

SOMOS MACRI



Emma Tenayuca and members of the Workers Alliance protest in front of San Antonio's City Hall, 1937. Courtesy UTSA Special Collections Library.

SAN ANTONIO: LEADER IN MEXICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY

SIGNIFICANT MEXICAN AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS FOUNDED IN SAN ANTONIO

1885 – Sociedad de la Unión

1921 – Order of Sons of America

1929 – League of United Latin American Citizens – founded in Corpus Christi, but grew rapidly in San Antonio

1967 – Mexican American Youth Organization (MAYO)

1967 – Mexican American Unity Council

1968 – Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF)

1969 – Padres Asociados para los Derechos Religiosos, Educativos, y Sociales (PADRES)

1970 – La Raza Unida Party

1972 – Mexican Cultural Center (now Mexican American Catholic College)

1973 – Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA)

1973 – AVANCE

1974 – Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS/Metro Alliance)

1974 – Southwest Voter Registration Education Project

1980 – Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center

1986 – Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)

1987 – Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES)

1987 – Esperanza Peace & Justice Center

1989 – National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC)

MISSION

Rooted in and inspired by San Antonio's legacy, the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute (MACRI) is the premier national organization dedicated to chronicling and advancing the Mexican American community's civil rights efforts in the U.S.

VISION

The Mexican American Civil Rights Institute envisions communities where all Americans are inspired by the Mexican American civil rights legacy and see themselves as participants and transformational leaders in the ongoing struggle for social justice, inclusion, and equity.



Rio Grande Valley Farm Workers March passes through downtown San Antonio on August 27, 1966. Courtesy ITSA Special Collections Library.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND BELIEFS

Civil rights are an expansive and significant set of rights designed to protect individuals from unfair treatment. For the Mexican American community, they are the rights of individuals to receive equal treatment and be free from discrimination including in the areas of education, employment, voting, housing, public accommodations, immigration, economic opportunity, as well as on the basis of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, and more. We strongly believe that all individuals should be treated with dignity and respect and are part of our common humanity.

- [Our roots are in San Antonio and South Texas](#)—San Antonio and the South Texas region are the birthplace of numerous significant Mexican American social justice organizations, leaders, and historic events that have shaped the history of civil rights in the United States.
- [MACRI continues the legacy of Mexican American social justice activism and advocacy](#)— We believe knowledge of our civil rights history inspires action to advance social justice, amplify voices, and enhance the quality of life of individuals, families and communities.



Larry Itliong, Walter Reuther, and Cesar Chavez at a Delano, CA grape boycott march, 1965. Fresno Bee.

- [MACRI is important for all Americans](#)— We expand the public’s understanding of the U.S. civil rights story because Mexican Americans' ongoing struggle for civil rights has created enduring change for ALL Americans, including indigenous communities and newcomers to this country.
- [People power movements that promote democratic ideals](#)— The history of Mexican American civil rights teaches us that empowered people drive and sustain movements and our democracy. We create safe spaces that educate and empower people and we stand in solidarity with other historically oppressed communities.
- [Mexican American civil rights history is ongoing, dynamic, and exceedingly relevant](#)— Telling and retelling our history of Mexican American civil rights has the power to transform our collective consciousness, lived experience, identity, resilience, and self-determination, now and into the future.

STAFF



Sarah Zenaida Gould, PhD
Interim Executive Director



Barbara Aguirre
Adminstrator



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Velma Vela Ybarra
Lifelong Educator &
Education Advocate

PROGRAMS

MACRI Talks: Free virtual talks on Mexican American civil rights history and current civil and human rights issues featuring nationally recognized scholars, leaders, and activists.

Digital Archive: A digital archive focused on Mexican American civil rights history materials, including:

- An oral history initiative to document first-hand stories of Mexican American civil rights efforts, and
- A digital archive portal that will connect our new digital archive collection to Mexican American civil rights-related holdings at existing digital collections around the country.

