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AMERICANS OF COLOR ARE HUNTED IN AMERICA!

¡LOS ESTADOUNIDENSES DE COLOR SON CAZADOS EN ESTADOS UNIDOS!



By Dr. José A. Flores

As I sit and ponder the stories I have heard throughout my lifetime, I am reminded of the many that were shared with me by my parents and the elders in my community, whom I respected greatly from childhood into adulthood. When I think back, I realize that they all shared common instances that they could remember times where they were treated as second-class citizens in a hostile and/or racist way by a White person. These instances often happened while they were just growing up in their communities or while they were trying to make a living in the U.S. In the many stories shared with me, each of these storytellers was a U.S.-born citizen. And, they had fit the description of many Brown and Black Americans of that time. Many were racially profiled as they were "Working in low-level jobs," such as agricultural harvesting, day labor, landscaping, housekeeping, restaurant work, and menial factory positions. During those days, many spoke Spanish, as the culture was strong due to heightened segregation in the United States of America. Racial lines were clearly drawn back then. Spanish and Black communities were segregated from the White communities, and interracial marriage was against the law. Spanish-speaking ghettos were common and labeled as unsafe.

I remember my friend Francisco "Pancho Vega," a U.S. WWII highly decorated Veteran, once told me a story about himself working at his Cemetery business property while shirtless on a hot summer day when he was suddenly confronted by an Immigration Officer who assaulted him by throwing him to the ground and then cuffing him on his own property. He never forgot the outrage he felt! Likewise, I can remember the late Miguel Navarro telling me that he never forgot the beatings he received at the hands of police in South Texas and the story of his father being shot to death by U.S. Border Patrol agents who often got away with hanging and hunting Mexicans in those days! I am sure our parents and grandparents have similar stories as did my father, who was nearly hanged at the U.S. Border, even though he was a U.S. Citizen, but these stories are embedded in my mind as I think about their perseverance, the challenges they overcame, and feel these challenges in the current time. May they all rest in peace.

The idea of returning to the "Good Ole Days" that the "Good Ole Boys" enjoyed is frightening for most of us brown Americans since we do not view those days as glorious! Racial segregation, discrimination, racial profiling, lynchings, and classism ruled the day during the pre-Civil Rights Era of the 1940s, 50s, and 60s. Black, Brown, Indian, and Asian people were considered less than human, which justified their mistreatment to some. As a baby boomer who grew up during those times, I can say that we have not forgotten! Therefore, when we are currently witnessing a renewed assault on immigrants, language pluralism, interracial marriage, biracial children, and fascist ICE officers terrorizing communities, separating families, denying the accused due process as they face deportation, we are alarmed but not surprised that racism is at it again, it has showed it's a face and it is "alive and well" in America. "Same stuff, different day!" The words have changed, but the meaning is well understood by our generation! We were the generation committed to resisting and repelling these types of injustices! It seems that the challenges are different now.

Our Supreme Court has become complicit with this President's enforcement of Immigration policies and strategies of mass deportation. The lack of respect for our U.S. Constitutional rights and protections guaranteed to all citizens and residents living in our country is inexcusable. Recently, Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor condemned a 6-3

ruling that allowed immigration officers to consider race in detentions, warning that it risks systemic discrimination. She criticized the use of an emergency docket, arguing that it poses potential threats to civil liberties. Sotomayor highlighted that relying on race, even with other factors considered, disproportionately affects Latinos.



wage workers.

Sotomayor said, "We should not have to live in a country where the Government can seize anyone who looks Latino, speaks Spanish, and appears to work a low-wage job." She added, "Rather than stand idly by while our constitutional freedoms are lost, I dissent."

We too dissent and will continue to resist the unjust acts of an administration that further divides our nation of people. We continue to support peaceful protests and other expressions to challenge the status quo. Change is inevitable; we are a multicultural nation! Diversity is valued by most of our citizenry!

Los estadounidenses de color estamos sintiendo el odio a medida que seguimos siendo perseguidos y discriminados racialmente por la policía, funcionarios gubernamentales, vecinos, compañeros de trabajo, dueños de negocios, clientes de negocios locales y el público en general. Caminar, trabajar al aire libre, conducir, ir de compras, visitar lugares de entretenimiento, restaurantes y parques se ha convertido en una pesadilla de miradas, fulminantes, susurros y actos descarados de inaceptación por motivos raciales, y a veces de hostilidad, hacia nosotros en una tierra que llamamos hogar. Si bien muchos de nosotros somos inmigrantes en Estados Unidos, la mayoría nacimos aquí, nunca antes las hostilidades se habían expresado tan abiertamente en nuestra vida cotidiana. El ataque presidencial de Trump 2.0 contra los inmigrantes del sur de la frontera y de las islas del Caribe ha creado una "cruel de odio" que no sanará fácilmente cuando, y si, toda esta aplicación fascista de la ley migratoria termine algún día.

Muchos de nosotros quizás nunca olvidamos la sensación de ser perseguidos. Recuerdo las muchas historias que me contaron mis padres y los ancianos de la comunidad, a quienes respeto profundamente. Compartieron experiencias en las que fueron tratados como ciudadanos de segunda clase, de forma hostil y racista, por personas blancas mientras crecían y se ganaban la vida en Estados Unidos. En las historias que me contaron, tanto estos ancianos como mis padres eran ciudadanos estadounidenses por nacimiento. Encajaban con la descripción de muchos estadounidenses de ascendencia morena y negra de aquella época. Muchos fueron discriminados racialmente, ya que trabajaban en empleos de baja categoría: cosecha agrícola, jornaleros, paisajistas, personal de limpieza, restaurantes y puestos de baja categoría en fábricas. Muchos hablaban español en aquella época, ya que la cultura era fuerte debido a la creciente segregación en Estados Unidos. Las comunidades hispana y negra estaban segregadas de las comunidades blancas, y las fronteras raciales estaban claramente marcadas. Los matrimonios mixtos eran ilegales. Los guetos hispanohablantes eran comunes y estaban aislados de la mayoría de los barrios.

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administrative office:
Attention Dr. José A. Flores,
Editor-in-Chief,
1052 Grandville Ave. S.W.,
Grand Rapids, MI. 49503 or
email: drjflores1@gmail.com

Please visit us at our website:
<http://www.lavozweb.com>
All inquiries should be directed to
Phone: 616-581-6271

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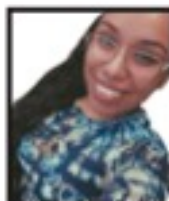
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MEET THE STAFF

drjflores1@gmail.com

Find us on / Encuentranos en:



Reyna Hernández
Sales
Representative



Marte Smith
VP Marketing &
Public Relations



Dr. Edgar León
Writer



Virgen Milagros
Heuer-Reyes
Writer



Kindra A.
Peterson
Writer



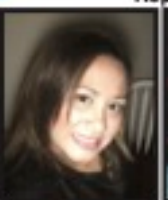
Dr. José A.
Flores,
Editor-in-Chief



Odille Parker
Graphic Design



Dr. Dadsy Torres
Writer



Primavera Flores
Sales Rep.
Detroit



Concepción
Flores,
Guardian
Angel



'El Chayo'
Cervantes
Guardian Angel



Alyssa Flores
Detroit
Distribution



Odille S. Parker
Writer



Andrés
Delacruz
Circulation
Saginaw



Scooter
Writer



Tom Ozinga
Editor



Lisa Villarreal
Wiseman
Writer



Anthony T.
Valdez
Photographer



Jorge Martínez
Writer



Homero
Rodríguez,
Sales/ Circulation
Grand Rapids



Mike Farage
Writer



Dee Rodríguez
Circulation
Grand Rapids



Daniel Flores,
Reporter/
Sales Rep
Grand Rapids

Los latinos deben aprender a usar la inteligencia artificial

Latinos Must Learn to Use Artificial Intelligence



By Edgar León

En esta época de tantos adelantos y cambios rápidos es urgente que los latinos en USA aprendan a usar la inteligencia artificial de forma eficiente. Los países del futuro van a ser ricos no por tener oro, petróleo y dinero, los países ricos van a ser los que tengan a sus ciudadanos educados y preparados para el futuro que viene a pasos de gigantes.

