Achieving a Masters in Creative Writing at the University of Texas Pan American continues to provide me with a wide scope of personal and professional satisfactions. I graduated in May 2016 after completing all the requirements for my bilingual thesis, *If This Heart Had a Mouth: A Forbidden Romance Narrated Through Mimesis: Poetry.*

I remained active in the poetry scene in the Rio Grande Valley throughout 2016, and 2017 has been equally busy. In June, I had the opportunity to participate in a Spanish writing conference. Voces En La Frontera, organized by Roberto De la Torre. I also serve as the MC for a monthly poetry event at The Prelude in Harlingen, Texas where everyone is also invited to share their musical talents. I have especially enjoyed conducting writing bilingual workshops with the women at the Milagro Clinic in McAllen, Texas. In April, they were invited to share their poetry at the Rio Grande International Poetry Festival organized by UTRGV Alumni Daniel Garcia Ordaz.

In March, I travelled to Cuba and was presented the opportunity to share my poetry at an annual event to celebrate Women's Month at Guira de Melena, Cuba.
Another personal satisfaction has been to translate two books from English to Spanish written by female authors I greatly admire. Santana's Fairy Tales, by Sarah Rafael Garcia and How To Raise Respectful Parents by Laura Lyles Reagan.
In September, I received an acceptance letter from the editors of the anthology Solamente In San Miguel in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico for my poem *Move To San Miguel.*
Currently, I am working on my first poetry collection titled, Of Love And Departures.

Julieta Corpus Vielma