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AMERICA'S PROMISE TO REMOVE HATE MUST BE FULFILLED!

¡LA PROMESA DE AMÉRICA DE ELIMINAR EL ODO DEBE CUMPLIRSE!



By Dr. José A. Flores

As we reflect on recent events of the transition of power in America from one Presidential administration to another and the political aftermath of these events, we must focus on eliminating hate groups in America or risk further divisions and increased racial violence in the future. The January 6th insurrection proved that we are a fragile union, easily divided and misled. It also proved that racial bigotry and injustice are alive and well. The planned insurrection and sparking of a Civil War in our capitol should serve as a wake-up call to everyone who believes in our democracy and desires to preserve it. As patriotic Americans, we must ensure the rule of law applies to everyone and prove that no one is above the law, including current or former Presidents. I have faith that our new leadership will begin to focus on racial disparities in our justice system.

Americans are divided by racial bigotry and hate based on differences and it is a condition that has existed for centuries. It is a curse that has been passed on from generation to generation and must be dealt with strategically. Hate groups and hate crimes are on the rise and extremism in America has evolved into a national movement supported by right wing extremist politicians attempting to make their positions on race a political platform. Southern states are engaging in the rapid recruitment of racist followers as leaders in these states are promoting greater control of elections by planned voter suppression measures that threaten future voting participation of black and brown citizens. Likewise, midwestern states too are drafting measures to limit Black and Brown populations influence in elections by targeting mail in voting, absentee registrations, early voting and more.

Michigan Republicans have demonstrated their support for extremism as they have failed to safeguard our state capitol from White Nationalists who actively engaged in a plot to kidnap and kill Governor Whitmer. We await the trials of extremist conspirators from these hate groups and a release of all the details of the plot. Republican leaders continue to deny that extremism is a problem and have failed to take action to curb the rise of unregulated militias and hate groups in our state.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center there are at least 25 identified Hate Groups were tracked and on the Rise in Michigan in 2020. The number of hate groups nationwide is even more alarming as it numbers in the hundreds. There are also more clandestine networks of hate-based groups, including politicians that have an agenda of exclusion based on race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, etc. Individuals and groups are being identified by their actions and political positions daily. Sheriffs, City Council, School Boards, State Representatives join police officers who become discovered through their actions exposed as racists by news agencies. We must be vigilant and bring attention to persons and political party voting blocs that operate with extremist tendencies in their voting. We must demand more from our national and state leaders to eliminate hate groups from our population by whatever means necessary!

Southern Poverty Law Center Tracked 25 identified Hate Groups in Michigan in 2020:

American Freedom Law Center – Anti-Muslim – Ann Arbor
Christ The King Reformed Church -White Nationalist- Charlotte
Folks Front/Folkish Resistance Movement – Neo Nazi -Statewid
Great Milestone – General Hate – Detroit
Israel United in Christ (2 Chapters) -Detroit, Grand Rapids
Mass Resistance -Anti-LGBTQ – Detroit
NS Publications – Neo-Nazi -Wyandotte
Proud Boys – General Hate -Lansing
Social Contract Press – White Nationalist – Petoskey
Thomas More Law Center – Anti-Muslim – Ann Arbor
White Rabbit Radio – White Nationalist- Dearborn Heights
Blood and Honor Social Club – Racist Skinhead – Statewide
Church Militant/St. Michael's Media – Anti-LGBTQ- Ferndale

Gallows Tree Wotansvolk Alliance- Neo-Volkisch- Grand Rapids
House of Israel – General Hate – Detroit
Israelite School of Universal Practical Knowledge -General Hate – Detroit, Grand Rapids
National Socialist Movement – Neo-Nazi – Detroit
Patriot Front – White Nationalist – Statewide
Sharia Crime Stoppers- Anti-Muslim – Mount Clemens
The Base -White Nationalist- Statewid United Nuwau-
pians Worldwide, The/All Eyes on Egypt- General Hate -Detroit



Mientras reflexionamos sobre los eventos recientes de la transición del poder en Estados Unidos de una administración presidencial a otra y las secuelas políticas de estos eventos, debemos concentrarnos en eliminar los grupos de odio en Estados Unidos o arriesgarnos a más divisiones y una mayor violencia racial en el futuro. La insurrección del 6 de enero demostró que somos una unión frágil, fácilmente dividida y engañada. También demostró que el fanatismo racial y la injusticia están vivos y coleando. La insurrección planeada y el desencadenamiento de una Guerra Civil en nuestro capitolio deberían servir como una llamada

de atención para todos los que creen en nuestra democracia y desean preservarla. Como estadounidenses patriotas, debemos asegurarnos de que el estado de derecho se aplique a todos y demostrar que nadie está por encima de la ley, incluidos los presidentes actuales o anteriores. Tengo fe en que nuestro nuevo liderazgo comenzará a enfocarse en las disparidades raciales en nuestro sistema de justicia.

Los estadounidenses están divididos por la intolerancia racial y el odio basado en las diferencias y es una condición que ha existido durante siglos. Es una maldición que se ha transmitido de generación en generación y debe tratarse estratégicamente. Los grupos de odio y los crímenes de odio están en aumento y el extremismo en Estados Unidos se ha convertido en un movimiento nacional apoyado por políticos de extrema derecha que intentan convertir sus posiciones sobre la raza en una plataforma política. Los estados del sur están participando en el rápido reclutamiento de seguidores racistas, ya que los líderes de estos estados están promoviendo un mayor control de las elecciones mediante medidas planificadas de supresión de votantes que amenazan la futura participación electoral de ciudadanos negros y morenos. Del mismo modo, los estados del medio oeste también están redactando medidas para limitar la influencia de las poblaciones negras y marrones en las elecciones al enfocarse en el correo en la votación, los registros de ausencias, la votación anticipada y más.

Los republicanos de Michigan han demostrado su apoyo al extremismo ya que no han podido salvaguardar nuestro capitolio estatal de los nacionalistas blancos que participaron activamente en un complot para secuestrar y matar a la gobernadora Whitmer. Esperamos los juicios de los conspiradores extremistas de estos grupos de odio y la divulgación de todos los detalles del complot. Los líderes republicanos continúan negando que el extremismo sea un problema y no han tomado medidas para frenar el aumento de milicias no reguladas y grupos de odio en nuestro estado.

Según el Southern Poverty Law Center, hay al menos 25 grupos de odio identificados que fueron rastreados y en aumento en Michigan en 2020. El número de grupos de odio en todo el país es aún más alarmante, ya que se cuentan por cientos. También hay más redes clandestinas de grupos basados en el odio, incluidos políticos que tienen una agenda de exclusión basada en raza, religión, nacionalidad, orientación sexual, etc. Los individuos y grupos son identificados diariamente por sus acciones y posiciones políticas. Los alguaciles, el ayuntamiento, las juntas escolares y los representantes estatales se unen a los agentes de policía que son descubiertos a través de sus acciones y expuestos como racistas por las agencias de noticias. Debemos estar atentos y llamar la atención sobre las personas y los bloques de votantes de los partidos políticos que operan con tendencias extremistas en sus votaciones. ¡Debemos exigir más de nuestros líderes nacionales y estatales para eliminar los grupos de odio de nuestra población por cualquier medio necesario!

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**Auston
Matthews
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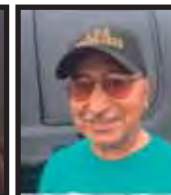
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BLACK OWNED BUSINESS HELPS OTHERS SUCCEED!



By Kindra A. Peterson

It started off as a thriving community ice cream shop, but now black business owner, Teresa Folden has transformed the ice cream shop into Boston Soul Café that has a delicious and filling menu for all backgrounds. Mrs. Folden has received great reviews of peace, a welcoming establishment and great word of mouth, to the point that

others in the community have wanted to expand with her. During our interview, Mrs. Folden shared that she was only 19 years old when she knew that she wanted to own her own business. She began with obtaining rental property and always knew that she wanted to own her own business. Boston Soul Café started as an ice cream shop and is progressing into a multitude of businesses, as this was inspired through the ongoing Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic of 2020.

Mrs. Folden took the initial step to own a business so that she could feel appreciated, supported and have the opportunity to grow since she at times she didn't receive these feelings as a former, experienced employee. One of her challenges of owning a business is not getting the support from her own people, even with the attempts of being in the heart of the inner city, being mindful of effective advertising and displaying pristine sanitation. However, the advantage is having the power to operate exactly the way that she wants to and work whenever she wants to. She serves as a role model to other black people who have a business mindset with her willingness to share her knowledge with young people by reminding them if they follow their dreams and set their minds to something, they can get anything that they want with work hard and belief in themselves and always reminding black businesses to support one another.

Despite the pandemic still afoot, Mrs. Folden has managed to remember that prayer is the primary avenue to determine the suc-

cess of her business. She also stresses the practical solution of always making sure that she has the funds to stay in operation, have a great support system and constantly networking. She is true to her faith, believes in herself and striving for her goal is what kept her doors open. Boston Soul Café is diversifying their menu with more cultural and vegan options so that they continue to be the warm and welcoming establishment that makes it hard for patrons to leave their seats! There is also a suggestion box that will be added to the establishment so that everyone is making a contribution to keep Boston Soul Café in its prime. Not only is Boston Soul Café focused within the establishment, but they are involved in community outreach by feeding the homeless, partnering with the Grand Rapids Main Library by offering \$5 food vouchers for every meal. Come enjoy the many pleasure of Boston Soul Café at 1553 Kalamazoo Ave SE in Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49507 or call to place an order at 616-214-7060.

