



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MACC'S 2ND ANNUAL BILINGUAL IMMIGRATION SYMPOSIUM: "WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR" (Luke 10:25-37)

(San Antonio, Texas) On Oct. 10 – 11, the Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC), a national Catholic institute for pastoral leadership and language studies, will host the 2nd annual bilingual immigration symposium: "Who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:25-37).

The symposium will start at 7 p.m., Fri., Oct. 10 with the play, "The Line in the Sand: Stories from the U.S./Mexico Border." The play will be held at the Assumption Seminary Auditorium located at 2600 West Woodlawn Ave. The performance is free of charge, and open to the public.

Local talent will perform "The Line in the Sand," a play written by students after conducting interviews with migrants, ranchers, diocesan staff and officials of the Mexican and U.S. governments. The play, directed by Rev. Leo Perez, O.M.I., and sponsored by the Southwest Regional Office of Catholic Relief Services, uses the power of theatre to tell the personal stories of people affected by migration issues along the U.S./Mexico border. A panel discussion will follow the performance.

On Sat., Oct. 11, MACC will host workshops beginning at 8 a.m. at 3115 West Ashby Place. Dynamic speakers will address relevant immigration topics:

- Jorge A. Bustamante, Ph.D., President and Founder of El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, will present **Guest Workers and the New Slavery**. Dr. Bustamante is a Nobel Peace Prize Nominee with a background distinguished by his work in the United Nations Human Rights for Migrants and the University of Notre Dame.
- Rubén Garcia, Co-Founder and Director of Casa Anunciación and Border Shelters in El Paso, Texas, will present **A Story of Becoming a Good Samaritan**.
- Arturo Chávez, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer, Mexican American Cultural Center, will present **"Who is my neighbor?"** (Luke 10:25-37).

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- Testimonials will be shared by immigrant youth through a presentation called the **Untold Stories – Protecting the Rights of Immigrant Children**, sponsored by Catholic Charities.
- Catalina Nieto will present **Welcoming Community Initiative Project**, sponsored by the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition.
- Diana Molina will present her exhibit, **Seven String Barbed Wire Fence**, which depicts the border wall and the issue of immigration to the U.S.
- **Los Inocentes**, a local San Antonio musical group, will perform musical narratives on the theme of immigration.
- The final session will help participants to identify concrete actions and strategies. Participants will be able to mobilize communities of faith in order to respond courageously and compassionately towards the immigrant in our midst.

Saturday requires a paid tuition fee of \$125 with a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Tuition assistance is available based upon the availability of funds. Room and board is available at a cost of \$150 for two nights with a \$50 non-refundable deposit.

Please contact the Registrar at (210) 732-2156, ext. 7102 or visit the Web page at www.maccsa.org.

The symposium is made possible through the MACC San Juan Diego Project. MACC's mission is to empower and educate leaders for service in a culturally diverse Church and society.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Digital photographs of speakers are available upon request.