

# Notas Y Más

October 2019

Brief news items on upcoming community events.  
Send items for Notas y Más to: [lavoz@esperanzacenter.org](mailto:lavoz@esperanzacenter.org)  
or mail to: 922 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78212.  
**The deadline is the 8th of each month.**

**Gemini Ink** and the **Curtain Up Cancer Foundation** offer free storytelling workshops to cancer survivors, their family and friends at the **Forte Rehabilitation Center** in San Antonio on **October 5 & 6**. The **Voices of Recovery** workshops will also take place in January and April, 2020. Sign up for e-newsletters @ [bit.ly/geminiinknewsletter](http://bit.ly/geminiinknewsletter).



**The Warrior Roots Direct Action Training Camp** at the **Por Vida Academy** on

**October 11-13** provides new grassroots community organizing skills with fellow activists/artists that are working towards justice. See [www.warriorrootstx.org](http://www.warriorrootstx.org) for info.

The **Indigenous Dignity Day Human Rights March** takes place in San Antonio on **October 12**. Gather at **Columbus Park**, 799 W. Martin St., at 1pm for a Rally and Danza before the 3:30pm March. Arrive at the **Bexar Co. Courthouse** at 5pm for a post-March Rally & open mic. See FB for more.

**The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa (SSGA) Conference, *El Mundo Zurdo 2019*** will be held at **Trinity University**, **October 31 to Nov. 2**. The theme is *Planetary Citizenship: Anzaldúan Thought Across Communities, Histories & Cultures*. Register by **October 15**: [bit.ly/mundo\\_zurdo\\_2019](http://bit.ly/mundo_zurdo_2019)



**The Mission Marquee Plaza Farmer & Artisan**

**Market** occurs every 3rd Saturday sponsored by the City of San Antonio World Heritage Office and Mission Marquee Plaza at 3100 Roosevelt Ave. The next dates are **Oct. 19 & Nov. 16** from 10am-2pm. See: [www.missionmarquee.com/](http://www.missionmarquee.com/)



The **2019 Dos Nancies Event** will be held at **Los Patios**, 2015 NE Loop 410 on **Saturday, October 19** from 10am to 3pm to benefit **Friendship Bridge**, a nonprofit working with indigenous Guatemalan Women. Free from 12 pm to

3pm. VIP tickets are available for early entry at 10am. See: <https://www.friendshipbridge.org/whats-new/events/>

The **Julian Samora Research Institute** at **Michigan State University** celebrates its 30 years with a national conference, *“Latina/os and the Renewal of U.S. Democracy,”* on **October 31 to November 2** at the Marriott at University Place, East Lansing, MI. Registration closes: **October 31**. See / [jsri.msu.edu/30years](http://jsri.msu.edu/30years)



**The Patchwork Healing Blanket / La Manta de Curación** public art project against violence is set for **November 24th** at the

**Zocalo in Mexico City**. A quilt of squares from around the world will be taken to the US border and lifted over the wall into the US to continue traveling. To add squares or host the blanket, see: [patchworkhealingblanket2019@gmail.com](mailto:patchworkhealingblanket2019@gmail.com) or go to FB.

## Jim Branson, *Rest in Power!*

Filmmaker, Anne Lewis [A Strike and an Uprising (in Texas), 2018] who has screened her work at the Esperanza informed us of the passing of her partner of Lewy Body Dementia in August, 2019. Jim Branson was born at the base of Blair Mountain, W. Virginia. Jim became a lifelong socialist fighter and trade unionist. An open member of the Georgia Communist League, the October League, the CP Marxist Leninist, and most recently DSA and the Freedom Road Socialist Organization (now Liberation Road)—he went to China as part of a workers’ delegation in the 80s. Jim worked in slaughterhouses and steel mills; underground coal mines and as a grassroots, cultural, and union organizer in West Virginia, Kentucky, and Texas. Physically courageous and an organic intellectual, he committed body and mind to the Mead Paper Strike, the Brookside Miners Strike, the Massey Strike, the Pittston Coal Strike, the Southern Organizing Committee’s work on environmental justice, the campaign for single payer health care, the March to Save Blair Mountain, and union organizing drives in West Virginia, Kentucky, and Texas. Jim was last employed with the Texas State Employees Union (CWA Local 6186.) His friend, Thandabantu Iverson, noted that

he was “the kind of brother who’d be standing next to you facing a group of Klansmen on a dark southern road.” And Salma Mirza said, “He taught me how to be a disabled and sick person in the movement. He was always on the right side of history.” Jim believed that every person who resisted, who organized, who helped build a new and better world was his sister and brother. He invites all who remember him to join the struggle especially now in these dark times. The Esperanza staff, board and Buena Gente send our condolences to his family and the wide network of activists with whom he worked.

—Jim Branson  
*¡Presente!*

