



# La Voz de Esperanza

March 2025

Vol. 38 Issue 2

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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.

## La Voz de Esperanza

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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 Letters with intent to slander individuals or groups will not be published.



As days go by we see and hear the changes and challenges that Trump 2.0 has wrought in the U.S. and abroad. What to do? First, focus on the here and now. Share what you see and hear daily. Secondly, carry on and celebrate ourselves and our communities for we must remain strong and united in the face of erasure. The smallest of triumphs in our daily lives matter as we fortify our very being remembering who we are and where we come from. Celebrations like the naming of the *Sanchez Fuentes Lane* in celebration of elders who cared for their barrio and its children matter. Celebrating *la naturaleza* matters as Azul Barrientos would attest to in the upcoming *Todos Agua II* festival. Noticing emerging heroes matters. Recently, in New York state two heroes have emerged: Governor, Kathy Hochul, who rejected the state of Louisiana's request to extradite a doctor from New York accused of mailing abortion pills to aid a teenage girl in Louisiana; and Danielle Sassoon, interim U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, who wrote to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi saying she could not follow a directive to drop the corruption case against New York City Mayor Eric Adams because it would violate her sworn duty to uphold the law and she would rather resign. Bondi asked for her resignation. And so it goes... In this issue of *La Voz* Susan Guerra writes about coping with this craziness and the deep pain it causes. She is offering an **Open Public Circle Dialogue**: March 2nd @ **Bazan Library**, 2- 4:30 pm - Free!

—Gloria A. Ramírez, Editor of *La Voz de Esperanza*

## I Want a Poem like Water

I want a poem like the marriage of hydrogen and oxygen.  
I want a poem like an hour in the shower.  
I want a poem like the air before a rain storm.  
I want a poem like clouds, large as the sky, racing across the earth.  
I want a poem like sheets of rain like silver.  
I want a poem like a river in flood.  
I want a poem like droplets of water on bare branches, sparkling like diamonds.  
I want a poem like a rainbow.  
I want a poem like an enveloping fog.  
I want a poem like a walk in the snow.  
I want a poem like ice skating.  
I want a poem like the sweat of the dance.  
I want a poem like a cool drink of water.  
I want a poem like a refreshing swim on a hot day.  
I want a poem like water skiing.  
I want a poem like the wet pants of mirth.  
I want a poem like the roll of the ocean.  
I want a poem like water!

—Don Mathis, in celebration of World Water Day, March 2nd



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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.