



Third Dallas International Book Fair
October 24-26, 2008
Erik J. Jonsson Central Library
1515 Young St
Dallas, TX 75201
www.dallaslibrary.org

Participants – Biographies

- **Armando Alaniz Pulido** – Poet – Monterrey, Mexico

Esta considerado como una de las voces mas innovadoras en el nuevo panorama poetico mexicano. Ha publicado una docena de libros. Ha sido traducido al ingles, frances y al chino. Ganador del premio nacional de poesia joven en 1998. La Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon le otorgo el premio a las artes en el 2005 por su destacada trayectoria literaria. Su poesia breve y concisa nos muestra una urbanidad donde se detallan las bellezas del mundo a traves de una coloquialidad deslumbrante. Es coordinador del proyecto accion poetica que consiste en pintar versos en muros abandonados de la ciudad en una especie de graffiti poetico.

- **David A. Bedford** – Author – Buenos Aires, Argentina / Fort Worth, Texas

David A. Bedford es de Buenos Aires, aunque por motivos que no son de su responsabilidad, nació en Fort Worth, Texas, Estados Unidos. Cursó escuelas primarias argentinas en Rosario y Comodoro Rivadavia, la secundaria en Asociación Escuelas Lincoln en Buenos Aires y la universidad en Texas Tech y la Universidad de Texas en Austin, donde recibió el doctorado. Su azarosa carrera lo ha llevado a viajar la vuelta al mundo, enseñar a misioneros en Georgia, administrar un laboratorio de idiomas en Illinois (Southern Illinois University at Carbondale) y ser director de un instituto de idioma portugués en Brasil. Por una secuela de errores demasiado larga y compleja como para caber en esta nota, desembocó en Texas Christian University en Fort Worth (que el lector atento recordará es su ciudad natal), donde enseña, muy contento, idioma castellano hace doce años. Bedford publica monografías académicas sobre literatura y enseñanza de idiomas y es autor de *Liliana y el espejo*, una colección de trece cuentos fantásticos. También es autor del cuento “Manuscrito hallado en un ánfora de Pompeya,” uno de los ganadores del Premio 2003 para cuentos de su editorial y que está publicado en la antología *Más allá de las fronteras: cuento*, de Ediciones Nuevo Espacio.

- **Carol Bullman** – Author – Dallas, TX

Carol taught elementary school while studying creative writing at the University of North Texas. Now, she lives near Dallas, where she writes at a sunny desk with a view of her little garden. Her husband and young son provide continual inspiration for her stories and poems for children.

- **Yangsook Choi** – Author & Illustrator Children's Books– Korea / New York

Yangsook Choi grew up in Korea and moved to New York to study art. She was selected as one of the most prominent new children's book artists by Publishers Weekly. She has written and illustrated many children's books. Her books have received several awards, including the International Reading Association's Children's Book Award, a California Young Reader Medal and the Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Gold Award. Her clients include Random House, National Geographic Society, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Henry Holt & Company, Houghton Mifflin Company, McGraw Hill Company, Pearson Education, Hachette Filipacchi Magazines and the Children's Book Council. Her works have been showcased at the Society of Illustrators, the Children's Museum of the Arts, School of Visual Arts, Art Director's Club and New York Public Library. She has spoken at Smithsonian Institute, Parsons School of Design, the School of Visual Arts, Random House, Barnes & Noble, Children's Museum of the Arts, Asian American Writer's Workshop and various institutions. She received an MFA in Illustration from the School of Visual Arts in New York City where she currently resides.

- **Carlos Cisneros** –Author Tex-Mex Legal Thriller – Brownsville, Texas

Long before he started work on his first Tex-Mex legal thriller, *The Case Runner*, Carlos Cisneros prosecuted cases with the Cameron County District Attorneys' Office. It was there that he gained trial experience by prosecuting cases ranging from drug trafficking all the way to murder. After leaving the DA's office, Cisneros opened his own law firm in 1997 where he pursued trial work and represented clients in matters involving criminal law, personal injury, and appeals. Born on September 18, 1963 in Brownsville, Texas, to a father who tended the family farm in Mexico and a mother who ran the once-famous Rancho Grande Restaurant, young Cisneros dreamed of one day running the family farm and owning a chain of restaurants. But after Mexico's peso devaluation wiped out the fortunes of thousands of Mexicans, including his family's, Carlos left home and started waiting tables to help pay for college. In time, he enrolled at the University of Texas in Austin where he majored in History. After attending law school in Houston, he relocated back to South Texas where he continues to practice law to this day.

One day, while at the courthouse, Cisneros overheard a young colleague ranting and raving after having a case stolen by another attorney. When the colleague threatened to sue and report the lawyer to the State Bar, the sleaze replied "the judges and the State Bar do my bidding!" Cisneros learned that his colleague had signed up the widow of a welder who had fallen off wobbly scaffolding to his death, making the case worth millions. Unfortunately, the shyster lawyer—after secretly paying the family thirty thousand dollars to switch firms—ended up with the case. And so the seed of an idea for his first novel was planted in Cisneros' mind. Staying up most nights until 3:00 a.m., Cisneros spent five years writing *The Case Runner* until it was finished. As he looked for publishers, Cisneros immediately started work on a second novel entitled *Nine Ways to Skin a Cat*. This legal thriller is scheduled to be released in the spring of 2009. When

he is not working, trying cases or writing, Carlos Cisneros can be found fishing the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

- **Margaret Clauder**- Performer- Educational Kids show – Dallas, Texas
Celebrate the Harvest with Patchy the Funny Fall Scarecrow
September/October/November. This is a non-scary "clown" scarecrow. She performs fall magic and songs about harvest time. Children will learn and participate in "The seed cycle". They will love "Jimmy the Crow" as he steals the corn. Tie this in with harvest time at your school. Age 2 - up.

Learning Points

1. Teach children about the growing cycle from seed to harvested food.
2. Help children become aware of how essential corn is to a variety of products they encounter every day.
3. Teach children a fun rhyming song they can sing for their own entertainment, strengthening self-directed amusement tendencies.
4. Remind children of the importance of farms and farming to our daily lives

- **Barbara Porter Coleman** – Author – Muskogee, Oklahoma / Dallas TX
Barbra Porter Coleman is an Okie from Muskogee, Oklahoma who now resides in Dallas Texas. Between her and her husband, Alton they have five children and four grandchildren. Barbra holds a Bachelor Degree in Psychology/Management from Dallas Baptist University. She also have many college hours in the criminal justice field. When Barbra was in the third grade she would stay after school, sit on the steps of Dunbar Elementary in Muskogee, and read sixth-grade books to sixth-graders. Barbra always had a story to tell and a life-long desire to write. It wasn't until her last child left for college that she seriously followed her dreams. Initially, she planned to write about her mother's tragic car/train death and how being resilient helped her through her Senior year in high school. However, the more she wrote, the more murder mysteries called her name. Barbra works for a major airline in reservations where she has been an acting supervisor, training coordinator, and instructor. She is currently on the phones assisting passengers with reservations. Barbra has always had a desire to write. Three years ago after meeting her favorite Author -Frances Ray she put the pen to the paper and hasn't put it down yet. She is a member of the Writer's Block Inc. in Dallas, TX. where she gets her motivation and drive. This group assist writers in becoming successful authors. Barbra has been on Black Images Best Seller's list (twice), and has been featured in Dallas Weekly, Cedar Hill Today, and Muskogee Phoenix's newspaper.

In her leisure time, Barbra likes to travel. Her favorite places are Paris, France; Florence, Pisa, and Rome, Italy; Dominican Republic, St. Thomas in the Virgin Island, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Her favorite TV Shows are ER, and 24. Her favorite Movies are Training Days, Jackie Brown and The Other Sister. Barbra has a strong Faith in God. Her favorite saying is: 'With most things you have to See to Believe. But with GOD you have to BELIEVE to SEE.

