

UTRGV™

# *Festiba*<sup>2021</sup>

Building Resilience Through Arts and Literacy

FEBRUARY 20-27



For more information,  
contact [festiba@utrgv.edu](mailto:festiba@utrgv.edu) or call (956) 665-2353.





## **VIRTUAL ART EXHIBITS:**

[www.utrgv.edu/festiba](http://www.utrgv.edu/festiba)

### **“THE CONTINUAL JOURNEY - ARTICULATIONS IN STEEL”**

**BRIAN WEDGWORTH**

This exhibit is coming soon to the Exhibit Hall of the Performing Arts Complex 1201 W. University Drive Edinburg | (956) 665-3480

### **CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN ARTS**

[www.utrgv.edu/claa](http://www.utrgv.edu/claa)

### **“THE VIRGIN MARY: ART, MATERIALITY, AND PIETY”**

**By Daniel Ymbong**

### **“STILLNESS”**

**By Carlos Limas**

### **“PEDAZOS DE AYER”**

**By Angela V. Scardigno**

### **“SANTAS: THE FEMININE DIVINE”**

**By Carlo Lopez**

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

### **SOUTH TEXAS LITERACY SYMPOSIUM at FESTIBA 2021 LIBRARIANS AND EDUCATORS DAY**

In collaboration with Literacy Texas and the South Texas Literacy Coalition (STLC), the FESTIBA 2021 South Texas Literacy Symposium will focus on *Building Resilience Through Arts and Literacy* and highlight the importance of literacy and the creative process to find comfort during times of struggle.

**Keynote Speaker:** Macarena Hernández, Professor of Journalism, Baylor University and Journalist, with Dr. Ida Acuña-Garza, Chief Executive Officer, STLC

**Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

<https://www.literacytexas.org/calendar/2021-south-texas-literacy-symposium/>

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

### **UTRGV LATINO THEATRE INITIATIVES ONLINE PRESENTS *THE WITCH AMONG US AT FESTIVAL DE LA BÊTE NOIRE***

By Francisco Garza Rincones  
Directed by Carolina Perez Jaber.

Admission \$5.00

Link to the website for tickets and more information is listed below:  
<https://labetenoirefest.square.site/product/the-witch-among-us/13?cp=true&sa=true&sbp=false&q=false>



## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

### CLARIFYING ARGUMENTS: LEARNING FROM ACADEMIC PUBLISHING EXPERIENCES *in English*

Faculty members teaching English in the Department of Literatures and Cultural Studies present a webinar about how they develop innovative arguments through scholarly writing about literature and film.

**Faculty Presenters:** Dr. Amy Cummins, Dr. Gary Schneider, and Dr. Ed Cameron

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Contact** [amy.cummins@utrgv.edu](mailto:amy.cummins@utrgv.edu)  
for Zoom link.

### BALLET FOLKLÓRICO

Join the nationally award-winning dance company, as they prepare for the season and demonstrate exciting new dances and techniques.

**Led by:** Miguel Peña, director

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Zoom link:**

<https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/3634817503>

### VIOLIN STUDIO RECITAL STUDENTS OF DR. DIANA SEITZ

This recital was prepared during days of the Fall 2020 global pandemic. Students have worked hard to adapt to these difficult times through hard work and dedication. They inspire us with their ability to adapt to the quarantine as they overcome difficult challenges to achieve their goals and dreams.

**Faculty:** Dr. Diana Seitz

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Patrons of the Arts**

<https://www.facebook.com/utrgvpatron/>

## TUES. & WED., FEBRUARY 23 & 24

### GEAR UP DAYS AT UTRGV

Students from the Region One Education Service Center GEAR UP and UTRGV GEAR UP programs will attend presentations by renowned artists, authors, and scholars. Virtual Programming  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

### MUSEUM OF SOUTH TEXAS HISTORY

#### BEARING WITNESS: HEALING THROUGH STORY TELLING

When Covid-19 hit the valley, we knew it was a historical event. We started to collect the official documentation put out by state and local authorities. The statistical analysis of those infected, hospitalized, and dead were released daily. A constant reminder of the impact of this global pandemic.

