

# Distinguished Graduate

# 2023



## Laurie Ann Gómez Martínez

**MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES**

*“God will do more through you than you ever thought possible.”*

– David Bell

In fall of 2021, Laurie Ann Gómez Martínez served as a speaker at the Mi Gente Heritage Month Opening Ceremony, “Mi Gente Through the Ages: Intergenerational and Intersectional Concepts of our Identities.” Six speakers discussed who they are as individuals and as a gente, privileges they do and do not have and how they plan to use their academic credentials to bring positive change for their gente.

Laurie wrote a poem titled “México, a Mystery” for her Mexican American Fine Arts Appreciation class in Fall of 2021. Her teacher, Profesora Saldaña, encouraged her to submit her poetry for publication. Her poem was published by the Sims Library of Poetry on Feb. 2, 2022.

The University of Texas at San Antonio and the Alamo Colleges District are collaborating on a multimillionaire dollar Mellon Foundation grant from 2021-2024. Laurie was chosen to serve as a member of the Inaugural Ethnic Studies Student-Transfer Advisory Board.

On Sept. 8, 2022, Laurie addressed Profesora Lisa Ramos’ Mexican American History I class at San Antonio College. She shared her journey of discovery with Mexican American Studies and the importance of knowing your history, who you are and from whence you came. Laurie encouraged the students to become world changers, history makers and to make a difference through Mexican American Studies.