- **Terrienna Cullins** – Author – Children's Books – Dallas, Texas
Ms. Cullins has a master's degree in psychology from Abilene Christian University. Her first literary work was published in treasures of the Wind at the age of 16. Terrienna has had several poems featured in literary anthologies and received a Sokoyah Poet Award in 1995. She has several poems featured in literary anthologies and received a Sokoyah Poet Award in 1995. She has published several articles on early childhood education. Her children's book "What's Wrong with Sam? For everyone with a brother or sister with

mental retardation” is about a young girl and her brother who has mental retardation. The story focuses on her struggle to accept his difference. Terrienna resides in Texas with her husband and son.

- **Fernando Curiel Defosse** – Author- Historian – Mexico D.F.

Ensayista, narrador, crítico, editor, investigador. Licenciado en Derecho, Maestro en Letras y Doctor en Historia por la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Investigador de Tiempo Completo del Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas, Miembro del Sistema Nacional de Investigadores. En los campos de los estudios literarios y de los lenguajes industriales ha publicado, entre otros títulos: *Onetti: calculado infortunio* (Premio Xavier Villaurrutia), *La telaraña magnética o el lenguaje de la radio*, *La querrela de Martín Luis Guzmán* (Premio José Revueltas), *Mal de ojo. Iniciación a la literatura icónica*, *El cielo no se abre. Biografía documental de Alfonso Reyes* (Premio de Biografía Colima), *Tarda necrofilia. Itinerario de la segunda Revista Azul*, *La revuelta. Interpretación del Ateneo de la Juventud (1906-1929)*, *El Ateneo de la Juventud (A/Z)*, *Elementos para un esquema generacional aplicable a cien años (aprox.) de literatura patria*, *Hijo de Lampazos. Nemesio García Naranjo en sus memorias* (mención del premio Alfonso Reyes), *Santa María de Onetti. Guía de lectores forasteros y Hábitos*. Asimismo ha editado la correspondencia cruzada por Alfonso Reyes con Martín Luis Guzmán y con Jaime Torres Bodet. Participa en el equipo que prepara la edición del diario completo de Alfonso Reyes. Coordina el campo letras del proyecto 1810-2010: La configuración del México Moderno y Contemporáneo. Está por aparecer la edición crítica: *Alfonso Reyes: mi óbolo a Caronte (evocación del general Bernardo Reyes)* (Premio José C. Valadés 2005 del INEHRM); y, en colaboración, el *Índice de revista culturales del siglo XX (Ciudad de México)*, actualmente concluye la edición del primer tomo de memorias de José Juan Tablada y *Siglo veinte @ lit.mex. Amplio tratado de perspectiva generacional*.

- **German Dehesa** – Author –Journalist – Mexico D.F.

El Lic. Germán Dehesa Violante, nace en la Ciudad de México el 1º de julio de 1944. Licenciado en letras hispánicas por la UNAM, conferenciante, director de periódicos, director de teatro, coordinador de talleres literarios, autor de más de 60 espectáculos de teatro, actor, comediante, guionista, conductor y anfitrión de programas de Radio y Televisión. Fue editorialista de los periódicos “Novedades”, “El Financiero” y “Metro” de la Ciudad de México. En la actualidad es editorialista de los periódicos: “El Norte” de Monterrey con “De aquí para allá”; y “Reforma” en el D.F., donde publica “La Gaceta del Ángel” y en el diario “Mural” de Guadalajara “El Charro Negro”. Publica también una columna semanal deportiva en el periódico “Cancha”. Sus artículos son sindicados en más de 50 periódicos de la República. El 10 de diciembre de 1998, la Asamblea Legislativa del Distrito Federal le otorgó al Sr. Dehesa “El Premio Anual de Periodismo Parlamentario, 1998” en la categoría de: Mejor comentario editorial. En diciembre del 2004 recibe la Medalla “Lolita Ayala” al altruismo otorgada por la Asociación de Locutores de México. Ha conducido programas de Radio, como los que estuvieron a su cargo en: Radio IMER, Núcleo Radio Mil, Radio Fórmula, Radio Red y “Radio Muégano” en Radio Monitor.

Su más reciente participación en televisión fue con “El Ángel de la Noche” transmitido por Canal 40. Cabe mencionar su actuación en la película mexicana “Cilantro y Perejil”.

Entre su obra editorial encontramos: “La vida y sus dibujos”, con el artista plástico Juan Sebastián; en 1996 publicó: “Fallaste corazón”; un tercer libro titulado “La Música de los Años” y un cuarto libro, “Hablan los amorosos” con la participación del Sr. Federico Reyes Heróles en el que, ambos, realizaron una recopilación de textos escritos por “deudores diversos”, para el poeta chiapaneco Jaime Sabines. Todos estos libros han sido publicados por Editorial “Plaza y Janés Editorial Planeta ha publicado también en el 2001 “No basta ser padre” donde nos relata su relación con sus cuatro hijos y dos matrimonios; en el 2002 “Los Prsidentes” una selección de artículos periodísticos acerca de la política nacional en donde el autor cree en el papel activo que deben asumir los ciudadanos para aminorar los desastres que le ha causado al país la “clase política”; en el 2003 se publica “La Familia y otras demoliciones”, en 2005 “Qué modos. Usos y costumbres tenochcas”. Editorial Diana ha publicado en el 2001, “Las nuevas aventuras del Principito”, en el 2002, “¿Cómo nos arreglamos? Prontuario de la corrupción en México” y en el 2005 “Viajero que Vas”. Su libro más reciente es “Cuestión de Amor” publicado en 2006. Las revistas que han contado con sus colaboraciones han sido: Este País, Viceversa, Kena, Paula, Celular, Cambio, Escala, Educare, City Life, Quien, Estilo México, Bussiness Style de American Express.

Entre sus representaciones teatrales encontramos: “Felipeus” obra teatral sátiro política, “Cartas a Santa Fox”, espectáculos poético-musicales como: “Adiós milenio cruel”, “Cuando tenía 20 años” que es un recorrido musical por la música de los años 60’s, “Cuando tenga 64 años”, “Borges con música”, “Para leerte mejor, Jaime Sabines”, “Neruda no cabe duda”, “Para vivir un gran amor”, “Fallaste corazón”, “Cancioneros mexicanos”, “Ipanema” y “Pa’la Madre”, “Vivo en un grito”, “Hoy que tengo 60 años”, “Oh amigos” y “Comper-miso” con el músico cubano Virulo. En la actualidad se presenta en La Planta de Luz con los espectáculos: “Felipeus”.

En febrero del presente año fue galardonado en España con el **Premio Don Quijote** de Periodismo por la "síntesis brillante entre el idioma español y el habla popular" en su trabajo periodístico. Instituido con motivo de la conmemoración en 2005 del cuarto Centenario de la primera edición de la obra cervantina, el galardón reconoce el buen uso, defensa y enriquecimiento del idioma español. **Dehesa** es el primer mexicano en obtener el galardón patrocinado por la Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha, y convocado cada año por la agencia EFE y la Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (AECI), ahora en el marco de los 25 Premios Internacionales de Periodismo Rey de España. Dicho premio le será entregado por el Rey Juan Carlos I este 8 de mayo.

- **Larry Dowell** – Illustrator – Austin, Texas

Larry has designed and produced award-winning national and international projects in print, graphic design, illustration, multi-media and web design. His richly detailed European paintings have won awards in multi-state juried competitions. His book of poetry, *The Orchard Wall*, was called “a brilliantly written and exquisitely produced reflection on life’s sensual cycle.

- **Alejandrina Drew**- Author – El Paso, TX / Dallas, TX

Alejandrina serves as General Manager for the Latino Cultural Center for the City of Dallas since September 29, 2004. Published *Abracadabra patas de cabra*, a bilingual children’s book and *Cuadernos de Ixtapa*, a selection of poems in Spanish. She has also

published several bilingual plaquettes of poetry. *Los lagartos de San Jacinto* is another story for children. She has five family vignettes in the works to be published

- **Shirley Duke**- Author – Children's Books – Dallas, Texas

Shirley Smith Duke is the author of *No Bows!*, a picture book, and eight other privately commissioned novels for children. She's written teacher guides for Peachtree Publishers and for *Latingirl* magazine. She taught science, reading, and ESL in public schools for twenty-five years at the elementary and secondary levels. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology and master's degree in education from Austin College. Shirley also presents school programs for students about writing and reading. She's spoken at schools, state reading conferences, book festivals, community groups, and universities. A Dallas native, she is a member of SCBWI and lives in the Dallas area. Visit www.shirleysmithduke.com for more information.

