

## NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER



### Perspectivas Nuevas: Featuring Mónica Sánchez

The NHCC's *Voces de Latinidad* series continues with a fourth Community Listening Series on July 11. That day, attendees will have a chance to learn from and share their stories with writer and actor Mónica Sánchez.

Mónica sat down with us to discuss her excitement about the series, and how her theatrical work intersects with her cultural identity. This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

**NHCC:** How does your work in the theatre inform your cultural identity?

**Sánchez:** In 1985, my father took me to the Kimo Theatre to see a play called *Plaza*, by the Las Cruces writer, Denise Chavez. La Compañía de Teatro de Albuquerque had just returned from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. I had seen plays before but never had I seen an original story about New Mexican culture, performed by New Mexicans (mostly Chicano) who not only embodied all of the cultural nuances but were actors with corazón and technique on a stage alive with refined production values and design. I knew I wanted to be around this kind of expression and energy.



Eventually La Compañía became my first training ground as an actor. We performed original plays embedded in Nuevo Mexicano culture; Spanish classical work from the Siglo de Oro; and works from the Western canon adapted to address New Mexican and Latine identity. My imprinting as a theatre artist had everything to do with culture and identity that informed content as much as process—how we made/make theatre. I was drawn to the artists and the companies that utilize the theatre as a tool for social change and cultural awareness through a commitment to the rigor and discipline of the craft. As a playwright, I am aspiring to unveil the varied and underrepresented experiences of Latinidad, particularly the complex and unique philosophical, cultural and historical milieu of the Southwest—not only ripe for dramatic exploration but also sorely missing from the stages of the American theatre.



**NHCC:** What excites you about this upcoming Community Listening Session?

**Sánchez:** For the last 4 years I've been working out of state, and even though I reside 6 months out of the year in 'Burque, I don't often have the opportunity to work with our local communities—I miss you! I look forward to seeing familiar faces and to meeting new kindred spirits; to illuminating the ways we intersect and unearthing the gifts of our differences. I'm excited by the possibilities of our communal and intentional "listening." I'm enthused to be present for the session itself and for the potentialities of this series—both the documentary and also, perhaps more-so, for the future collaborations that may germinate from these sessions.

**NHCC:** What do you hope attendees get out of the experience?

**Sánchez:** I'm planning to facilitate activities that will reframe preconceived notions and linear/rational "thinking" about culture and identity. I hope that we as individuals and as a community experience connection, revelation and a willingness to welcome the gifts of play—I hope we surprise ourselves!



## Upcoming Events



### Voces de Latinidad: Mónica Sánchez

July 11 | 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Salón Ortega

Join us for the fourth Community Listening Session in a series of 6 for our *Voces de Latinidad* documentary film project, featuring multidisciplinary artist Mónica Sánchez. Each gathering in this series will focus on a different cultural aspect of the question: "Who or what is Latinidad?" *Voces de Latinidad* aims to feature unique voices from our community culminating in a short documentary and digital archive celebrating the rich diversity of our lived experiences.

On July 11, we invite all people of Hispanic, Latina/o/e/x, Chicana/o/e/x, Indigenous, and New Mexican heritage from the communities of Barelás, Atrisco, the greater South Valley, and surrounding neighborhoods to come and share how you identify culturally and how this shapes your reality and lived experiences. Note: Community Sessions will be filmed and some individuals may be selected for interviews.

This is a free community event, made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities Democracy Demands Wisdom. Additional support provided by United Way DEI Fund and the Albuquerque Community Foundation.

[Register Here](#)

### Free Community Event: Nexo Entre Raíces / Nexus Between Roots

July 14 | Visual Arts Museum

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.: Exhibition on view  
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.: Art Activities  
6:00 p.m.: Artist Panel Discussion

Join us for artmaking, followed by an artists' panel discussion as we celebrate our groundbreaking exhibition *Nexo Entre Raíces / Nexus Between Roots*!

