

NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER



Perspectivas Nuevas: Featuring Nathan Felix

The National Hispanic Cultural Center is thrilled to host Mexican-American composer Nathan Felix for a discussion and the avant-garde musical experience *Prophets, Pyramids & Paños* at the Center on Saturday, October 28th from 1:00 pm to 4:00.

This is an original opera commissioned by the NHCC for the upcoming exhibition, *Into the Hourglass: Paño Arte from the Rudy Padilla Collection*, an exhibition celebrating paños as an art form and the contributions of incarcerated artists to the broader fields of Chicano and American art. Felix will also discuss his craft in a Composer's Talk on Thursday, October 26 at 6:30 pm. Both of these free events are generously supported by the Ford Foundation and United Way DEI Fund. The following has been edited for brevity and clarity.



NHCC: What inspired your unconventional approach to opera and musical performance?

Nathan: Film and filmmakers inspired me to try and push the boundaries of opera and performance art. Specifically filmmakers such as Alejandro Jodorosky, Luis Buñuel and Werner Herzog inspired me with their surrealistic and experimental approach to cinema.

When I first saw the ending of *Fitzcarraldo*, where the opera is being performed on a boat in the Amazon River, I knew I had to think in a more grandiose way when it came to the visual component of my work. Doing site-specific work allows me to experiment by adapting and melding my visual and aural textures to the environment.

NHCC: What excites you about the opportunity to do an immersive performance like *Prophets, Pyramids & Paños* on a campus like the National Hispanic Cultural Center?

Nathan: The NHCC campus is a dream canvas for me! It is absolutely stunning to walk around campus and has been equally as exciting to explore different areas of the campus for various performances. I want to activate the NHCC campus in a way that has yet to be done.



There will be music being performed simultaneously in various locations on the NHCC campus such as the Torreón, the museum gallery, on top of the pyramid and more but it's the audience interaction with the performers and spaces that will make this an immersive exploratory event.

NHCC: What do you hope audiences take away from *Prophets, Pyramids & Paños*?

Nathan: I want the audience to leave feeling they were challenged to listen, see and experience opera and classical music in a uniquely stimulating way. I'm pretty sure most people have not attended an opera performance where they



walk alongside the performers and are immersed within the staging so it'll be exciting for me to see how it all unfolds.

I know I'll come away inspired so perhaps some of the attendees will as well.

Upcoming Events



Reposo: A Hispanic Artist Rests for the Entirety of Hispanic Heritage Month

Sept. 15 - Oct. 15 | Tu. - Sun.: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Visual Arts Corridor

In this durational performance, artist Justin Favela will rest for the entirety of Hispanic Heritage Month at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. This performance challenges capitalistic views of labor and human value, the performance of racialized and gendered labor, and examines what it means to be an Hispanic/Latinx/Latine artist working in the art world today.

Favela will be resting at the NHCC in the Visual Arts Building. During this time, the artist is available for casual visits with the public. However, he is unable to participate in interviews during this time because he is resting.

[Learn More](#)

Día de Familia: Fiesta de Cultura

Sept. 16 | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
NHCC Campus

Join us at the Center as we kick off Hispanic Heritage Month with a day of activities for the entire family! Our Fiesta de Cultura features a family-friendly celebration of independence and creative expression through the arts inspired by Hispanic culture.

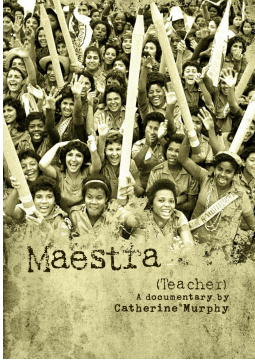
Head to the Center for a scavenger hunt, a story walk, clay activities, music from UNM String Lab's Mad About Music, mask-making based on the Center's new mascot, and much more! As a special treat, the NHCC's Visual Art Museum will be free during this event.

Free Community Event, generously sponsored by NM Gas.