Boston Soul Café now has a Business Incubator Space. It will be a space for entrepreneurs to understand the economics of launching a business with the various tools offered: business advice, workshops, networking and test runs or service popups. Clients will receive advice, direction towards funding, multiple opportunities to network with other small businesses, educational and content writing services and so much more. The classes will be focused on business research, innovation, negotiation and execution. These services are managed by Brazen Venture, LLC. If you'd like to get involved in the learning process, contact Marvin Martin to book an appointment:

Email; mmartin@brazenventureLLC.com

Phone: 616-448-6816

Appointment Booking:

Website: <https://brazenventurellc.com/>

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Brazen-Venture-LLC-102853981555014/?view_public_for=102853981555014



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GILDA'S LAUGHFEST ANNOUNCES HEADLINERS FOR 2021 FESTIVAL

Gilda's LaughFest, announced headliners participating during LaughFest's virtual festival, March 11-14. Headliners and events that are scheduled as part of the festival's premium all-access content (paid content) include: Ron Funches, Tom Papa, Justin Willman, Michelle Wolf, The Comedy Project's "3 Mics & a Movie!," and the stage performance "Bunny Bunny: Gilda Radner" directed by Emmy award winning director Teresa Thome.

This year's festival will feature a total of 30 events, plus social media content and contests. Much of LaughFest will continue to be free, with donations to Gilda's Club welcome, while premium all-access content is \$40.

Funches will bring his podcast "Gettin' Better with Ron Funches" to LaughFest's virtual stage on Saturday, March 13 at 7 p.m. In addition to his stand-up comedy credits, Funches has extensive acting credits, with roles on "Curb Your Enthusiasm," "Black-ish," "New Girl," "Transparent," "Powerless," and "Undateable." His voice has been used in roles with "Trolls," "Bob's Burgers," and "Adventure Time." Funches has also appeared on "Conan," "The Tonight Show," "Chopped," and "Cupcake Wars."

Papa, with over 20 years of stand-up comedy experience will perform Friday, March 12 at 9 p.m. In 2020, Netflix premiered Papa's fourth hour-long stand-up special "Tom Papa: You're Doing Great," which is a rebuttal to the current culture of feeling dread. Papa reminds viewers to "remember that you're doing great, life isn't perfect, it never will be, and that's OK." He also hosts the podcast Breaking Bread with Tom Papa and regularly appears on National Public Radio's "Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me."

Willman, a magician, comedian and host of the hit show "Cupcake Wars" on Food Net-

work, will perform on Thursday, March 11 at 9 p.m. In 2018, Willman premiered his six-episode magic series on Netflix entitled "Magic For Humans with Justin Willman." In March 2020, as Covid spread across the globe, Willman debuted "Magic For Humans @Home," a virtual show, which has garnered an audience of over 500,000 people.

"An Evening of Laughter and Conversation with Michelle Wolf," will take place at 9 p.m., Saturday, March 13. On the heels of her recent Netflix special, "Michelle Wolf: Joke Show," Wolf will be joining LaughFest with all new material. In 2017, Wolf debuted her first hour-long stand-up special, "Michelle Wolf: Nice Lady" on HBO, which earned her a Primetime Emmy nomination for outstanding writing for a variety special. She made international headlines as the much buzzed-about headliner of the 2018 White House Correspondents Dinner. Wolf's other television credits include being an on-air contributor and writer for "The Daily Show with Trevor Noah" and a writing supervisor and performer on "Late Night with Seth Meyers."

On Friday, March 12 at 10 p.m., Grand Rapids-based The Comedy Project will co-produce "3 Mics & a Movie!." Fans of Mystery Science Theater 3000, Riff Trax and, well, movies in general won't want to miss this live roast of the movie "The Hitch-Hiker" will be shown while comedians add alternate dialogue and sound effects. Closing the festival on Sunday, March 14, the stage play "Bunny Bunny: Gilda Radner" will be performed live. The play chronicles the relationship between Alan Zweibel and Gilda Radner. Zweibel, a writer on SNL in the first five years wrote with Gilda many of her familiar characters – Roseanne Rosannadanna, Baba Wawa and Emily Litella. The play takes the audience on a deep dive into complicated and enduring friendships and the search for love.

Gilda's LaughFest brings awareness to Gilda's Club's mission of providing free emotional health support for those on a cancer or grief journey. Gilda's Club is celebrating 20 years of operations, having first opened its doors to the public on February 15, 2001. Proceeds from the festival and donations raised will go to support the free cancer, grief and emotional health programs offered through Gilda's Club Grand Rapids.

Gilda's LaughFest, anunció la participación de cabezas de cartel durante el festival virtual de LaughFest, del 11 al 14 de marzo. Los cabezas de cartel y los eventos que están programados como parte del contenido premium de acceso total (contenido pago) del festival incluyen: Ron Funches, Tom Papa, Justin Willman, Michelle Wolf, "3 Mics & a Movie!" De The Comedy Project y la actuación en el escenario "Bunny Bunny: Gilda Radner" dirigida por la directora ganadora del premio Emmy Teresa Thome.

El festival de este año contará con un total de 30 eventos, además de contenido y concursos de redes sociales. Gran parte de LaughFest seguirá siendo gratis, con donaciones a Gilda's Club bienvenidas, mientras que el contenido premium de acceso total cuesta \$ 40.

Gilda's LaughFest da a conocer la misión de Gilda's Club de brindar apoyo gratuito de salud emocional a quienes atraviesan un viaje por el dolor o el cáncer. Gilda's Club está celebrando 20 años de operaciones, y abrió sus puertas al público por primera vez el 15 de febrero de 2001. Las ganancias del festival y las donaciones recaudadas se destinarán a apoyar los programas gratuitos de cáncer, duelo y salud emocional que se ofrecen a través de Gilda's Club Grand Rapids.

Cesar E. Chavez who dedicated his life to improving treatment, pay and working conditions for farm workers using non-violent protests and boycotts to achieve advancements in equal pay and dignified treatment of our nation's farm workers. He was a WWII Veteran of the United States Navy and has received many honors to commemorate his contributions to our great nation!

Celebrate National Cesar E. Chavez Day,
March 31st.



A Special Salute to Francisco "Pancho" Vega on his 99th Birthday February 28th! Remembering your service to our country and our community! You are a treasure to Michigan and the USA!

COMEDIAN CHRIS "CRAZY LEGS" FONSECA



By Lisa Wiseman

Chris "Crazy Legs" Fonseca is a man of many talents. He's a writer, an actor, a ladies' man (yes, girls, he's available). And he is also probably one of the greatest sit-down stand-up comedians of all time.

Chris was born with cerebral palsy, but he has not let that get in the way of a comedy career that has spanned nearly 4 decades.

"I knew I wanted to be a comedian when I was in fourth grade. I was trying to be funny like the DJ's on the radio. My first onstage experience was for a sort of gong show in college. I took second place and I was hooked!"

Since then he has shared the stage with such big name entertainers as Stevie Wonder, Dave Chapelle and Sinbad just to name a few. He's been on The Arsenio Hall show, Late Night with David Letterman, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and he even had a part on Baywatch that was written specifically for him. He just finished his 6th comedy album which was recorded live at Denver's Mercury Café. And he is getting ready to go back on tour now that venues are starting to open back up after being closed for almost a year.

"When the pandemic hit, I thought it was the end of my comedy career, touring specifically. But, I used the down time to reflect and write. I now feel I'm back at the top of my game! I have a fresh perspective and am purposely trying to stay away from writing COVID material. I don't want people listening to it a year from now saying, 'Oh, that's so 2020.'"

"I know it's unusual to see a handicapped person onstage, and if I do well, the crowd may get something out of it besides the laugh. But, I'm not out there on any kind of mission to promote disabled people and demonstrate what they can or can't do. I'm a comedian, and I'm just trying to be funny."

You can watch Chris "Crazy Legs" Fonseca be funny in person at One Night Stan's, located at 4761 Highland Road, Waterford, Michigan on March 4 – 6. Shows start at 7:30 (with 10 p.m. curfew) Tickets are \$20.00 when purchased at the box office and there is a \$3.00 service fee when you buy online at onenightstanscomedyclub.com. Safety protocols will be followed including mandatory temperatures taken at the door and masks to be worn at all times except when seated at your table. Tables are spaced 6 feet apart and only six people are allowed per table. For more information, please contact One Night Stan's at (248) 875-6524.

Chris "Crazy Legs" Fonseca es un hombre de muchos talentos. Es escritor, actor, mujeriego (sí, chicas, está disponible). Y también es probablemente uno de los mejores comediantes de stand-up de todos los tiempos.

Chris nació con parálisis cerebral, pero no ha dejado que eso se interponga en el camino de una carrera de comedia que ha durado casi 4 décadas.