- **Angel Esteban** – Author – Granada, Spain

Profesor Titular de Literatura Hispanoamericana de la Universidad de Granada. Profesor visitante en más de 30 universidades extranjeras, entre ellas Princeton, La Sorbona, New Delhi, Londres, Roma, Praga, etc. Asistencia a más de 60 congresos internacionales. Director de la revista Fronda. Perteneciente al Consejo editorial de revistas como RILCE, Rev de Literatura, Aceprensa, etc. Fundador y profesor de la Escuela Superior de Comunicación de Granada, con titulación europea. Más de 30 libros publicados y cerca de 100 artículos. Estos son algunos de los libros: *Donde no habita el olvido*, *Cuentos completos de José Martí*, *José Martí, el alma alerta*, *Antología del Modernismo Hispánico*, *Angel Gaztelu*, *Literatura Hispanoamericana*, *Cuentos de Ribeyro*, *Cumandá*, de Juan León Mera, ed. pról. y notas, *Antología de la poesía cubana*, 4 vols, *Introduction a la litterature hispanoamericaine*, París, Ellipses, 2000 *Historia de la Monja Alférez*, edición, prólogo y notas. Madrid, Cátedra, 2002 *Cuando llegan las musas*, *Literatura Hispanoamericana y música popular*, El libro *Gabo y Fidel* ha tenido ya 6 ediciones en español, dos en inglés, una en polaco y otra en portugués. Actualmente se está llevando a cabo su adaptación a guión cinematográfico en Los Ángeles. Está terminando además una novela, *La estirpe de Babel*, que se publicará en 2008. Como cantautor, ha grabado un disco de difusión nacional en España. Obras recientes: *Juegos de manos*, *Antología de la poesía hispanoamericana del siglo XX*, Madrid, Visor; *Granada-poesía 12 poetas granadinos*; *Habaneros de aquí y de allá y del medio*, *Anología del cuento cubano reciente*, Caracas, Ed. Bidanco; *Entre lo local y lo global*, *Últimas tendencias de la narrativa hispanoamericana actual*, Madrid, Iberoamerica-Vervuert; *Mario Vargas Llosa*; *Los jefes/Los cachorros*, Madrid, Espasa-Calpe; *Dario a diario: ruben en las dos orillas*, Granada, Universidad.

- **Gerson Gomez** – Poet – Monterrey, Mexico

Licenciado en Comunicación con especialidad en Periodismo por la Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León. Ha sido reportero, columnista y editorialista en diversos medios escritos. Fue Miembro del Consejo Editorial de la Revista Oficio y Fundador de la Editorial Contrafuerte. En 1996 fue finalista del Premio Binacional de Ensayo IMPAC-Monterrey 400. Ganador del Premio de Poesía Joven Alfredo Gracia Vicente en 2002, Fue Becario del Centro de Escritores de Nuevo León en ese mismo año. Es Coautor del libro 'Monterrey: espejo nuestro de cada día'. Su trabajo aparece en la Antología de la Contracultura en México y la Antología de la Poesía, Publicada en el 2004 en España. Es autor de los libros de crónicas 'Hemisferio de las estaciones' (Conarte, 2000), 'Ordinaria locura' (Oasis, 2006) y 'Open book' (Conarte / Ayuntamiento de Santa Catarina, 2007) y del poemario 'Muerta Estarás', de próxima aparición con el libro "Tour

de Saliva". Estudió cinematografía con Senel Paz y guión cinematográfico con Doc Comparato.

- **Lucia M. Gonzalez** – Author- Children's Books - Havana, Cuba / Florida

Lucia Gonzalez was born in Havana, Cuba. She has always been fascinated by the folktales of other countries, and has lived in Florida, California, Spain, and Venezuela. Her classic Cuban folk tale, **The Bossy Gallito**, was awarded the Pura Belpre Children's Literature Honor Medal by the American Library Association and was included on the Aesop Accolade list by the Children's Folklore Section in the American Folklore Society, and selected for the New York Times Great Children's READ Top 20 All Time Favorite Children's Book. Her second book, **Senor Cat's Romance and Other Favorite Stories from Latin America**, was named an Americas Award Commended Title. **The Storyteller's Candle / La velita de los cuentos** (Children's Book Press, 2008) is Lucia's latest book. Her presentations include string stories, puppetry, audience participation, and anecdotes about growing up in Cuba and coming to America.

Lucia Gonzalez was born on December, 13, 1957 in Havana, Cuba. She was raised in Cuba and Miami, yet has lived in Spain, Mexico, and Venezuela. Her extensive travels have contributed greatly to her interest in Hispanic folklore. She attended the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of Tampa. Currently, Lucia lives in Florida with her husband Jose, her daughter, Anna and her son Jose Antonio. Lucia has always been fascinated by the folktales of other countries. It has always been her dream to bring the legends of Hispanic cultures to American children. "I have always cherished these stories that were told to me as a child and have incorporated them into my repertoire of stories to share with my audiences of children." Says Gonzalez, "While living in Venezuela, with a deep interest in children's folklore, I discovered with delight that we shared many of the same stories (with slight variation). Since then, my dream became to compile some of the most popular stories told to children throughout the Americas and retell them in English so that I could pass them onto our children in the U.S.A.". Her stories *Sir Cat's Romance* and *The Bossy Gallito* are both based on Hispanic legends Lucia encountered in her travels. *The Bossy Gallito* was selected for inclusion on the 1994 Aesop Accolade list by the Children's Folklore Section in the American Folklore Society. In the future, Lucia plans to continue working at the library and writing more stories.

Booklists/Awards

Senor Cat's Romance, 1998

Americas Award Commended Title

The Bossy Gallito, 1994

Pura Belpre Award Honor Book

NCSS/CBC Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

New York Publishing Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing

1994 Aesop Accolade List

- **Stephanie Griest** – Author- Texas

Stephanie Elizondo Griest has mingled with the Russian Mafiya, polished Chinese propaganda, and belly danced with Cuban rumba queens. These adventures inspired her award-winning memoirs *Mexican Enough: My Life Between the Borderlines*; *Around the Bloc: My Life in Moscow, Beijing, and Havana*; and the guidebook *100 Places Every Woman Should Go*. As a National Correspondent for *The Odyssey*, she once drove 45,000 miles across America in a Honda Hatchback named Bertha. She has won a Hodder Fellowship to Princeton, a Richard Margolis Award for Social Justice Reporting,

and a Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Gold Prize. Visit her website at www.aroundthebloc.com

Title: Mexican Enough: My Life Between the Borderlines
Author: Stephanie Elizondo Griest
Publisher: Washington Square Press/Simon & Schuster (August 2008)
ISBN: 1-416-540-172

Title: Around the Bloc: My Life in Moscow, Beijing, and Havana
Author: Stephanie Elizondo Griest
Publisher: Villard/Random House (March 2004)
ISBN: 0-812-967-607

Title: 100 Places Every Woman Should Go
Author: Stephanie Elizondo Griest
Publisher: Travelers' Tales (February 2007)
ISBN: 1-932-361-472

- **Lila Guzman** – Author- Austin, Texas

Award-winning children's author Lila Guzman writes from her home in Austin. Her most recent novel is *Kichi in Jungle Jeopardy* (Blooming Tree Press). The hero is a chihuahua in ancient Mayan times. *Lorenzo and the Turncoat* (Arte Publico) won the 2006 Arizona Authors Literary Award. Visit www.lilaguzman.com for more information about her novels and short stories