¿Y cómo nos vamos a preparar a los latinos? Primeramente, debemos comenzar a usar las herramientas disponibles de la inteligencia artificial como la Gemini, Chat GPT, Copilot, Perplexity, y Claude. Estas herramientas están disponibles en todo momento, son completamente gratis y no requieren el uso exclusivo de una computadora. Los puede usar con su celular de forma fácil.

Millones de personas están perdiendo su valioso tiempo en las redes sociales consumiendo noticias y comentarios de otros países que no le ayudaran a tener un mejor futuro. Hay que comenzar a prepararnos en la nueva tecnología que nos pone al frente del resto como raza. El Inglés tampoco debe ser un escollo debido a que la inteligencia artificial te traduce del Inglés a español y viceversa en segundos.

Hay que comprender que los Latinos no nacimos para ser esclavos ni empleados de nade a un salario de hambre. En estos momentos, podemos ser nuestro propio jefe con nuestros nuevos negocios creados y conducidos por la Inteligencia Artificial.

¿Entonces como empezamos a transformar nuestras vidas? Simplemente aprendiendo en la internet. Puede ir a YouTube para que aprenda cualquier oficio, cualquier destreza necesaria que le dé una oportunidad de resolverle los problemas a otras personas que todavía no saben nada de la inteligencia artificial. Puede bajar libros gratis en forma PDF para leer y aprender sin gastar un solo centavo.

Ya no hace falta tener diplomas ni certificaciones para conseguir trabajo en la internet. Esto se debe a que el mundo esta interconectado y la competencia es global. No van a esperar 4 años que usted se gradúe para contratarlo. Los nuevos clientes ya están buscando personas Latinas que puedan resolverle sus problemas sin importar cuantas preparaciones académicas tenga usted. Lo más valioso son sus ideas innovadoras y su creatividad para desarrollar nuevos servicios, productos y soluciones.

Claro que debe prepararse, pero debido a que la tecnología esta ofreciendo la información gratuita de cómo hacer las cosas, usted ya puede comenzar a trabajar en muchos trabajos a corto y a largo plazo.

El momento de los trabajos de 30 años y pensiones, se acabó. El nuevo trabajo va a ser temporero, virtual, pocas horas, por contrato y sin ataduras. Por eso hay que diversificarse, ser emprendedor, flexible, creativo y disponible para aprender nuevas cosas todos los días.

Por último, nos ponemos de ejemplo ya que venimos de una familia pobre, sin tener los padres educados en Universidad y sin dinero para poder comprar cosas nuevas como ropa, zapatos y lujos. La educación continua, la lectura y el deseo de superarnos como latino fue el motor para poder seguir adelante sin hacer caso de todos los que me decían "Tu No Puedes". Eso es algo que no debe hacerle caso. Especialmente en este Siglo 21 donde la democratización de la información y la inteligencia artificial está disponible para todos.

Por último, le invitamos a que ayude a sus amigos latinos y familias a



superarse para que todos podamos ser una fuerza significativa en el futuro.

In this era of so many advances and rapid changes, it is urgent that Latinos in the USA learn to use artificial intelligence responsibly and efficiently. The countries of the future will be rich not because they have gold, oil, and money; the rich countries will be those that have their citizens educated and prepared for the future that is coming by leaps and bounds.

And how are we Latinos going to prepare ourselves? First, we must begin to use the available artificial intelligence tools such as Gemini, ChatGPT, Copilot, Perplexity, and Claude. These tools are available at all times, are completely free, and do not require the exclusive use of a computer. You can use them with your cell phone easily.

Millions of people are wasting their valuable time on social media, consuming news and comments from other countries that will not help them have a better future. We need to start preparing ourselves for the new technology that puts us ahead of the rest as a race. English should not be an obstacle either, because artificial intelligence translates from English to Spanish and vice versa in seconds.

We must understand that Latinos were not born to be slaves or employees of anyone at starvation wages. At this moment, we can be our own boss with our new businesses created and conducted by Artificial Intelligence.

So how do we start transforming our lives? Simply by learning on the internet. You can go to YouTube to learn any trade, any necessary skill that gives you an opportunity to solve problems for other people who still don't know anything about artificial intelligence. You can download free books in PDF format to read and learn without spending a single penny.

It is no longer necessary to have diplomas or certifications to get work on the internet. This is because the world is interconnected and competition is global. They are not going to wait 4 years for you to graduate to hire you. New clients are already looking for Latino people who can solve their problems, regardless of how much academic preparation you have. The most valuable things are your innovative ideas and your creativity to develop new services, products, and solutions.

Of course, you must prepare yourself, but because technology is offering free information on how to do things, you can already start working on many short-term and long-term jobs.

The time of 30-year jobs and pensions is over. The new work will be temporary, virtual, for a few hours, by contract, and without ties. That's why you have to diversify, be entrepreneurial, flexible, creative, and available to learn new things every day.

Finally, we set ourselves as an example since we come from a poor family, without having parents educated in University and without money to be able to buy new things like clothes, shoes, and luxuries. Continuous education, reading, and the desire to improve ourselves as Latinos were the engine to be able to move forward without paying attention to all those who told me "You can't do it." That is something you should not pay attention to. Especially in this 21st Century, where the democratization of information and artificial intelligence is available to everyone.

Finally, we invite you to help your Latino friends and families improve themselves so that we can all be a significant force in the future.

Community News



Ellie Rodriguez & Deiontae Nicholas were joined in matrimony by Fr. Steve Cron in Sau-gatuck, on August 22, 2025. Both families & friends celebrated with them! Congratulations!

Michigan Author Series:

Dr. Della Fernandez-Jones Ph. D. professor from Michigan States University, came down to this event as an Author at the Grand Rapids Public Library 111 Library St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Her book, *Making the MexiRican City*, has been on tour since 2023. Migration, Placemaking, and Activism in Grand Rapids, Michigan. After the talk & explaining in the book, she was able to answer questions from people at the event.

La Dra. Della Fernandez-Jones, profesora de doctorado de la Universidad Estatal de Michigan, asistió a este evento como autora de la Biblioteca Pública de Grand Rapids, ubicada en 111 Library St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Su libro, "Creando la Ciudad Mexicana", ha estado de gira desde 2023. Migración, Creación de Lugares y Activismo en Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Después de la charla y la explicación del libro, pudo responder preguntas de los asistentes.



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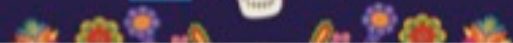
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Mexican Festival 2025



Calder Plaza came alive September 12-14 as Grand Rapids celebrated Mexican Independence with the vibrant and beloved Fiesta Mexicana. Thousands gathered for three days of music, dance, food, and cultural pride, honoring the deep roots and growing presence of the Mexican-American community in West Michigan.

The event, one of the city's oldest ethnic festivals, showcased traditional folkloric performances, mariachi bands, and modern Latin music acts. Attendees enjoyed authentic cuisine from local vendors, carnival games, and artisan crafts, all under the colorful banners of Mexican heritage. Families, friends, and visitors of all backgrounds joined in the festivities, reflecting the inclusive spirit of the celebration.

Fiesta Mexicana also served as a powerful reminder of the contributions of Mexican-Americans to the region's cultural and economic life. As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, the event highlighted stories of resilience, entrepreneurship, and community leadership.



"Energizing Equity" – Count on Us Kalamazoo!



On Saturday, September 13, Consumers Energy hosted its "Energizing Equity" event at the Douglass Community Association in Kalamazoo, celebrating the progress of its "Count on Us Kalamazoo!" initiative. The campaign, launched earlier this year, focuses on helping income-qualified residents reduce energy waste and lower utility bills through tailored programs and direct home upgrades. The event drew a vibrant crowd for a day of family-friendly activities, including games, food, and giveaways. Attendees engaged with educational booths highlighting energy-saving tools such as "My Personalized Offerings," free home energy analysis sign-ups, and the "Green Giving" renewable energy program.

Brian Lewis, Senior Executive Director of Customer Service and Programs, emphasized the initiative's impact: "Taking care of our most vulnerable customers comes with a commitment that requires us to be prepared with flexible solutions to address energy barriers. The work we are doing in Kalamazoo has made a meaningful and lasting impact we are proud to support."

