What Does Being Latino Mean To You?
Responses from UTSA Students

“Being Latino to me means expressing my culture in everyday life. Educating others on my heritage and family. To me it also means that I am a part of a traditional culture that has shaped my life and has played a part in aspiring for a higher education.”
Berenice Jaramillo, Mexican American, Biology

“Being a Latina isn’t something you know, it’s something you feel—with our traditions, music, food, and most importantly our family. One thing I learned since a little girl from my family is to be proud of who you are and where you come from and that’s what I feel about being Latina.”
Susana Mancera, Mexican American, Psychology

“I am Colombian so I love to talk and share about my culture whenever I can. Being a Latina woman in the US lets me represent a good image of how each of our cultures are authentic and unique. To be Latina or Latino means to be proud, authentic, diverse and most important to never forget where you come from.”
Paula Celis, Colombian, Business Management

“To me, being Latino means embracing my Spanish heritage through everything I do and expressing it everywhere I go. Being Latino inspires me to be prideful in myself and reach past the expectations that are given to me by society. It also means to love and help anyone and everyone that passes through my life.”
Amber Peña, Mexican, Business

“My background and roots make me proud of where I come from and what I am becoming. To be a Latina in America means to value culture, music, history, family but most importantly to acknowledge that our community is important and needs a voice.”
Julie Diaz, Mexican American, Communication
The Student Center for Community Engagement and Inclusion in collaboration with various departments such as University Center Programs, the English Department and the Women’s Studies Institute will host several events in celebration of Latino Heritage Month, which is nationally celebrated September 15 through October 15th.

**September 24, 2014**
3:00 p.m.
UC Pecan Room
An Afternoon With Award-Winning Poet and Author

**Michael Nava**

Michael Nava, a third generation Californian of Mexican descent, and the grandson of immigrants, was born in Sacramento. He was the first person in his family to attend college, ultimately receiving his law degree from Stanford University.

He began writing when he was 12 years old, around the same time he recognized that he was gay. In his autobiographical essay, *Gardencland*, he says he turned to writing because he was filled with words he was otherwise unable to express.

Nava has received the 1981 Chicano/Latino Literary Prize, six Lambda Literary Awards, and the 2000 Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement in Gay and Lesbian Literature.

**Event sponsored by:** Department of English, Women’s Studies Institute, Student Center for Community Engagement and Inclusion, the Consortium for Social Transformation, Honors College, and John Philip Santos, Distinguished Scholar of Ethnic Studies. For more information please call 210.486.2277 or 210.486.4795.
2014 Inclusion Block Party!
Volunteer Opportunities

COME VOLUNTEER WITH US!

September 3, 5pm
First VOICES Meeting in UC Retama

September 10, 10am-1pm
Main Campus Volunteer Fair

September 22, 11am-1pm
Downtown Volunteer Fair

September 26 (various shifts all day)
Extreme Makeover: UTSA Edition (campus cleanup)

October 5, 1-3pm
Roadrunners Give Back
Official Homecoming Service Project

November 19, 6-8pm
Hunger Banquet

To get involved with VOICES or Volunteer Services visit our office on the Paseo (HUC 1.216)
Or email volunteer@utsa.edu.

UTSA VOLUNTEERS

EXTREME MAKEOVER
UTSA Edition

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, September 26
Be a Part of UTSA’s
Annual Beautification Project

More Information: 210.458.7291 or HEB UC 1.216
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Student Center for Community Engagement and Inclusion
UC 2.01.04 (above Chili’s Too)
210.458.4770

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