- **Martha Hannah** – Author Children's Books – Austin, Texas

Nationally Acclaimed Comedic Character Actor, Author, Speaker, Educator and Arts-In-Education Advocate Martha Hannah has story performance and joke telling in her blood. "I come from a long line of characters that were long-winded and funny," she says. Martha's deep, rich heritage is from a large Scotch-Irish clan that came to America in the early 1700's and settled in Tennessee. "I was blessed with my grandmother, Mama Roxie, who had a grand sense of the lyrical and dramatic telling of an event. She was a natural comedienne. My father has always had a delicious compulsion to tease and tell jokes. His mother, Nanny, early on introduced me to a fascination with ghost stories and a belief in the unseen." When, as a five year old, Martha drew three-dimensionally, created songs on her xylophone and gave speeches to trees to rehearse her defense when she got in trouble, her parents knew that their youngest child was 'different'. By age eight she proclaimed things like, "I won't stand for it!" and with equal fortitude, as an early teen, she was determined to overcome an innate shyness. She began to write and, despite visible shaking and a quivering voice, deliver speeches, adapt performance pieces and travel to compete in acting competitions. In high school Martha became a published newspaper columnist. Early on, in performances, she was so strong on stage that she became known for the ability to move audiences to tears or laughter. Many regional acting awards followed and Martha found her shyness overshadowed by an abounding love and addiction to working with a live audience. So, by sixteen, Martha Hannah was hooked and found writing, theatre and the arts synonymous to breathing. And, in doing so, she firmly began her speaking, writing and performance career. A performance scholarship led Martha to college and to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art and Theatre with a teaching certificate. She taught art and theatre, became a published illustrator and freelanced graphic design. Her extensive professional theatre career has

covered years of performing on stage, in dinner theatre, improv, standup, radio and industrials and film with many commercials to her credit. Gracious and charming, Martha brings her wry sense of humor and special brand of wit to conversations, her writing and on stage. When asked if her shyness is a thing of the past, Martha says, "It is always there. It's like arm wrestling with the devil. And, the devil is that now I'm such an extravert." For almost twenty years, as a touring performance artist, artist-in-residence, speaker and avid arts-in-education advocate, Martha has worked with many state and regional arts organizations performing and teaching action-packed, multi-media oriented and participation-based learning, theatre, workshops and motivational and creativity seminars. She has performed on touring rosters for the Kentucky Center for the Arts, South Carolina Arts Commission, Leonard-Bernstein Center-Nashville Institute of the Arts and North Carolina's Spirit Square. Currently Martha is a performing and teaching artist on touring rosters with the Texas Commission on the Arts, the Tennessee Arts Commission's Arts in Education Roster and Mid-America Arts Alliance which covers a six-state region including Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. In addition, she is a member of the Writers League of Texas, Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA). In her journey as a speaker, author, educator and performer, Martha has written and developed a myriad of workshops and performances and performed for and taught tens of thousands of students and educators. "Long ago a seasoned arts-in-ed performer told me, 'If you can just reach one. If you can just reach 'one' student, then you have made a difference.' And, that is what I strive for." As an author, Martha has continued to write plays, monologues, one-woman shows and short stories. She has presented her work on stage, in dinner theatre, on radio and television and at endless events and venues. She has a semi-autobiographical novel in progress that ties in her college theatre life and ghosts. She also is developing the publishing and production of her various children's stories and songs including the next in the 'Maid Martha Tells It All' series. It was Martha's lifelong fascination with ghost stories and the "unseen" that took her and her author/illustrator husband, Larry Dowell, down many dimly lit back streets in England during evening ghost tours. They have traveled across Europe through castles and cathedrals from Edinburgh to Venice, collecting ghost stories and what she calls "a head full of medieval trivia." This led Martha to develop her hilarious character, 'Maid Martha, Medieval Comedienne', which she uses on stage and in her workshops to bring the Middle Ages and Renaissance to life for countless enthusiastic audiences. As a creative husband wife team, Martha and Larry now own and manage the independent publishing company, CicadaSun, and have recently released their first title, "The Ghost of Hampton Court". This wonderful, richly illustrated book is the first of the 'Maid Martha Tells It All' series. Authored by Martha and illustrated by Larry, it is a historical fiction ghost story about Henry VIII and his fifth wife, Catharine Howard. Martha's stage character, 'Maid Martha' in this book and throughout the series, tells the story as it unfolds, adding an element of delight and humor. 'Gods and Other Odd Creatures', by renowned Classics author Rose Williams, will be published by CicadaSun at the end of this year. Martha and Larry present creative writing / book design seminars and workshops for students and adults at schools, libraries and universities. Workshops included 'From Idea to Print- The Making of 'The Ghost of Hampton Court'', that teaches the process of creating and producing a book, and 'E-Books- Bringing a Story to Life', an exciting workshop that teaches how to add a new dimension to writing and presenting a book. Martha Hannah enjoys now living in Austin, Texas with Larry and their cherished golden lab mix Goldie, who knows well how to do a one-eyed wink.

- **David Hernandez** – Author – Carrollton, Texas

Born and raised Chicago in the pre-dawn of the Great Depression, David Received his Ph. D. at the University of Illinois, did post-graduate study at the University of Barcelona has taught Spanish and English, literature, history, and culture, published articles in the U.S. and in Mexico, and is the author of *Missing in America: Freedom, Justice, and Honor Hurling the Barrio (A Memoir)*, *The Greatest Story Ever Forged (Curse of the Christ Myth)*, and *Three Plays/Tres Comedias (Bilingual Edition)*

- **Ambassador Enrique Hubbard Urrea** – Author – Consul General of Mexico / Dallas TX

Enrique Hubbard Urrea nació en El Rosario, Sinaloa, el 16 de diciembre de 1945 Es Licenciado en Derecho egresado de la Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales de la Universidad Autónoma de Sinaloa (1965-70); y obtuvo la Maestría en Administración Militar para la Seguridad y Defensa Nacionales en el Colegio de Defensa Nacional en 1996. Diplomático de carrera desde 1973, accedió al rango de Embajador en 1994. Ha sido catedrático en diversas áreas del Derecho en la Universidad Autónoma de Sinaloa, en la Universidad del Noreste, en Matamoros, Tamaulipas; y en la Universidad Autónoma de Durango. Es autor de tres libros: *La Nacionalidad Mexicana: ¿Irrenunciable?* (En proceso la tercera edición); *Belize, Vecino Ignorado* (dos ediciones); y *Décadas*.

- **Jose Ernesto Infante** – Author – Mexico, D.F.

José Ernesto Quintanilla (Infante) nació en la ciudad de México. Es egresado de la Facultad de Economía de la Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León y de la Universidad de Wisconsin, Milwaukee, donde realizó sus estudios de maestría y doctorado. Además de desempeñarse como servidor público, ha publicado ensayos sobre política económica. Su interés en la figura de Pedro Infante lo ha llevado a investigar a lo largo de mucho tiempo todo lo relacionado con la vida, la obra y la época de este ídolo popular. Ello lo convierte en uno de los principales especialistas sobre el tema, que con tino nos brinda en estas páginas una travesía llena de anécdotas, información y nostalgia por la primera mitad del siglo XX.

- **Miguel Inzunza** – Artist, singer, musician – Queretaro, Mexico

Cantautor originario de Los Mochis, Sinaloa. A los 9 años es iniciado en el canto y la guitarra clásica y con el apoyo de su familia desarrolla estas habilidades teniendo así sus primeras apariciones en escenarios.

Comienza su residencia en la ciudad de Querétaro a los 11 años y A los 13 años, buscando mejorar sus aptitudes musicales, toma lecciones privadas de guitarra clásica y solfeo, al mismo tiempo participa en diversos festivales y presentaciones estudiantiles como parte de educación secundaria y preparatoria, obteniendo en estos el agrado del público, reconocimientos y premios. Más tarde participa como músico y cantante en grupos de distintos géneros, ampliando así su experiencia en foros y eventos musicales. Es entonces cuando inicia sus primeras composiciones y desarrolla sus habilidades poéticas plasmando su visión particular en sus letras.

