MEDIA RELEASE

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-SAN ANTONIO
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Texas A&M University-San Antonio and Palo Alto College launch reading series

New 410 Reading Club will explore the modern Mexican American experience

SAN ANTONIO — The Texas A&M University-San Antonio University Library and the Palo Alto College Ozuna Library have teamed up to bring a brand new reading club to the South Side of San Antonio offering a series of literary events for the fall. Called the 410 Reading Club, the literary series will focus on the modern Mexican American experience in South Texas.

University Librarian Stefanie Wittenbach stated, "I am really pleased to be working with the librarians at Palo Alto College to bring these events to our area. Our institutions regularly work together to support students, and this initiative will provide original educational activities for the broader community as well."

Tina Mesa, Palo Alto College's Dean of Learning Resources added, "As neighboring educational institutions on the south side of San Antonio, the Palo Alto College Ozuna Library and the TAMU-SA Library's goal is to regularly schedule intellectually stimulating events that are free and open to our institutions' population, as well as the surrounding community. The 410 Reading Club will provide participants with an opportunity to listen to presenters and to discuss a variety of literary works. We are hopeful that this venture will lead to other collaborative initiatives, further strengthening our two institutions' ties."

The series launches this fall with three events:

Domingo Martinez Reading and Discussion: September 26, 2013 at 7 p.m.

Laurie Ann Guerrero Poetry Reading: October 17, 2013 at 2 p.m.

David Montejano's *Quixote's Soldiers* Panel Discussion: November 14, 2013 at 7 p.m.

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On September 26, 2013, the series kicks off with a reading and presentation from Domingo Martinez, author of *The Boy Kings of Texas.* This event will take place at 7 p.m. at Texas A&M University-San Antonio's downtown facility, the Educational & Cultural Arts Center. Martinez' acclaimed memoir *The Boy Kings of Texas* captures the struggles of the Mexican American experience along the Rio Grande Valley. *The Boy Kings of Texas* was a finalist for the 2012 National Book Award. 101 S. Santa Rosa,

The second event will be a poetry reading from acclaimed local poet Laurie Ann Guerrero on October 17, 2013 at 2 p.m., at Palo Alto College's Recital Hall in Room 190. Guerrero, who grew up on San Antonio's South Side, offers a gripping portrayal of Mexican American life through her poetry. She recently released her first book of poetry entitled *A Tongue in the Mouth of the Dying.*

The final event in the series is a panel discussion about David Montejano's *Quixote's Soldiers* on November 14, 2013, at Palo Alto College. The event will take place in the Main Auditorium (Room 140) in the Recital Hall at 7 p.m. *Quixote's Soldiers* details the Chicano Movement in San Antonio, and will guide a panel discussion on the movement's effects on this city. Dr. Laurie Hernandez-Ehrisman, St. Edward's University, will address how San Antonio's cultural history was transformed by the movement. Guest speaker Rosie Castro, activist and mother of U.S. Congressman Joaquin Castro and San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, will speak about her personal experiences within the Chicano Movement. Dr. James Barrera, South Texas College, will discuss how *Quixote's Soldiers* has shaped his own research about the Chicano Student Movement in South Texas.

All events are free and open to the public.

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