[Register Here](#)



AfroMundo: Maestra



Sept. 20 | 7:00 p.m.
Wells Fargo Auditorium

Join us for a social justice film screening and panel discussion in collaboration with AfroMundo. Narrated by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker, *MAESTRA* explores the experiences of nine of the women who, as young girls, helped eradicate Cuban illiteracy within one year.

Interweaving interviews, archival footage, and campaign photos, this lively documentary includes one of the first Cubans of her generation to call herself a feminist and one of the first openly proud members of Cuba's LGBTQI community.

This is a free community event.

[Register Here](#)

Coyote Cage Film Premiere

Sept. 22 | Albuquerque Journal Theatre

- 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.: Food Trucks & Cash Bar
- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.: Pre-show performance by Micky Cruz
- 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.: Tabling
- 7:00 p.m.: Film Screening

The National Premiere of the local feature film *Coyote Cage*. *Coyote Cage* is about a group of Latin American immigrants who find themselves in the middle of a human trafficking ring and seek shelter in a safe house, that is anything but.



The screening will be followed by a Q&A Panel with the filmmakers and members of the cast. This is a free community event

[Register Here](#)



Opera Southwest: Mariposa Que Vuela: An Evening with Cecilia Violetta López

Sept. 23 | 6:00 p.m.
Visual Art Museum

Opera Southwest & the NHCC present *Mariposa Que Vuela*, a “recital autobiográfico” with soprano Cecilia Violetta López. Weaving together mariachi, ranchera, and opera music, Cecilia tells the story of her family, her early childhood in the farm fields of Idaho, the songs that her mother taught her, and her thrilling career in opera.

Tickets range from \$22 to \$42. Discounts for patrons 30 years old and younger as well as anyone with a WIC or EBT id. Please call the NHCC Box office at 505-724-4771 for discounted tickets.

[Buy Tickets](#)

AMP Concerts: Los Gaiteros & Madalitso Band

Sept. 24 | 7:30 p.m.
Patio/Fountain Courtyard

Los Gaiteros de San Jacinto was established in Colombia in the mid 1950s. Their touring, the exceptional quality of their musicians across generations, and the fact that they are one of the few gaita ensembles whose music has been commercially produced have made them the most important musical group of gaitas and Cumbia in Colombia and worldwide.



Madalitso Band are a two-man musical army from Malawi. Described as 'uplifting and vibrant' by the BBC, the band plays the babatone, a home-made instrument which is very popular in Malawi and the four-string guitar, creating the traditional Malawi banjo sound.

Special price of \$12 for general admission. Kids 12 years old and younger are free at the door night of show.

[Buy Tickets](#)



Colcha Community Stitch A-long

Sept. 26 | 9:30 a.m.
Salón Ortega

Our Colcha community Workshop is open to all levels of experience in an informal setting. This workshop is instructed by Annette Gutierrez-Turk. Annette has taught this art form to groups internationally and at the NHCC for many years.

She is also an award-winning artist, most recently recognized in 2019 at Santa Fe Spanish Market. Annette will demonstrate as well as answer questions. We hope you will join us every month on the fourth Tuesday, on zoom or in person. Everyone will have a chance to share what they are working on.

[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

Art Museum Reception: Into the Hourglass: Paño Arte from the Rudy Padilla Collection

Oct. 6 | 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Visual Art Museum

Join us for the opening reception of *Into the Hourglass: Paño Arte from the Rudy Padilla Collection*.

Into the Hourglass: Paño Arte from the Rudy Padilla Collection is an exhibition celebrating paños as an art form and the contributions of incarcerated artists to the broader fields of Chicano and American art. The exhibition features over 100 paños or pañuelos (Spanish for cloth or handkerchief) amassed by the late collector and community advocate, Rudy Padilla, as well as artworks by New Mexican artists whose work has been influenced by the style and visual vocabulary of paño arte.

This is a free community event.

[Register Here](#)



Additional support for NHCC exhibitions and programs provided by United Way DEI Fund, Ford Foundation, NM Gas, Mellon Foundation, the Albuquerque Journal, and Heritage Hotels.



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