Inicia la carrera de Ciencias de la Comunicación y toma talleres de composición literaria y Narrativa. A los 19 años se integra al grupo “**Cuerdas y Madera**”, participando como músico, cantante y autor de varios temas en el género de Trova. A partir de entonces realiza importantes presentaciones en foros con más de 1000 espectadores, así como presentaciones en los mas importantes congresos juveniles a nivel nacional e internacional (gente Nueva, generación del Cambio, Ármala con México etc.). En este periodo, realiza conciertos al lado de reconocidos artistas de la Trova como: *Alejandro Filio, Mexicanto, Fernando Delgadillo, Alejandro Santiago, David Haro, Gerardo Peña,*

entre otros. A la edad de 23 años es seleccionado de entre 37 mil audicionados para participar en el programa Operación triunfo de **Televisa**, donde obtiene el tercer lugar y permanece cuatro meses en intensa preparación artística en las áreas de proyección externa e interna, vocalización , manejo de los distintos escenarios, interpretación y estilo así como coreografía y expresión corporal, es en este lugar donde conoce a grandes figuras de la música internacional como Quincy Jones entre otros y logra firmar con la compañía discográfica BMG con quien realiza meses después su primer material discográfico con temas de su propia autoría y representado por una compañía internacional (Valemusic, España). En pocos meses es seleccionado por la *Sociedad de Autores y Compositores de México* para representar a su país en el festival internacional de la canción, **latinautor** donde obtiene el *segundo lugar de 22 países* participantes en la categoría de interprete del tema “Quédate en mi” de la autoría de Reyli Barba. Ha participado en la mayoría de los festivales de radio del país con su disco “juguete de madera”, y ahora se encuentra por grabar su segundo material bajo la firma de BMG. Como solista ha compartido escenario con artistas de la talla de *Betsy Pecanins, León Gieco, Carlos Díaz Caño, Amaury Pérez, Sin bandera, Fernando Delgadillo, Edgar Osceransky, Raúl Ornelas, Amaury Gutiérrez y David Torrens entre otros; ha dado mas de 100 conciertos en el interior de la republica y otro tanto en el extranjero así como participado en mas de 15 discos de tiraje nacional y 10 a nivel independientes.* **PROYECTOS MAS RECIENTES.** Compone letra y música del tema “Un par de miradas” para la película *LA MISMA LINA* dirigida por la ganadora del oscar *Patricia Riggen*, graba a dueto el tema “Algo más” con el grupo Español “La 5ta estación”, produce y canta un tema en el disco de *HOMENAJE A FITO PAEZ*, cuadra la gira por España “Caín y Abel “ con mas de 20 conciertos en los foros culturales más importantes y es nombrado *director del MTV Unplugged* del grupo de *Pop LU*.

Miguel Inzunza At a very early stage he developed an unusual skill for music. Artist, singer, musician and song writer born in Los Mochis, Sinaloa; at the age of 9, he started professionally playing classic guitar and singing. He moved to Queretaro, Mexico at the age of 11, and started formal music studies on classic guitar and singing. He participates in several music festivals and concerts, winning the sympathy of the public, diverse awards, and recognition. Later he participated in different music groups, *Rock, Pop, Trova, Jazz*, among others, expanding his expertise and concert abilities. In those groups he starts writing his first original songs, writing both music and lyrics, winning recognition for the unique style of his lyrics, and his vision for music fusion. When he was 19 years old, he was one of the founders of the *Trova music Band “Cuerdas y Madera”*. One of the most important of its kind in Mexico. *Cuerdas y Madera* sells thousands of records, plays in massive concerts, and make concerts with *trova* music legends like. *Fernando Delgadillo, Alejandro Filio, Mexicanto, David Haro, Gerardo Peña, Alejandro Filio, Gerardo Peña*, among others. At 23 Miguel is selected among 37,000 (thirty seven thousand) musicians to participate on the Tv show “OPERACION TRIUNFO” (Mexican “American Idol”) organized by **Televisa**, and wins 3rd place. On this show he remains on intensive music and artistic training for four months. Signs a contract with **SONY-BMG**, and records his first solo record, all songs in it written both music and lyrics by Miguel. Sold thousands of copies and give Miguel credibility among recognized industry members. Few months later he is selected by the “*Sociedad de autores y compositores*” (*National authors and composers society*) to represent Mexico in the *International song music festival “LATINAUTOR”* Miguel wins 2nd place among 22 countries participating. Miguel’s record “JUGUETE DE MADERA” played in all radio stations around Mexico and many in Latin America. This record participated on almost all radio festivals in those countries.

SONY BMG is on the process of recording Miguel's second solo album. As a solo artist Miguel has shared stage with internationally recognized artists like: *Betsy Pecanins, León Gieco, Carlos Díaz Caíto, Amaury Pérez, Sin bandera, Fernando Delgadillo, Edgar Osceransky, Raúl Ornelas, Amaury Gutiérrez and David Torrens* among many others. Miguel has given over 100 concerts nationally and internationally since then, and participated in over 25 albums both nationally and internationally. One of his most recent projects is the association as a Music Producer for the international Movie Production Company Open Window Films. Miguel composed more than 10 songs for various movies. The most recognize one is "Un par de miradas" theme of "Under the same Moon" (La Misma Luna) directed by the academy award winner Patricia Rigen. Miguel has also the guest voice on the theme "Algo más" with the Spanish Band LA QUINTA ESTACION. Also produced and record a theme for the record HOMENAJE A FITO PAEZ. On 2007 goes on tour with over 20 concerts in Europe, and is named music director for the MTV unplugged for the Pop band "LU".

- **Kristine KahaneK** – Chief Meteorologist, KTVT_TV – Author - Dallas/Ft Worth

KRISTINE KAHANEK is an acclaimed television meteorologist who has been forecasting weather in Texas for nearly 20 years. Having received her Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from Texas A&M University, Kristine is certified by both the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association.

INSPIRED by her fascination with and knowledge of severe weather, Kristine recognized that children's natural fear of extreme weather is often alleviated with a simple explanation. KATIE AND THE MAGIC UMBRELLA is the first in a series of children's picture books, featuring a guardian angel inspired character who teaches readers about thunderstorms.

- **Mary Kent** – Entertainer – Fort Worth, Texas

Watch professionally trained face painter, "Sparkles" (aka Mary Kent) create fun and excitement on faces of all ages with her delightful works of art. Come experience the joy of beaming smiles as happy faces light up with a rainbow of colors.

- **Jennifer Kindert** – Illustrator – Dallas, Texas

Freelance illustrator, portrait and muralist artist, and graphic designer Jennifer Kindert attended the International Art School in Stockholm, Sweden and later earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in illustration from New York City's Fashion Institute of Technology. Her illustrated children's book titles include: *Hurry Up*, by Bernette Ford; *Mommy's Bed*, by Sonia Black; and *The Christmas Puppy* and *Llamas in Pajamas* by Teddy Slater, published by Sterling/Barnes & Noble.

- **Malena Kuss** – Author – Denton, Texas

Professor of Musicology, University of North Texas, Denton (1976-1999), awarded Emeritus status in 2000. Executive Director, *The Universe of Music* project, a multi-volume history of world music sponsored by the International Music Council (1996-); Editor, *Music in the Life of Peoples (South America, Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean)*, a 4-volume collaborative survey of indigenous, folk, urban popular, and art music traditions in *The Universe of Music* series (in press, 2004). Kuss was elected Secretary of the Bibliography Commission of the International Association of Music Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Centers for two terms (1984-1990), during which

she published essays on Latin American music bibliography (see 1984 and 1987); at the invitation of the Scientific Committee, International Musicological Society, she chaired a central roundtable at the IMS Congress held in Madrid in 1992; she was the second recipient of the prestigious "Jes? Romero" chair in musicology sponsored by Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes (1997); served on the AMS 50 Dissertation Fellowship Committee (1996-1999) and on one of its juries; and was elected Individual Member of the International Music Council by the General Assembly held in Amman in 1999. In addition to her dissertation, her professional output to 2003 comprises 51 published articles (1974-2003), a bibliographic monograph (1984), 25 entries in dictionaries and encyclopedias, 64 papers read at professional meetings in 14 countries, and the editorship of the 4-volume coverage of Latin America and the Caribbean in *The Universe of Music* series. A Fulbright scholar, she has received research grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Philosophical Society, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the American Council of Learned Societies.