**Presenters:** Melissa Peña, MOSTHistory Exhibits Coordinator and Francisco Guajardo, MOSTHistory CEO  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/MOSTHistory/FACEBOOK>





**CENTER FOR MEXICAN  
AMERICAN STUDIES  
GUEST POET ARIANA BROWN**

Ariana Brown is a Black Mexican American poet with ten years of experience writing, performing, and teaching poetry. Her work focuses on Black healing, queer kinship, and imagining a world where Black girls are free.

**Faculty Presenter:** Professor Emmy Pérez, Texas Poet Laureate 2020 and the Center for Diversity and Inclusion

**Time:** 12:30 p.m.

**Contact** [emmy.perez@utrgv.edu](mailto:emmy.perez@utrgv.edu)  
**for Zoom link.**

**COMICS AND PROSE: THE  
PHANTOM ZONE AND OTHER  
STORIES**

Reading by José Alaniz, professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the Department of Comparative Literature (adjunct) at the University of Washington, Seattle.

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Zoom link:**

<https://washington.zoom.us/j/93029396065>

**COVID-19: CREATIVE  
WRITING IN A TIME OF  
CRISIS**

Writing has long been understood to be therapeutic and healing in times of crisis. This presentation will review teaching strategies and creative writing tools and resources that promote healing and personal growth during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath. In this presentation, Dr. Schneider will read selections of graduate MFA student work written in his course "COVID-19: Writing in a Time of Crisis."

He will also read from a selection of his own poems written during the pandemic. Faculty Presenter: Professor Steven Schneider, MFA, PH.D. Poet, Critic, Scholar

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Contact**  
[steven.schneider@utrgv.edu](mailto:steven.schneider@utrgv.edu)  
**for Zoom link.**

**WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 24**

**THE MUSEUM OF SOUTH TEXAS  
HISTORY: THE ART OF  
PRESERVATION AND  
PRESENTATION  
THE STORY OF THE 1910 JAIL AND  
ITS BACKYARD**

This presentation narrates the story of the 1910 Hidalgo County Jail and its environment. Museum CEO Francisco

Guajardo will tell the story of the preservation and presentation of the Jail, a structure on the National Register of Historic Places, while museum landscaper Manuel Sabino will tell the story of the grounds that surround the Jail.

**Presenters:** Francisco Guajardo, MOSTHistory CEO, and Manuel Sabino, MOSTHistory Groundskeeper

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. on Facebook Live  
<https://www.facebook.com/MOSTHistory/FACEBOOK>



### **THE MAGIC OF MARIACHI / LA MAGIA DEL MARIACHI**

Dr. Steven Schneider will give a reading from his book *The Magic of Mariachi / La Magia del Mariachi*. This event will also include artwork by Reefka, whose paintings inspired the poetry in *The Magic of Mariachi*, and a virtual tour of their exhibit plus two very special recordings made by Mariachi Aztlán. *The Magic of Mariachi / La Magia del Mariachi* is a bilingual book and exhibit that combines two disciplines – art and poetry – creating a treasure of lyrical poetry and strikingly beautiful paintings of mariachi musicians. U.S. Poet Laureate, Juan Felipe Herrera, has written of this collection: “The Magic is here! We swoon, dance and enter the true and authentic universe of the mariachi in this prismatic poetry and painting volume.”

**Faculty Presenter:** Professor Steven Schneider, MFA, PH.D. Poet, Critic, Scholar

#### **Contact**

[steven.schneider@utrgv.edu](mailto:steven.schneider@utrgv.edu)  
for Zoom link.

### **OPEN EBOOK RESOURCES**

Research and Instructional Services Librarian, Carlton Nelson, will present information on freely available eBook resources.

