

BONNIE ILZA CISNEROS

*Tejana Essayist, Educator, Archivist, Folklorist,
Curator, DJ Despeinada*

www.bonniecisneros.com

EDUCATION

MFA

Texas State University, Creative Writing 2017
Autohistoria-nonfiction thesis: *La Historia de Saludé International Bar*

24 hours

Portland Community College, Playwrighting & Film Studies 2007
Student one-act play fest: *The Ballad of Sad Antonio*

BA

University of the Incarnate Word, Interdisciplinary Studies/English minor 2000
Texas Certified Teacher Grades 1-8

TEACHING

Nathaniel Hawthorne Academy 2009 – 2011
7th & 8th English & Social Studies 2003 – 2006
San Antonio, Texas

Dorothy Linder Elementary 2001 - 2002
1st Grade bilingual
Austin, Texas

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

Madre_Land: South Texas Group Art Exhibition curator, Centro De Arts, San Antonio, Texas, October 2025.

Siempre Verde: Creative Ecosystem for Feeling & Healing. Curatorial debut / group art exhibition, Galeria E.V.A. San Antonio, Texas, October 2023.

Recuérdela: Rosas Pa' Rosie Jimenez, commissioned altar installation for Planned Parenthood South Texas at Esperanza Peace & Justice Center, 2022.

Texas is Heaven to Me. *Mi Tesoro Hour* Guest Show, Marfa Public Radio & corresponding event ***Tejana Summer Jam***, Centro San Antonio, La Zona Cultural, 2022. Daryan Arcos, commissioned poster artist. DJ HEAVYFLOW featured.

Pride in Peacock Alley, Aretes in the Alley, Citrus Zest Fest. Cultural art event activations. Centro San Antonio. 2021 - 2022. Ashleigh Valentine Garza, Linda Monsivais, Rudy Herrera, commissioned poster artists.

Nicho Sonido: Música for Grieving & Healing DJ stage curation + Evergreen Garden installation + FREE art print commission for Muertos Fest at Hemisfair Park in San Antonio, Texas. 2021, 2022, 2023.

Siempre Verde: Music for Feeling & Healing. DJ Residency + Creative Mutual Aid Art Project + Journalistic Experiment at Evergreen Garden. 2020-2023. Poster art commissions from 20+ local artists. 13 artist essays & interviews published on bonniecisneros.com.

Sanarás Mañana: Music is Medicine. Spotify playlist, *SanArte Circulo de Remedios Herbal Gathering*. San Antonio, Texas. 2021.

I Know Who You Are. Spotify playlist for *ire'ne lara silva's* Hibiscus Tacos. San Antonio, Texas. 2021.

Take a Trip, but Come Home Soon. Recorded radio show. WFMU. Jersey City, New Jersey. 2021.

Boca Chica Beach: The Soundtrack. Spotify playlist. *Fuera SpaceX* zine. Joteria Cientifica, 2021.

Raza y Rolas. Live interview & DJ with Radio Xicanismo on YouTube. 2021.

Love Came Here and Never Left. Recorded radio show. WFMU. Jersey City, New Jersey. 2021.

The Beauty that Has Always Been Here: Tejana Rebirth, San Anto Style. Recorded radio show. Mixcloud. 2020.

Missing My Muertos. Recorded radio show. WFMU. Jersey City, New Jersey. 2020. Audrya Flores, commissioned poster artist.

Bubble Fest at Home. Backyard DJ film. Ruby City. San Antonio, Texas. 2020 & 2021.

She Wears Bells. Commissioned Spotify playlist for *jo reyes-boitel's* Aztec operetta. 2020.

Songs in the Key of SWU. Spotify playlist. Southwest Workers Union. San Antonio. 2020. Kayla Matta, commissioned poster artist.

Chingona Fest co-directora. La Botánica, San Antonio, Texas. 2016.

Noche de Poesia, Día de los Muertos Barrio Procession, Huevos Rancheros Gala event coordination. San Anto Cultural Arts. 2010 - 2011.

Love Lost and Found, Fiesta Me Molesta, Ugly Sweater Party art shows & DJ sets. Saludé International Bar. San Anto, Texas. 2008 - 2011.

PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Domestic Poetics: Or How I Made a Home of Poems. Guest Lecture & Writing Workshop for Dr. Cecily Parks, Graduate Poetry Workshop, Texas State University. February 2024.

On the Record: Becoming DJ Despeinada Guest Lecture, Hispanic Heritage Month, Northwest Vista College. Oct. 2023.

The Style Files: Ancestral Aesthetics in South Texas—Ayer, Hoy, y Siempre lecture for Dr. Sylvia Mendoza, University of Texas at San Antonio. Women's History Month 2022. *Archival zine forthcoming.*

Altar-ing: A Latinx Creative Nonfiction Zine Workshop Series Chicago Public Library. Latinx Heritage Month 2021.