- **Frida Lozano** – Actress – Ciudad de Mexico / Dallas, Texas

Frida Espinosa Müller, Actriz, Clown y hacedora de máscaras Mexicana. Realizó sus estudios teatrales en la UNAM y en el Diplomado Teatro del Cuerpo. Frida es fundadora en la Ciudad de México de: el Grupo Seudópodos, al que dirigió del 99 al 04. Paya S.O.S., Compañía de Clowns de la que formó parte durante los años 01 al 04. Y de Aldebarán Teatro, con quien trabajó durante 02-04. En éste último año Aldebarán Teatro hace contacto con la Compañía originaria de Dallas Cara Mía Theatre Company; y obtienen la beca de Coinversión Internacional para la Cultura y las Artes México-Estados Unidos Contacto Cultural y la beca del CENART. Y realizan *Espejos/Mirrors*, juego escénico bilingüe sobre La Tempestad de Shakespeare el Foro de la Artes de CNA. Después de establecer este lazo con la compañía originaria de Dallas Frida cambió su residencia a ésta Ciudad en el 05' y desde entonces ha continuado colaborando con Cara Mía Theatre Co. También a trabajado con Teatro Dallas. Ahora Frida esta muy contenta de ser parte de Flor Candela Teatro.

- **Minda Magero** –Kenya / Dallas, TX

Minda Magero is a poet, writer and Christian counselor. She was born in Kenya in 1976. Her love for words and reading naturally blossomed into a passion for writing early in life. She was greatly influenced by African poets and writers like Marjorie Oludhe-MacGoye, Okot P'bitek, and Grace Ogot in her childhood and teenage years. Minda has been writing since she was 11. Her poetry, articles and essays have appeared in various publications, including *The International Who's Who in Poetry*, *The Daily Nation*, *The Collegian*, *Kenya Imagine* and *Helium*. Minda has studied in Germany and the U.S. and currently resides in Dallas, TX.

- **Marisela & Friends** – Maricela Alish - Costa Rica / Dallas

Marisela is from Costa Rica, but has resided in the USA for over 20 years. She is a songwriter, ventriloquist, guitar player, story teller, teacher and mother of 7 kids. Her shows are in English or Spanish or Bilingual. She has 7 puppets (Two monkeys-one dog-two kids, one grandma and two little bears) Her motto is "GIVE THE GIFT OF LAUGHTER". She has taken her show to California, Massachusetts, San Antonio, Houston and all over the Dallas area, including a 30 minutes TV show that is watched in 64 countries.

- **Solange Mariel** – Visual Artist – Brazil / Dallas, Texas

Born and raised in Brazil, Solange Mariel moved to the United States in 1977. Facing the challenge of learning English as a second language and adapting to a new society and culture, just seventeen years old, she used the fearlessness of youth to her advantage. In her ever-evolving perception of life, people and relationships she was profoundly impacted through her view of the Western World. Mother of six, she holds an MFA in Fine Arts/Painting and a MA in Arts from the University of Dallas, a BFA in Fine Arts/Printmaking from SMU, she is a working artist currently showing her work at F.I.G. (Fashion Industry Gallery) downtown Dallas, active teacher, workshop facilitator and has carved a niche for herself in the Metroplex as the Dallas Director of Matt Lamb's International Art Project, "Umbrellas For Peace" since 2004. "In my observations and continuous search of self in art and life, I have come to a time and place in my own work where I can reflect upon a level of maturity. There is a connection with experience. There are vivid, reminiscent episodes of the people, places and things with which I have been in contact. Using my own personal history as a way of shaping the world around me, my goal is to never stop learning, to pass forward. I believe in community work, in collaboration and peace."

- **Leo Minax** – Performer & Composer – Madrid, Spain

AULANALUA es el cuarto disco en la carrera de este artista brasileño, vecino de Madrid. Producido por **Suso Saiz**, el disco ha sido grabado en directo, en un estudio de Madrid. El título es un pequeño y sugerente palíndromo que también da nombre a la primera canción del disco. La principal característica de **AULANALUA** es el fiel registro del directo del grupo de Leo Minax, cuyo sonido en este disco se acerca más al rock y a la experimentación. La producción musical ha dejado espacio para la expresión de la creatividad de cada uno de los músicos. Este trabajo vive y presume de esta libertad expresiva. El álbum nos muestra composiciones hechas por Leo Minax junto a **Chico Amaral, Celso Adolfo, Nancy Strauss y Marcelo Sarkis**. También cuenta con el atractivo de los artistas invitados **Iván Ferreiro, Javier Álvarez, Javier Vercher y Pablo Martín-Camirero**, que participan en el disco junto a los brasileños **Moska, Arnaldo Antunes y Marina Machado**. Leo Minax ha trabajado junto a **Jorge Drexler, Diego Vasallo, Luís Pastor, Celso Adolfo, Robertinho Brant, Vander Lee, Niccolò Fabi, Pablo Guerrero, Makely Ka y Pedro Guerra**, entre otros destacados artistas. Tiene canciones grabadas por grandes artistas, como los ya citados Luis Pastor, Pablo Guerrero, Diego Vasallo, Affonsinho y Jorge Drexler. Leo Minax también ha sido grabado por **Ana Belén** en su nuevo disco, **Anatomía**. La música de Leo Minax también ha llegado al cine: El director **Tristán Ulloa** ha elegido dos canciones de Leo Minax para la banda sonora de "**Pudor**", película de **Tristan Ulloa y David Ulloa** que se estrenó en abril de 2007, ya premiada en el Festival de Cinema de Málaga. (Anteriormente Leo Minax ya había participado como intérprete en el film **Le Défi**, de **Blanca Li**). Durante el año de 2007 nuevos artistas han grabado canciones de Leo Minax, con destaque para los mejicanos **Ximena Sariñana y Miguel Inzunza**. En estos momentos Leo Minax produce - una vez más junto al productor Suso Saiz - el que será su quinto trabajo discográfico. Leo Minax también reúne canciones para otro trabajo que grabará durante este año de 2008: un DVD en directo, solamente con guitarra y voz, explotando un formato que enseña la riqueza de una faceta inconfundible de este artista.

- **Ivan Miño**– Author– Ecuador / Dallas, Texas

- **Josue Gabriel Montemayor** – Poet – Monterrey, MX – Dallas, Texas

Josué Gabriel de Montemayor nació en Monterrey N.L. México, en 1974. Aunque estudió Administración de Empresas, encontró su verdadera vocación como escritor y poeta. Cuenta con dos libros publicados y ha participado en cuatro antologías, la última de ellas dentro de la Antología de Poetas Estadounidenses publicado por la Biblioteca de los Estados Unidos(2006). Ha sido invitado a los tres últimos Festivales Internacionales de Poesía de Austin Texas (2006, 2007 y 2008). Ha colaborado durante trece años en periódicos y revistas con su obra literaria. Se ha desempeñado como periodista los últimos cinco años en Diario La Estrella de las ciudades de Dallas-Fort Worth Texas. Es Director Fundador del Grupo Artístico Letra y Música desde hace cuatro años y del Festival Internacional Letra y Música de Poetas y Cantautores Latinoamericanos. Fue programador y productor de la cadena de videos y entretenimiento Más Música TV, en la Unión Americana de 2001 a 2006. Actualmente es productor y conductor del programa de televisión de entretenimiento Plan B. Escribe poesía y narrativa.

Josué Gabriel of Montemayor was born in Monterrey N.L., Mexico, in 1974. It counts on two books published and has participated in four anthologies, the last one of them, the Anthology of American Poets published by the Library of the United States. It has been invited to the three last International Poetry Festivals of Austin, Texas (2006, 2007 and 2008). It has collaborated during thirteen years in newspapers and magazines with its literary work. It has been journalist the last five years in newspaper Diario La Estrella Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas. It is a Founder Director of the Artistic Group Letra y Música since four years ago as well of the International Letra y Música Festival of Latinamericans Poets and Songwriters. He was a Programming and Producer Director of Mas Música TV Network Channels. And at present is a host and producer of the tv show Plan B. Writes poetry and narrative.

