



Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies

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MCGS Newsletter, Sept/Oct 2003



September 15 - October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Population Reaches All-time High of 38.8 Million, New Census Bureau Estimates Show

The nation's Hispanic population grew much faster than the population as a whole, increasing from 35.3 million on April 1, 2000, to 38.8 million on July 1, 2002.

"The official population estimates now indicate that the Hispanic community is the nation's largest minority community," said Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon. "This is an important event in this country. An event that we know is the result of the growth of a vibrant and diverse population that is vital to America's future."

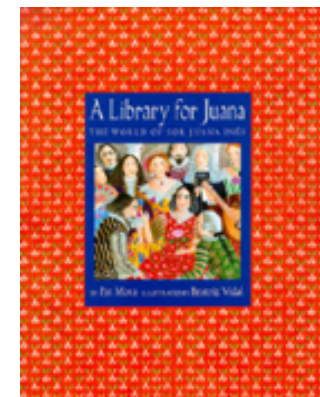
Did you Know?

According to Earl Shorris in *Latino, A Biography of the People*, "... in 1980 the U.S. Census was on the verge of choosing Latino as the correct word when someone said that it sounded too much like *Ladino*, the ancient Castilian now spoken only by descendants of the Spanish Jews who went into exile in the fifteenth century. Latino was replaced by Hispanic in the census."

Did you know?

The oldest, continuously inhabited city in the United States is St. Augustine, FL, founded in 1565 by Spaniards.

2003 Tomas Rivera Award to go to Pat Mora for A Library for Juana: The World of Sor Juana Ines



This year's winner of the Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award is the children's picture book, A Library for Juana: The World of Sor Juana Ines. It was written by Pat Mora, and illustrated by Beatriz Vidal. The book tells the life story of Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz, a celebrated seventeenth century Mexican poet nun. Sor Juana is remembered, not only for her poetry and large library, but also for defending women's rights in the pursuit of an education.

Exhibits & Events

[MCGS Newsletter](#)

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Resource Lists

Useful Links

Liberal Arts

Archive

*Adobe Acrobat Files



Diez y Siez de Septiembre:



Every 16th of September is the Mexican Fiesta celebrating Mexico's independence from Spanish rule.

After Columbus "discovered" America, the Spaniards (who funded the trip) began to carry out expeditions to find gold and riches from the faraway land. After the conquest of the Aztecs and their capital, Tenochtitlan, the Spanish ruled Mexico for the next three centuries. The new colony was named *Nueva España*, New Spain.

The years that followed brought many deaths to the indigenous Mexicans. Previously unknown diseases spread through the natives. This, coupled with the merciless workload imposed by their conquerors, killed almost half of the population in just over a century of Spanish rule.

Discontent began to grow among the *Crillos*, the offspring of Spaniards (from Spain) born in Mexico. When Napoleon invaded Spain in 1808, the *Crillos* used the confusion in their "mother country" to seek their independence. They plotted to begin their war in early October of 1810, but their plans were discovered a month early. They decided to start the revolt immediately.

In the early hours of September 16th, 1810, father Guadalupe Hildago, accompanied by several conspirators, rang the bell of his church, calling everyone to fight for their liberty. This war of independence lasted another 10 years.

A Recipe for Homemade Tortillas:

You will need:

- 4 cups of flour
- 1/2 teaspoon for baking powder
- 2 tbs. of lard (not oil)
- 3/4 glass of hot water
- 1/4 tsp. of salt

Preparation:

This award is conferred annually for the most distinguished book published in a calendar year that depicts the Mexican American experience. The award is sponsored by the College of Education at Texas State University - San Marcos and endowed by a grant from Anheuser Busch Companies, Inc. The purpose of the award is to honor and recognize authors and illustrators that create quality children's literature reflecting the Mexican American values and traditions. It is hoped that the award will gain attention of the teachers, librarians, and parents so that all children can be educated, inspired, and entertained through reading.

September 24th @ 7 PM: Author/Illustrator presentations @ the San Marcos Public Library (public welcome)

September 25th @ 2 PM: Author/Illustrator presentation & book signing @ the LBJ Student Center Ballroom (public welcome)

September 25th @ 6 PM: Award ceremony & reception @ the Southwest Writers Collection on the 7th Floor of Alkek Library. (Students and Faculty)

Related Sites

- [Tomas Rivera Award Site](#)
- [Pat Mora's official web-site](#)
- [Sor Juana Inez de la Cruz Project](#)

Notable Hispanics through the last century:



1912: The first Hispanic Opera Diva in the US was Lucrezia Bori - made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City in 1912.

1928: Octaviano Larrazolo of New Mexico was the first Hispanic to become a United States Senator.



Heat a medium sized comal (grill/skillet) or iron skillet to medium heat. In a large bowl combine flour, baking powder, lard, and salt. Add hot water a little at a time and keep mixing ingredients with hands until you form a large mound of dough.

Knead dough with hand into a nice solid consistency. Form little balls of dough, recipe yields about 20. Roll the dough balls in the flour. Use a rolling pin to roll out the dough balls into a nice round shape.

Place on comal or iron skillet and cook, turning over four to five times as they rise and cook evenly. When cooked place in a tortilla bowl or between kitchen towels. Serve warm tortillas with butter, cheese, beans, meat, etc.

Enjoy! There is nothing like a fresh homemade tortilla. Anyone's family can vouch for that!

Submitted to Hispaniconline by Alicia O. Zuniga of Houston, Texas.

Para Tu Información

Originally sung for pleasure by Mexican ranch workers, **rancheras** are love songs, and they can also be dancing tunes. Though the lyrics are simple, the songs are meant to be delivered with a great deal of emotion and drama. Many Mexican movie stars began their careers as ranchera singers

Hablas Español?

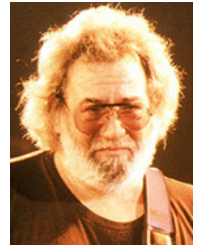
- *Barrio* refers to a block or an area of several blocks. It also means neighborhood.
- *Anglo* is a white American. It is not a condescending term.

Printable Calendar of MCGS & Related TSU-SM Events



1948: Richard Alonso "Pancho" Gonzalez became the first Hispanic to win the US Tennis Singles Championship. In 1968, He became the first Hispanic to be named to the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

1964: Guitarist Jerry Garcia founded the Grateful Dead, one of the most successful rock bands of all time. The band was inducted into The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.



1990: Ellen Ochoa became the first Hispanic female to serve as an astronaut. A veteran of four space flights, Dr. Ochoa has logged over 978 hours in space.

The Top Ten Hispanic Surnames in the United States

1. Garcia
2. Martinez
3. Rodriguez
4. Lopez
5. Hernandez
6. Gonzalez
7. Perez
8. Sanchez
9. Rivera
10. Ramirez



Texas State University
SAN MARCOS