Since February, Consumers Energy has completed over 90 home assessments in three targeted zip codes, offering services like smart thermostat installations, HVAC tune-ups, and duct sealing in partnership with Aeroseal. These efforts have helped residents maintain even home temperatures and reduce energy costs. Angela Thompkins, Vice President External Affairs & Media Relations and Chief Diversity Officer, reinforced the company's mission: "Advancing energy and environmental justice means listening to our customers' experiences to identify and remove barriers in experiencing safe, reliable, affordable, and clean energy in a way that meets their unique needs."

Sponsored by Black Enterprise Magazine, the event underscored Consumers Energy's commitment to equity and community empowerment. Residents interested in personalized energy-saving solutions can visit ConsumersEnergy.com/MyOffer to learn more.

Reality, Truth and Hypergamy



By Jorge Martinez
U.S. Veteran

My first real chance to witness women's interactions was while picking cotton in the vast fields of rural Texas. As a stuttering kid, I rarely spoke much and instead became a keen listener and observer. Life in the countryside was harsh, and I saw firsthand the resilience and complexity of women navigating those conditions. It was a stark contrast to the romanticized portrayals I had admired—particularly the characters played by Maria Felix, the Lilith of the Mexican silver screen. Her commanding presence and unapologetic use of her beauty challenged traditional norms, earning both admiration and condemnation.

As I grew older, I began to perceive contradictions in how women were portrayed versus how they behaved in real life. My own insecurities—lack of wealth, charisma, and fluency—led me to seek refuge in books, music, sports, and faith. Yet, I couldn't suppress my longing for connection or admiration for women. At the same time, I was overwhelmed by the racial prejudice embedded in a state built on slavery, cotton, and illusions of superiority. My heart burned with a desire for justice, even as I yearned for affection.

During my youth in the 1970s, military service was inevitable. Enlistment was the only alternative to being drafted into the infantry. It was then that I experienced a painful lesson in romantic vulnerability—Alice Zapata left me during boot camp, just before I was sent to Vietnam. Her departure devastated me and left a lasting mark on my relationships. Years later, I reflected on that heartbreak while reading a 2014 study by Samuel Vincent Jose of John Marshall Law School, which examined the role of women in global human trafficking. The findings were sobering: in many regions, women were not just victims but also active participants—recruiters, managers, and enforcers.

This challenged my assumptions. In places like Israel, Venezuela, Benin, and Nigeria, cultural narratives around women are complex and often critical. In Nevada brothels and across Latin America, women hold positions of power. In Asia, figures known as *mamasans* reportedly use coercion to maintain control. Even in the U.S., trafficking routes often involve women on both ends of the operation. These realities complicate the simplistic view of women as inherently nurturing or morally superior.

The case of Ghislaine Maxwell further illustrates this complexity. Her involvement with Epstein raises difficult questions: Would his crimes have come to light if she had remained silent? Some argue that the young women involved knew the moral and legal boundaries they were crossing, yet participated anyway. This leads to uncomfortable reflections on hypergamy—the pursuit of upward social mobility through romantic or sexual relationships—and how it intersects with power and choice.

Society often reacts with outrage when men seek out sex workers, yet remains oddly indifferent to the ubiquity of free pornography. We're quick to believe in women's moral superiority, but evidence doesn't always support that belief. Consider the cases of Amber Heard and Sherri Papini, whose allegations were widely accepted before deeper scrutiny. Papini's claim that she was kidnapped by Mexican American women for trafficking stirred racial anxieties in California's Central Valley, a region where wealth and power are overwhelmingly concentrated among whites, despite widespread poverty and environmental neglect.

Racism remains a daily reality. My own experience at VFW Post 7635 is telling—after singing the National Anthem at a Veterans Day ceremony, I was still addressed with nicknames like "Amigo" and "El Mariachi." To some, I am Mexican first, then a man, then an American, and finally a veteran. Meanwhile, young girls are influenced by media that glamorizes casual sex, even as teen pregnancies remain high. The contradiction is glaring: despite high-profile cases of sex-



ual exploitation involving figures like Diddy Combs and Epstein, society continues to normalize casual sexual attitudes.

This normalization is reinforced by influential voices—feminist podcasters, media personalities, musicians, and celebrities—who promote sexual freedom without acknowledging the socioeconomic divide. Wealthy women have choices and protections that average women do not. Yet, when these disparities are pointed out, many refuse to acknowledge them.

The most painful betrayal comes from political leadership. Donald Trump, a close associate of Epstein and a man accused of predatory behavior, dismisses these issues as partisan hoaxes. His version of freedom excludes people like me. And while we must reject his ideology, we must also hold Democratic leaders accountable for failing to understand or represent us. The last election revealed just how disconnected Washington is from the people who put them there.

We must learn from history. As the Jewish community did after World War II, we must vow: NEVER AGAIN. Every person of color and every freedom-loving American must speak up, stand up, and demand justice—not just from one party, but from the entire system.



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AMERICANS OF COLOR ARE HUNTED IN AMERICA!

¡LOS ESTADOUNIDENSES DE COLOR SON CAZADOS EN ESTADOS UNIDOS!

Continuación de la versión de el artículo en español pag. 03.....

Por José A. Flores

Recuerdo a Francisco "Pancho Vega", un veterano estadounidense altamente condecorado de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, quien se describe a sí mismo trabajando en su cementerio, sin camisa en un caluroso día de verano, y de repente fue confrontado por un oficial de inmigración que lo agredió, tirándolo al suelo y esposándolo en su propia propiedad. ¡Nunca olvidó la indignación! Del mismo modo, Miguel Navarro nunca olvidó las palizas que recibió a manos de la policía en el sur de Texas y la muerte a tiros de su padre por agentes de la Patrulla Fronteriza de EE. UU. que se salieron con la suya ahorcando y cazando mexicanos en aquellos días. Estoy seguro de que nuestros padres y abuelos tienen sus historias, al igual que mi padre, quien casi fue ahorcado en la frontera de EE. UU. a pesar de ser ciudadano estadounidense. Que todos descansen en paz.

La idea de regresar a los "buenos tiempos" que disfrutaron los "buenos viejos muchachos" es aterradora para la mayoría de los estadounidenses, ya que no los consideramos gloriosos. La segregación racial, la discriminación sistémica, la discriminación racial, los linchamientos y el clasismo eran la norma en la era pre-derechos civiles, en las décadas de 1940, 1950 y 1960. Las personas negras, morenas, indígenas y asiáticas eran consideradas menos que humanas y comúnmente maltratadas. ¡No lo hemos olvidado! Por lo tanto, cuando ahora presenciamos un renovado ataque contra los inmigrantes, el pluralismo lingüístico, el matrimonio interracial, niños birraciales y agentes fascistas del ICE que aterrorizan a las comunidades, separan familias y niegan el debido proceso a los acusados que se enfrentan a la deportación, nos alarma, pero no nos sorprende, que el racismo siga vigente en Estados Unidos. ¡Lo mismo,

pero diferente!". Las palabras han cambiado, pero el significado se entiende. ¡Nos comprometemos a resistir y repeler estas injusticias!

Nuestra Corte Suprema se ha vuelto cómplice de la aplicación de las políticas migratorias y las estrategias de deportación masiva de este presidente. La falta de respeto a los derechos y protecciones constitucionales de EE. UU., garantizados a todos los ciudadanos y residentes que viven en nuestro país, es inexcusable. Recientemente, la jueza de la Corte Suprema, Sonia Sotomayor, condenó un fallo de 6 a 3 que permitía a los oficiales de inmigración considerar la raza en las detenciones, advirtiendo que esto podría generar discriminación sistémica. Criticó el uso de un expediente de emergencia, argumentando que representa una amenaza potencial para las libertades civiles. Sotomayor destacó que basarse en la raza, incluso considerando otros factores, afecta desproporcionadamente a los latinos. La mayoría de la Corte Suprema anuló la prohibición de un tribunal inferior de considerar la raza en las detenciones migratorias, alegando que las señales visuales pueden sustentar una sospecha razonable. Sotomayor argumentó que esto afecta desproporcionadamente a los hispanohablantes y a los trabajadores con bajos salarios. Sotomayor declaró: "No deberíamos tener que vivir en un país donde el gobierno pueda detener a cualquiera que parezca latino, hable español y parezca tener un trabajo mal pagado". Añadió: "En lugar de quedarme de brazos cruzados mientras se pierden nuestras libertades constitucionales, disiento".

Nosotros también disintimos y seguiremos resistiendo los actos injustos de una administración que divide aún más a nuestra nación y a nuestra gente multicultural. Apoyamos las protestas pacíficas y otras expresiones para desafiar el statu quo.