- **Rafael Ocasio** – Puerto Rico – Decatur, Atlanta

Ocasio is a Latin Americanist and a specialist in revolutionary Cuban literature. His book, *Cuba's Political and Sexual Outlaw: Reinaldo Arenas* (University Press of Florida, 2003), examines the life and work of Arenas under the stringent censorship that he suffered in Cuba, in part because of his open homosexuality. His book, *Latin American Culture and Literature* (Greenwood Press, 2004), offers a historical and critical view of the development of key literary movements in Latin America from the Conquest to contemporary authors of international fame. *A Gay Cuban Activist in Exile: Reinaldo Arenas* (University Press of Florida, 2007) examines Arenas's prolific writing (fiction and critical articles) published in the United States and focuses on his well-known role as "Latin America's first out-of-the-closet gay writer."

Other areas of his published research are Afro-Cuban and revolutionary Cuban children's literatures, and reflections of Santería, the Afro-Cuban religious belief, in mainstream revolutionary Cuban literature. He has also done extensive research on the Puertoorriqueña novelist and poet Judith Ortiz Cofer, an important contemporary Latina writer.

- **Dulce Parker** – Parent/Youth Educator – Santo Domingo / Dallas, Texas

Dulce Isalguez Parker is a Parent/Youth Educator and the founder of Making~Connections, Inc. The organization is dedicated to educating parents and youth on the importance of valuing education and their cultural heritage. She has over 20 years of work experience in the community; focussing in addressing family, health, education, and cultural issues. Ms. Parker presented programs at the following conferences & community organizations:

- * The University of North Texas in Denton- 12th Annual Parents Education
- * Dallas ArtsPartners/Annenberg Institute for School Reform
- * Bilingual Education Asso. of the Metroplex (BEAM)
- * Florida State PTA Board Conference
- * The National & Texas Association of Bilingual Education (NABE & TABE)
- * Texas Education Agency (TEA) Austin
- * TEA Region XI Service Center Fort Worth
- * Dallas Independent School District Staff Development
- * South Dallas Cultural Center
- * The Irving Arts Center

Education and professional positions:

- BS in Social Work, Florida International University, Miami, Florida
- Parental Involvement Specialist-Dallas Independent School District (DISD)
- Social Worker - City of Dallas Health and Human Services Department
- Youth Counselor - City of Dallas Police Dept., First Offender Program
- Case Worker - Texas Department of Child Protective Services
- Training Coordinator - Education & Employment Program, Temple, TX Junior College

A native of the Caribbean Islands, she was born in Sto. Domingo, Dominican Republic and attended school in New York City. She entered the U.S. Air Force upon graduating from high school. Her 6-year military tour throughout the United States and Europe gave her valuable experience in working with people of different cultural backgrounds. Her passion, commitment, and strong interpersonal skills enable her to work in harmony with diverse cultural groups. She creates partnerships and positive learning environments for parents, schools and the community.

Ms. Parker is a cofounder and past president of "La Sociedad Cultural Dominicana, DFW" and also supports various educational and cultural organization in the community.

- **Carlo Pezzimenti** – Performer – Teacher of the guitar – Dallas, TX

Since beginning his study of classical guitar in Florence, Italy at the age of thirteen, Carlo Pezzimenti has worked successfully to impart his wealth of knowledge to students of the guitar, to further develop his artistry, and to share his musical philosophy with audiences around the world.

Pezzimenti was fortunate enough to attend Andrés Segovia's "Music in Compostela" festivals in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Studying with the Andres Segovia (father of the classical guitar), laid a strong foundation for Carlo's musical career. Pezzimenti continued his studies at Loyola University in Rome with Sergio Notaro. Later, he acquired a degree in music from the prestigious Morlacchi Conservatory in Perugia and furthered his studies with Jose Tomás in Alicante, Spain. After returning to the United States in 1974, he attended master classes with Jesús Silva, Oscar Ghiglia and

Federico Moreno-Torroba. His private studies with Segovia continued from 1980 to 1985 during annual visits to Madrid.

Carlo Pezzimenti's Carnegie Hall debut took place in 1982 to great acclaim. Subsequent performances included concerts with the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, the Dallas Chamber Orchestra, and the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra.

Pezzimenti has gained the attention of the music world through performances in the United State, Europe and Latin America. His appearances on the concert stage, as well as on radio and television, have received consistent, ever-widening acclaim. He has given live performances on the radio in Spain and the United States, appeared on television numerous times, including a PBS special, "Up Close" and was recently interviewed on the NPR program "Latino USA".

In October, 2005 Mr. Pezzimenti completed a three week tour of China, performing a repertoire primarily of pieces from Spain, Latin America and South America.

Mr. Pezzimenti is a highly respected teacher of the guitar, holding faculty positions at Brookhaven College in Dallas, Texas and at Texas Woman's University in Denton. Students benefit from the vast experience and wealth of knowledge shared by this caring musician. He makes his home in Dallas with his wife Anita.

- **Margarita Robleda** – Yucatan, Mexico

Margarita Robleda was born in Merida Yucatan, Mexico. Her 101 books have been published in Mexico, Colombia and USA. Houghton Mifflin, Scott Foresman, Hampton Brown, Harcourt Brace, Scholastic have chosen some of her stories for their bilingual programs at schools. She won the National Award for children's literature in Mexico. She calls herself Rana Margarita, Frog Margarita, and loves to sing and tell stories for children.

- **Roger Russell** – Author – Arkansas / Dallas, Texas

Raised in Pine Bluff, AR, Min. Roger Russell is the last of four sons born to Mr. W.L. Russell and the late Mrs. Jeweline Russell. He graduated from Dollarway High School in 1989. Min. Russell received a Bachelor of Science degree in English Education, magna cum laude, from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in 1994. Also, he earned a Master of Theology degree from Dallas Theological Seminary in 2001. Min. Russell was named "Man of the Year" in 2002 at the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church where he serves as associate minister; Dr. C.W. Wallace is pastor. As a minister of the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, he writes for the church publications, The Pilgrim Rest Express and Dimensions Magazine. On Sunday mornings he welcomes the visitors to the church by quoting poetry he composes regularly. It was following his graduation from Dallas Seminary that Minister Russell wrote and published his first book, Faith Beyond the Comfort Zone in 2005. It is a synopsis of his life in Christ over the years involving testimonies of divine provision, triumph over tragedy, and spiritual growth. On February 17, 2006, Min. Roger Russell, conference speaker-author-teacher, was named "Writer of the Year" by the American Christian Writers at their Dallas Conference. Following the publication of his book, Minister Russell founded Servant's Heart Ministries. Through this full-time ministry, Minister Russell seeks to edify the body of Christ in discipleship and intercessory prayer

through public speaking, teaching workshops, Christian literature and intercessory prayer meetings throughout the community

- **Nestor Salazar** – Percussionist & Music Educator – Puerto Rico / Dallas, Texas
Nestor was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico. His musical experiences in the music was at age 8, during seasonal family festivities, where he had to play either Claves, or Maracas, or Guiro, or Bell, or Pandereta, or be part of the choir.

By age 10 Salazar's family has moved to Levittown, near Cataño, along the northern shore of the island. There, and in Loiza, he started participating in small open rumbas with African descendent rumberos, acquiring the fundamental knowledge he would later put into practice, learning basic rhythms for the Congas, Batas, Bongos, Timbales, and Tambora, playing Calypso, Bomba, Plena, Guaguanco, Merengues and 6/8 rumbas. His world music education continued when he joined the U.S. Navy to see the world; first he was stationed in Charleston, S.C. and began to learn about jazz. Then, as the ship set sail, his opportunities to learn continued. In Spain he gathered with the gypsies of Rota and Cartagena, learning patterns for the Castañuelas, the Tambourine and the Cajon, as well as Flamenco patterns for the palms of his hands. Then, in Tunisia and Morocco, Nestor learned about basic patterns for Darabuka. Now based in Dallas, in addition to being a fine School teacher, Mr. Salazar is enjoying a career as a busy percussionist and music educator. He does both live and recording work in the DFW area, California and Las Vegas. We are proud that Nestor is a member of Percussion Things

- **Rafael E. Saumell** – Author – Havana, Cuba / Huntsville, Texas
Rafael E. Saumell nació en La Habana, Cuba. Graduado de la Universidad de La Habana (Licenciatura en Lingüística Francesa, 1978) y de Washington University en Saint Louis, Missouri (Doctorado en Literatura Hispanoamericana, 1994). En Cuba fue guionista y director de programas de radio y televisión. En 1981 fue arrestado por el Departamento de Seguridad del Estado bajo la acusación de haber escrito literatura contrarrevolucionaria. Fue sancionado a cinco años de privación de libertad por el delito de Propaganda Enemiga. En 1988 salió de la isla y desde entonces radica en los Estados Unidos. Ha publicado cuentos, ensayos y artículos en libros, publicaciones académicas y de interés general. *En Cuba todo el mundo canta* (Madrid: Editorial Betania, 2008) es una versión novelada de su experiencia carcelaria. Actualmente es Profesor de Español en Sam Houston State University, Texas.

