



SAN ANTONIO ASSOCIATION
OF HISPANIC JOURNALISTS
PRESENTS



*Scholarship &
Awards Gala*



SAAHJ



SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2018



THE GRAND HYATT,
600 E. MARKET ST.





THE LEGACY OF HENRY GUERRA

San Antonio pioneering broadcaster Henry Guerra, nicknamed the “Voice of San Antonio,” may be best remembered for his signature signoff, “Good night y muy buenas noches.” For more than a half-century, however, he broke media barriers as he reached milestones in his own career. It started in 1939, when he became the first Mexican-American announcer to work at a major English-language radio station, WOAI, in San Antonio and the first to use his own name. Ten years later, he became the first Mexican-American broadcaster in the city, again, at WOAI. He took his baritone voice to ABC affiliate KSAT and PBS’ KLRN and reported business news on KEEZ FM. He worked as director of development at St. Mary’s University, too, and did a stint in public relations for HemisFair ’68.

A history buff, Guerra’s labor of love was an annual radio broadcast “13 Days at the Alamo.” He produced a radio and TV series called “Henry Guerra’s San Antonio.” For these contributions, he was made an honorary member of the all-female Daughters of the Republic of Texas. A San Antonio branch library is named for him.

In 2001, he died shortly before he was to receive the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists’ first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Journalism. More than 650 people attended his funeral Mass at San Fernando Cathedral, and the award was



renamed in his honor.

Today, more than a dozen journalists and newspaper leaders have been awarded the Henry Guerra Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Journalism. In 2011, the honor was bestowed on an entire group — the Mexican journalists who died in that nation’s violent drug war.

SAAHJ has also awarded a community service award to a litany of civic leaders, cultural ambassadors and groups that have made significant contributions to San Antonio life.

In 2014, SAAHJ established its Corazón de Oro Award to honor those exceptional professionals whose achievements have been recognized nationally and who have contributed to the U.S.-Latino experience.

RECIPIENTS OF THE HENRY GUERRA AWARD

2001	Henry Guerra
2002	Tino Duran
2003	Veronica Salazar Escobedo
2005	Emilio Nicolas
2006	Lionel Sosa
2007	Charles Kilpatrick
2008	Elizabeth Ruiz
2009	Maria Elena Torralva-Alonso
2010	Martha Tijerina
2011	Mexican journalists
2012	Jessie Degollado
2013	Mónica Navarro
2014	John Quiñones
2015	Michael Quintanilla
2016	Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez
2017	John W. Gonzalez

RECIPIENTS OF THE SAAHJ COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

2004	Cortez Family of Mi Tierra
2008	Patricia Diaz Dennis
2009	Chicano Walkout Students of 1968
2010	Rosie Castro
2011	Jesus Rangel
2012	Father David Garcia
2013	Karen Martinez
2014	Henry Cisneros
2015	MALDEF
2016	Maria Antonietta Berriozábal
2017	RAICES

CORAZÓN DE ORO RECIPIENTS

2014	Robert Rodriguez
2015	Vikki Carr
2016	Little Joe Hernandez
2017	Jim Acosta



20TH ANNUAL

SAN ANTONIO ASSOCIATION OF HISPANIC JOURNALISTS

Scholarship & Awards Gala

RECEPTION

EMCEE

Jessie Degollado, KSAT 12

ENTERTAINMENT

El Trio Mío

IN MEMORIAM

INVOCATION

Linda Ximenes

Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation

DINNER PROGRAM

Recognition of SAAHJ leadership and gala chairs

Joey Palacios, SAAHJ President

AWARDS & PRESENTORS

2018 SAAHJ Scholars

SAAHJ Community Service Award

American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions

Jesse Borrego

Henry Guerra Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Journalism

Francisco Vara-Orta

Corazón de Oro Award

Mayor Ron Nirenberg



2018 SCHOLARS



**RUBEN G.
BETANCOURT**

Texas A&M University-
San Antonio



**PAULETTE V.
CARREON**

University of Texas
at San Antonio



**JENNA M.
CARROLL**

Texas State
University



**AMANDA M.
FIERROS**

University of Texas
at Arlington



**JENNIFER
GUTIERREZ**

Texas State
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**KAILEY N.
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Trinity
University



**BETHANY D.
MELENDEZ**

University of the
Incarnate Word



**ANDRES
MEZA**

Texas State
University



**RENEE
MUÑIZ**

University of the
Incarnate Word



**MICAH J.
PALOMO**

Texas Tech
University



**BRASSANT K.
RICHARDSON**

University of
North Texas



**BRIANNA M.
RODRIGUE SILVA**

San Antonio
College



**COLIN J.
SPALTEN**

University of Texas
at Austin



HENRY GUERRA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM

ELAINE AYALA



For several years, the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists has wanted to honor Elaine Ayala. But the columnist with 38 stellar years of newspaper experience has always declined, instead suggesting others before her.

Ayala's honor is no longer past due: The journalist who grew up on the city's West Side and is a proud graduate of Memorial High School (Go Minutemen!) and the University of Pennsylvania (Go Quakers!) is this year's recipient of the Henry Guerra Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Journalism.

For nearly four decades, Ayala has immersed herself in the power of the printed word as a reporter, editor, blogger, columnist and mentor to younger journalists.

Ayala is respected for her work, her resilient character and, above all, her fierce concern for San Antonio's often-ignored communities, giving them a place in the pages of her hometown newspaper.

