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Contributors

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Contributors

Río Bravo: A Journal of The Borderlands

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Stephanie Alvarez is an assistant professor of modern languages at the University of Texas-Pan American. She directs the Mexican American Studies program at UTPA and is founder of Cosecha Voices, a teaching and learning processes that honors the stories of migrant farmworker students. Cosecha Voices serves as an innovative model in culturally relevant instruction and organization building based on an understanding of personal history, critical reflection, storytelling and storymaking.

Irán Barrera is an associate professor in the department of social work at California State University – Fresno. Barrera spent his last five years as an assistant professor at the University of Texas-Pan American in which he taught courses on mental health and conducted research along the U.S. / Mexico border. Barrera received his master's degree in social work (MSW) from California State University - Long Beach in 2003; his Ph.D. in Social Work from the University of Texas - Arlington and La Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, México in 2008. Barrera has extensive experience working with minority communities (African-American/Hispanic) in California and Texas and in 2005 was awarded a minority fellowship from the Council on Social Work Education to study Hispanic mental health. Barrera's research interests include examining mental health literacy in Mexican-American communities and mental health care disparities in Hispanics.

Deborah Cole, who received her Ph.D. in linguistics and anthropology from University of Arizona, is associate professor of linguistics at the University of Texas-Pan American. Her research interests include language ideologies, institutional discourses, standardization and variation, and ethnolinguistic identity in the U.S. and Indonesia. Most recently, she has been working collaboratively with other linguists to study student-teacher discourse in language classrooms. Her work has appeared in the *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* and *Language in Society* and in books on intercultural education and language education. She teaches a range of undergraduate courses in linguistics, including a course that focuses on language along the U.S.-Mexico border, as well as courses in the Master's Program in English as a Second Language.

Elena De Costa is associate professor of Spanish at Carroll University. She received her BA from Boston State Teacher's College in Spanish and secondary education and her MA and Ph.D. in Spanish and comparative literature from University of Wisconsin-Madison. Publications include service learning pedagogies, Latin American theatre and poetry, human rights issues in film and literature. She is the recipient of Creative Teaching awards and the Wisconsin 2013 Sister Joel Read Civic Engagement Practitioners Award, editor of the annual student magazine, El Coloso and director of the annual bilingual play at Carroll University.

Marianita Escamilla earned a BS in biology, an MA in literature at the University of Texas Pan American. She worked as a forensic scientist (DNA analyst) for the Texas Department of Public Safety for three years. Today, she is a lecturer at the University of Texas Pan American,

where she teaches freshmen composition and sophomore literature classes. Her research projects include ethnography studies.

Lupe A. Flores received his B.A. in anthropology from The University of Texas-Pan American. He grew up in a rancho meters from the Rio Grande in Hidalgo County. His interests in addition to social/cultural anthropology include Latin@ and Latin American studies, coyotaje, cultural studies, nepantlismo, spiritual activism and creating Gloria Anzaldúa's vision of El Mundo Zurdo through a collective coyolxauqui imperative.

Justin D. García is an assistant professor of anthropology at Millersville University of Pennsylvania. He earned his Ph.D. from Temple University in 2011, with a specific focus in urban anthropology. His scholarly and research interests include U.S. immigration, social constructs of race/ethnicity, Chicanos/Latinos in the United States, popular culture studies, and the anthropology of sport. Some of his other publications include "Boxing, Masculinity, and *Latinidad*: Oscar De La Hoya, Fernando Vargas, and *Raza* Representations" in *The Journal of American Culture* (forthcoming), "Rising from the Canvas: Issues of Immigration, Redemption, Gender, and Mexican American Identity in *Split Decision* and *In Her Corner*" in *Identity and Myth in Sports Documentaries: Critical Essays* (Scarecrow Press, 2013), and "Saving the NBA: Bird, Magic, and Jordan Rescue Professional Basketball" in *American History Through American Sports: From Colonial Lacrosse to Extreme Sports* (Praeger, 2013).

Samuel García Jr. is a doctoral student at Texas University, San Marcos. He is a native of Mercedes, TX where taught social studies at Mercedes High School.

Francisco J. Guajardo is an associate professor in the department of educational leadership, University of Texas-Pan American. He taught at Edcouch-Elsa High School between 1990 and 2012 and is co-founder of the Llano Grande Center for Research and Development. His research interests are history of public education, and youth and community leadership.

José Ángel Guajardo In his 2004 publication of *The New Americans*, author Enrique Trueba called José Ángel Guajardo "an organic intellectual," an apt descriptor for the goat herder with a 4th grade education from Dr. Coss, Nuevo Leon, who would become an important community based researcher in Elsa, Texas. *Que en paz descanse el gran intelectual, José A. Guajardo, 1936-2013.*

Miguel A. Guajardo is an associate professor in the department of educational leadership at Texas State University. He is a co-founder of the Llano Grande Center for Research and Development and serves as co-chair of the board of directors. His research interests are participatory research methodologies, community building, race relations, and leadership development.

John Michael Gonzalez is an assistant professor at the University of Texas-Pan American in the Department of Social Work. He received his BA in psychology and sociology and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. He received his MSW from the School of Social Work at Texas State University-San Marcos. He authored and co-authored publications on older minorities and mental health services, older adult resilience. He is a co-author of the book, "Narratives of Social and Economic Justice." His research interests are aging and delivery of mental health services to older minorities, culturally competent practice, and resilience in older adults.