"Sabía que quería ser comediante cuando estaba en cuarto grado. Intentaba ser gracioso como el DJ de la radio. Mi primera experiencia en el escenario fue para una especie de espectáculo de gong en la universidad. ¡Quedé en segundo lugar y me enganché!" Desde entonces ha compartido escenario con artistas de renombre como Stevie Wonder, Dave Chapelle y Sinbad, solo por nombrar algunos. Ha estado en el programa The Arsenio Hall, Late Night with David Letterman, The Tonight Show con Jay Leno e incluso tuvo un papel en Baywatch que fue escrito específicamente para él. Acaba de terminar su sexto álbum de comedia que fue grabado en vivo en el Mercury Café de Denver. Y se está preparando para volver de gira ahora que los lugares están comenzando a abrir de nuevo después de haber estado cerrados durante casi un año.

"Cuando golpeó la pandemia, pensé que era el final de mi carrera como comediante, de gira específicamente. Pero usé el tiempo libre para reflexionar y escribir. ¡Ahora siento que he vuelto a la cima de mi juego! Tengo una nueva perspectiva y deliberadamente intento evitar escribir material de COVID. No quiero que la gente lo escuche dentro de un año y diga: "Oh, eso es 2020".

"Sé que es inusual ver a una persona discapacitada en el escenario, y si lo hago bien, la multitud puede sacar algo de eso además de la

risa. Pero no estoy en ningún tipo de misión para promover a las personas con discapacidad y demostrar lo que pueden o no pueden hacer. Soy un comediante y solo intento

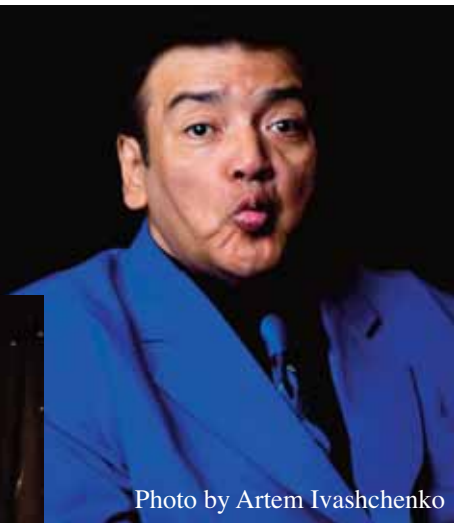


Photo by Artem Ivashchenko



Photo by Andrea Stone

ser gracioso".

Puedes ver a Chris "Crazy Legs" Fonseca en persona en One Night Stan's, ubicado en 4761 Highland Road, Waterford, Michigan del 4 al 6 de marzo. Los espectáculos comienzan a las 7:30 (con toque de queda a las 10 pm) Los boletos cuestan \$ 20

cuando se compran en la taquilla y hay una tarifa de servicio de \$ 3.00 cuando compra en línea en onenightstanscomedyclub.com. Se seguirán los protocolos de seguridad, incluidas las temperaturas obligatorias que se toman en la puerta y las máscaras que se deben usar en todo momento, excepto cuando está sentado en su mesa. Las mesas están espaciadas a 6 pies de distancia y solo se permiten seis personas por mesa. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con One Night Stan al (248) 875-6524.

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Debt.com invita a los estudiantes hispanos a aplicar para su beca de primavera 2021

Debt.com anunció que ha lanzado una nueva oportunidad de becas y ahora está aceptando aplicaciones para la Beca Debt.com de primavera 2021. Debt.com ofrece una beca de \$1,000 a un estudiante de educación superior de ascendencia hispana/latina actualmente inscrito en un colegio universitario, universidad u otra institución de educación superior reconocida en los Estados Unidos.

Esta es una maravillosa oportunidad para que Debt.com apoye a los estudiantes hispanos en su camino para completar sus objetivos educativos", dijo el fundador y presidente de Debt.com, Howard Dvorkin.

Muchos estudiantes universitarios no aplican a becas porque creen que su promedio de calificaciones (GPA) o su estatus migratorio pueden hacer que no sean elegibles para ganar el premio. Sin embargo, la beca de Debt.com no tiene ninguna limitación en cuanto al GPA y/o a la prueba de ciudadanía o residencia en Estados Unidos.

Los requisitos para aplicar a esta beca para hispanos son:

- Ser un estudiante actual de educación superior de ascendencia hispana/latina que esté cursando una licenciatura y esté matriculado como estudiante a tiempo parcial (6 créditos por semestre) o superior en un colegio universitario o universidad acreditada con sede en Estados Unidos o Puerto Rico durante la primavera de 2021. Los estudiantes de posgrado, de derecho y de medicina también pueden aplicar; y
- Mostrar que han solicitado al menos otras tres (3) becas antes de aplicar para la beca Debt.com de la primavera de 2021.

- Le recomendamos a los estudiantes a presentar todas las solicitudes de becas que tengan para el semestre. Debt.com reconoce el trabajo que requiere la solicitud de becas y considera la cantidad de tiempo invertido en la búsqueda y la aplicación de las mismas, como una ventaja a la hora de seleccionar al ganador.

- Escribir un ensayo de 750 palabras en Español que responda a las siguientes preguntas:

¿Cómo fue crecer en una comunidad hispana y cómo lo inspiraron o ayudaron los miembros de su familia en su objetivo de obtener un título universitario?

Comparta con nosotros una situación en la que su familia haya trabajado para superar una situación de estrés financiero para alcanzar el sueño americano.

Los estudiantes interesados en esta beca deben completar un formulario en línea.

La selección del ganador, se realizará a través de un Comité interno de Debt.com, que tomará en cuenta:

- el número de solicitudes de becas presentadas por el solicitante antes de aplicar a la Beca Debt.com de primavera 2021 (a cuantas más becas haya aplicado, más oportunidades tendrá), y

- su capacidad de redacción en español utilizada en el ensayo de 750 palabras.

La fecha límite para recibir aplicaciones es el 15 de marzo de 2021, a las 17:00 horas, y los premiados serán notificados antes del 9 de abril de 2021 a través de esta página: <https://www.debt.com/es/becas>.

Las historias de todos los inmigrantes componen una parte importante

de nuestra comunidad. Debt.com también acepta aplicaciones de estudiantes internacionales que quieran estudiar en Estados Unidos, así como a los no residentes/ciudadanos estadounidenses.

La misión de Debt.com es incentivar a los estadounidenses a luchar por su independencia financiera, desde los estudiantes de primer año de universidad hasta los ciudadanos de la tercera edad. A través de esta nueva Beca Debt.com de primavera 2021, Debt.com busca aumentar el número de hispanos matriculados para la educación superior.

Si trabaja en una colegio universitario o universidad acreditada, por favor comparta el enlace de la Beca Debt.com de primavera 2021 con sus estudiantes, o siéntase libre de agregarla a la página de becas de su escuela, de ser permitido.

Debt.com announced they have launched a new scholarship opportunity and are now accepting applications for the Spring 2021 Debt.com Scholarship. Debt.com is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to one student in higher-education of Hispanic/Latino descent currently enrolled in a US-based college, university, or other recognized higher education institution.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Debt.com to support Hispanic students as they continue on their journey to complete their educational goals," said Debt.com Founder and Chairman Howard Dvorkin.

Many college students refuse to apply for scholarships because they believe their GPA or residence status might make them non-eligible to win the award. However, our scholarship does not have any limitation regarding GPA and proof of U.S. citizenship or residency, although it requires that you have writing skills in the Spanish language.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must:

- **Be a current higher-education student of Hispanic/Latino descent pursuing a degree and enrolled as a part-time student (6 credits per semester) or higher in an accredited US-based college or university during Spring 2021. Graduate, Law, and Medical school students are also welcome to apply; and**
- **Show proof they have applied to at least three (3) other scholarships before applying for the Spring 2021 Debt.com Scholarship.**

- **Students are encouraged to submit all scholarship applications they have for the semester. Debt.com recognizes the work that goes into applying for scholarships and considers the amount of time invested looking for funding as a plus when selecting a winner.**

- **Write a 750-word essay in Spanish that answers the following: [What was it like growing up in a Hispanic community and how did your family members inspire or help you in your goal of obtaining a college degree?**

- **[Share with us about a situation in which your family worked to overcome a financially stressful situation to achieve the American Dream.**

Students interested in this scholarship must fill an online form [Spanish].

Selection is based on the applicant's number of scholarship applications submitted before applying for the Spring 2021 Debt.com Scholarship (the more scholarships, the better), and their Spanish-language writing skills used in the 750-word essay.

The application deadline is March 15, 2021, at 5 pm, and award-ees will be notified by April 9, 2021, on this page:

<https://www.debt.com/es/nuestra-historia/becas-de-estudio/>.

All immigrants' stories are part of the fabric of the community that embraces them. Debt.com welcomes international students to apply, as well as non-residents/non-us citizens.

Debt.com's mission is to encourage Americans to fight their way to financial independence – from college freshmen to senior citizens and everyone in between. Through this new Spring 2021 Debt.com Scholarship, Debt.com intends to facilitate efforts to increase the enrollment of Hispanics in postsecondary education. If you work in an accredited school or University, please share the Spring 2021 Debt.com Scholarship link with your students, or feel free to add it to your school's scholarship page.