**Faculty Presenter:** Carlton Nelson

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.

#### **Zoom link:**

<https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/9353639994>

### **CUANDO EL MUNDO ESTA ENFERMO**

Dr. Keila Rodriguez, a UTRGV physician and pediatrician, reads her children's book "Cuando El Mundo Esta Enfermo." This is a book she wrote to help her daughter and young patients struggling with the pandemic-related changes and helps them learn what they can do to stay safe, remember they can have fun at home and that one day, things will be better.

**Faculty Presenter:** Dr. Keila Rodriguez

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

#### **Zoom link:**

<https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/2739221841>

**THURSDAY, FEB. 25**

### **MUSEUM OF SOUTH TEXAS HISTORY: LEARNING LANGUAGE WITH MUSEUM TEXT LABELS**

An account on the processes of translation work in a Museum setting, and the importance of being a bilingual institution in the RGV. The Museum serves a predominantly Hispanic population with intent and aims to preserve and present the heritage of South Texas and Northeastern Mexico, incorporating bilingual exhibits throughout.

**Presenters:** Anna Garrigós-Hervert, MOSTHistory Community Engagement Specialist

**Time:** 2:00 p.m. on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/MOSTHistory/FACEBOOK>





### **RIO GRANDE VALLEY IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC: COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO COVID-19**

This presentation will showcase UTRGV's Community Historical Archaeology Project with Schools (CHAPS) Program's ongoing research. For the tenth year, the CHAPS Program class "Discovering the Rio Grande Valley" has recorded the history of the Rio Grande Valley's Farming families but shifted focus this year to conduct extensive research into all aspects of how the coronavirus has affected our immediate population.

**Student Presenters:** Colleen DeGuzman, UTRGV

Undergraduate Student of Mass Communication; Nydia Salinas, UTRGV Graduate Student of Fine Arts/Ceramics; and Cindy Us, UTRGV Undergraduate Student of Anthropology

**Faculty Advisor:** Roseann Bacha-Garza, CHAPS Program Director and Lecturer of Anthropology

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. (Recorded presentation will be available for future viewing.)

**Zoom link:**

<https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/96019928184?pwd=bDY2N0txTDJkK3Q2QTBzQTJ5NDA2dz09>

### **AUTHORS AND PRESENTERS MEET & GREET**

Join us, as we celebrate the fabulous collaboration between FESTIBA and the Texas Book Festival. The 2021 Reading Rock Stars will join us, as they share their experiences in Rio Grande Valley schools. All FESTIBA 2021 presenters/performers are invited!

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Zoom link:**

<https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/2739221841>

### **THURS. & FRI., FEBRUARY 25 & 26**

#### **TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL READING ROCK STARS PROGRAM**

The Texas Book Festival will bring books to life for young readers during FESTIBA 2021 through Reading Rock Stars, an engaging literacy program in which authors from across the country are invited to present their works to students in economically disadvantaged public schools.

(Continued:)

At the end of the book presentations, each child receives an autographed copy of the book. A set of books is also given to the school library.

#### **Schools and Authors for 2021:**

**Hurla Midkiff Elementary (Mission) and E. B. Guerra Elementary (Edinburg):**

Rebecca Gomez, Elisa Chavarri, David Bowles

**Bryan Elementary (Mission) and César Chávez Elementary (Pharr):**

Isabel Quintero, Zeke Peña, Jon Scieszka, Steven Weinberg

**Guillermo Flores Elementary (Mission) and Dr. R.E. Margo Elementary (Weslaco)**

Michael Genhart, Raúl The Third



## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

### VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOURS IN THE TIME OF COVID

In response to the global pandemic, Museum of South Texas History staff worked to plan, produce and provide virtual tours to schools on contract in lieu of in-person visits. Traveling Through Time includes 10 original videos produced by the Museum of South Texas History shaped by the museum's Rio Grande Legacy Exhibition. Videos cover the River Frontier, River Highway and River Crossroads exhibits which outline the history and heritage of South Texas and Northeastern Mexico from prehistory to the end of the 20th Century. Each video tour encourages viewers to engage in reflective writing as they experience the museum.