Celebrating Día de los Muertos in Michigan

In Michigan, you can celebrate Día de los Muertos in 2025 at the Holland Museum on Saturday, October 25th, with family activities and an evening dance party. Additionally, Casa de Rosado will host Lansing's 29th Día de los Muertos Celebration at the Michigan History Museum on November 1-2, 2025, featuring an exhibition of artwork.

En Michigan, puedes celebrar el Día de Muertos de 2025 en el Museo Holland el sábado 25 de octubre, con actividades familiares y una noche de baile. Además, Casa de Rosado organizará la 29.ª Celebración del Día de Muertos de Lansing en el Museo de Historia de Michigan los días 1 y 2 de noviembre de 2025, con una exposición de obras de arte.

Holland, MI

Event: Día de los Muertos Celebration

Date: Saturday, October 25, 2025

Activities:

Family Celebration (12:30-3:30 PM): Free family fun with music, dance, art, and face painting.

Sip & Paint (5-7 PM): Pre-registration required for a painting session with local artist Ellie Jimenez, including supplies and a drink ticket.

Dance Party (8 PM-Midnight): A 16+ event with high-energy music and dancing.

Location: Holland Armory.

Lansing, MI

Event: Lansing's 29th Día de Los Muertos Celebration

Date: November 1-2, 2025

Activities: The Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center will host an exhibition of winning and selected artwork by Michigan artists, focusing on celebratory and artistic themes of Día de los Muertos.

Location: Michigan History Museum.

Celebrate Día de los Muertos on the Detroit Riverfront

By Detroit Riverfront Conservancy

Detroit

Celebrate the cultural traditions of Día de los Muertos on the Detroit Riverfront on November 1 at Robert C. Valade Park.

Date and time:

Saturday, November 1 · 11am - 3pm EDT

Location:

Robert C. Valade Park

2670 Atwater Street Detroit, MI 48207

About this event

An event celebrating the cultural traditions of Día de los Muertos on the Detroit Riverfront.

Family-friendly event featuring food, live music, ballet folklórico, shop vendors, children's activities and more!

View our community ofrenda honoring and remembering all those we have lost. Participate by leaving a name or message for a

loved one.

Free Admission!

11:00 - Noon Children's Storytelling

11:00 - 3:00 Food Truck/Shop Vendors/Arts & Crafts

Noon - 1:00 Dance Performance by Ballet

Folklórico Moyocoyani Izel

1:00 - 2:00 Live Music

Our Day of the Dead altar is open for visitors at Valade Park daily from 6 AM - 10 PM from October 16 - November 3.



Javier Gerardo Milei

Milei is an Argentine politician and economist who is the 59th president of Argentina since 2023. Milei also served as a national deputy representing the City of Buenos Aires for the party La Libertad Avanza from 2021 until his resignation in 2023.

Javier Gerardo Milei es un político y economista argentino que es el 59.º presidente de Argentina desde 2023. Milei también se desempeñó como diputado nacional en representación de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires por el partido La Libertad Avanza desde 2021 hasta su renuncia en 2023.



Emely Moreno, a Colombian influencer, started her career as a server before transitioning to content creation in 2022. She shares her experiences on Instagram and TikTok, using energetic storytelling and yelling to keep her content relatable. Emely has made a name for herself in the fashion industry and has collaborated with big names like the Jonas Brothers and Janelle Monáe. She has over 6 million followers on Instagram and TikTok, building a loyal community based on her authenticity and relatability. She has also made a guest appearance on Mean Girls "The Musical".

Emely Moreno, influencer colombiana, comenzó su carrera como mesera antes de dedicarse a la creación de contenido en 2022. Comparte sus experiencias en Instagram y TikTok, utilizando narrativas enérgicas y gritos para que su contenido sea cercano. Emely se ha consolidado en la industria de la moda y ha colaborado con grandes figuras como los Jonas Brothers y Janelle Monáe. Tiene más de 6 millones de seguidores en Instagram y TikTok, creando una comunidad fiel gracias a su autenticidad y facilidad para conectar. También apareció como invitada en "Chicas Pesadas", "El Musical".



Sylvia Méndez, is a retired nurse and lifelong activist who, at age eight, became central to the landmark *Méndez v. Westminster* case, which challenged school segregation against Mexican-American children in California. The 1947 ruling desegregated schools in the Westminster district and was a crucial step leading to the national desegregation of schools in the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision. She continues to educate others about her family's fight for equality and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011.

Sylvia Méndez es una enfermera jubilada y activista de toda la vida que, a los ocho años, se convirtió en una figura central en el histórico caso Méndez contra Westminster, que cuestionó la segregación escolar de los niños mexicanoamericanos en California. El fallo de 1947 desegregó las escuelas en el distrito de Westminster y fue un paso crucial que condujo a la desegregación escolar nacional en la decisión de la Corte Suprema en el caso Brown contra la Junta de Educación de 1954. Continúa educando a otros sobre la lucha de su familia por la igualdad y recibió la Medalla Presidencial de la Libertad en 2011.



Camila Coelho, a renowned Latina influencer, gained global attention for her unique style and passion for fashion and beauty. Starting as a makeup artist, she created a blog and gained popularity on YouTube. Her collaborations with brands like Dior, Revolve, Calvin Klein, and Lancôme have helped her build a global fan base. Camila's beauty line uses Brazilian ingredients and designs packaging to reflect her roots. She advocates for inclusion and representation in the Latin community, with over 16 million followers worldwide.

Camila, una reconocida influencer latina, se ganó la atención mundial por su estilo único y su pasión por la moda y la belleza. Empezó como maquilladora, creó un blog y se hizo popular en YouTube. Sus colaboraciones con marcas como Dior, Revolve, Calvin Klein y Lancôme la han ayudado a construir una base de fans global. Su línea de belleza utiliza ingredientes brasileños y diseña envases que reflejan sus raíces. Aboga por la inclusión y la representación en la comunidad latina, con más de 16 millones de seguidores en todo el mundo.



Bad Bunny (born Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio on March 10, 1994, in Vega Baja, Puerto Rico) is a

global superstar known for Latin trap and reggaeton music. He gained early recognition by posting music to SoundCloud before signing with Hear This Music and later Rimas Entertainment, achieving a major breakthrough with his single "Soy Peor" and international fame through collaborations on hits like Cardi B's "I Like It". His career includes multiple Grammy-nominated, all-Spanish albums, a successful acting career, and a strong focus on cultural impact and authentic expression.

Bad Bunny (nacido como Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio el 10 de marzo de 1994 en Vega Baja, Puerto Rico) es una superestrella mundial conocida por su música latina de trap y reggaetón. Obtuvo reconocimiento temprano subiendo música a SoundCloud antes de firmar con Hear This Music y posteriormente con Rimas Entertainment, alcanzando un gran éxito con su sencillo "Soy Peor" y fama internacional gracias a colaboraciones en éxitos como "I Like It" de Cardi B. Su carrera incluye múltiples álbumes en español nominados al Grammy, una exitosa carrera como actor y un fuerte enfoque en el impacto cultural y la expresión auténtica.



Juan Ciscomani is a Republican politician representing Arizona's 6th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. An immigrant from Mexico, he is the first naturalized U.S. citizen from Mexico to represent Arizona in Congress.

Juan Ciscomani es un político republicano que representa al 6.º Distrito Congresional de Arizona en la Cámara de Representantes de los Estados Unidos. Inmigrante mexicano, es el primer ciudadano estadounidense naturalizado de México en representar a Arizona en el Congreso.



Hispanic Heritage Month

ELEMENTS OF PRIDE

Nuestro Orgullo

Javiera Balmaceda is a head of local originals, CA & AU at Amazon Studios, Latin America. She has got more than 15 years of experience in the entertainment industry managing numerous content-related departments for various international media companies.

Javiera Balmaceda es directora de contenidos originales locales, CA y AU en Amazon Studios Latinoamérica. Cuenta con más de 15 años de experiencia en la industria del entretenimiento, gestionando numerosos departamentos de contenido para diversas compañías de medios internacionales



Luis Fernández Chairman of NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, José Fernández oversees the company's multiplatform portfolio, including its flagship broadcast network, entertainment, sports, and news

programming units. He has previously served as President of Network News for Telemundo and as International CEO of Real Madrid for the Asia-Pacific Region. Fernández holds a degree in Journalism from the Complutense University of Madrid and was awarded an honorary doctorate in 2016.