By Miguel Gutierrez Seeds of Promise es una organización sin fines de lucro 501c3. Somos una iniciativa de mejora de la comunidad urbana basada en el lugar ubicada en la comunidad sureste de Grand Rapids, Michigan. Nuestra misión es transformar el vecindario promoviendo la colaboración y las asociaciones comunitarias, aplicando las mejores prácticas de desarrollo sostenible, construyendo liderazgo y confianza para residentes, escuchando las voces de la comunidad y satisfaciéndose las necesidades y deseos del vecindario. La visión de nuestro vecindario objetivo es una comunidad sostenible que satisface plenamente las necesidades de sus partes interesadas actuales y futuras, medida por una alta calidad de vida, un liderazgo abundante de los sirvientes e igualdad de oportunidades de educación.

¡Seeds of Promise está aquí para ayudar!

Seeds of Promise is a 501c3 non-profit organization. We are a place-based urban community improvement initiative located in the Southeast community of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Our mission is to transform the neighborhood by promoting collaboration and community partnerships, applying sustainable development best practices, building resident leadership and trust, listening to community voices, and meeting the neighborhood's needs and wants. Our target neighborhood's vision is a sustainable community that fully meets its current and future stakeholders' needs, measured by a high quality of life, abundant servant leadership, and equal education opportunity.

Este último año ha sido difícil para muchos de nosotros y nuestros miembros de la comunidad latina. Algunos han visto una reducción en el número de horas que trabajan, mientras que otros han tenido que ser despedidos por completo, poniendo una presión sobre las reparaciones esenciales del hogar. Las reparaciones afectan la estructura general y el valor de su hogar y la seguridad de sus seres queridos. Nosotros aquí en Seeds of Promise queremos ser la luz al final del túnel y proporcionarle a usted y a su familia un hogar seguro. Estamos en el proceso de tomar solicitudes para nuestro Programa de Impacto vecinal (NIP). Un programa en el que aquellos que califican recibirían hasta \$7,500 en fondos de subvenciones para hacer reparaciones elegibles a sus hogares, ¡dinero gratis que no tiene que ser devuelto! Este dinero podría ser utilizado para reemplazar o reparar calentadores de agua, techos, canaletas de ventanas, sistema séptico y muchas más reparaciones. Nosotros en Seeds of Promise queremos mejorar la valoración de sus hogares y mejorar la vida de una comunidad que en su mayor parte, son las últimas en saber sobre los programas de subvenciones, y queremos cambiar eso. ¡Queremos que solicite y obtenga este dinero gratis porque nos importa!

This past year has been a difficult one for many of us and our Latino community members. Some have seen a reduction in the number of hours they work, while others have had to be laid off entirely further, putting a strain on essential household repairs. Repairs affect the overall structure and value of their home and the safety of their loved ones. We here at Seeds of Promise want to be the light at the end of the tunnel and provide you and your family with a safe a secure home. We are in the process of taking applications for our Neighborhood Impact Program (NIP). A program in which those that qualify would receive up to \$7,500 in grant funding to make eligible repairs to their homes, free money that does not have to be returned! This money could be used to replace or repair water heaters, roofing, windows gutters, well/Septic system, and many more repairs. We at Seeds of Promise want to improve the valuation of your homes and better the lives of a community that that for the most part, are the last to know about grant programs, and we want to change that. We want you to apply and get this free money because we care!

Please Contact us for more information:

*Miguel Gutierrez <seedsofpromisehousing@gmail.com>
Seeds of Promise is here to help!*

Make an in-demand difference in others lives and your own!

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Spring Break's: Socially Distant

Beach parties in Florida, Texas and Mexico made headlines a year ago for ignoring virus safety advice. Here's how the travel ritual will look different in 2021.

Last year, Covid-19 crashed the spring break party, but not before mass gatherings on the beaches of Florida, Texas and Mexico flouted travel warnings and social-distancing advice. Ski areas had to shut down during one of the busiest periods of the season. Student trips for enrichment and sport were suddenly canceled.

Now, a year later, spring break is showing signs of life again, albeit in very different forms than the past — even as officials in one spring-break favorite, Florida, vow to fight any domestic travel restrictions reportedly under consideration by the White House as cases of more contagious variants surge there.

"We don't want to see a repeat of last year," said Steve Hayes, president and chief executive of Visit St. Pete/Clearwater, which promotes tourism in that Gulf Coast area, where crowds jammed the beaches last spring. "What we want is a picture that says, what a difference a year makes."

Stricter limits on group gatherings, mask mandates and restrictions at hotels, restaurants and bars in popular spring destinations diminish the odds of a repeat.

Virtual classrooms and workplaces have freed some students and families from the traditional spring-break schedule, a shift that may dilute 2021 traffic. This trend is already showing up in some ski areas that rely on visitors who drive there, like Lutsen Mountains in northern Minnesota, where weekday skier visits have doubled this year.

With colleges shrinking spring break and the arrival of the vaccine, largely prioritized to older Americans, the 2021 spring breaker may be significantly older than the stereotyped one.

Whether senior or college-age, spring break will be quieter this year. The seasonal escape "is pivoting to domestic drive markets, private vacation rentals or nothing at all," said Erika Richter, the senior communications director for the American Society of Travel Advisors, noting that multi-generational family trips are trending.

The seasonal itch to travel, of course, runs headlong into advice from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to postpone travel in order to avoid contracting or spreading Covid-19.

El año pasado, Covid-19 interrumpió la fiesta de vacaciones de primavera, pero no antes de que las reuniones masivas en las playas de Florida, Texas y México ignoraran las advertencias de viaje y los consejos de distanciamiento social. Las zonas de esquí tuvieron que cerrar durante uno de los períodos de mayor actividad de la temporada. Los viajes de los estudiantes para el enriquecimiento y el deporte se cancelaron repentinamente.

Ahora, un año después, las vacaciones de primavera están mostrando signos de vida nuevamente, aunque en formas muy diferentes a las del pasado, incluso cuando los funcionarios de Florida, uno de los favoritos de las vacaciones de primavera, prometen luchar contra cualquier restricción de viaje nacional que, según los informes, está siendo considerada por la Casa Blanca. a medida que surgen allí casos de variantes más contagiosas.

Los límites más estrictos a las reuniones grupales, los mandatos de máscaras y las restricciones en hoteles, restaurantes y bares en los destinos populares de primavera disminuyen las probabilidades de que se repita.

Las aulas y lugares de trabajo virtuales han liberado a algunos estudiantes y familias del horario tradicional de vacaciones de primavera, un cambio que puede diluir el tráfico de 2021. Esta tendencia ya está apareciendo en algunas áreas de esquí que dependen de los visitantes que conducen allí, como las montañas Lutsen en el norte de Minnesota, donde las visitas de esquiadores entre semana se han duplicado este año.

Con las universidades reduciendo las vacaciones de primavera y la llegada de la vacuna, en gran parte priorizada para los estadounidenses mayores, el receso de primavera de 2021 puede ser significativamente más antiguo que el estereotipado.

El deseo estacional de viajar, por supuesto, se topa de lleno con los consejos de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de posponer los viajes para evitar contraer o propagar el Covid-19.

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Visas and Immigration in 2021 Under the Biden Administration

The Biden Administration took office on January 20, 2021. Many executive orders have been executed since that date, some of which directly change the manner of handling immigration matters. However, the U.S. and the world are still dealing with the global pandemic and this directly affects submissions, filings, and consular appointments. This update provides a list of the latest updates to U.S. visas and immigration matters, as well as what we forecast for the months to come.

- **Immigrant Visa Ban:** The Immigrant Visa Ban that was imposed last year was revoked on February 24, 2021. Now employment and family based immigrant visas can again be issued by the U.S. Consulates. See: A Proclamation on Revoking Proclamation 10014 | The White House

- **Entry to the U.S. via a Land Port of Entry from Mexico and Canada:** The entry via land ports remains restricted to essential travel, those on work visas, U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and a few other limited exceptions. The entry restrictions are temporary in nature and as of now are expected to remain in effect through March 21, 2021. The date has been postponed several times and it is unknown if it will again be postponed. See: https://help.cbp.gov/s/article/Article-1694?language=en_US

- **Air Travel from Mexico and Canada into the U.S.:** Currently there are no limits to air travel from Mexico and Canada.

- **Covid Travel Ban Restrictions:** Any travel from Brazil, China, U.K., Ireland, Schengen Countries, and Iran is subject to a National Interest Exception (NIE) waiver from the U.S. Consulate prior to traveling to the U.S.

- **Negative Covid Test:** All inbound passengers are required to obtain a negative Covid test within 72 hours prior to boarding the flight. This includes air travel from Mexico and Canada.

- **Local Quarantine Rules in the U.S.:** All travelers must also research local travel rules upon arrival in the U.S. For example New York City and San Francisco have additional quarantine rules upon arrival.

- **Visa Stamping Ban:** The Visa Stamping Ban that was imposed through an executive order from the prior administration for H-1B, L-1, J-1, and H-2B remains in effect. This ban expires on March 31, 2021. The Biden administration is not expected to extend this ban. This ban prevents the U.S. Consulates from issuing new visas in this category. This ban has prevented many executives and highly skilled workers from being able to enter the U.S.

- **Travel from the Middle East:** The U.S. has canceled the blanket travel ban from select countries in the Middle East.