**Presenters:** René Ballesteros, MOSTHistory Community Engagement Officer

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. on Facebook Live  
<https://www.facebook.com/MOSTHistory/FACEBOOK>

## FESTIBA DISTINGUISHED PERFORMERS CONCERT

FESTIBA invites you to join pianists Shoko and Brendan Kinsella, faculty at the UTRGV School of Music, for an exciting evening of two-piano and solo piano music, featuring repertoire ranging from Brahms' passionate Hungarian Dances to nostalgic solo works by Godowsky and Barber to Piazzola's groovin' 'Le Grand Tango,' heard in Mark Ramirez's stunning arrangement for two pianos and percussion.

**Performers:** Shoko and Brendan Kinsella, Pianists, and Mark Ramirez, Percussion

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Patron of the Arts Premiere:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/utrgvpatron/>

## FRI. & SAT., FEBRUARY 26 & 27

### FESTIBA 2021 VIRTUAL MARIACHI FESTIVAL WORKSHOP, VOCAL COMPETITION, MARIACHI SHOWCASE and CONCERT

Our FESTIBA 2021 Mariachi Festival will be unique this year and we are striving to make it memorable and impactful for both directors and students. For this reason, we are bringing you the leaders who guide and inspire the very best mariachi ensembles that exist in the world!

FESTIBA Mariachi Festival  
Workshop and Concert Fee - \$25.00

*Link to the schedule and payment information is listed below:*

<https://www.utrgv.edu/music/community-outreach/festivals/mariachi-festival/index.htm>





(Continued:)

**HIGH SCHOOL MARIACHI  
SHOWCASE:**

SATURDAY 4:30 p.m.  
(free to public)

**VOCAL COMPETITION FINALS:**

SATURDAY 6:00 p.m.  
(free to public)

**MARIACHI VARGAS DE  
TECALITLÁN CONCERT:**

SATURDAY 8:00 p.m.  
(Included with workshop fee)

Contact [dahlia.guerra@utrgv.edu](mailto:dahlia.guerra@utrgv.edu)  
for Zoom links, information on  
entry fee and concert tickets.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 5**

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE!**

**COMMUNITY BOOK  
DISTRIBUTION**

In Collaboration with the South  
Texas Literacy Coalition, Bert  
Ogden Arena, the City of  
Edinburg, and the Dustin Michael  
Sekula Memorial Library

**8,000 free books to be  
distributed!**

The FESTIBA 2021 Community  
Book Distribution is the  
culmination of a week of  
cultural and educational  
exchange. Because of social  
distancing requirements,  
FESTIBA 2021 will host a  
drive-through, free book  
distribution at the Bert Ogden  
Arena. Access to books from  
an early age is the key to  
childhood development! Over  
8,000 free books will be given  
away to families at the drive-  
through event.

**The free books are provided  
by the South Texas Literacy  
Coalition.**

**Location:** Bert Ogden Arena  
**Time:** 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**THANK YOU TO OUR  
WONDERFUL  
SPONSORS and  
PARTNERS!**

**SOUTH TEXAS LITERACY  
COALITION**

**LITERACY TEXAS and  
METROPLEX LITERACY**

**TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL  
READING ROCK STARS  
PROGRAM**

**REGION ONE ESC GEAR UP**

**UTRGV GEAR UP**

**CENTER FOR LATIN  
AMERICAN ARTS**

**INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF  
ARTS & SCIENCES**

**TOCKER FOUNDATION**

**CITY OF EDINBURG**

**DUSTIN MICHAEL SEKULA  
MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

**BERT OGDEN ARENA**

**MARIACHI VARGAS  
EXTRAVAGANZA**