Exhibitions: Engaging and informative exhibitions on Mexican American civil rights topics. A digital exhibition on the history of Mexican American civil rights in San Antonio and South Texas will launch online in August 2021. A touring version of the exhibit will launch in Fall 2021.

MACRI TALKS

TEACHER
TRAINING
WORKSHOPS

Teacher training workshops: Educator workshops demonstrating how to incorporate Mexican American civil rights history into the classroom, and designed to coordinate with teaching standards such as the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

DIGITAL
ARCHIVE

MACRI'S
PROGRAMS

SYMPOSIUM

Symposium: An annual symposium on Mexican American civil rights history open to the public and featuring established and emerging scholars. We will host our first symposium in August 2021.

EXHIBITIONS

BROWN
PAPERS

Brown Papers: A biannual series of articles on Mexican American civil rights history and issues, with content written to educate the general public by top scholars and representatives from Mexican American civil rights work. The first series will launch in May 2021.



2020 MILESTONES



January 21 - Kickoff Press Conference at Our Lady of the Lake University



August 14 - Virtual Launch - more than 25k views!



December 17 - Hosted our twentieth public program of the year!



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2020 IN NUMBERS

9

Partnerships

20

Public Programs

756

Newsletter Subscribers

3,028

Facebook Followers

39,820

Program Viewers

2021 TO DATE

19

Public Programs

1

Brown Papers Issue

3,426

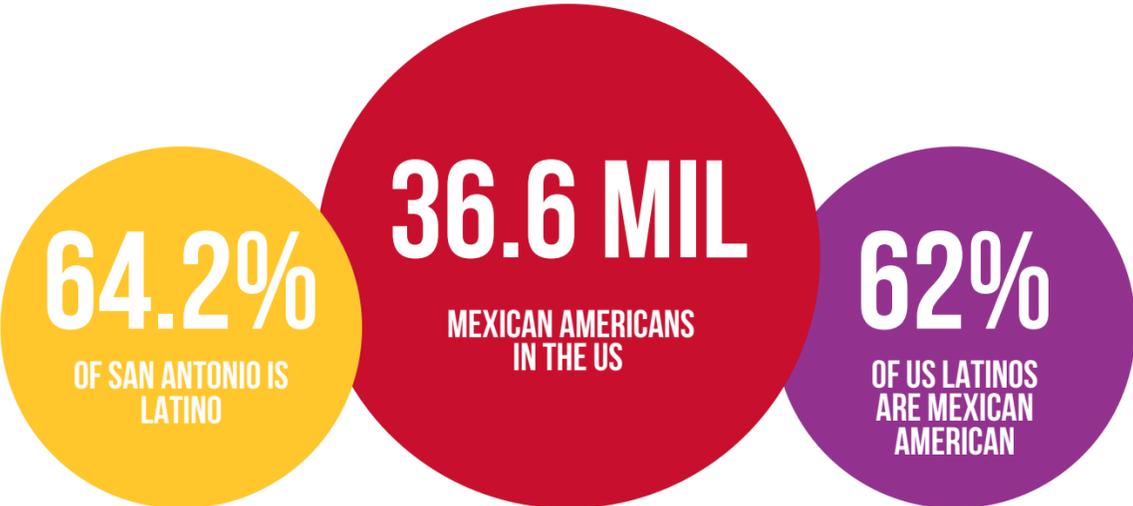
Facebook Followers

1,306

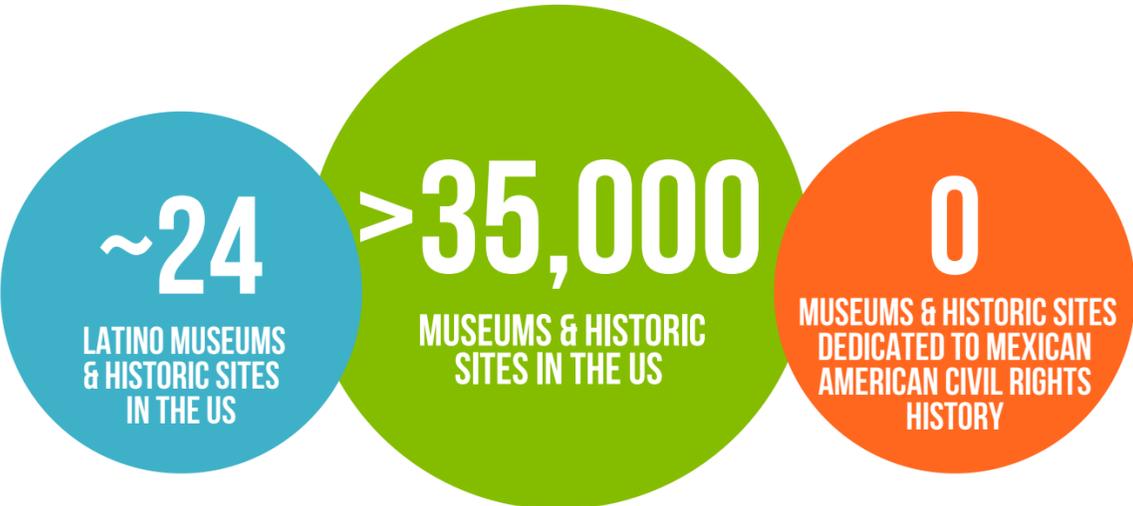
Newsletter Subscribers

A PROJECT OF LOCAL & NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

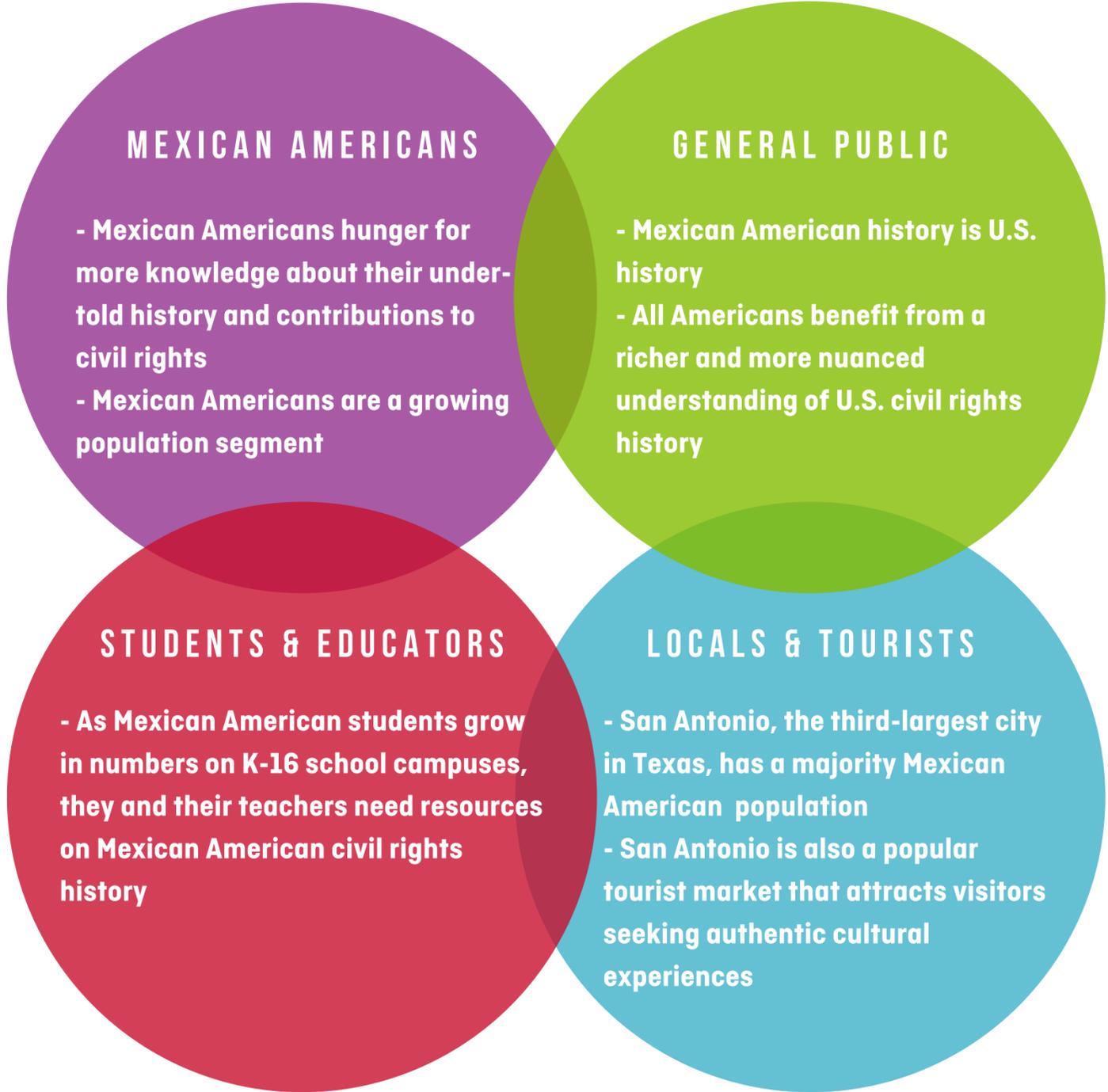
LATINOS ARE THE LARGEST MINORITY GROUP IN THE UNITED STATES