- **H-1B Lottery:** The selection criteria will be the same as last year. The lottery starts on March 9, 2021 and goes to March 31, 2021. Winners will be announced on March 31 and then the employer has until June 30, 2021 to file the H-1B petition.

- **H-1B Adjudications at USCIS:** The H-1B Adjudications at the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services ("USCIS") are expected to return to 2016 standards, with deference given to prior adjudications, Visas and Immigration in 2021 Under the Biden Administration acceptance of multiple educational pathways to an H-1B occupation, etc.

- **USCIS Operational Efficiency:** Expected to be a priority going forward. The Administration is expected to ensure that USCIS operates at an efficient pace so that the backlogs of prior years are not repeated.

- **DACA:** The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA") has been reaffirmed for both existing DACA recipients and new applicants.

- **Asylum:** The U.S. will again provide opportunities for applicants to apply and have a credible fear interview at the border. If they pass the credible fear interview, they will be allowed into the U.S. to await for their full asylum merits hearing before an Immigration Judge.

- **Comprehensive Immigration Reform:** Under the new Administrations some sort of immigration legislation is expected. Such new provisions are expected to address both labor market and humanitarian needs. The Administration announced a draft plan on February 18, 2021.

E-2 Investor Visas: In recent months Mexican investors have shown an increased interest in the E-2 non-immigrant visa. As the pandemic slowly subsides, it is hoped that the U.S. Consulate in Ciudad Juarez will be able to increase their volume of E-2 reviews. The firm has a robust E-2 visa practice.

NAFTA TN Visas: The United States- Canada- Mexico Agreement (USCMA) replaced the NAFTA Agreement. The new USMCA went into effect on July 1, 2020. However, the TN occupational list and regulations remained the same. Therefore for select occupations, the TN visa continues to be a quick and efficient way for an U.S. employer to get a Mexican or Canadian citizen on the U.S. payroll.

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By Ingrid Cruz

Biden's 2021 Immigration Plan: A Summary

The last time there was a major immigration overhaul allowing people to become U.S. citizens was 1986, under President Ronald Reagan. Later, the United States continued to provide programs such as U-visas for victims of certain crimes, and programs such as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) allowed categories of immigrants to stay in the country and work legally since 2012.



Advocates for immigration reform came close to advancing in their agenda in 2010, the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act almost passed. President Joe Biden mentioned immigration reform during his 2020 campaign, and has now unleashed a new immigration reform proposal. Here is what we know about it so far.

Democrats are willing to compromise

Texas Representative Henry Cuellar said the following, "Even though I support full, comprehensive immigration reform, I'm ready to move on piecemeal, because I don't want to end up with good intentions on my hands and not have anything. I'd rather have progress."

Thus far, the current proposed bill would create a pathway to citizenship for qualifying immigrants that would take them approximately 8 years. A few of the provisions Democrats are advocating for are:

- Additional funds to promote development in Latin America.
- Increased technology for the U.S.-Mexico border.
- More visas.
- Additional funding to assist with the cost of processing asylum applications.

Critics of the current bill say that Democrats might be able to focus on other separate bills that would also help immigrants legalize their status, such as:

- Bills for essential workers
- Bills that focus on younger immigrants brought to the U.S. as children (similar to the DREAM Act of 2010)
- U.S. citizenship bills for farm and agriculture workers

Other immigration obstacles

Of course, the Biden administration isn't just working on immigration reform. Since January 20, 2021 President Biden has also worked on or proposed other ideas that would alleviate immigrants, refugees, and asylees.

Biden announced a plan to opening detention facilities to process unaccompanied minors who seek refuge in the country. Though some hail this as an important step in ensuring teenagers can find refuge, detention centers have been criticized for their inhumane treatment of minors and lack of resources.

According to Yahoo! News, Biden is still using Title 42, a rule created during the Trump era, to turn away many young migrants because he has no other plan at the moment and doesn't want to encourage people to cross the border into the United States.

With detractors in the Republican Party and a divided Congress, it's going to be hard to pass a full immigration bill, but Biden has signed executive orders that have alleviated the fears of some immigration advocates. These orders target:

- The creation of a task force that will reunite families separated under the Trump administration.
- Potential changes to the public charge rule that will prevent the use of Medicaid and other government benefits to pose problems to people who want to become U.S. citizens in the future.
- Changes to how deportations will take place, such as targeting only people who have committed crimes instead of encouraging deportations of any immigrant in the country.

Resumen del plan migratorio de Biden para el año 2021

La última vez que hubo una reforma migratoria que formó un camino hacia la ciudadanía fue en 1986 bajo el presidente Ronald Reagan. Después, los EEUU continuó con programas como las visas U para víctimas de algunos crímenes, y los programas como DACA (Acción diferida para personas que llegaron en su niñez) permitieron que algunos inmigrantes se puedan quedar en el país legalmente y trabajen desde el 2012.

Los defensores de la reforma migratoria casi obtuvieron una victoria en el año 2010 cuando el DREAM Act casi fue aprobado. El presidente Biden ha mencionado la reforma migratoria durante su campaña política del 2020 y ahora ha revelado una nueva propuesta para la reforma migratoria. Esto es lo que sabemos por ahora.

Los demócratas están dispuesto a llegar a un acuerdo

El representante Henry Cuellar, de Texas ha dicho, "Aunque yo apoyo una reforma migratoria total, estoy listo para luchar poco a poco porque no quiero terminar con buenas intenciones y después no tener nada. Prefiero que haya progreso."

Por ahora la propuesta actual crearía un camino hacia la ciudadanía para inmigrantes que califiquen que tardará aproximadamente 8 años. Algunas de las provisiones por las cuales los demócratas luchan hoy son:

- Fondos adicionales para fomentar el desarrollo en América Latina
- Incremento en tecnología para la frontera EEUU-México
- Más visas
- Fondos para procesar las solicitudes de asilo

Los que critican a la ley actual dicen que los demócratas podrían enfocarse en proyectos de ley que podría ayudar a inmigrantes a legalizar su estatus migratorio como:

- Leyes para trabajadores esenciales
- Leyes que se enfocan en inmigrantes jóvenes que llegaron al país en su niñez (parecidos al DREAM Act del 2010)
- Proyectos de ciudadanía para trabajadores de granjas y agricultores

Otros obstáculos migratorios

Igual, la administración de Biden no solamente está trabajando para reformar el sistema de inmigración. Desde el 20 de enero 2021. El presidente Biden también ha trabajado en o propuesto otras ideas que ayudarían a inmigrantes, refugiados, o personas en busca de asilo.

Biden ha anunciado un plan para abrir instalaciones de detención para procesar a los menores de edad que buscan refugio en el país. Aunque algunos dicen que este es un paso importante para asegurarse que estos menores busquen asilo, los centros de detención han sido criticado por el trato inhumano hacia menores de edad en el pasado y por la falta de recursos.

Según Yahoo! News, Biden sigue usando Title 42 (Título 42), una regla creada bajo la administración de Trump, para denegar la entrada a migrantes menores porque no tiene otro plan por el momento y no quiere fomentar un incremento de migrantes a la frontera de los EEUU.

Con opositores en el partido republicano y un congreso dividido, será difícil aprobar una ley migratoria, pero Biden ha firmado órdenes ejecutivas que han aliviado los miedos de algunos defensores de derechos de inmigrantes. Estas ordenes tratan con:

- La creación de un comité que reunirá a familias separadas durante la administración de Trump.
- Cambios en reglamentos que causan problemas para personas que usan beneficios gubernamentales cuando quieren solicitar la ciudadanía (public charge rule, en inglés).
- Cambios en la manera de conllevar deportaciones, como el enfoque en deportaciones de personas que han cometido crímenes en vez de la deportación de cualquier inmigrante en el país.

MATTHEWS

AUSTON

HOCKEY SUPERSTAR



Each month, we will feature a Latin American representing our community in professional sports in the U.S.

By Odille Parker

Maple Leafs center Auston Matthews wears his Mexican heritage proudly as he continues to make a name for himself and represent the Latin American community within the National Hockey League.

Nicknamed "Papi," Matthews was born in San Ramon, California, but his mother, Ema, was originally from Hermosillo, Mexico. Although the family moved to Scottsdale, Arizona when he was young, Matthews often reflects on the fond memories he has of going with his family to visit Hermosillo.

"I'm not really sure how to really describe it," he said in an interview with NHL.com. "They had a ranch about two hours away from their house in Hermosillo, so we'd go there and hang out there, and lots of animals, and just kind of do different stuff that we typically did not do in Phoenix."

Matthews was widely considered the top prospect of the 2016 draft and was selected first overall by the Toronto Maple Leafs. He became the first player in modern NHL history to score four goals in his NHL debut and scored 40 goals in his rookie season, setting the rookie record for the Maple Leafs.

His 2016-17 season performance also earned him the Calder Memorial Trophy, given to the top-performing rookie each season. He was also the only Leafs' player to participate in the 2017 NHL All-Star Game.

Matthews' story is not the typical path to hockey stardom, but his impact is undeniable in bringing a bigger interest in hockey in Mexico and other Latin countries. The Maple Leafs' alternate captain is a product of the USA Hockey National Team Development Program in the United States Hockey League. Prior to being drafted, he played for the ZCS Lions of the Swiss National League.

