inaugural Lecture. The Rubin Center's first Latinx and local curator will give an inaugural lecture on his curatorial vision and upcoming projects. The event includes a lecture followed by dinner. Seamon Hall Auditorium, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Rubin Center for the Visual Arts. Contact: Ms. Kerry Doyle kad Doyle@utep.edu

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025. Celebrating Culture Through Art. This workshop teaches repujado, the ancient art of embossing designs onto aluminum metal foil using pressure tools. Participants create and decorate 3D metal designs inspired by Hispanic Heritage. Mexican American Culture Center (MACC) 400 W. San Antonio Ave., 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Ms. María Almeida Natividad (915) 203-2309

Friday, Oct. 17, 2025. Cyanotype Workshop with Ibis Ricaño. Workshop by artist Ibis Ricaño uses cyanotype with sunlight and local plants to explore Chicana and Latinx themes of land, memory, and resistance. By connecting art, culture, and identity in the borderlands. Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Ms. Haydee Alonso shalonso@utep.edu

Friday, Oct. 31, 2025. Mask-Making Workshop with Xingaderas. Workshop by El Paso's Xingaderas teaches the art of making Día de los Muertos masks rasquache style with handmade materials, celebrate community and Chicana resistance. Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Center for the Visual Arts, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Ms. Haydee Alonso shalonso@utep.edu

LITERATURE AND THEATRE

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025. Desert Distortion Book Launch and Reception. This event celebrates the monograph Desert Distortion by Dr. Celina Osuna with readings, a brief overview, and Q&A. Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, 6:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of English. Contact: Dr. Celina Osuna cosuna3@utep.edu

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025. Border Born, Nationally Known: A UTEP Poet Comes Home. UTEP alumna Maria Esquinca, 2024 Andrés Montoya Poetry Prize winner, will give a public reading and workshop. Quinn Hall. Workshop: Noon – 2:00 p.m. Reading: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Creative Writing. Contact: Mr. Daniel Chacón danchacon@utep.edu

Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025. Virgil in Spanish: A Poetry Reading. English graduate students will read Spanish translations of Virgil's *Aeneid* and discuss its impact on colonial and indigenous literature. Cactus Flower Room 102C, Union Building East, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of English. Contact: Dr. Joe Ortiz jmortiz7@utep.edu

Oct. 24, 25, 26, 30, Nov. 1, 2, 2025. I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter. A powerful story of grief, identity, and the courage to follow your dreams. Directed by Dr. Adriana Dominguez. Wise Family Theatre, 2nd Floor, Fox Fine Arts, Oct. 24, 25, 30, Nov. 1: 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26 & Nov. 2: 2:00 p.m. For ticket information contact the UTEP Theatre and Dance Box Office or Ticketmaster (915) 747-5234 or ticketmaster.com. Sponsored by the Department of Theatre & Dance. Contact: Ms. Samantha Nava (915) 747-5118

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025. Reading and Book Signing: Becoming Someone's Sanctuary by Paola Mendoza, author and feminist activist who writes dystopian novels about immigration. EPCC Valle Verde Campus, AST Foyer, 1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. Sponsored by EPCC English Department. Contact: Mr. Jorge Gomez jgomez390@epcc.edu

DANCE, MUSIC, AND ENTERTAINMENT

Sept. 8 – 18, 2025. UTEP Latin Music Festival. The UTEP Guitar and Piano Areas present three days of free concerts celebrating Hispanic Heritage through Latin music. Classical guitar, Spanish piano works, and Cuban jazz featuring faculty, students, and guest artists. Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. with a student performance from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Sept. 9. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Contact: Dr. Dena Kay Jones dkjones@utep.edu

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025. Alma y Ritmo: Taller de Danza Folklórica/Soul & Rhythm: Folklorico Dance Workshop. Bilingual Folklórico Dance Workshop featuring a performance by Kahlo Folklórico Dance studio, a brief lecture on its cultural significance, and an interactive session to learn traditional dance steps. Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Dr. Laura E. Mendoza lemendoza2@utep.edu

Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025. Brian Downen, Tenor with Jorge Martin, Piano. A 75-minute voice recital with pianist and composer Jorge Martin Bujan, featuring his song cycle En paz with texts by Mexican poet Amado Nervo. Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Contact: Mr. Brian Downen bgdownen@utep.edu

Friday, Sept. 26, 2025. Celebración: Opera UTEP Hispanic Heritage Concert. Concert features music from Spain and Latin America, performed mostly in Spanish by Hispanic artists. The event includes performances by UTEP students, faculty, and alumni. Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, Concert: 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Contact: Ms. Cherry Duke ccduke@utep.edu

Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025. A performance of the music of Manuel Ponce (1882-1948) “Creator of the Modern Song,” that includes a brief history of the composer and songs. Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Music. Contact: Dr. Phillip D. Hill pdhill@utep.edu

Oct. 28 – 30, 2025. Folklórico Community Workshop & Collaborative Ofrenda. This Folklórico workshop includes learning basic steps, creating decorations, and building a Día de los Muertos ofrenda. Wise Family Theater Lobby, Fox Fine Arts Building, Oct. 28, Ofrenda Construction: 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.; Oct. 29, Setup Papel Picado Demonstration: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.; Oct. 30, Main Workshop and ofrenda celebration: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Theatre & Dance. Contact: Ms. Rayven Leticia Armijo rllarmijo@utep.edu

