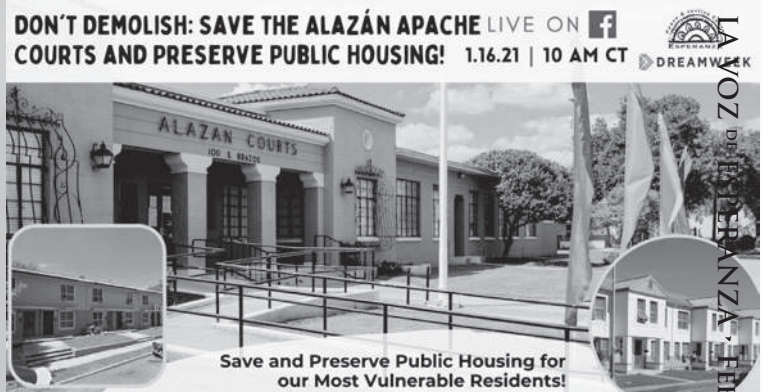


# 2021

## *A Virtual Year in Review*

The year 2021 saw the Esperanza take on a full calendar of virtual cultural, social and historical events including exhibits, films, música, pláticas, annual celebrations and workshops that we hosted or co-hosted beginning with the fight against COVID and for the survival of families and homes during the pandemic. In February 2021, Esperanza staff made phone calls and home visits throughout the city to arrange for vaccine appointments for almost 1000 people as part of a citywide effort to combat COVID. Esperanza staff continued to assist Buena Gente in accessing assistance for survival during the pandemic whether that meant paying for rents, providing for food or applying for COVID assistance to keep families afloat. Esperanza's commitment to community included advocacy work in housing issues and for the protection and preservation of Westside homes and neighborhoods throughout 2021.







Two keystones of Esperanza's cultural arts programming, *MujerArtes* and *Noche Azul* found creative ways to reach Buena Gente in 2021 with concerts, presentations, exhibits, demonstrations and sales for the community. *MujerArtes* opened their own virtual store ([mujerartes-store.esperanzacenter.org/mujerartes](http://mujerartes-store.esperanzacenter.org/mujerartes)) and hosted sales of their creative clay works throughout the year providing customers with safe by-appointment shopping or pickups at their studios at 816 S. Colorado.

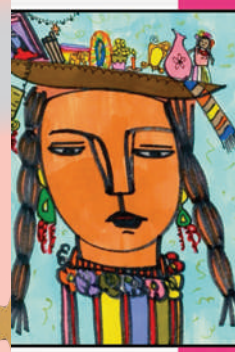




Noche Azul's monthly concerts, a staple of Esperanza's cultural offerings branched out with virtual Noche Azul Home Concerts featuring musicians, artists, poets and chefs in Azul's home and streamed in from Mexico. Noche Azul 2021 attracted a wide variety of audiences from San Antonio to Mexico City and beyond! In addition, concerts were often offered over a two-day span to accommodate both English language speakers and Spanish speakers. Bilingual audiences benefitted by enjoying both sets of concerts!



Annual celebrations of *Paseo por el Westside*, *Día de los Muertos* and the *Peace Market/ Mercado de Paz* reflected the resurgence of and gradual ebbing of COVID during 2021. All workshops & programs for the *Paseo* were conducted virtually, while *Día de los Muertos* altars were exhibited outdoors with an outdoor concert featuring the Esperanza trio and other musicians. The addition of the *Viviendas y Jardines* project to the *Muertos* celebration gave *buena gente* the chance to work together outside to beautify the Westside. A smaller version of *Peace Market* (*El Mercadito* of 2021) returned with local vendors outdoors in tents and tables and a limited number of customers allowed into the first floor's *Esperanza tiendita* that featured items from our international vendors who were absent this year. Still, *el Mercadito* saw record sales for all vendors. With a new COVID variant arriving at the end of 2021, challenges for 2022 remain ahead.





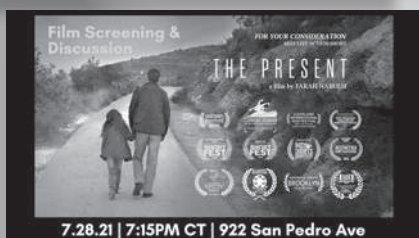
As in previous years, Esperanza cultural programming included films, pláticas, historical commemorations, exhibits and workshops impacting multiple communities while honoring cultural traditions or serving community needs. A sampling of 2021 programming included:



## Films

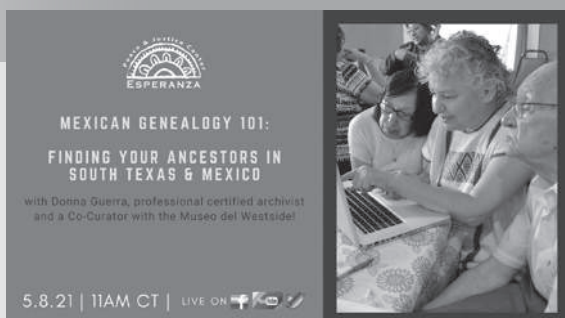


## 1921 Flood Commemoration



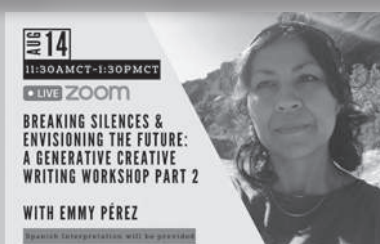
**COMING OUT  
COMING HOME**  
with Adelina Anthony &  
Dr. Jackie Cuevas  
Friday, October 1st  
7pm CT via **zoom**  
Register at  
[bit.ly/ComingOut2021](https://bit.ly/ComingOut2021)

Spanish & American Sign Language interpretation will be provided.  
Español e interpretación en Español y Lengua de Señas Americana



## Pláticas

## Workshops



## Exhibits



¡Feliz Año Nuevo! This La Voz overview of 2021 highlights the important work the Esperanza community accomplished from cultural programs, to preservation work, to community advocacy. We could not have done it without you! Thank you for your continued participation and support. To support Esperanza's work, consider becoming a Monthly Donor or making a donation. Visit our website at [www.esperanzacenter.org/donate](http://www.esperanzacenter.org/donate) to learn more. To access the video presentation, *Saludos 2021*, go to: [YouTube.com/esperanzacenter](https://YouTube.com/esperanzacenter). Adelante con 2022!