Following his debut season, Matthews set the unofficial NHL record for most consecutive games with a shot on goal to start a career. Although he suffered a shoulder injury, missing 20 games, Matthews finished the regular season with 34 goals, and helped lead the Maple Leafs to their second consecutive playoff appearance.

He has continued to be an instrumental player for the Maple Leafs in the 2018-19 and 2019-20 seasons, being named to his fourth straight All-Star appearance since being drafted. In 2018, he became the youngest player in NHL history to score five multi-point games to open a season.

In a 2020 interview with SportsNet, Matthews and his mom talked about an upbringing that is different than a traditional hockey

player, and the impact that's had in the Latino community, his mom even pointing out that bars back home in Hermosillo now have hockey games playing.

"There's always kids at the rink and just getting stopped and stuff, but it's definitely different," Matthews said on being some-one kids look up to. "You look at like Canada and you know, different provinces, Ontario for instance.... (there are) many guys that come from the area and so many guys to look up to that came from that area. But there aren't too many with Spanish backgrounds. So, it's pretty humbling to be somebody that anybody would look up to. Selfishly for myself, the whole Hispanic side of it, and the

Southwest region of the States, it's pretty sweet."

For now, Matthew is gearing up for the 2020-21 NHL season.

El centro de Maple Leafs, Auston Matthews, luce su herencia mexicana con orgullo mientras continúa haciéndose un nombre y representando a la comunidad latinoamericana dentro de la Liga Nacional de Hockey.

Apodado "Papi", Matthews nació en San Ramon, California, pero su madre, Ema, era originaria de Hermosillo, México. Aunque la familia se mudó a Scottsdale, Arizona cuando él era joven, Matthews a menudo reflexiona sobre los buenos recuerdos que tiene de ir con su familia a visitar Hermosillo.

La historia de Matthews no es el camino típico hacia el estrellato del hockey, pero su impacto es innegable al generar un mayor interés en el hockey en México y otros países latinos. El capitán suplente de los Maple Leafs es un producto del Programa de Desarrollo de la Selección Nacional de Hockey de Estados Unidos en la Liga de Hockey de Estados Unidos. Antes de ser reclutado, jugó para los ZCS Lions de la Liga Nacional Suiza.

Por ahora, Matthew se está preparando para la temporada 2020-21 de la NHL.

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March Events Eventos en Marzo

Collective Force March 1, 2021 Grand Rapids

The world's most celebrated and in-demand choreographers come together to stage their ballets and create new works, contributing to a performance that will truly be an immersive tour de force. In addition, Artistic Director James Sofranko will present an exciting new work featuring the music of Michigan-based cellist Jordan Hamilton.

- Penny Saunders
- Danielle Rowe
- Adam Hougland
- Jennifer Archibald
- Amy Seiwert
- Edwaard Liang
- Katarzyna Skarpetowska
- Trey McIntyre

Los coreógrafos más famosos y solicitados del mundo se unen para poner en escena sus ballets y crear nuevas obras, contribuyendo a una actuación que realmente será un tour de force inmersivo. Además, el director artístico James Sofranko presentará un nuevo y emocionante trabajo con la música del violonchelista de Michigan Jordan Hamilton.

Robin Connell March 11, 2021 Grand Rapids

Jazz pianist-singer, Robin Connell, the Artprize 2016 jazz music award recipient, and the West Michigan Jazz Society's 2017 Musician of the Year, follows in the tradition of singer-pianists Diana Krall, and Blossom Dearie, tickling the ivories with original arrangements of time honored jazz standards.

La pianista y cantante de jazz, Robin Connell, ganadora del premio Artprize 2016 de música de jazz y Músico del año 2017 de la West Michigan Jazz Society, sigue la tradición de las cantantes y

pianistas Diana Krall y Blossom Dearie, haciendo cosquillas en los marfiles con arreglos originales de estándares de jazz consagrados por el tiempo.

Gilda's Laughfest - Virtual March 11-14, 2021 Grand Rapids

We are seriously excited to announce the dates of this year's (mostly) virtual festival presented by Gun Lake Casino. We need laughter in our lives more than ever and we can't wait to share those laughs with you March 11 - 14, 2021!

This year's festival will feature 30 events and social media contests. Returning favorites like Kids Joke Time, Laughter Yoga, and the Family ImprovWorkshop will be hosted virtually for free and the Seriously Funny Adventure Challenge scavenger hunt.

Estamos muy emocionados de anunciar las fechas del festival (en su mayoría) virtual de este año presentado por Gun Lake Casino. ¡Necesitamos la risa en nuestras vidas más que nunca y estamos ansiosos por compartir esas risas contigo del 11 al 14 de marzo de 2021!

2021 Grand Rapids Camper, Travel & RV Show March 11-14, 2021 Grand Rapids

Find your Away! This show is all about creating the best family vacation. Whether just a weekend or a long getaway, RVing is the way to go. West Michigan RV dealers pack DeVos Place with motor homes, travel trailers, fifth wheels and folding camping trailers. Vacation destinations, campgrounds, RV accessories, and fun feature displays round out the exhibition creating the lar-

gest and most exciting RV & Travel Show in the state. GrandRapids-RVShow.com

Este show se trata de crear las mejores vacaciones familiares. Ya sea un fin de semana o una escapada larga, RV es el camino a seguir.

Los distribuidores de vehículos recreativos de West Michigan llenan DeVos Place con casas rodantes, remolques de viaje, quintas ruedas y remolques para acampar plegables. GrandRapids-RVShow.com

St. Paddy's Day Celebration March 13, 2021 Ludington

Start the day with an Irish Jig 10k/5k, followed by a 12 p.m. parade and subsequent pub crawl in Downtown Ludington. Irish grub and live music will be available at many participating businesses for the holiday! Don't miss kegs & eggs, and corned beef & cabbage, along with specials on your favorite pints. Kids crafts and games are available at the Mason County District Library and Sandcastles Children's Museum throughout the day. Rather new to the festivities is an "Irish I was Shopping" scavenger hunt, happening at local shops downtown. Follow the clues for a chance to win prizes! For complete details, see <http://downtownludington.org/stpatrickssday/>.

Comience el día con un Irish Jig 10k / 5k, seguido de un 12 p.m. desfile y posterior rastreo de pubs en el centro de Ludington. ¡Habrá comida irlandesa y música en vivo en muchas de las empresas participantes durante las vacaciones!



St. Paddy's Day Celebration March 13, 2021 • Ludington

Para obtener detalles completos, consulte <http://downtownludington.org/stpatrickssday/>.

Wine, Cheese & Art - A Virtual Happy Hour Series with GRAM & Aperitivo: Reds/Whites February 24-March 24, 2021- Grand Rapids

The Grand Rapids Art Museum and Aperitivo are excited to offer GRAM Members an experience where we bring artwork, wine, and cheese into your home! The series continues with an exploration of RED, in wine, art, and cheese. Each wine and cheese pairing will be selected by the Aperitivo staff and paired with extraordinary artwork from GRAM's permanent collection, thematically tied together by this month's theme of reds.

The evening will be guided by Dana Friis-Hansen, Director & CEO of GRAM, Amy Ruis, Owner of Art of the Table & Aperitivo, and Evan Talen, General Manager of Aperitivo. Learn about how wine and cheesemaking, and the culinary experience, has parallels in artmaking and how we experience visual art in the world. You will also hear about the history and background of the artwork as well as the products we are tasting, and why these particular pieces and products are so special to us. We can't wait to spend the evening with you! Event Dates and Topics
January 21: Sparkles
February 24: Reds
March 24: Whites

The \$80 ticket + tax covers a tasting package which includes 2 bottles of red wine and a 2 cheese plate (+ crackers, bread and some fun sides!), free delivery or pick-up, and entrance to the Zoom event.

¡El Museo de Arte de Grand Rapids y Aperitivo se complace en ofrecer a los miembros de GRAM una experiencia en la que traemos obras de arte, vino y queso a su hogar! La serie continúa con una exploración de RED, en vino, arte y queso. Cada maridaje de vino y queso será seleccionado por el personal de Aperitivo y combinado con obras de arte extraordinarias de la colección permanente de GRAM, vinculadas temáticamente por el tema de los tintos de este mes. La velada será guiada por Dana Friis-Hansen, directora y CEO de GRAM, Amy Ruis, propietaria de Art of the Table & Aperitivo, y Evan Talen, gerente general de Aperitivo.

Fechas y temas del evento

**21 de enero: Sparkles
24 de febrero: Rojos
24 de marzo: Blancos**

El boleto de \$ 80 + impuestos cubre un paquete de degustación que incluye 2 botellas de vino tinto y un plato de 2 quesos (+ galletas saladas, pan y algunas guarniciones divertidas!), Entrega o recogida gratis y entrada al evento Zoom.



Two cars at car show in Detroit to see who hops higher!

Majestic Club hopping

Show & Go Customs was hopping

There's Jimmy! RIP...Always making cars to hop higher

1948 Lincoln Continental... Awesome car!

1956 Ford Fairlane Victoria ...customize original

1960 cool blue Chevy Impala at Berger Chevy parking lot

Meet Rusty! 1949 Dodge Pilot House B2B sitting on a 1988 Dodge Dakota Chassis... Rust is a color

Blue car in the Clouds

Love this car...Twisted Metal...one of the best

Twisted Metal...Best one of all

Cruising big time!