Britt Haraway received a Ph.D. in literature with an emphasis in creative writing from the Center for Writers at the University of Southern Mississippi. His fiction has appeared in the *South Dakota Review*, *Natural Bridge*, 971, *Product*, *New Madrid* and is forthcoming in *BorderSenses*. His poetry has also appeared in *BorderSenses*. He teaches at the University of Texas Pan American.

Sonia Hernández is a Rio Grande Valley native who specializes in the U.S.-Mexican borderlands, gender and labor in Modern Mexico, and Chicana/o history. She earned her PhD in Latin American History from the University of Houston in 2006. Her most recent book, *Working Women into the Borderlands* (Texas A&M University Press, 2014) is the recipient of the Jim Parish Award for Documentation of Regional and Local History. After working in the History Department at the University of Texas-Pan American for nearly eight years she will be joining the History Department at Texas A&M University in the Fall of 2014.

Tiffany Ana López (B.A. California State University, Sacramento; Ph.D., University of California at Santa Barbara) is editor of the anthology *Growing Up Chicana/o* (William & Morrow, 1993). She has published various essays in the fields of Chicana/o and Latina/o literatures and performance. Recent publications include "Imaging Community: Video in the Installation Work of Pepó Osorio," *Art Journal* (Winter 1995); "A Tolerance for Contradictions: The Short Stories of Marí Cristina Mena," *19th Century American Writers: A Critical Reader* (Oxford UP, 1998); and "Performing Aztlán: The Female Body as Cultural Critique in the Teatro of Cherríe Moraga," *Performing America: Cultural Nationalism in American Theatre* (University of Michigan Press, 1998). Her teaching interests include 20th century American literature and drama, Chicana/o and Latina/o popular culture, and feminist and minority discourses. She is currently working on a book about representations of the body and the imagining of community in U.S. Latina drama.

Marina Malli is a second-year student in the master's program in English literature and cultural studies at the University of Texas-Pan American. She is originally from Athens, Greece, where she completed her undergraduate studies in English. She is currently working on an MA thesis which deals with Christmas as a construct in the American culture. She hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in the area of literary theory and cultural studies.

Jocabed Márquez is a doctoral student at Texas University, San Marcos. She is a native of Mercedes, Texas. and a former chemistry teacher in the Rio Grande Valley.

Marci R. McMahan received her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California with affiliations in the Department of American Studies and Ethnicity. She is an assistant professor at the University of Texas, Pan American, where she teaches Chicana/o and Latina/o literature and cultural studies, gender studies, and theater and performance in the Departments of English and Mexican American Studies. Her essays on Chicana literature and cultural studies have been published in *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*; *Chicana/Latina Studies: The Journal of MALCS*; and *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies*. Her book *Domestic Negotiations: Gender, Nation, and Self-Fashioning in US Mexicana and Chicana Literature and Art* (Rutgers University Press' Series *Latinidad: Transnational Cultures in the United States*, 2013) is the recipient of the 2013 NACCS Tejas Non-Fiction Book Award.

Josie Méndez-Negrete, associate professor of Mexican American Studies at the University of Texas at San Antonio, received her PhD at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Published by Duke University Press as a revised edition in 2006 and reprinted in 2010, *Las hijas de Juan: Daughters Betrayed* continues to be a bestseller. *A Life On Hold*, an examination of mental illness in the family, is under review, and she continues to workshop and perform *Cancionera Nació: Toña La Negra*—a multimedia one-woman show—as a way to engage discussion on the third root or African legacy of Mexico.

Dagoberto Eli Ramírez was born in Roma, Starr County, Texas, graduated from Roma High School, and attended the University of Oklahoma. He taught at Ringgold Junior High School in Rio Grande City, completing his Pan American University BA in English. He taught English, history, geography, and leadership at La Joya ISD. Dagoberto worked as an Education Specialist at Region One ESC in Edinburg, Texas, then earned his MA and Ph.D. in educational leadership The University of Texas-Pan American.

Lyon Rathbun is an associate professor in the English department of University of Texas, Brownsville, where he has taught since 2006. He earned a Ph.D. in rhetoric from the University of California at Berkeley. His interests include composition, rhetorical studies, and the cultural history of the American Southwest.

Roxanne Schroeder-Arce currently serves as assistant professor of theatre education at the University of Texas Department of Theatre and Dance. Prior to her current appointment, she was assistant professor at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts and assistant professor at California State University Fresno. Schroeder-Arce taught high school theatre in Texas for six years. She also served as Artistic and Education Director of Teatro Humanidad in Austin for several years. Aside from her teaching, Schroeder-Arce is a scholar, director, performer, and playwright. Three of her bilingual plays are published by Dramatic Publishing. Schroeder-Arce's research interests include culturally responsive theatre teaching, cultural representation in public school theatre programs, and Latino youth identity. Her scholarly works have been published in a variety of theatre and education journals.

Javier Villarreal was born in McAllen, raised in México and educated on both sides of the Rio Grande. He completed his primary and secondary education in San Miguel, Tamaulipas and graduated from McAllen High School in 1974. Javier received his BA in Spanish, BFA in art and his MA in Spanish in from Pan American University. Subsequently, he completed a Ph.D. in Hispanic linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin. His research interests are varied: from studying languages in contact and language variation, to folklore and creative writing. He has presented and published professional papers and creative works in these fields. Currently, Villarreal is a professor of Spanish at Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi.

Joel Zapata was born and raised in the Texas Panhandle. Since then he has lived on the *frontera* and in Central Texas. He graduated with a BA in history and a minor in anthropology from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). His research focuses on telling the stories of immigration, settlement, and community of *Mexicana/os* on the *frontera* and *Tejas*. He is especially interested in the labor and education of Mexican origin women and children and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Southern Methodist University.