Siempre Verde: Feeling & Healing in a Creative Mutual Aid Ecosystem in San Antonio, Texas During the Pandemic & Beyond presentation/panel. National Association for Latino Arts and Culture. National Latinx Summit. 2021.

Save As: San Anto Archives, Altars, Arts, & Autohistoria in the Digital Age y Después lecture & presentation. Dr. Sylvia Mendoza, University of Texas at San Antonio. Women's History Month, 2021.

Tejanas Behind the Turntables: Spinning Cultural Context & Curating Selections presentation & panel. Dr. LeeAnn Epstein, Northwest Vista College. Latinx History Month 2020. Regina Román, commissioned poster artist.

Altar-ing: A Latinx Memoir Workshop Series and collaborative zine publication. San Antonio Public Library. Latino Collection and Resource Center. 2019.

Border/Bordad: Writing, Embroidery, Creating Autohistoria San Antonio Public Library. Latino Collection & Resource Center with Laurie Ann Guerrero & Sarah Castillo. 2018.

Altar-ing: Mexican-American Memoir in South Texas NALAC NFA curriculum project presentation for MAS Teacher Academy, University of Texas at San Antonio. 2018.

PUBLICATIONS

Zines

Siempre Verde: Creative Ecosystem for Feeling & Healing art catalogue/zine, Bisnieta Press. San Antonio, Texas. December 2023.

Style Files: Ancestral Aesthetics in South Texas, Ayer, Hoy, y Siempre archival zine (forthcoming 2023) Essayist, editor, co-designer.

Altar-ing Con Nuestro Poder workshop series & community zine. Chicago Public Library. 2022. Facilitator & editor.

Altar-ing: A Latinx Memoir Workshop Series & community zine. San Antonio Public Library. 2020. Facilitator & editor.

Grunge Tejana: An Altar of Artifacts for The Ana Files archival zine. Plancha Press. 2018.

Journals

Connecting the Dots: Sam Rawls's 'Latent Blatant' & the Art of Healing Ourselves. Presa House Gallery. San Antonio, Texas. December 2023.

The Status of Women in San Antonio: Reflections on the Pursuit of Gender Equality art exhibition catalogue essay. City of San Antonio, Department of Arts & Culture, 2022.

Molcajete de Música Panocha Zine, 2022.

Tenemos Más Influencia: DJ Despeinada's Jukebox Chicax Infrarrealista Review, issue 1.5. Plancha Press, 2021.

Bienvenidxs a San Anto: A Literary Guide to My Beloved City Porter House Review. Texas State University, 2020.

Que Floreza La Luz poem, Luminaria festival catalogue. San Antonio, 2018.

The Gift of Thrift Buckman Journal. Portland, Oregon. 2018.

The Ana Files River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative, vol. 19, no. 2. Ashland University, Spring 2018.

Preguntas for Ana Castillo & Resilient Como Nopales *Front Porch Journal*. Texas State University. 2017.

How the Sábado Gigante Dancers Changed *Chicana/Latina Studies: The Journal of Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social*, vol. 12, issue 2. University of Texas at San Antonio. Spring 2013.

El Corrido de Azeneth y Esteban *Tejano Conjunto Festival Magazine*. Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. 2013.

Ciudad Hermana / Sister City *El Retorno: Our Serpent's Tongue*. University of Texas RGV Press. 2013.

El Placazo Barrio Newspaper. Community program coordinator, editor-in-chief, layout & design. San Anto Cultural Arts, 2010 - 2011.

Anthologies

Semanaria Tejana: An Abridged Guidebook for Blooming in the Borderlands featuring Siete Generations of South Texas Madres y M'ijas seven-tiered essay in *¡Somos Tejanas!* ed. Dr. Norma Cantú & Dr. Jody Marin, UT Press (forthcoming).

The Ana Files *Contemporary Creative Nonfiction*. Debra Monroe, editor. Kendall Hunt Publishing Company. 2020.

AFFILIATIONS

Macondo Writers Workshop	2016 - present
Vinyl Me, Please brand ambassador & The Spins coordinator.	2016 - 2020

HONORS AND AWARDS

Individual Artist Grant City of San Antonio Department of Arts & Culture	2022
SA Cares 4 Art Grant City of San Antonio Department of Arts & Culture	2020
Actos de Confianza National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures	2020

NALAC Fund for the Arts Grant Interdisciplinary Autohistoria Project: <i>Bodies of Agua</i>	2018
James E. Tilton Creative Writing Award University of the Incarnate Word	1999
National History Award Tom C. Clark High School	1995

REFERENCES

Dr. Lilliana Saldaña, Associate Professor & Program Director
Mexican American Studies
University of Texas at San Antonio
Email: lilliana.saldana@utsa.edu

Dr. Sylvia Mendoza, Associate Professor
Mexican American Studies
University of Texas at San Antonio
Email: sylvia.mendoza@utsa.edu

Dr. Debra Monroe, Professor
Department of English
Texas State University
Email: dmonroe8@att.net