Jose Noriega owner of Scooby Doo!

Wild Horse Car... owner Larry Kennedy

Calling all cars... Calling all cars...Batmobile on the loose

Puerto Rican Music from this 3-Wheeler...owner Norberto Torres from Dos Homiez Club

Homer's Favorites

There are nothing like car shows...missing most of them last year and probably this year due to the coronavirus...

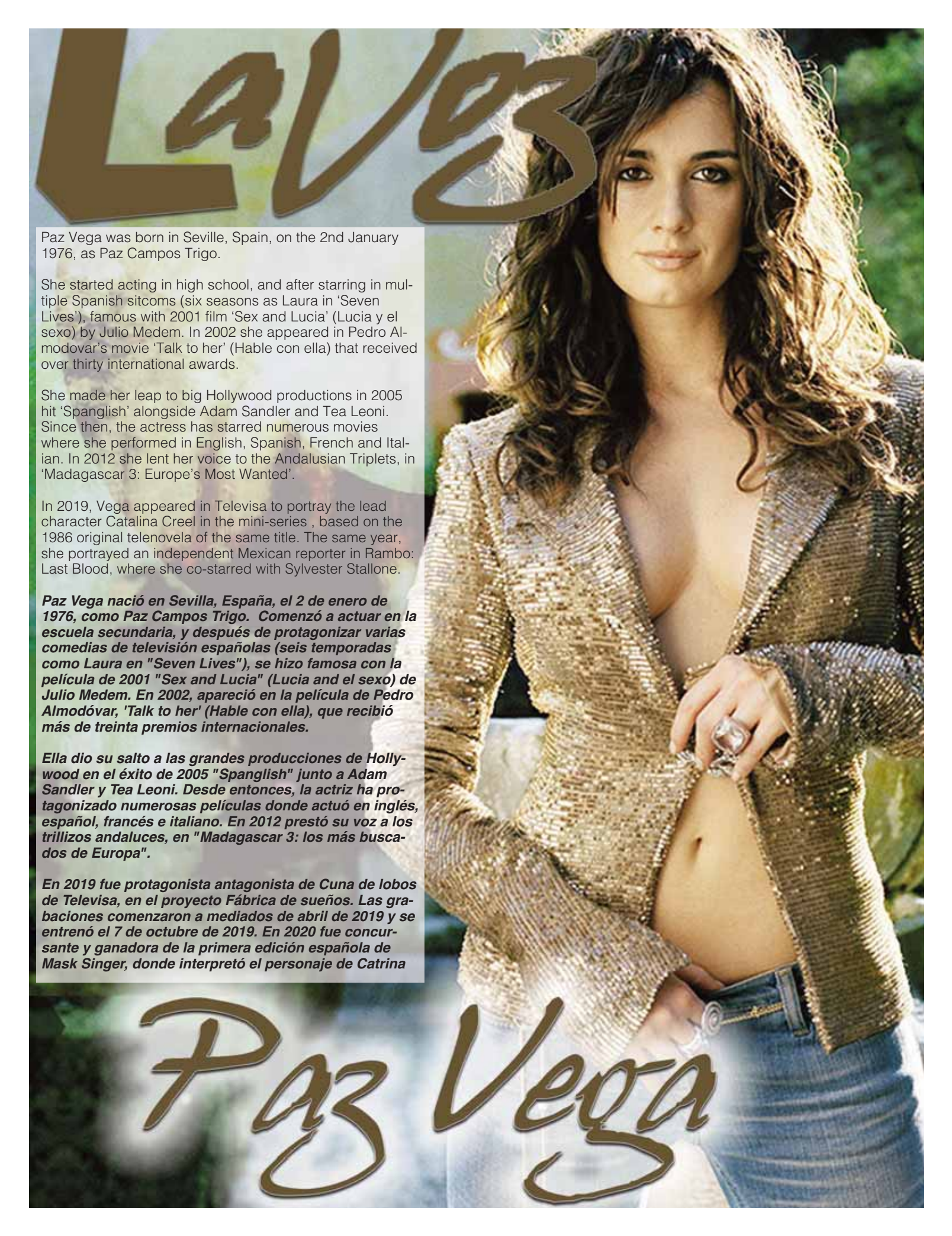
Well, unfortunately, as the year 2021 starts out, The Michigan International Auto Show was canceled due Covid-19 virus. We were disappointed by this but there is hope!

It was announced that the Detroit Autorama 69th Annual Car Show has been rescheduled to April 30 - May 2, 2021 at TCF Center (Cobo Hall) 1 Washington Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48226. Keep your fingers crossed!

Please do your part to win the war over Covid-19. Wear a mask, sanitize your hands often, stay 6' feet away from each other and register for your vaccination ASAP!

In this month's March Issue, we showcase some pictures of Jim from Majestics Car Club (RIP). His car "Show & Go Customs" was in the air hopping! How high can they go!

Somos pocos pero locos en lowriding!
Having a car event? Contact Homer (616)893-3906
deeho123@comcast.net



Paz Vega was born in Seville, Spain, on the 2nd January 1976, as Paz Campos Trigo.

She started acting in high school, and after starring in multiple Spanish sitcoms (six seasons as Laura in 'Seven Lives'), famous with 2001 film 'Sex and Lucia' (Lucia y el sexo) by Julio Medem. In 2002 she appeared in Pedro Almodovar's movie 'Talk to her' (Hable con ella) that received over thirty international awards.

She made her leap to big Hollywood productions in 2005 hit 'Spanglish' alongside Adam Sandler and Tea Leoni. Since then, the actress has starred numerous movies where she performed in English, Spanish, French and Italian. In 2012 she lent her voice to the Andalusian Triplets, in 'Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted'.

In 2019, Vega appeared in Televisa to portray the lead character Catalina Creel in the mini-series, based on the 1986 original telenovela of the same title. The same year, she portrayed an independent Mexican reporter in Rambo: Last Blood, where she co-starred with Sylvester Stallone.

Paz Vega nació en Sevilla, España, el 2 de enero de 1976, como Paz Campos Trigo. Comenzó a actuar en la escuela secundaria, y después de protagonizar varias comedias de televisión españolas (seis temporadas como Laura en "Seven Lives"), se hizo famosa con la película de 2001 "Sex and Lucia" (Lucia and el sexo) de Julio Medem. En 2002, apareció en la película de Pedro Almodóvar, 'Talk to her' (Hable con ella), que recibió más de treinta premios internacionales.

Ella dio su salto a las grandes producciones de Hollywood en el éxito de 2005 "Spanglish" junto a Adam Sandler y Tea Leoni. Desde entonces, la actriz ha protagonizado numerosas películas donde actuó en inglés, español, francés e italiano. En 2012 prestó su voz a los trillizos andaluces, en "Madagascar 3: los más buscados de Europa".

En 2019 fue protagonista antagonista de Cuna de lobos de Televisa, en el proyecto Fábrica de sueños. Las grabaciones comenzaron a mediados de abril de 2019 y se entrenó el 7 de octubre de 2019. En 2020 fue concursante y ganadora de la primera edición española de Mask Singer, donde interpretó el personaje de Catrina

Paz Vega

GERARDO ORTIZ ESTRENA SU NUEVO ÁLBUM “DÉCIMO ANIVERSARIO”

Gerardo Ortiz, ícono de la música mexicana con más de 10 años de trayectoria artística sigue demostrando su liderazgo conservando una figura influyente en el mundo digital. El día de hoy presenta su décima producción de estudio titulada “Décimo Aniversario” disponible en todas las plataformas digitales, junto a su segundo sencillo “Historia de Ayer”.

Indudablemente, después de su primer disco lanzado al mercado “En Vivo Las Tundras” en el 2010 el intérprete logró revolucionar el género de los corridos no solo ampliando el panorama del Regional Mexicano, sino también el de la música latina en general. Gerardo Ortiz ha causado impacto a gran escala internacional ya que hoy por hoy su música traspasa fronteras más allá de la Unión Americana, México y Latino América.

Entregando todo su esfuerzo y talento en este material “Décimo Aniversario”, Ortiz incluye 11 temas inéditos a ritmo de banda y mariachi tradicional. Buscando el mejor resultado para el sonido que lo caracteriza el cantante decidió grabar las canciones de banda en Mazatlán, Sinaloa y el mariachi en Ciudad de México. El álbum incluye baladas como “Y A Mí Que Me Queda”, “Las Caricias”, “Estar Con Otra” tema escrito por su hermano menor Oscar Ortiz y “Por Un Amor” una canción en colaboración con el respetado compositor Jerry Demara, en paz descansa. Además, esta producción incluye corridos como “Tranquilito”, “Don Jesús” y “Gente de Joaquín”, uno de los favoritos de Ortiz. En su totalidad el disco viene muy variable con música para todos los gustos incluyendo una cumbia para bailar titulada “Mi Niña Bonita.”

Tras su primer sencillo “El Perro”, lanzado el pasado mes de noviembre, hoy presenta “Historia de Ayer” una canción romántica de su autoría junto a una emotiva narración de video que comenta es en “Honor a todos aquellos que salen en busca de una mejor vida para ellos y sus familias.” El conmovedor video fue grabado a las afueras de la ciudad de Los Angeles Ca. y dirigido por la casa productora ZAVA Films quien tomó el reto de producir esta historia, donde podemos ver escenas inspiradas por casos de la vida real.