Luis Fernández, presidente de NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, supervisa la cartera multiplataforma de la compañía, que incluye su cadena insignia, así como las unidades de programación de entretenimiento, deportes y noticias. Anteriormente, fue presidente de Noticias de la Cadena para Telemundo y CEO Internacional del Real Madrid para la región Asia-Pacífico. Fernández es licenciado en Periodismo por la Universidad Complutense de Madrid y recibió un doctorado honoris causa en 2016.

Stephanie Bazan

A marketer with over 20 years of experience in domestic and international markets, Stephanie has worked in a variety of industries including food and beverage, entertainment and retail. Her food and beverage experience spans working for companies such as Mission Foods and Dr Pepper Snapple Group. She currently is the Sr Market Development Director for Avocados from Mexico where she leads all of the Hispanic consumer, General Market shopper marketing and event marketing strategies and plans for the U.S. operation.



Stephanie, especialista en marketing con más de 20 años de experiencia en mercados nacionales e internacionales, ha trabajado en diversas industrias, como la de alimentos y bebidas, entretenimiento y venta minorista. Su experiencia en alimentos y bebidas abarca trabajos para empresas como Mission Foods y Dr Pepper Snapple Group. Actualmente es Directora Senior de Desarrollo de Mercado de Aguacates de México, donde lidera todas las estrategias y planes de marketing para el consumidor hispano, el mercado general y el marketing de eventos para la operación en EE. UU.

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LAS FIESTAS

As the Bajo Sexto Echoes in Detroit

By: Jihyun Ko

Not all revolutions carry rifles. Some arrive with accordions and bajo sextos, unheralded by the national press but no less radical for what they preserved. In the years after World War II, while Detroit newspapers celebrated auto outputs and assembly line productivity, the city's Texas-Mexican immigrants were powering a different system: one of rhythm and music.

The name Martin Huron Solis Jr. will not appear in American history textbooks the way Pancho Villa's does. Yet in the dance halls of Southwest Detroit, Solis was a general in his own right. Born in San Antonio and carried north to Michigan's beet fields in 1942, Solis entered Detroit at a time when Mexican families were essential, yet invisible. While factories required their labor, newspapers rarely captured their lives. Into that void, Solis carried a bajo sexto, created of twelve strings that refused to erase either Texas or Mexico.

By the early 1950s, he and his cousin Willy Huron, who played the saxophone, teamed up with button accordionist Manuel Rivera to form the Conjunto Los Primos, one of Michigan's first Tejano bands. In an industrial city dominated by Motown and big band, conjunto declared that the children of beet workers were here, that their language and soundscape could not be eradicated. The band performed across the wider Detroit metro area, spreading the Tejano sound in venues that largely lacked Latino representation.

However, like so much of Mexican-American history in the Midwest, official records remain hidden. When Los Primos disbanded in the 1970s, no studio albums existed. For decades, the musicians lived on as oral history, mentioned at family gatherings or remembered by the dancers of the smoky halls along Vernor Highway. It was easy for memories to be forgotten this way, with Solis passing away at age 90 with no formal recording made during his active years.

Then came the attic. In 2018, Solis's son, Frank Solis, was sorting through his father's belongings when he uncovered dusty reels and cassettes. When played, they sounded, as one producer said, "like they came right from a record."

Resurrected by Third Man Records, the music burst back into public life in 2020, released as the album *Introducing Martin Solis & Los Primos*.

In a telling irony, the music gained wide recognition as white-owned institutions began to validate the sound. In 2023, with the unveiling of Michigan's first historical marker for Latino musicians in Mexican-town, the state declared what communities had long known: Tejano music was as much a "Detroit story" as Motown. The marker honored Solis, Los Primos, and other conjunto and Tejano pioneers active in Michigan. It also named radio stations and record stores, like Roy's Records and Texas Music Co., that helped circulate Texas-Mexican music.

In the 1950s and 60s, Mexican Americans began to engage with institutions like Holy Redeemer Catholic Church and Spanish-language radio programs like "The Mexican Hour." By mid-century,

Detroit's "Mexicantown" had become home to a flourishing Mexican-American community with Spanish-language media, churches, and mutual-aid societies.

While the granite monument lists names, there is a sharp question that echoes: how many other communities, genres, and histories remain uncovered in Michigan?

The bajo sexto, then, is more than an instrument: it is an archive of Detroit. The strings tell us what official histories leave behind: that Texas-Mexican migrants did not merely harvest beets or assemble cars, but that they assembled identities and sustained culture. Solis and his cousins are chroniclers,

but not anomalies.

When we hear the conjunto, cleaned and digitized, it is tempting to frame the story as discovery. But in truth, there is nothing new that has been uncovered. While the community always knew, what vanished was the willingness of many to listen.

No todas las revoluciones llevan rifles. Algunas llegan con acordeones y bajo sextos, ignoradas por la prensa nacional pero igual de radicales por lo que preservaron. En los años después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, mientras los periódicos de Detroit celebraban la producción de autos y la productividad de las líneas de montaje, los inmigrantes tejano-mexicanos estaban impulsando otro sistema: uno de ritmo y música.

El nombre Martin Huron Solis Jr. no aparecerá en los libros de historia de Estados Unidos como el de Pancho Villa. Sin embargo, en los salones de baile del suroeste de Detroit, Solis fue un general en su propio derecho. Nació en San Antonio y fue llevado al norte a los campos de betabel de Michigan en 1942. Llegó a Detroit en una época en que las familias mexicanas eran esenciales pero invisibles. Mientras las fábricas necesitaban su trabajo, los periódicos casi nunca capturaban sus vidas. En ese vacío, Solis trajo un bajo sexto de doce cuerdas que se negaba a borrar ni a Texas ni a México.

A principios de los años cincuenta, él y su primo Willy Huron, que tocaba el saxofón, se unieron con el acordeonista Manuel Rivera para formar el Conjunto Los Primos, una de las primeras bandas de Tejano en Michigan. En una ciudad dominada por el Motown y las big bands, el conjunto declaró que los hijos de los trabajadores del betabel estaban presentes, que su idioma y su música no podían ser erradicados. La banda tocó por todo el área metropolitana de Detroit, llevando el sonido tejano a lugares donde casi no había representación latina.

Sin embargo, como pasa con gran parte de la historia mexicanoamericana en el medio oeste, los registros oficiales permanecen ocultos. Cuando Los Primos se disolvieron en los años setenta, no existían grabaciones de estudio. Durante décadas, los músicos vivieron en la memoria oral, mencionados en reuniones familiares o recordados por los que bailaban en los salones llenos de humo a lo largo de Vernor Highway. Así era fácil que los recuerdos se perdieran, y Solis murió a los 90 años sin haber dejado grabaciones formales de su época activa.

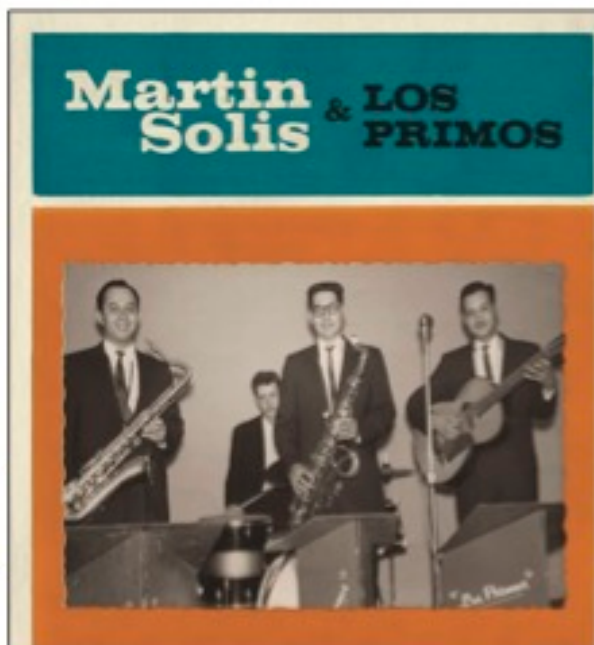


Cuando el Bajo Sexto Resuena en Detroit

Por Jihyun Ko

Entonces llegó el ático. En 2018, el hijo de Solís, Frank Solís, estaba revisando las pertenencias de su padre cuando encontró viejas cintas y casetes llenos de polvo. Al reproducirlas, sonaban, como dijo un productor, "como si vinieran directo de un disco." Rescatada por Third Man Records, la música volvió a la vida pública en 2020, lanzada como el álbum *Introducing Martin Solís & Los Primos*.

