



La Voz de Esperanza

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Editor Gloria A. Ramírez
Design Elizandro Carrington

Contributors

Susan M. Guerra, Rachel Jennings, Tom Keene, Selma Platt, Gianna Rendón, Rodolfo Rosales, Yoly Zentella

La Voz Mail Collective

Alicia Arredondo, Olga Crespín, Margarita Elizarde, Charlie Esperiqueta, Mary Esperiqueta, Araceli Herrera, Mildred Hilbrich, Gloria Lozano, Ray McDonald, Angelita Merla, Mary Agnes Rodríguez, Bernard Sánchez, Roger Singler, Lynn Watson

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Esperanza Staff

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- We advocate for a wide variety of social, economic & environmental justice issues.
- Opinions expressed in La Voz are not necessarily those of the Esperanza Center.

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Esperanza Peace & Justice Center

922 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78212

210.228.0201 • fax 1.877.327.5902

www.esperanzacenter.org

Inquiries/Articles can be sent to:

lavoz@esperanzacenter.org

Articles due by the 8th of each month

Policy Statements

* We ask that articles be visionary, progressive, instructive & thoughtful. Submissions must be literate & critical; not sexist, racist, homophobic, violent, or oppressive & may be edited for length.

* All letters in response to Esperanza activities or articles in La Voz will be considered for publication. Letters with intent to slander individuals or groups will not be published.



Photo: Carmen Rumbaut at a Peace Market in Esperanza's early years

communities and well-being on multiple levels—against the onslaught of corporatization and gentrification. We seem to be headed towards turbulent times, but we have a track record of almost 30 years that has prepared us for the onslaught. We are—as a community and as individuals—the hope for the future as we enter, yet, another new year.

In this Voz we thank the Buena Gente who made the last 2 major events possible. Tom Keene and Susan Guerra reflect on the Esperanza's approaching 30th anniversary while Rudy Rosales reflects on our city's future. Yoly Zentella shares a New Mexican Día de los muertos experience and poetry completes the issue. Join us for a year-long celebration and reflection on the work of Esperanza. If you want a favorite program to return to Esperanza this year, let us know! Send photos, ideas and reflections to: lavoz@esperanzacenter.org.

December

— by Rachel Jennings

*Short days, then darkness.
I can't shake this December dread,
each news story a portentous metaphor.
One cold, rainy night, drivers
plunge into an unseen sinkhole
opened in the asphalt
by a ruptured sewer line.
Thirty-six young artists die
in a blaze at their enclave,
the Ghost Ship warehouse.
A follower of fake news opens fire
at a pizza place described
as the base of a child porn ring.
Real dark, real news stories
are metaphors. Swastikas
that began to appear post-
Election,
Kristallnacht,
are not metaphors—
do not portend but are.*



Artwork: Gerald Siegel

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VOZ VISION STATEMENT: La Voz de Esperanza speaks for many individual, progressive voices who are gente-based, multi-visioned and milagro-bound. We are diverse survivors of materialism, racism, misogyny, homophobia, classism, violence, earth-damage, speciesism and cultural and political oppression. We are recapturing the powers of alliance, activism and healthy conflict in order to achieve interdependent economic/spiritual healing and fuerza. La Voz is a resource for peace, justice, and human rights, providing a forum for criticism, information, education, humor and other creative works. La Voz provokes bold actions in response to local and global problems, with the knowledge that the many risks we take for the earth, our body, and the dignity of all people will result in profound change for the seven generations to come.