Her unbreakable work ethic and versatility has landed her at six metropolitan dailies:

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times, Arizona Daily Star, The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer, Austin American-Statesman, El Paso Times and the San Antonio Express-News, where she has worked for almost half her career.

Her Monday eponymous Metro column in the Express-News about Latino politics, history, arts and culture is a must-read. She has long reported on diversity and demography, immigration and, more recently, religion, as lead writer content producer of the Faith section.

The past president of SAAHJ and both the Austin and El Paso associations of Hispanic journalists and has chaired numerous conferences and won several awards, including the Phillip True Award for Reporter of the Year, voted on by her peers at the Express-News; the Governor's Yellow Rose of Texas Award; the Mission Heritage Award and the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Community Voice Award. And she has been inducted into the Edgewood Independent School District's Hall of Fame and the San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame.



SAAHJ COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

AMERICAN INDIANS IN TEXAS AT THE SPANISH COLONIAL MISSIONS



For 24 years, the American Indians of Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions has worked to protect and preserve Native American history and cultural traditions and advocated for the rights of their ancestors and descendants.

The nonprofit AIT was formed in 1994 by five families of the Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation and is the oldest and only organization in San Antonio addressing the needs of the American Indian and the area's indigenous people.

With its year-round programming and events, it has become the singular voice of one of the largest, fastest-growing urban Indian populations in the country with a mission statement that declares, "We are here not for income, but for outcome."

AIT played a role in getting San Antonio's missions recognized as a World Heritage Site and remains the central driving force demanding recognition of the contributions that aboriginals and first families have made to the city and state.

Through its self-help programs, counseling, heritage projects and mentoring, AIT seeks to develop youth, strengthen families, celebrate arts and culture and promote health and wellness.

Its counseling and support groups share cultural traditions that reflect Native American heritage, including dance, drumming, traditional singers, flute, art classes, poetry, film screenings and Indian markets.

AIT continues to campaign for the return of ancestral remains taken from the city's missions and the protection of the historic Catholic cemeteries associated with each.



CORAZÓN DE ORO AWARD

CARMEN YULÍN CRUZ SOTO



She made TIME magazine's 2018 list of the 100 most influential people in the world. And after Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico last year, Mayor Carmen Yulín Cruz Soto was a candidate for TIME's person of the year.

This year she's the recipient of the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists' Corazon de Oro Award, given to professionals who use their national profiles to advance the lives of Latinos.

Because of her tireless commitment to the people of San Juan and Puerto Rico in Maria's aftermath and the resulting humanitarian crisis, Cruz has shown the world that the principles of justice and equality are her passion, a topic she writes about in her book, "El Poder está en la Calle" ("Power is in the Street").

Cruz has been a relentless advocate for getting help and dignified care for her people, proving, as she has often said, how public service is about governing not for the people, but with the people — and how rewarding it can be for people to find their own power to change society and the country's future.

She began her political career in high school as class president from eighth to 12th grade. After

high school, she left the island to attend the University of Boston, graduating cum laude in political science. She earned a master's in public policy at Carnegie Mellon and then worked as a human resources director at the U.S. Treasury Department and several companies including Scotiabank.

In 1992, Cruz returned to Puerto Rico to work in the private sector, but her passion for public service led her to City Hall as an advisor to then-San Juan Mayor Sila María Calderón, and later, to advisory roles for other leaders. Then in 2008, she became representative-at-large for the Puerto Rico House of Representatives. In 2012, she ran for mayor of San Juan and was re-elected in 2016.

She is the recipient of numerous leadership, public service and humanitarian awards, including the 2018 Martin Luther King Centre Justice, Peace and Freedom Award and Humanitarian Leadership Award; the Antonio Villaraigosa Leadership Award; and ESSENCE magazine's Woke 100 Women list.

Last year she was awarded the AIDS Healthcare Foundation Humanitarian Award and the Puerto Rico Arts Alliance Felisa Rincón Legacy Public Service Award.



CELEBRATE GRIDIRON!

300

YEARS OF
LAUGHTER

SATURDAY, OCT. 6, 2018

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TONIGHT'S MENU

SALAD

Spicy greens, English cucumber and olive relish, grape tomatoes, goat cheese crumbles with a grapefruit and smoked Jalapeno vinaigrette

ENTRÉE

Herb-seared airline chicken breast with a semi-spicy poblano cream sauce, Lemon and parsley roasted marble potatoes, Poached broccolini, roasted baby bell pepper and charred carrot

DESSERT

New York style cheese cake with a raspberry coulis, Cognac whipped cream and a dark chocolate pencil stick

*Congratulations
to this year's honorees
and scholarship
award winners.*



Elaine is the 2018 Henry Guerra Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree - La Mera-Mera Elaine Ayala.

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The mission of the San Antonio Association of Hispanic Journalists is to help newsrooms better reflect the diverse population of Texas. The organization is comprised of journalists, public relations professionals, students and others in the communications industry.

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2018 SAAHJ GALA COMMITTEE



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Gala Co-Chair



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“KEEPING THE CULTURE ALIVE”

Preserving culture and traditions of the Tâp Pîlam Coahuiltecan Nation and other indigenous peoples who resided at the Indian Missions of South Texas and Northeastern Mexico.

AMERICAN INDIANS IN TEXAS at the Spanish Colonial Missions

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