



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Palo Alto College celebrates the cultures of south Texas during Heritage Month 2017**

Alamo Colleges District-Palo Alto College will celebrate Heritage Month from Sept. 18 to Oct. 12 to honor the indigenous heritages of South Texas, such as Native American, Mexican American, Hispanic, Latino/a, Mexican, Chicano/a, and Afro-Latin. The month will include a series of events including author readings, panel discussions, films, theater performances, exhibits, and more.

A kickoff celebration will take place Monday, Sept. 18, with a blessing featuring Grupo de Danza Azteca Xinachtli; special reading by Dr. Carmen Tafolla, former San Antonio Poet Laureate and Texas Poet Laureate; and musical performances from El Tallercito de Son SATX and Grupo Frackaso.

All 2017 Heritage Month events at Palo Alto College are free and open to the public. The events are sponsored by several Palo Alto College programs including the Center for Mexican American Studies, Office of Student Life, Working Writers Series Committee, Teatro Palo Alto, and the Ozuna Library. Featured events include:

- Sept. 18: Opening ceremony with blessing & live musical performances
- Sept. 19: Guest lecture/plática with Alejandra Guzmán, president of the University of Texas at Austin Student Government Association
- Sept. 21: Book reading and signing with renowned author Ana Castillo
- Sept. 26: Film screening of *Stolen Education* and Q&A with producer Dr. Enrique Aleman
- Sept. 28: Stage performance of *Tejana Trilogy*, written and performed by Marisela Barrera with live music from Azul Barrientes
- Oct. 4: Reading and Discussion of *Blue Texas: The Making of a Multiracial Democratic Coalition in the Civil Rights Era* by Max Krochmal
- Oct. 5: Poetry/Rap Slam hosted by National Slam Poets Amalia Ortiz and Anthony "The Poet" Flores
- Oct. 9: Indigenous Peoples Day/Día de la Raza Ceremony featuring the American Indians of Texas
- Oct. 12: Health and Wela-Ness: a panel discussion on the healing practices of our ancestors

For a full list of scheduled events including times and locations, visit [alamo.edu/pac/heritage-month](http://alamo.edu/pac/heritage-month). Additional information can be requested through Student Life at 210-486-3125.

Palo Alto College, part of the Alamo Colleges District, is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and a recipient of the 2015 Texas Award for Performance Excellence and a finalist for the 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. With nearly 10,000 students, Palo Alto College is accredited to offer associate degrees and short-term certificates. The campus is located on the south side of San Antonio at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd. at I-410 and Texas Hwy 16 and online at [alamo.edu/pac](http://alamo.edu/pac).

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