*Nexo Entre Raíces / Nexus Between Roots* is an exhibition of prints by artists living and working in both Mexico and the United States. Their work traverses themes of culture, tradition, identity, and place, connecting those with Mexican roots across borders. Organized by artist Marco Sánchez and multidisciplinary scholar Claudia Ley in collaboration with the NHCC Art Museum, the



exhibition features 32 artworks exchanged for a print portfolio between the participating artists as well as additional pieces contextualizing the artists' work.

This is a free community event, generously sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

[Register Here](#)



## Cervantes Film Series: Zinegoak 20th anniversary. LGTBIQ+ Animation

July 7-28 | Noon (Films available for 48 hours)  
Online

The Cervantes Institute maintains its program dedicated to LGTBIQ+ identities by collaborating with institutions and monographic festivals to make their film series more visible.

This year, the program dedicated to highlighting the celebration of LGTBIQ+ Pride Day comes from the Basque festival Zinegoak, which celebrates its twenty years of existence with the presentation of an animated film series whose films address this theme on our Vimeo channel. Over the course of four weeks, we will see short films that showcase a wide range of identities and LGTBIQ+ collectives through the different techniques that animation provides, and we will also have the opportunity to enjoy several short films by young creators from Basque Country.

### Program

- July 7: [La mesa](#) (2018) by Adrian Garcia Gomez
- July 11: [Beti Bezperako Koplak](#) (2016), by various directors
- July 14: [Thara](#) (2018), by Paco Ramírez and Tanya O'Carroll
- July 18: [Dejarse crecer el cuerpo](#) (2018), by Andrea Gudiño
- July 21: [Ezohikoak](#) (2022), by Alejandra Bueno
- July 25: [Garelako](#) (2015), by Usue Egia
- July 28: [Makun \('No llores'\)](#) (2015), by Emilio Martí

[Learn More](#)

## Early Childhood Bilingual Storytime

July 18 | 10:00 a.m.  
NHCC Library

Get ready for our next Early Childhood Bilingual Storytime, featuring the children's book *Hug Me*, by Simona Ciralo. This story focuses on a young cactus who only wants a hug. Listen to the story and enjoy age-appropriate art activities related to the book.

Free community event, generously supported by United Way DEI Fund. For children ages 3 to 5 and caregivers.



[Register Here](#)



## AfroMundo: Gather

July 19 | 7:00 p.m.  
Wells Fargo Auditorium

Join us at the Center for a social justice film screening and panel discussion, presented by AfroMundo!

*Gather* is an intimate portrait of the growing movement amongst Native Americans to reclaim their spiritual, political, and cultural identities through food sovereignty, while battling the trauma of centuries of genocide.

This is a free community event, presented in partnership with AfroMundo.

[Register Here](#)

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## FIFA Women's World Cup: USA vs. Vietnam

July 21 | 7:00 p.m.  
NHCC Campus

Doors open at 6:00 pm with food trucks and breweries on the NHCC Campus

GAME 1 of the FIFA Women's World Cup hosted at the National Hispanic Cultural Center begins! This is the ninth Women's World Cup, and it will be the biggest yet with 32 teams competing across 64 games. Come join us for the pregame festivities and kickoff. Game 1 features Team USA beginning its quest to defend the 2019 World Cup title against Vietnam.

Free Community Event. Please register using the link below.

*Rain or Shine | Bags Subject To Search | Lawn and Low Profile Camping Style Chairs Welcome | Blankets Welcome | Food Vendors Will Be On Site | ADA Area with Chairs Available | Only Clear Bags Allowed on Campus | No Weapons of Any Kind Allowed | No Fireworks Allowed on Campus*



[Register Here](#)

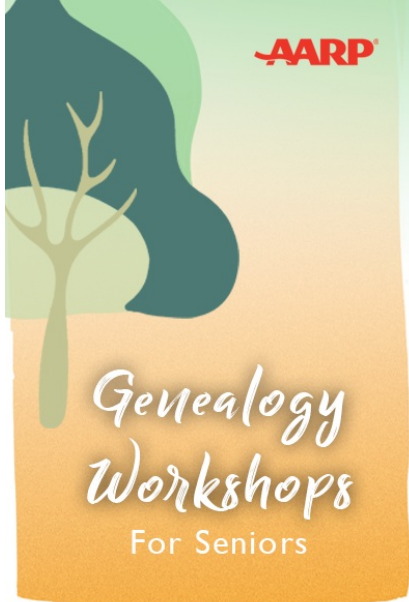
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## Nuestra Herencia: Genealogy Workshop for Seniors