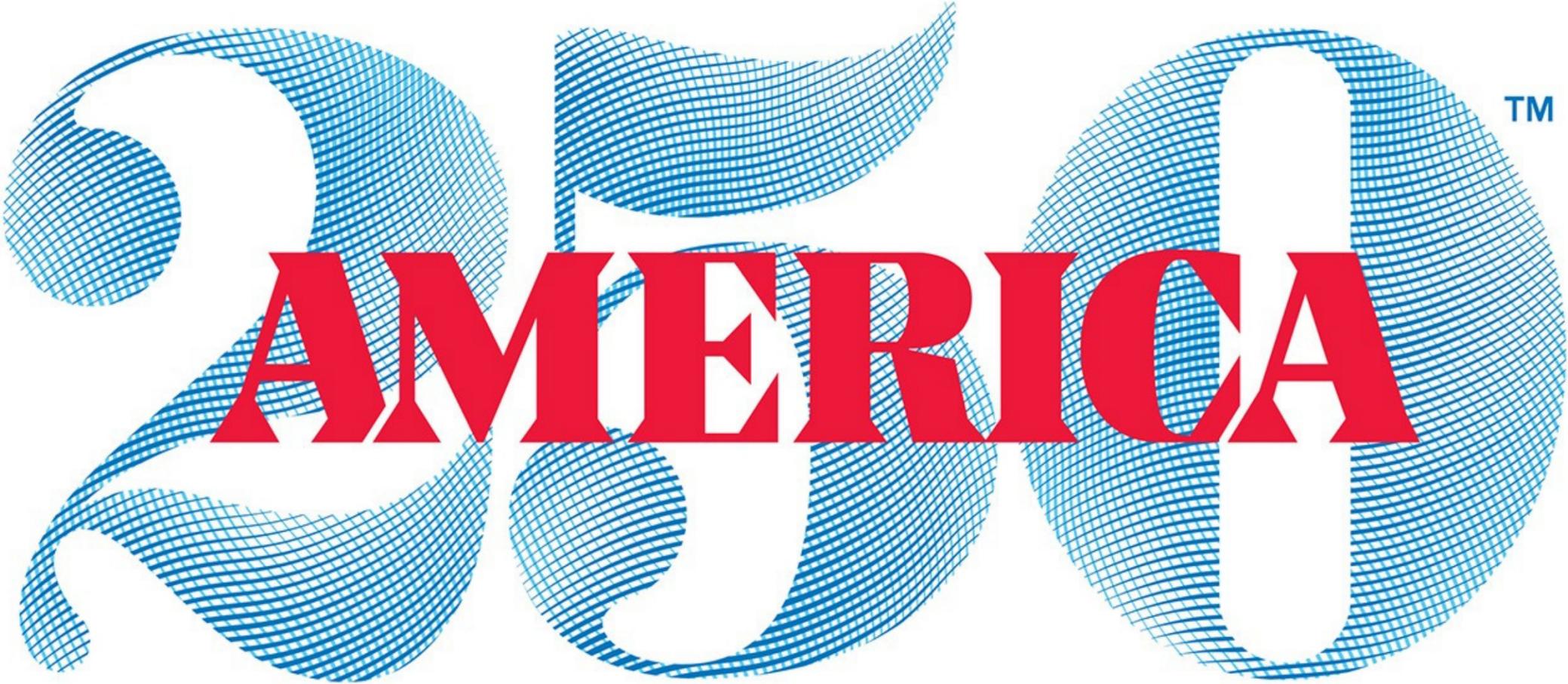


LATINOS ARE VASTLY UNDERREPRESENTED IN PUBLIC HISTORY SITES



AUDIENCE & STAKEHOLDERS





TESTIMONIALS



"It has been my hope for some years that a group of dedicated organizers would mobilize to create a physical and intellectual center where the story of Mexican American civil rights progress can be shared with our own residents as well as visitors to San Antonio. [...] Such a center would create a physical site and serve as a monument to civil rights pioneers, as well as provide a venue for academic research, for the production of books and reports, and for conferences and addresses."

- Henry Cisneros, Former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

"The importance of understanding the Civil Rights journey of the Latino/a/x community is integral to understanding the current and future policy directions that this country needs to focus on. I am thrilled that MACRI was set up in the cradle of so many civil rights organizations and institutions, San Antonio!"