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Friday, Sept. 12, 2025. Viva la Salud!. College of Health Sciences 4th Annual Health Disparities Conference with keynote speaker Marshall Chin, MD, MPH, FACP, University of Chicago. UTEP Faculty, Staff, and Community partners welcomed. El Paso Natural Gas Conference Center, 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sponsored by the College of Health Sciences. Contact: healthsciences@utep.edu

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025. Bilingualism Matters. Launch of UTEP's Branch of a global network dedicated to making research-based knowledge about multilingualism and language learning accessible to families, educators, health professionals, and policymakers in the El Paso del Norte Region. Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics and the Department of Psychology. Contact: Dr. Annie Tremblay actremblay@utep.edu

Friday, Oct. 31, 2025. Celebrating Hispanic Heritage through Cultural Food and Community Engagement. Celebrating with food, music, games, and activities highlighting border region cultures. The Mustard Seed Café, 201 E. Sunset Rd., 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Social Work. Contact: Mr. Jesus M. Aleman (915) 255-1436 or Dr. Eva M. Moya (915) 747-8493, emmoya@utep.edu

HISTORY, CULTURE, AND TRADITION

Monday, Sept. 15, 2025. UTEP's El Grito Ceremony: Commemoration of the Declaration of Mexican Independence. Centennial Plaza, 11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Student Engagement & Leadership Center. Contact: (915) 747-5670

Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025. Lincoln Park Day 20th Anniversary. Celebrating our Mexican American Culture-Traditions-History. Food, Music, Art Exhibits, Danza, and Lowrider Car Show. Lincoln Park, 4001 Durazno St. 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Lincoln Park Conservation Committee. Contact: (915) 204-1584 or www.lincolnparkccc.org

Friday, Sept. 26, 2025. Segundo Barrio Kitchen Stories – A Multimedia Cookbook about the recipes and stories from El Barrio. A multimedia project celebrating the history, culture, and culinary heritage of Segundo Barrio through four family-owned businesses. Business Building, Room 312, 12:00 p.m. – 1:20 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Mr. Daniel Rios-Lopera drioslopera2@utep.edu

Sept. 29 – 30, 2025. Telling Stories of Oppression: Teaching the Past, Empowering the Future. Two-day Professional development event for educators focused on teaching history, identity, and justice. Presentations include Jewish-Mexican American History in El Paso and the story of Anthony Acevedo, Mexican American WWII medic and Holocaust survivor. Free registration – Space is limited. El Paso Holocaust Museum & Study Center, 715 N. Oregon, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sponsored by the El Paso Holocaust Museum. Contact: Ms. Marylou Rocha MaryLou@elpasoholocaustmuseum.org

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025. The Chicana/o Story by Movimiento Chucanx. The student organization Movimiento Chucanx, will share a brief history of Chicana/o culture through key figures, from the indigenous to modern activists, with stories led by students and faculty. Blumberg Auditorium, Library Room 111, 12:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Ms. Ruby Montana ramontana@utep.edu

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025. Calaveritas de Azúcar: Life and Death Celebration (Bilingual: English/Spanish) Workshop. Participants will decorate pre-made sugar skulls, explore the Day of the Dead's cultural context, and reflect on life, death, and our shared human experience. Education Building, Room 303, 9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. Sponsored by the Department of Chicano Studies, Languages, and Linguistics. Contact: Dr. Laura E. Mendoza lemendoza2@utep.edu

Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2025. Cacao and Culture: A Hands-on Chocolate-making Workshop. The Centennial Museum hosts Cacao Coyatoc, where participants make traditional chocolate and hear ancestral stories from the Zoque people of southern Mexico. Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts. Contact: Ms. Ana C. Maass acmaass@utep.edu

Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025. Celebrating Hispanic Heritage through Cultural Activities. The Department of Social Work will host an activities event that includes crafts, painting clay pots with cultural designs, and planting traditional plants that highlight the border region's heritage. Centennial Museum and Chihuahuan Desert Gardens, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Department of Social Work. Contact: Ms. Alexa Farpon aifarpon@miners.utep.edu or Dr. Eva M. Moya emmoya@utep.edu

Oct. 30 – Nov. 7, 2025. Día de los Muertos Altar and Display. University Library, Third Floor Gallery, overlooking the atrium. Viewable during regular library hours. Sponsored by the University Library's Special Collections Department. Contact: Ms. Claudia Rivers (915) 747-6725, crivers@utep.edu

Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025. Día de los Muertos Desfile and Festival. El Paso Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) 400 W. San Antonio Ave., 11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Parade begins at 4:00 p.m. Downtown El Paso. Contact: www.epmacc.org



The University of Texas at El Paso is a comprehensive public research university that is increasing access to excellent higher education. We advance the discovery of public value and positively impact the health, culture, education, and economy of the community we serve.

IN MEMORIAM



PAQUITA LA DEL BARRIO
1947 - 2025
Mexican Singer-Songwriter



LEONARDO (FLACO) JIMENEZ
1939 - 2025
Singer-Songwriter and Accordionist



JOE BERNAL
1927 – 2025
Politician, Educator, and Civil Rights Advocate



HECTOR SERRANO
1941 – 2024
Theatrical Director, Educator, Choreographer and Creator of “Viva El Paso”



PABLO ARENAZ
1950 – 2024
Academic Leader, Scientist, and University President



JOSE ANGEL HERNANDEZ
1969 – 2024
Historian and University Professor



RAUL GRIJALVA
1948 – 2025
Politician and Activist



WILLIAM RIVERA
1931 – 2025
UTEP Chicano Administrator



JOSE SIERRA, SR.
1943 - 2025
Cacique Ysleta del Sur Pueblo