

Fuentes Sanchez Lane dedicated to honor elders who founded the Lanier Scholarship Fund

On Tuesday, February 4th, an unnamed alley on San Antonio's historic Westside was named in honor of Amelia Fuentes and Isabel and Enrique Sánchez who spent their time as elders collecting funds for scholarships to encourage students at Lanier High School to attend college.

All three had attended Lanier and later advocated for their own children who also went to Lanier. Long after their children graduated, Amelia, Isabel and Enrique remained active at Lanier and formed a committee to raise funds for scholarships by selling empanadas, chalupas, tamales, chocolate cake and more at local festivals and school events. The trio even sponsored an annual *Lanier Scholarship Dance* each spring with *DJ El General* at the *Esperanza Center* complete with concession favorites: *arroz con pollo*, *carnitas* and desserts that included *corbatitas* (buñuelo strips). A raffle with donated items topped off the fun evening. The three indefatigable elders made this a part of their life's work in their golden years pausing only when they begin to hit their 90s. Isabel passed in 2021 at 98 years old and two years later so did



Fuentes and Sánchez family members with friends and community gathered to celebrate the opening of the Fuentes Sánchez Lane on Tuesday, February 4, 2025.



Amelia and Enrique. Their legacy, however, lives on and will now be immortalized with the naming of the new *Fuentes Sanchez Way*. Carlos Salazar, a former student and resident of the

Westside who lives next to the alley took the idea to the *Historic West Side Neighborhood Association* last summer

who made the formal request for naming the alley to District 5 Councilwoman, Teri Castillo. The San Antonio City Council eventually approved naming the alley that now assures the public safety of the neighborhood by making it easier to identify an exact location when neighbors close by might call for help. At the same time, it honors the well-deserved work of the *Fuentes Sanchez* partnership that established the scholarship fund for Lanier High School students. *The Fuentes Sanchez Scholarship Fund* has now granted more than \$200,000 to college-bound graduates over the past 20 years and continues to impact students. To honor the memory of Amelia Fuentes and Isabel and Enrique Sánchez and add to the 2025 *Lanier Scholarship Fund* send donations to: *Fuentes Sanchez Scholarship Fund*, 1710 Veracruz, San Antonio, Texas 78207 or drop by the *Esperanza Center* where donations can be processed or call 210.228.0201.

A portrait of Amelia Fuentes and Isabel and Enrique Sánchez shows them at the portal of Sydney Lanier High School in 2012.



Mr. Ysedor Fuentes, husband of Amelia Fuentes next to the sign honoring his wife and friends.