Su anterior álbum “Más Caro Que Ayer” debutó #1 en las listas más importantes de la industria y el disco “Décimo Aniversario” se perfila ser otro triunfo más añadido a su extensa trayectoria. “Historia de Ayer” ya se encuentra disponible en todas la plataformas digitales y el video en su canal oficial de YouTube.

The Mexican music icon Gerardo Ortiz, who is celebrating 10 years of artistic career, continues to demonstrate his leadership preserving an influential figure in the digital world. Today he presents his tenth studio album titled “Décimo Aniversario” (Tenth Anniversary) available on all digital platforms, along with his second single “Historia de Ayer” (History of Yesterday.)

Undoubtedly, after his first album released

in 2010 “En Vivo Las Tundras,” the interpreter managed to revolutionize the corrido sub-genre, not only expanding the panorama of the Regional Mexican genre, but also that of Latin music in general. Gerardo Ortiz has caused an impact on a large international scale as today his music crosses borders beyond the United States, Mexico and Latin America.



Ortiz brought to light all his effort, creativity and talent in this production. “Décimo Aniversario” (Tenth Anniversary) includes 11 unreleased songs to the rhythm of a Sinaloan band and traditional mariachi. Looking for the best result in regards to the sound that defines him, the singer decided to record the band songs in Mazatlán, Sinaloa and the Mariachi ones in Mexico City. The album includes ballads such as “Y A Mí Que Me Queda”, “Las Caricias”, “Estar Con Otra”, song written by his younger brother Oscar Ortiz and “Por Un Amor” a song in collaboration with the talented songwriter Jerry Demara, may he rest in peace. Additionally, this production includes corridos like “Tranquilito”, “Don Jesús” and “Gente de Joaquín”, one of Ortiz’ favorites. As a whole, this album is authentically versatile with music for all tastes including a cumbia to dance titled “Mi Niña Bonita.”

Following his first single release “El Perro” last November, today he presents “Historia de Ayer” a romantic song of his composition along with an emotional video narrative. “It honors all those who go out in search of a better life for themselves and their families,” Ortiz states. The emotional video was shot on the outskirts of Los Angeles, Ca. by the production company ZAVA Films who took the challenge of producing this story, where we can see scenes inspired by real life situations.

AVPV MODEL PORTFOLIO

Starting a career in Modeling can be very challenging, more so if you don't have anything to show off to potential agents and advertisers. Fortunately, AVPV Studios can assist you in creating your own modeling portfolio that is pretty easy when followed by these steps. You can help significantly improve your chances of getting noticed and locking in the first few gigs to kickstart your modeling career.

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- * Hire a Good Photographer
- * Hire Professional Hair/Make-Up Artist
- * Practice, Practice Posing
- * Choose Your Outfits Accordingly
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GRUPO FIRME ENTRE LOS ARTISTAS MÁS GALARDONADOS EN LOS PREMIO LO NUESTRO 2021

Anoche, Grupo Firme, uno de los grupos más populares y exitosos del momento, iluminó el American Airlines Arena durante los Premios Lo Nuestro 2021, llenando el escenario de magia y mucha emoción con dos de las mejores presentaciones de la noche.

La espectacular ceremonia se transmitió en vivo desde Miami a través de Univision.

Grupo Firme demostró, una vez más, por qué se encuentra entre los grupos más importantes en la actualidad y entre los grandes representantes de la música regional mexicana, al convertirse en uno de los mayores ganadores de la noche, tras obtener cinco de las seis categorías a las que estaban nominados: Álbum Regional Mexicano del Año, Canción Regional Mexicano del Año, Colaboración Regional Mexicano del Año, Grupo o Dúo Regional Mexicano del Año, Canción Banda del Año y Canción Nortea del Año.

Al unirse a la sensación puertorriqueña Chesca, Grupo Firme sorprendió a los espectadores que, desde sus casas, disfrutaron de una impresionante interpretación de su nuevo sencillo: la versión mariachi de "El Cambio", producida por el Reconocido y talentoso productor y escritor Horacio Palencia, que se estrena oficialmente hoy en las plataformas



digitales. Anoche, Eduin Caz de Grupo Firme brilló como siempre con un despliegue vocal impecable y absolutamente fascinante que además, compartió un conmovedor mensaje de unidad, fuerza e igualdad.

Más tarde, el cantautor mexicano Lenin Ramírez se unió a Grupo Firme para cantar en vivo "Yo Ya No Vuelvo Contigo", ganadora de tres premios en las categorías Canción Regional Mexicana del Año, Colaboración del Año y Canción Banda del Año. La presentación fue una muestra de la encantadora y enérgica maestría musical que mantienen los artistas en esta colaboración en la que, con una impresionante entrega vocal, Caz, su compañero de banda, Ab Luna, y Ramírez transportaron a la audiencia hacia la cautivadora historia de la canción.

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Caldo de Res

Vaccination is essential to making progress in the COVID-19 pandemic. Two COVID-19 vaccines have been authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration so far, and more are in development. Here's a look at the technology behind the vaccines.

MESSANGER RNA VACCINES

The first two COVID-19 vaccines authorized for emergency use by the FDA are made by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna. Both vaccines require two shots and use messenger RNA to trigger an immune response in the body.

The Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines cannot cause COVID-19, as they do not use a live virus. The messenger RNA, or mRNA, teaches our bodies to make a protein to trigger an immune response.

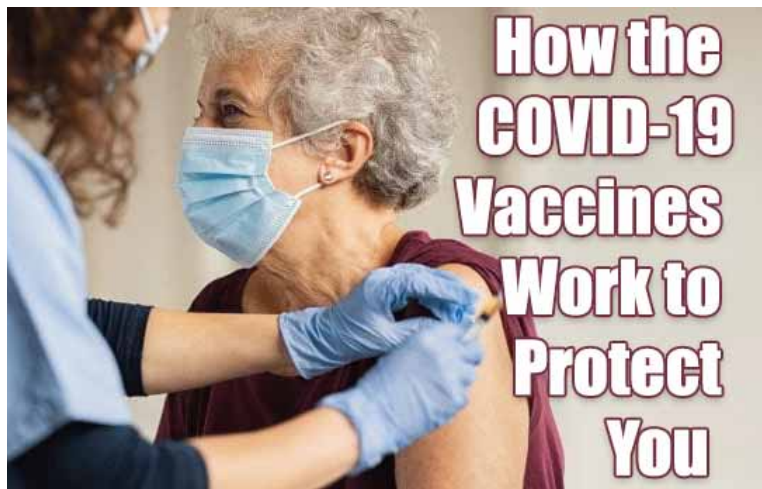
Here's how it works:

1. The mRNA vaccine is administered to the upper arm muscle
2. The mRNA encounters the body's cells
3. The cells follow the mRNA's instructions to produce a new protein piece
4. The cell destroys the mRNA instructions now that it has used them, and displays the protein piece on its surface
5. Our immune system recognizes that the new protein doesn't belong on the outside of the cell and begins making antibodies

The mRNA never enters the nucleus of the cell, where our DNA is kept – so they do not affect or alter our DNA. While mRNA, is a new vaccine technology, it has been in development for years as scientists have studied the flu, Zika, rabies and cytomegalovirus.

Both the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are known to cause side effects, including pain and swelling at the injection site, fever, chills, tiredness and headache. These side effects mean the vaccine is working and that your immune system is responding as intended.

For daily updates on vaccine information and distribution in Michigan, read more here: COVID-19 Vaccines: What You Should Know.



This content has been reviewed and approved by Dr. S. George Kipa, deputy chief medical officer at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

La vacunación es fundamental para avanzar en la pandemia de COVID-19. Hasta ahora, la Administración de Drogas y Alimentos de los EE. UU. Ha autorizado dos vacunas COVID-19 para uso de emergencia, y hay más en desarrollo.

Las dos primeras vacunas COVID-19 autorizadas para uso de emergencia por la FDA son fabricadas por Pfizer-BioNTech y Moderna. Ambas vacunas requieren dos vacunas y utilizan ARN mensajero para desencadenar una respuesta inmune en el cuerpo.

Las vacunas Pfizer y Moderna COVID-19 no pueden causar COVID-19, ya que no usan un virus vivo. El ARN mensajero, o ARNm, le enseña a nuestro cuerpo a producir una proteína para desencadenar una respuesta inmunitaria.

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HEIDI LEE COLON

My name is Heidi Lee Colon. I was born on the Island of Charm Puerto Rico. I am currently living in Grand Rapids MI.

I am 26 years old.

My passion is Modeling. One of my favorite hobbies is Runway Modeling and Photography. The WORLD of fashion is something that I have adored from a very young age.

I've always DREAMED of being a model, one day MY DREAMS of modeling on different catwalks in my country came TRUE. I studied nursing and I would like to PERFECT my skills as a Fashion Designer. I love traveling and seeing the world. I consider myself a fighter and a persevering woman, and above all, Self-Confident! I love helping people and will always be Humble in doing so! I will continue fighting for each of my DREAMS and giving my BEST DAILY!

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2021 MARCH MODEL SEARCH



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