- **Alan E. Smith** – Author – Plano, TX
When Alan Smith speaks about the challenges and benefits of getting healthy audiences know he brings knowledge and experience to the presentation. After a disappointing trip to the Mayo Clinic he began a successful journey of discovery into the world of complementary and alternative medicine. His award-winning book *Unbreak Your Health: The complete Guide to Complementary & Alternative Therapies* (Loving Healing Press 2007) shares the hope of everyone to find better health.

- **Maria Smith** – Educator, Author, Entertainment – Fort Worth, Texas
Maria Smith is an educator/ published author/ and children's entertainer from Fort Worth, TX.. She is also a mother with two sons, ages 21 and 19. Maria is the creator of **Cool School With Ms. Maria**, an educational video series and music CD for children ages 3-8. She has been featured in several local newspapers, **Dallas and Fort Worth Child Magazines**, on cable television stations, and has appeared on **Positively Texas**

and **The KTVT CBS 11 Early Morning Show**. Her current video, **Cool School With Ms. Maria Follow the Alphabet Road** is her newest release. Maria loves music, poetry, teaching and entertaining children. She also enjoys presenting workshops and sharing her ideas and enthusiasm with countless other teachers who share her profession and love of learning. With 28 years of experience, she's begun to take her knowledge and ideas "on the road." More information about Maria can be found on her website at www.coolschoolwithmsmaria.com. Her products can be purchased here as well.

Maria Smith's Publications

Hidden Riddles; an activity book of rhymes and riddles published by Leadership Publishers in Des Moines, Iowa

"Dogs Are Kids' Best Friends, Especially at the Dinner Table"; poem published by Meadowbrook Press www.meadowbrookpress.com

"Welcome to Describeville"; play published by ECS in the magazine, *R*W*T, The Magazine for Reading, Writing, and Thinking*

"The Proofread Kids"; play published by ECS in the magazine, *R*W*T, The Magazine for Reading, Writing, and Thinking*

"The Synonym Antonym Play" published by ECS in the magazine, *R*W*T, The Magazine for Reading, Writing, and Thinking*

A group of six poems about "The Senses" published by The Teaching and Learning Company in Carthage, Illinois

Several teaching ideas published by The Education Center in *The Mailbox Magazine*

Two personalized poems published by Creative Christian Publishers

Mouldy Mummy Jokes published by Top That! Publishing

The American Civil War: Why and How published by Top That! Publishing

"I Gave My Teacher a Present" included in *If Teachers Ruled the School* published by Meadowbrook Press

- **Lucia (Gonzalez) Stanford** – Author & Journalist – Monterrey / Dallas, Texas
Periodista desde 1979 cuando inició su trayectoria como reportera en Monterrey. Sin embargo sus estudios se enfocaron en las Relaciones Públicas y la Comunicación Organizacional. Ha trabajado como periodista desempeñando los roles de reportera, editora y columnista. Trabajó en Televisión durante cinco años coordinando un programa periodístico semanal en una empresa filial de Televisa. Además ha coordinado campañas políticas en el área de comunicación para diputados, senadores y gobernadores en Monterrey, Yucatán y Quintana Roo. Lucía Stanford ha recibido premios de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos y de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales. Tiene publicados tres libros y ha ganado premios de poesía y cuento. En Estados Unidos ha trabajado en Dallas, Miami, Denver y Los Ángeles siempre en medios de comunicación como radio y prensa. Ha sido editora de La Estrella, en Dallas Fort Worth y en HOY de Chicago y Los Ángeles. Fue conductora de un programa radial en Denver y en Dallas. Ha trabajado para empresas como Univision y Telemundo

- **Irwin A. Tang** – Author – Austin, Texas
Irwin A. Tang was born and raised in Bryan-College Station, Texas. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University and holds an M.A. in Asian Studies from UT-Austin. His most recent book is *Gook: John McCain's Racism and Why It Matters*.

He is the editor and co-author of *Asian Texans: Our Histories and Our Lives*, a groundbreaking history of Asian Americans in Texas. Tang led the efforts of twenty

writers and researchers over the course of five years to produce this landmark of Texas history and Asian American history. He is the author of the autobiographical story collection *How I Became a Black Man and Other Metamorphoses*, which the *Austin Chronicle* called “brilliant and heartbreaking” and AsianWeek found “laugh-out-loud funny.” He is co-author of the inspirational true story *When Invisible Children Sing: A true story of five street children, an idealistic young doctor, and their dangerous hope*, which was well-received by both Christian and non-Christian reviewers and readers. He is sole author of one of the most incisive books ever written about Texas A&M University, *The Texas Aggie Bonfire: Tradition and Tragedy at Texas A&M*. Tang helped lead efforts to establish the Center for Asian American Studies at UT-Austin. He is best known nationwide for his 2003 public battle with Shaquille O’Neal over Shaquille O’Neal’s racial taunts of Yao Ming.

- **K. C. Taylor** – Author – Indianapolis, IN

K. C. Taylor is an award winning teacher, youth motivational coach, lyricist, and mentor. She is also the author of several must read books for urban youth including *Any Possible Outcome: A Book of Urban Tales* and *Easier Without*.

K. C. Taylor is an advocate for all youth and travels the country to present her writings and workshops to various schools, churches and youth organizations.

- **Spanish Book Distributor Inc** – Dallas, Texas

SBD is a premier distributor specialized on bringing you the newest books in the Spanish language for the U.S. market and abroad. Since our beginnings in 1988, we have provided and continue to provide our customers with culture, entertainment and the pleasure of reading in Spanish. And since 1994, our customers have been enjoying our high quality books and excellent service from our store in the internet. It is with pleasure that we welcome you to our family of Spanish Book Friends.

- **Michael Williams** – Salina, Kansas

Michael Williams was born in Salina, Kansas. He has been with the Johns-Manville company for 23 years. He is the author of *To God Be the Glory for the Things He Has Done and Will Do!*

- **David Wong**- Texas Performing Chinese Arts Association – Dallas, Texas

David Wong is the founder of the Texas Performing Chinese Arts Association (TPCAA), the artistic director of Elite Performing Arts Center (EPAC), and the conductor of the North America Elite Youth Orchestra (NAEYO). Mr. Wong dedicates his life to spreading the musical heritage of Asia in America. Under his leadership, the TPCAA has made great strides in a short period of time. His professional career as a conductor includes several critically acclaimed concert tours in Taiwan, China, and several cities in the United States. Mr. Wong inaugurated a new epoch of Asian-American relations by being the first Chinese-American conductor to lead a youth orchestra in its performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in 1999 and Carnegie Hall in New York in 2000.

- **Dr. Woody Wu** – Zen Leadership for Corporate and Individuals – Plano, TX

Dr. Wu has 17 years of work experience in the networking, telecommunications, and Internet fields, served as CEO, manager/supervisor/leader, system engineer, standard engineer, patent engineer, designer, tester, quality assurance engineer, customer support engineer, and technical training instructor. Dr. Wu also has 8 years of teaching

experience as a professor or an adjunct at several universities for the networking, telecommunications, Internet, and management courses