- Erika Prosper Nirenberg, First Lady of San Antonio

[Teacher Training Workshop](#)

"This was an excellent session. I really enjoyed it and learned a lot. Thank you!" - Jennifer Hall, Social Studies Instructional Coach, Kruger Middle School, San Antonio, TX

[MACRI Talks](#)

"Wonderful session. Great event. We need many more like these." - Aurelio Montemayor, M.Ed., Intercultural Development Research Association, San Antonio

"Thank you for the topic. Much needed educational conversation." - Greg Miranda, Sacramento, CA

"Thank you for creating this space of reflection and learning." - Miguel Macías-Armenta, Director, Diversity Center, University of Washington, Bothell, WA

"Thanks. This was great." - John Trasviña, Executive Director, Generation Citizen, San Francisco



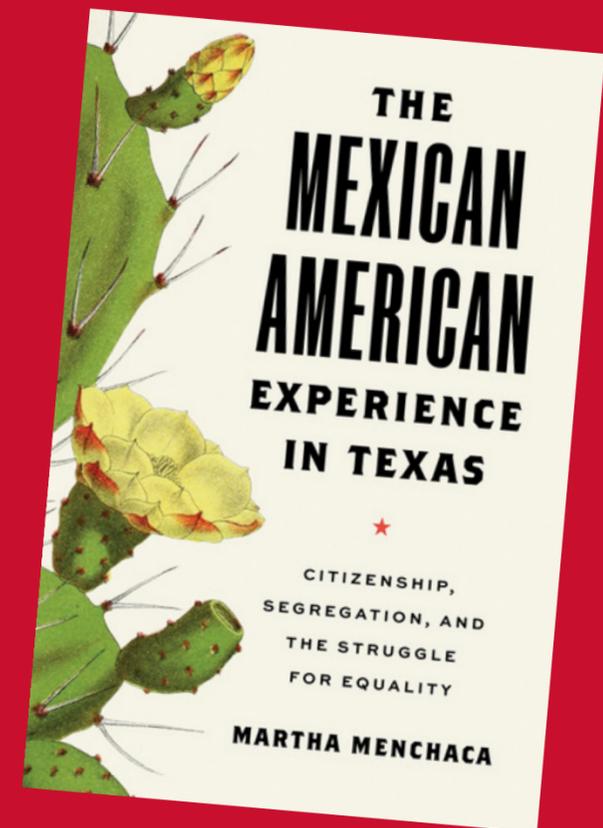
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Join us for a MACRI Talk!
Thursday, June 17, 2021
6PM Central
Facebook Live



