

INAUGURAL
ISSUE

OCTOBER 2026

HEATHER'S HOT TOPICS

THE MAGAZINE

MUSIC ✦ ENTERTAINMENT ✦ CULTURE

ARTISTS
STORIES
THAT INSPIRE

MUSIC
THAT
CONNECTS US

CULTURE
THAT
KEEPS US
TOGETHER

Introducing
**HEATHER'S
HOT TOPICS**

A NEW VOICE IN
MUSIC &
ENTERTAINMENT

A Letter FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the inaugural issue of
Heather's Hot Topics: The Magazine!

This magazine was created from a place of passion, purpose, and deep love for music, artists, and the incredible stories that make our Tejano and Latin music community so special.

For our very first issue, I am honored and excited to shine the spotlight on **Grupo Zodiaca** — a new generation of talented musicians who are carrying our Tejano roots forward with fresh energy, dedication, and a sound that connects with today's audiences. Their journey, their music, and their vision represent everything I love about this industry — tradition, talent, and a bright future.

Heather's Hot Topics: The Magazine is more than a publication — it's a platform to celebrate music, entertainment, and culture, while giving independent artists the recognition they deserve. Here you'll find exclusive interviews, artist features, industry insights, and real conversations that highlight the people who keep our music alive.

As a singer, songwriter, producer, promoter, radio personality, and now Founder & Editor-in-Chief, I've had the privilege of working with so many inspiring artists. This magazine is my way of giving back — a space where their stories can be told, their voices can be heard, and their impact can be celebrated.

Thank you for being part of this new chapter. Your continued support means everything and inspires me to keep pushing forward — for the artists, for the music, and for our incredible community.

Here's to the music, the stories, and a brighter tomorrow for Tejano and Latin music!

With love and gratitude,

Heather Jolene Alcantar
FOUNDER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



HEATHER'S HOT TOPICS™

THE MAGAZINE

What's to *Expect*

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Heather's Hot Topics: The Magazine! Here's a preview of what's inside — a celebration of Tejano music, amazing artists, special moments, and the people who make this community shine.

1



Cover

A first look at our beautiful inaugural cover.

2



A Letter from the Editor

A personal note from Heather.

3



What's to Expect

A preview of what's inside this special issue.

4-5



Grupo Zodiaca

A feature story highlighting the group and their presence in Tejano music.

6



Kamila y Bella Divas

A spotlight on the rising young duo.

7



Event Highlight

A special event spotlight.

8



Eva Ybarra

Honoring a respected Tejano figure.

9



Heather's Hot Picks

Songs worth discovering.

10



Thank You

A heartfelt closing note of appreciation.

Grupo Zodiacal

A New Generation of Tejano Energy

With fresh energy, strong musicianship, and a deep respect for Tejano roots, Grupo Zodiacal is a name to watch.

By Heather Jolene Alcantar

Grupe Zodiacal is quickly making their mark in Tejano music, bringing a fresh and exciting energy to the genre while honoring the rich traditions that have paved the way. With a dynamic sound, talented musicians, and a clear passion for performance, the group is capturing the attention of fans across Texas and beyond.

What sets Grupo Zodiacal apart is their ability to blend classic Tejano influences with a modern edge. They embrace their roots, paying tribute to the legends who came before them, while also creating a sound that connects with today's audiences. Their music reflects a deep appreciation for the culture, the rhythms, and the stories that make Tejano so special.

On stage, Grupo Zodiacal delivers an engaging and high-energy experience. Their performances showcase not only their musical talent, but also their genuine love for what they do. Each song is an opportunity to connect with the crowd, celebrate Tejano music, and keep the tradition alive for a new generation of fans.

“Tradition, talent, and a bright future.”

Grupo Zodiacal

Carrying the Tradition Forward

Grupo Zodiacal continues to prove that Tejano music is in great hands with a new generation that respects the past while boldly stepping into the future. They balance the rich traditions of Tejano with youthful energy, creating a fresh sound that feels both familiar and exciting. Their music pays tribute to the legends who came before them, while also bringing their own style and personality to the stage.

One of the things that sets Grupo Zodiacal apart is their genuine connection with people. They don't just perform for the crowd — they become part of it. At the recent Homecoming 5th Quarter Party, the group brought their high-energy Tejano sound straight to the field, turning the night into an unforgettable celebration. Surrounded by students, families, and fans, they played, sang, and moved through the crowd, creating a true live-music experience that felt personal and full of heart.

Whether on a big stage or right in the middle of the community, Grupo Zodiacal's live presence shows their love for the music and the people who keep it alive. They are more than just a band — they are a bridge between generations, carrying the Tejano tradition forward with passion, authenticity, and a bright future ahead.



“Honoring the roots while meeting the moment.”

Kamila y Bella Divas

Are on the Rise

Young Tejano performers are making their mark.

By Heather Jolene Alcantar

Kamila y Bella Divas are quickly becoming two of the young names to watch in Tejano music. With talent, charm, and a growing list of live performances, the Laredo-based duo continues to build momentum while proudly representing the next generation of the genre.

Their recent appearance at *Pachangas* at the Plaza in San Antonio placed them alongside respected Tejano performers, giving them another important opportunity to share their music with a wider audience. Moments like these show that their hard work is paying off and that more people are beginning to take notice.