Con una ironía evidente, la música recibió mayor reconocimiento cuando instituciones ajenas comenzaron a validarla. En 2023, con la inauguración del primer marcador histórico de Michigan para músicos latinos en Mexicantown, el estado declaró lo que la comunidad ya sabía: la música tejana era tanto una historia de Detroit como el Motown. El marcador honró a Solís, a Los Primos y a otros pioneros del conjunto y del Tejano activos en Michigan. También mencionó emisoras de radio y tiendas de discos, como Roy's Records y Texas Music Co., que ayudaron a difundir la música tejano-mexicana. En los años cincuenta y sesenta, los mexicanos del área empezaron a participar en instituciones como la iglesia Holy Re-



deemer y programas radiales en español como "La Hora Mexicana." Para mediados del siglo, el barrio de "Mexicantown" se había convertido en hogar de una comunidad mexicoamericana floreciente, con medios en español, iglesias y sociedades de ayuda mutua.

Aunque el monumento de granito enumera nombres, queda una pregunta que resuena: ¿cuántas otras comunidades, géneros e historias permanecen aún sin descubrir en Michigan?

El bajo sexto, entonces, es más que un instrumento: es un archivo de Detroit. Sus cuerdas nos dicen lo que las historias oficiales dejan atrás, que los migrantes tejano-mexicanos no solo cosechaban betabel o ensamblaban autos, sino que también construían identidades y mantenían la cultura. Solís y sus primos fueron cronistas, pero no excepciones.

Cuando escuchamos el conjunto, limpio y digitalizado, es tentador pensar que se trata de un descubrimiento. Pero en verdad no hay nada nuevo que se haya revelado. La comunidad siempre lo supo, lo que desapareció fue la disposición de muchos a escuchar.

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Music is universal! Robert LaDew R.I.P. brother! Your legacy in Grand Rapids is alive and well!

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October Events / Eventos en Octubre

Disney's Beauty And The Beast October 1-2, 2025 Detroit, MI

Be Our Guest at BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, Disney's first North American touring production of the beloved musical in over 25 years. This enchanting and timeless tale, filled with the romance and grandeur audiences know and love, has been brought to life like never before, with spectacular new sets and dazzling costumes. The show boasts the Oscar®-winning and Tony Award®-nominated score, including the classic songs "Be Our Guest" and "Beauty and the Beast."

Detroit events powered by
visitdetroit.com

La primera producción musical de Disney en Norteamérica, "Be Our Guest", presenta una historia atemporal de romance y grandeza. La banda, ganadora de premios Óscar® y Tony®, interpreta canciones clásicas. Los eventos en Detroit están patrocinados por visitdetroit.com.

Mackinac Island Fall Fudge Festival October 2-4, 2025 Mackinac Island, MI

Experience the magic of autumn at the newly reimagined Fall Fudge Festival on Mackinac Island, taking place October 2-4. This year's festival blends the island's iconic fudge with fall-themed festivities sure to delight the biggest fall and fudge fanatics. Wander the charming streets lined with fall decor, enjoy scenic bike rides through vibrant foliage, and savor the sweet flavors that make Mackinac Island famous. Whether you're a fudge foodie or simply looking for a cozy fall getaway, this weekend promises unforgettable memories.

El Festival del Dulce de Otoño en la Isla Mackinac, que tendrá lugar del 2 al 4 de octubre, es una combinación de festividades con temática de dulce de azúcar y otoño, que ofrece pintorescos paseos en bicicleta, calles encantadoras y sabores dulces para una acogedora escapada de otoño.

Wine on the Water October 11-25, 2025 Saugatuck, MI

Sit back, sip, and savor the wine (and views). Catherine, our wine rep from Vintage will guide you

through tastings of each featured wine as we enjoy a 90 minute cruise. 21 years and older. Valid ID required.

Adult wine tasting \$65

No discounts for non drinkers.

Relájese, disfrute y saboree el vino (y las vistas). Catherine, nuestra representante de vinos de Vintage, le guiará en la cata de cada vino seleccionado mientras disfrutamos de un crucero de 90 minutos. 21 años o más. Se requiere identificación válida. Cata de vinos para adultos: \$65 No hay descuentos para quienes no beben.

Pumpkin Walk October 16-18, 2025 Allendale, MI

Pumpkin Walk is a free, family-friendly, Fall event hosted by Second Church in Allendale. You'll have the opportunity to see over 600 carved and lit pumpkins as you walk the trail. Afterward, enjoy a snack, take pictures, make new friends, and enjoy live music. Each night the trail will open from 6:00-9:00 - A Brand New Theme with Fun Songs to listen to while you wait in line each year. Pumpkin Walk is welcome to people of all ages. (If necessary, you may bring your certified service dog. Otherwise, we ask that your furry friends stay at home.)

El Paseo de Calabazas es un evento familiar y gratuito que se celebra este otoño, organizado por la Segunda Iglesia en Allendale. Tendrá la oportunidad de ver más de 600 calabazas talladas e iluminadas mientras recorre el sendero. Después, disfrute de un refrigerio, tome fotos, haga nuevos amigos y disfrute de música en vivo.

Cada noche, el sendero abrirá de 6:00 a 9:00. Cada año, se presentará una nueva temática con canciones divertidas para escuchar mientras espera en la fila. El Paseo de Calabazas es bienvenido para personas de todas las edades.

2025 EGR Harvest Festival October 18, 2025 East Grand Rapids, MI

The biggest event to happen in Gaslight Village each year! Closing down Wealthy St. Come enjoy kid games such as a mechanical bull and various carnival games, live music on stage all day, 12+ local

breweries/wines and canned spirits and walk-able food options from the local restaurants.

All this while we bring that Harvest feels for all that our amazing state gives us this time of year!

¡El evento más grande que se celebra en Gaslight Village cada año! Cerrando Wealthy St. Ven a disfrutar de juegos infantiles como un toro mecánico y diversos juegos de carnaval, música en vivo en el escenario todo el día, más de 12 cervecerías, vinos y licores enlatados locales, y opciones de comida accesibles a pie de los restaurantes locales. ¡Todo esto mientras te traemos el espíritu de la cosecha por todo lo que nuestro maravilloso estado nos ofrece en esta época del año!

LEGO Robotics October 18, 2025 Grand Rapids, MI

Kids can build and code their own robots using LEGO's Spike Prime sets. Local robotics teams will be on hand to help participants and to answer questions about robotics. Laptops will be provided, but attendees are encouraged to bring their own devices and use LEGO's free app to code. This is a self-guided, drop-in event. Space is limited and first come, first served. For ages 8 and up.

Los niños pueden construir y programar sus propios robots con los sets Spike Prime de LEGO. Habrá equipos locales de robótica disponibles para ayudar a los participantes y responder preguntas sobre robótica. Se proporcionarán computadoras portátiles, pero se anima a los asistentes a traer sus propios dispositivos y usar la aplicación gratuita de LEGO para programar. Este es un evento autoguiado y sin cita previa. El cupo es limitado y se asigna por orden de llegada. Para mayores de 8 años.

Ghosts of Grand Rapids Walking Tour - Downtown October 30, 2025 Grand Rapids, MI

Our Grand Rapids Ghost Tour is back often limited, never duplicated. Step into the haunted history



of the city with the researchers who first uncovered the Ghosts of Grand Rapids and the authors who told their stories.

Through immersive storytelling, we share chilling true history and ghostly legends right on the streets where they first began. On the final leg of the evening, the route passes through the Downtown Social District, where you can enjoy both kinds of spirits the ones in your cup and the ones in the tales.

El Tour de Fantasmas de Grand Rapids ofrece una experiencia narrativa inmersiva que revela la historia embrujada de la ciudad a través de las obras de investigadores y autores. El tour también incluye una visita al Distrito Social del Centro, donde se puede disfrutar de los espíritus.