Dr. Martha Menchaca

The Mexican American Experience:
Struggles for Social and Economic Equality in Texas



Forthcoming book
from UT Press!



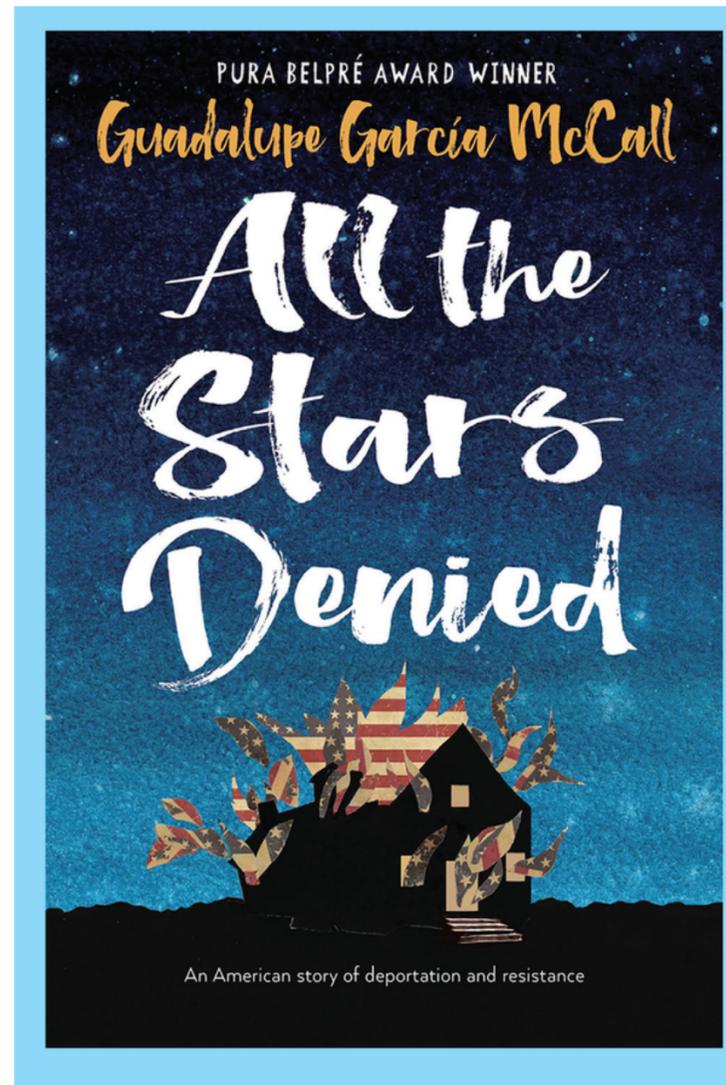
VIRTUAL SUMMER BOOK CLUB



**SATURDAY
JULY 10, 2021
2 PM CENTRAL**



GUADALUPE GARCIA MCCALL



FRANCISCO E. BALDERRAMA, PHD

08.13-14.21



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SAVE THE DATE

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

11AM-3PM **CENTRAL**