July 22 | 1:30 p.m.  
Salón Ortega

**Special Guest: Local Genealogist Laura Weber**

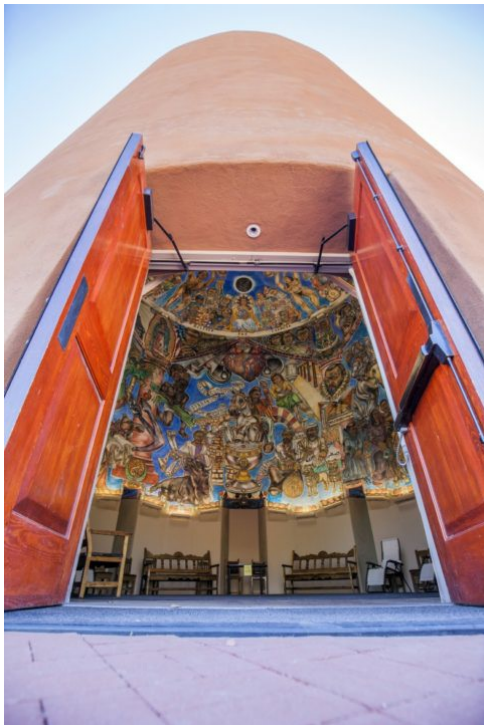
Explore your cultural heritage at the NHCC with free genealogy workshop as part of our Nuestra Herencia



program! Nuestra Herencia will provide participating seniors with the opportunity to participate in interactive tours of the NHCC Art Museum and Torreón, paired with genealogy workshops and coffee socials.

This event is part of the NHCC's Siempre Creativo program. This is a free community event, generously supported by AARP Albuquerque.

[Register Here](#)



## Mundos de Mestizaje: Torreón Tour

The National Hispanic Cultural Center is offering a guided tour of the Mundos de Mestizaje fresco by Frederico Vigil twice a week, Thursdays and Fridays at 11 am. Located in the Torreón on the NHCC Campus, Mundos de Mestizaje depicts thousands of years of Hispanic culture, history, and identity.

Admission for the tour is \$2 and tickets are available for advance purchase below.

Tickets can also be purchased in the New Mexico Mutual Welcome Center, depending on availability. The capacity for each tour is limited.

[Buy Tickets](#)

**Mark Your Calendar**

## Film: Agave is Life

**August 10 | Bank of America Theatre**

**5:00 pm: Cash bar and food trucks**

**5:30 – 7:00 pm: UNM Mariachi Ensemble**

**7:00 pm: Film screening**

*Agave is Life* is an exploration of the history of the agave plant in the cultures of Mexico and the American Southwest. Starting thousands of years ago when hunter-gatherers viewed the hardy desert succulent with its myriad uses as a gift from the gods, agave's story is told through the lens of archaeological, ethnographic, and modern-day vignettes, closing with concerns about threats to the plant's future. Arrive early to visit the Art Museum exhibition, *Aliento a Tequila y El Arte de Agave*.



NHCC Art Museum open until 5:00 pm on August 10.

Directed by Meredith L. Dreiss & Davi Brown | Documentary | 2014 | 70 minutes | English | TVPG

Free community event, generously supported by Bank of America. *Aliento a Tequila y El Arte de Agave* exhibition generously supported by Mid-America Arts Alliance, United Way DEI Fund, and the NHCC Foundation.

[Register Here](#)

**Additional support for NHCC exhibitions and programs provided by National Endowment for the Humanities, Bank of America, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, AARP Albuquerque, United Way DEI Fund, the Albuquerque Journal, and Heritage Hotels.**