Trunk or Treat en el Barrio October 31, 2025 Grand Rapids, MI

Save the Date! Trunk or Treat en el Barrio Get ready for the biggest and spookiest event of the year! Last year, we had an incredible turnout with over 1,000 attendees and more than 50 amazing vendors. This year promises to be even more fun and full of surprises! Bring your family and friends for an afternoon of fun, candy, and community connections. If you're interested in donating candy, becoming a sponsor, or hosting a trunk, please reach out to Vanessa at vanessacervantes@kentssn.org. Let's make this Trunk or Treat en el Barrio the best one yet!

¡Reserva la fecha! Trunk or Treat en el Barrio. ¡Prepárate para el evento más grande y espeluznante del año! El año pasado tuvimos una asistencia increíble con más de 1,000 asistentes y más de 50 vendedores increíbles. ¡Este año promete ser aún más divertido y lleno de sorpresas! Trae a tu familia y amigos para una tarde de diversión, dulces y conexiones comunitarias.

1960 Chevy Impala owner Cody Burghdorf



1962 Chevy Impala owners Jose & Blanca Amaya



1967 Lincoln Continental owner Jeremy Neibarger



1968 Chrysler Newport owner Angelia Rios-Rose Suenos C.C. from Muskegon, MI



1972 Chevrolet El Camino SS 454 owners Chuck & Michelle Rinehart



1999 Mercury Grand Marquis owner Kunta from Xclusive C.C.



Zeeland Show & Shine helpers ready to answer questions.



Sweet 1985 Monte Carlo 2 Door Convertible



LAUP Fiesta Car Show, July 20, 2025

On Sunday, we headed out to LAUP Fiesta Car Show at the Holland Civic Center on 150 W. 8th Street, Holland, MI.

LAUP (Latin Americans United for Progress) was celebrating their 61st Latino Heritage July 16 - 20, 2025 along with their Car Show with dance, music, food, and fun activities to do with the family.

The parking lot filled with cars, trucks, trailers, motorcycles & bicycles. Everyone enjoyed DJ AlphaMusic, rocking out good music, vendors, food trucks selling tacos & pop, Aquas Frescas (fruit juice water), LAUP Fiesta t-shirts & jewelry. Car clubs came from all over to support the Fiesta Car Show. Low 4 Life C.C. from Saginaw & Grand Rapids, Sueño's (Dreamer's) C.C. from Muskegon, Damage Club from Chicago, IL, Cold Life C.C. from Grand Rapids, just to name a few.

Toyo Jr Rosas won \$1,000 for Best of Show Car & Trophy from Saginaw, MI. Eddie Cortez won \$200.00 for Best of Show Bike & Trophy from Chicago, IL.

Sueño's C.C. won Trophy Most Members Award from Muskegon, MI.

We give Shouts out to Tony Leal and the LAUP Committee for a wonderful time at the Fiesta Car Show!

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1963 Chevy Impala owner Alex Ornelas mural A Brother's Love from Outta Control C.C. from Saginaw, MI



Low 4 Life Car Club from Saginaw, MI



1957 Chevrolet Bel Air - MALO- owner Toyo Rosas with Low 4 Life Car Club from Saginaw, MI - Best of Show



1960 Lowrider bike - 80 Fever Spooky! Low 4 Life L.C. from Grand Rapids, MI



1969 Schwinn Stingray owners Eddie & Star Cortez Damage Club from Chicago, IL won Best of Show

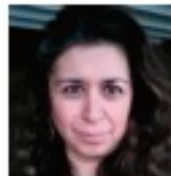
La Voz

Paloma Rocío Castillo Astorga, known professionally as Paloma Mami, is an American and Chilean singer. She began her musical career in 2018, and her first studio album, *Sueños de Dalí*, was released in March 2021. Her sophomore album, *Códigos de Muñeca*, was released in July 2025.

Paloma Rocío Castillo Astorga, conocida profesionalmente como Paloma Mami, es una cantante estadounidense y chilena. Comenzó su carrera musical en 2018, y su primer álbum de estudio, Sueños de Dalí, se lanzó en Marzo del 2021. Su segundo álbum, Códigos de Muñeca, se lanzó en Julio del 2025.



Paloma Mami



By Lisa Wiseman

When it comes to family reunions, they can be fun, sharing memories, funny stories, and laughing until you're crying. Comedian/actress Anjelah Johnson-Reyes wants you to have that kind of fun when she brings her Family Reunion

Tour to Grand Rapids in October. Anjelah says, "I'm bringing my family, so bring yours, your mom, dad, tios, and tias. It's a family-friendly show for all ages!"

Born of Mexican and Native American descent in San Jose, California, Anjelah was highly active as a child, involved in soccer, softball, and track, so it was no surprise when she became an Oakland Raiders cheerleader in 2002. So, how does one go from being an NFL cheerleader to a comedian? "I wanted to be an actor and said if I made the squad, I'll do it for a year and then move to Hollywood to pursue my dream, and that's what happened. I made the squad, moved to Hollywood to try to become an actress, and ended up being a stand-up comedian!"

Since then, her career has taken off. Her first gig was as an extra for seasons 9 and 10 on the TV show Friends, which she says was her favorite experience. In 2007, she joined the cast of MadTV for its 13th season, where her characters, rude fast-food worker, Bon Qui Qui, and nail salon employee, My Linh/Tammy, became fan favorites. She starred in her first 1-hour special on Comedy Central in 2009, Anjelah Johnson: That's How We Do It! In 2011, she became the spokesperson for the Mexican restaurant, Taco Cabana.

Anjelah met Maxwell Reyes of the Christian hip-hop group, Group 1 Crew, at a mutual friend's wedding. He had no idea who she was, but sparks flew, and in 2011, they were married and are now parents to a beautiful little girl.

Anjelah has starred in stand-up comedy specials on Netflix and has appeared in several movies and television shows. She authored a book called Who Do I Think I Am? Stories of Chola Wishes and Caviar Dreams, which was released in 2022.

She also has a podcast that she hosts called Funjelah. It focuses on mental health and features Anjelah and her guests recounting their gratitude (things they are thankful for) and maditudes (what they are mad about) and how these feelings affect their lives.

She lists Brian Regan, Ellen DeGeneres, and George Lopez as some of her comedic inspirations. "Brian Regan just came to my show in Vegas, and it was such a blessing and an honor to have him watching me in the audience." And where does she see herself 5 years from now? "I would love to have my own TV sitcom. I love acting, so that's my goal. I feel like I'm constantly pitching ideas for TV shows, so one of these days it'll work!" With her humor, personality, and charm, if anyone can do it, Anjelah can.

So, follow Anjelah on social media and bring the family to see Tia Anjelah when she performs at GLC Live at 20 Monroe on October 26. The show starts at 6 pm and

tickets are on sale now, starting at \$48.00 and up. For more information, go to <https://glcliveat20monroe.com> or Anjelah's website at <https://anjelah.com>.

Anjelah Johnson-Reyes, comediante y actriz, busca revitalizar las reuniones familiares con su Gira de Reuniones Familiares en Grand Rapids en octubre. Nacida en San José, California, Anjelah era una niña activa que participaba en deportes, fútbol y atletismo. Tras convertirse en animadora de los Oakland Raiders en 2002, se mudó a Hollywood para dedicarse a la actuación.

Su carrera ha sido exitosa, con su primer trabajo como extra en Friends y el programa MadTV de MadTV. Anjelah también ha aparecido en varias películas y series de televisión, y ha escrito un libro sobre su vida. Además, presenta un podcast llamado Funjelah, que se centra en la salud mental e invita a los oyentes a compartir gratitud y alegría.

Anjelah ha protagonizado especiales de monólogos en Netflix y ha aparecido en varias películas y series de televisión. Escribió un libro titulado "¿Quién me creo que soy? Historias de deseos de chola y sueños de caviar", publicado en 2022.

También presenta un podcast llamado Funjelah. Se centra en la salud mental y presenta a Anjelah y a sus invitados, quienes comparten sus gratitudes (cosas por las que están agradecidos) y locuras (lo que les enoja) y cómo estos sentimientos afectan sus vidas.