What makes Kamila y Bella Divas especially exciting is not only their stage presence, but also the promise they carry as young artists with a bright future. They are steadily carving out their own place in Tejano and conjunto music while continuing to grow as performers.

Their latest single was written by Heather Jolene Alcantar, adding another meaningful step in their musical journey and a strong creative connection to their developing sound.

With each performance, Kamila y Bella Divas continue to prove that they are rising talents with the potential to go even further. Their journey is still unfolding, but the momentum is clearly there.



Kamila y Bella Divas

YOUNG TALENT.
BRIGHT FUTURE.
TEJANO ALWAYS.



The 2nd Annual RUBÉN VELA Festival

CELEBRATING A LEGACY,
HONORING A TRADITION

*Where Conjunto music, culture,
and community come together.*

The rich musical heritage of South Texas took center stage in the spirit of the 2nd Annual Rubén Vela Festival, held on October 17, 2026, in Santa Rosa, Texas.

More than a gathering of musicians, the festival served as a tribute to the enduring legacy of Rubén Vela and the generations of artists who have helped shape the distinctive sound of Conjunto music.

With an impressive lineup featuring Marliessa Vela, Los Garcia Bros., Jaime De Anda, Orphanage Road, Reny Koland, Whiskey D., Secreto, and more, the celebration brought together the names and traditions that reflect the diversity and lasting influence of regional Texas music.

Events like the Rubén Vela Festival are about more than entertainment. They help preserve our cultural identity, connect generations, and remind us of the musical pioneers whose contributions continue to inspire today's artists.

As Tejano and Conjunto music continue to evolve, honoring its history remains essential. The Rubén Vela Festival stands as a meaningful reminder that music is more than something we hear—it's part of who we are.

Our Music. Our History. Our Community.

The 2nd Annual
Ruben Vela
FESTIVAL

★ SATURDAY, ★
OCTOBER 17, 2026

★★★ SANTA ROSA, TEXAS ★★★

GATES OPEN
@ 3PM

ORPHANAGE ROAD
ORPHANAGE ROAD
EIGHT MILE MUSIC PARTS

RUBEN VELA
y los Machuchos

Los GARCIA Bros.

JAIME DE ANDA

Marliessa Vela

RENY KOLAND
Ruben Vela Festival

WHISKEY D.

SECRETO

LIVE MUSIC | FOOD & BEVERAGES | VENDORS | KIDS ZONE



NEW MUSIC COMING FROM EVA YBARRA

*The Queen of the
Accordion*

New music is on the way from the legendary Eva Ybarra, in collaboration with Alcantar Muzick. A celebration of her iconic accordion legacy, Tejano tradition, and the timeless sound that continues to inspire generations.



TRADITION
|
NEW MUSIC
|
ALWAYS TEJANO

*Same Roots. New Music.
Bigger Stories.*

HEATHER'S HOT PICKS

5 SONGS TO CHECK OUT

These are Heather's personal song recommendations — a handpicked mix of tracks she's been loving and thinks you will too. A collection of amazing music from talented artists worth discovering!



MANUEL QUINTERO

"Una y Mil Veces"

A romantic and beautifully crafted song that captures the essence of true love and devotion.



MONICA ANDRADE

"Me Las Voy a Cobrar"

A strong and determined anthem that highlights Monica Andrade's powerful voice and fearless spirit.



ERIKA CORTEZ

"La Tóxica"

A confident and edgy track that showcases Erika Cortez's bold personality and distinctive musical style.



GABRIELLA SALAZAR & DJ KANE

"TU TU"

An infectious, high-energy track that brings together Gabriella Salazar and DJ Kane for a fun and irresistible vibe.



CELESTE ESCOBAR

"Tu me Ves y me Ves"

A heartfelt and empowering song that showcases Celeste's unique style and strong presence in today's music scene.

♡ Keep listening. Keep discovering. Keep supporting the music. ♡

A HEARTFELT Thank You ♡

To every station, platform, DJ, artist, listener, and supporter who helps keep the music alive.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to every radio station, DJ, host, artist, listener, collaborator, and supporter who continues to believe in independent music, Tejano music, Latin music, and the power of community storytelling.

Every spin, every interview, every opportunity, and every shared song helps an artist's dream reach a little farther. You open your platforms, your hearts, and your time, and in doing so, you give a voice to the music, the culture, and the stories that mean so much to our communities.

To the DJs who champion our artists, to the stations that support and play our music, to the artists who create from the heart, and to the listeners who keep the music alive—thank you for being the heartbeat of this journey.

It is your passion, your dedication, and your love for our culture that keep Tejano and Latin music strong, vibrant, and growing for future generations. Together, you remind us that music is more than entertainment—it's family, it's history, it's identity, and it's a bridge that brings people together.

Thank you for standing with independent artists, for believing in their talent, and for helping their music travel farther. Thank you for being part of this beautiful, ever-growing community that keeps the music, the culture, and the stories alive.

Syrius Tejano

Your support makes a difference, and it never goes unnoticed. Together, we keep the music alive—today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

With love and gratitude,

Heather Jolene Alcantar ♡

FOUNDER & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Our Music. Our History. Our Community.