Menciona a Brian Regan, Ellen DeGeneres y George Lopez como algunas de sus inspira-



ANJELAH JOHNSON-REYES



Photos by Sean Hagwell

ciones cómicas. "Brian Regan acaba de venir a mi show en Las Vegas, y fue una gran bendición y un honor tenerlo viéndome entre el público". ¿Y dónde se ve dentro de 5 años? "Me encantaría tener mi propia comedia de situación. Me encanta actuar, así que ese es mi objetivo. Siento que estoy constantemente proponiendo ideas para programas de televisión, así que algún día funcionará!". Con su humor, personalidad y encanto, si alguien puede hacerlo, Anjelah puede. Así que, sigan a Anjelah en redes sociales y traigan a la familia a ver a Tia Anjelah cuando se presente en GLC Live en 20 Monroe el 26 de octubre. El espectáculo comienza a las 6 p. m. y las entradas ya están a la venta, desde \$48.00. Para más información, visiten <https://glcliveat20monroe.com> o el sitio web de Anjelah: <https://anjelah.com>.



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25 year-old Creator with Puerto Rican roots and the Proud second oldest of six siblings. Family is at the HEART of who I am, especially the time I spend caring for my grandmothers, who keep me Grounded & Inspired. When I'm not streaming live for my growing online community, you'll usually find me gaming, getting lost in a good book, or switching between Rollerskates & Iceskates depending on the season. I LOVE Creative Outlets like coloring, and I'm Passionate about expanding into Modeling & building my Social Media presence sharing pieces of my World while chasing BIG DREAMS with a Playful Spirit & Determined HEART!

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2025 OCTOBER MODEL SEARCH

Increased use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots has exposed technology's ability to appropriately interact with users who talk to them about mental health.

Troubling instances related to AI chatbots and teenage mental health have surfaced with the fast-paced and widespread adoption of the emerging technology. AI is smart and can be humanlike, with a tendency to be affirming toward users who confide in it and ask for help, which has led to dangerous, sometimes deadly, outcomes in some cases.

While not a medical diagnosis, the term "AI psychosis" has emerged as a term in 2025. It is used to describe a type of altered mental state characterized by paranoia and delusions that can occur after intense interactions with AI chatbots.

A recent New York Times article illustrated examples of people with no history of mental illness who engaged in "persuasive delusion conversations with AI chatbots" that led to negative health outcomes like institutionalization, divorce and even death.

Acknowledging AI's "mental health blind spot"

Dr. Scott Monteith, a clinical professor in Michigan State University's Department of Psychiatry and the chair of a new Michigan Psychiatric Society Task Force on AI, says there is a "mental health blind spot" currently baked into the AI chatbot experience. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Medical Director of Behavioral Health and Behavioral Health strategy and planning Dr. William Beecroft is the president of the Michigan Psychiatric Society.

"AI for clinical medicine is not ready for primetime," Monteith said.

It's a complicated topic, but Monteith said he hopes the federal government can find a way to regulate the way AI interacts with the most sensitive, high-risk topics. He listed nuclear weaponry use, airline cockpits and anything health care related as examples.

"Medications are subject to (Food and Drug Administration) clearance, where we have to establish that they work," he said. "We have to vet them for the risks. We use science to figure it out. The current state of AI in health care is the wild west. We rarely if ever establish efficacy and the risks are opaque and not well understood. Right now, we depend on marketing, hype and lobbying – rather than science – to make decisions about AI. We have to shift the regulation of AI more toward the model we use to regulate prescription medicine."

Monteith uses AI daily, like so many Americans do. He's not opposed to the technology. But he realizes something needs to be done when we repeatedly see instances of AI influencing life and death.

"AI is great in certain realms, it's helpful. If you're an AI platform selling socks on the Wall Street Journal's website, fine, I really don't care. Let's not regulate that," Monteith said. "But if you are injecting yourself into a patient-doctor type of conversation, and that decision-making process, you darn well better prove like we do for medication that it works and the responses you receive are scientifically backed."

What parents can do to encourage teens to use AI safely

Monteith has done a lot of writing around this topic, with more than 50



La rápida adopción de chatbots de Inteligencia Artificial (IA) ha puesto de manifiesto la capacidad de esta tecnología para interactuar adecuadamente con usuarios que hablan sobre salud mental. La IA es inteligente y puede ser similar a la humana, pero también puede ser afirmativa con los usuarios que confían en ella y piden ayuda, lo que en algunos casos puede conllevar consecuencias peligrosas. El término "psicosis de IA" surgió en 2025 para describir un estado mental alterado caracterizado por paranoia y delirios que puede presentarse tras interacciones intensas con chatbots de IA.

El Dr. Scott Monteith, profesor clínico del Departamento de Psiquiatría de la Universidad Estatal de Michigan y presidente del nuevo Grupo de Trabajo sobre IA de la Sociedad Psiquiátrica de Michigan, cree que existe un "punto ciego en materia de salud mental" inherente a la experiencia con chatbots de IA. Espera que el gobierno federal encuentre la manera de regular la forma en que la IA interactúa con los temas más sensibles y de alto riesgo, como el uso de armas nucleares, las cabinas de los aviones y cualquier tema relacionado con la atención médica.

Los padres no están bien preparados para evaluar y gestionar el uso de la IA por parte de sus hijos, y deberían optar por protegerlos de ella lo máximo posible. OpenAI, la empresa que gestiona ChatGPT, anunció recientemente planes para introducir nuevas funciones, como el control parental, que deberían controlar cómo ChatGPT responde a sus hijos adolescentes y recibir notificaciones cuando el sistema detecte que se encuentran en un momento de grave angustia. Los padres deberían educar a padres e hijos sobre los enormes riesgos de la IA y fomentar las interacciones presenciales.

publications, many of which connect internet use with mental health. Many are specifically about AI. Yet even he isn't sure he can assess his own use of AI.

"My point is, parents are totally ill-equipped to assess and manage their children's use of AI, not unlike social media, where they're unequipped," he said. "One big message here is, AI is a problem that we do not have a handle on yet. It's powerful. When it comes to children, I think we should err on the side of protecting them from AI as much as possible."

OpenAI, the company that runs ChatGPT, recently announced it plans to introduce new features like parental controls that should "control how ChatGPT responds to their teen" and "receive notifications when the system detects their teen is in a moment of acute distress," according to the New York Times. OpenAI also says it plans to make reaching emergency services and getting help easier for distressed users.

A separate AI platform that was sued by a Florida mother following her son's suicide installed parental controls that required teens to send an invitation to a guardian to monitor their accounts.

Parents don't have to wait for federal regulation or AI companies themselves to install parental controls to take an active role in their teen's use of AI, especially if they feel like they may be relying on it for mental and emotional support.

"We need to educate parents and kids about the tremendous risks of AI," Monteith said. "This is a very challenging environment, and it's real."

The American Psychological Association (APA) offers these four pieces of advice for parents eager to help their teens navigate AI safely:

Learn about the tools they use: the APA recommends asking your teen to show you the

tools they interact with each day. Monteith says there is a difference between using these tools and truly understanding them. If parents can get a handle on the specific AI tools their children use, they can experiment with them themselves to get a better understanding of how they work.

Encourage them to verify health-related advice and information: remind your teen that AI health information should never be a substitute for professional medical advice. Teens should be encouraged to verify health information with you, their primary care provider, a mental health professional or another trusted adult before acting on any AI advice.

Review privacy settings: review settings together on your teen's devices and apps. The APA says it's important to look for AI-powered features and understand what data is collected. Choosing platforms that have parental control options and strong privacy protections in place is better than the alternative.

Encourage them to ask questions: encourage your teen to actively question AI-generated content rather than accepting it at face value. Help them understand AI's limitations – especially in the mental health space – and ensure they're doing their own problem-solving skills and not just letting AI do all the work.

The most important message parents can relay to their children is that AI is designed to provide programmed responses, not genuine relationships. Parents should encourage face-to-face interactions and remind their kids that AI in its current state is helpful in a supplementary role but should never replace human connection.



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In September of 2025, New York City's famous fashion week was introduced to The Community Voice Magazine, Miss. October. It only took hours before artists, designers, photo / video & talent scouts (from all over the world) discovered the NEW "GOLD STANDARD" from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Welcome to a new dynamic in the Great Lakes State.

Her name is, Miss. Shauna Thompson and she does not set the standard; she is the standard. In every facet, stage & runway, she simply stole the show and brought much of the "Big Apple's" sold-out crowds to its feet, demanding an encore.

Last month, Photographer Rey Wojcik & Photo/Video specialist Alexander Vazquez from Anchor Creative Studios took to the town with this very impressive model, where she displayed her ability and many talents.

You can follow Shauna Thompson:
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