



CITY OF CALEXICO

COMMUNITY SERVICES

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



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Nov./Dec. 2008

Book Signing: Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez



The Cultural Arts Center hosted a very successful book signing program with Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez. She was born into a middle-class family in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her father, Nelson Valdés, is a retired sociology professor at the University of NM, and emigrated from Cuba in the early 1960s. Her mother, Maxine Conant, is a seventh-generation New Mexican, and a poet and novelist.

Valdes-Rodriguez spent her childhood primarily in New Mexico. Upon her graduation from Del Norte High School in Albuquerque she attended Berklee College of Music in Boston where she majored in jazz performance on the tenor saxophone. While a student at Berklee, Valdes-Rodriguez began writing freelance music reviews for the Boston Globe. After graduating from Berklee in 1992, she took an unpaid internship at the Village Voice, before going back to school to earn a master's degree from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism in 1994.

In 1994, she was hired as a staff writer for Living/Arts section of the *Boston Globe* newspaper. She was twice nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in feature writing, and won the SUNMAG contest for best newspaper essayist in 1998. Her first novel, *The Dirty Girls Social Club*, was purchased by St. Martin's Press. She was paid an advance of \$475,000. In a profile of the writer, entitled "The Latina Terry McMillan?", Chicago Tribune reporter Patrick T. Reardon wrote: "What made [the book] especially hot was the belief among publishers that Valdes-Rodriguez could be the long-sought 'Latina Terry McMillan' -- a writer whose work would jump-start Hispanic book buying in the U.S. and create a new profitable publishing niche..." *The Dirty Girls Social Club* garnered media attention and went on to become a New York Times bestseller and a Book Sense 76 top pick.

In 2005, *Time* dubbed Valdes-Rodriguez "The Godmother of Chica Lit" and named her one of the 25 most influential Hispanics in the U.S. Hispanic Business Magazine has twice named her among the 100 Most Influential Hispanics in America. In 2006, the Hispanic Congressional Caucus awarded Valdes-Rodriguez with a Latina Leadership award.

NOVELS: *The Dirty Girls Social Club* (2003)
Playing with Boys (2004)
Make Him Look Good (2006)
Haters (2006)
Dirty Girls on Top (2008)
The Husband Habit (coming 2009)

SOURCE: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alisa_Valdes-Rodriguez

THE CALEXICO CULTURAL ARTS
CENTER AND JESUS VARGAS INVITE
YOU TO COME AND SEE THE



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS EXHIBIT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
6:00-8:00 P.M.

AND

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH
4:00-6:00 P.M.



12 ALTARS DESIGNED BY SDA STUDENTS
OF MEXICAN AMERICAN MUSIC CLASS
HONORING LATE MEXICAN AND CHICANO
MUSICIANS

Calexico Cultural Arts Center
421 Heffernan Ave.
Calexico, CA
(760) 357-5575

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR "ARTIST OF THE MONTH" EXHIBITS

The Cultural Arts Center will be having a week-long mini exhibit, the first whole week of every month, featuring the work of one artist. If you are interested in being considered for an exhibit during 2009, please call Leah for details at 760-768-2170.

Calexico Arts Commission

Bill Hodge, Chair
Berenice Martinez
Soledad Salazar
Ulises Cardenas
Jose D. Garcia

Community Services
Dir. Sandra Tauler
(760) 768-2170

The Calexico Arts Commission meets the first Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall 608 Heber Ave. Calexico, CA



RECREATION



The Calexico Recreation Department started the fall season working hard at keeping our community healthy and happy.

Senior Citizens Programs Coordinator, Mary Alvarez called the senior community to a health fair where guests received valuable health information. Flu shots were also available.

Adults and youth sports programs began the last week of September. Call to sign up for a class now, we have Zumba, Salsa, Ballet, Aerobics, Ballet Folklórico, Soccer, Chess, Karate, Guitar and much more!

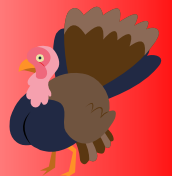


UPCOMING EVENTS

ESPAÑOLERIAS
November 13



Seniors Thanksgiving Luncheon
November 19



Breakfast With Santa
December 20



CALL US FOR PROGRAM DETAILS!



Sports Programs Coordinator, Jamie Ann Chew welcomed teens to basketball open gym and also commenced a softball league. Open gym is at the De Anza Jr. High School Gym: Adults Sunday from 8:00–9:00 p.m. ; Teens, Sunday 4:00–6:00 pm and Youth Sat & Sun 12:00 –2:00 p.m.. Cost is \$1 per person.

Recreation Commission





Estela Castañeda
Liz Vizcarra
Ricardo Ortega
Linda Dorantes
Pat Ureña

The Recreation Commission meets the third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

Community Services Director:
Sandra Tauler





NOVEMBER 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  Dia De Los Muertos A Musical Buffet First United Methodist Church @ 4:00 p.m.	3 Art Comm. Mtg. @ 5:00 p.m. Dia de Los Muertos Altar @ 6:00p.m.	4  Election Day Dia de Los Muertos Exhibit @ CAC	5 Dia de Los Muertos Exhibit @ CAC	6 Families For Literacy @ 6:00p.m.	7 Golf Tournament @ Barbara Worth Country Club	8
9	10	11  Veteran's Day Library Closed	12 Teen Workshop "Bullying" @ 3:30p.m.	13 Espanoleras Program @ Cultural Arts Cntr.	14	15
16	17 Book Club Mtg. @ Carrows 6:15 p.m.	18	19 Rec. Comm. Mtg. @ 5:00 p.m. Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Lunch @ Comm. Center Poetry Club @ 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22
23	24 30	25	26 Library Closed @ 5:00p.m.	27  Thanksgiving Day Library Closed	Library Closed	29

DECEMBER 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Art Commission Mtg. @ 5:00 p.m. Monthly Art Exhibit @ CAC	2	3 Teen RIF @ 3:30 p.m. Lib. Board Mtg. @ 6:30 p.m.	4	5	6 Carnegie Technology Center Grand Opening @ 2:00 p.m.
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8	9	10 Christmas Book Distribution @ 6:00 p.m. 	11 Families For Literacy @ 6:00p.m.	12	13 Calexico Christmas Parade
14	15	16	17 Teen Workshop "Anger Management" @ 3:30p.m. Recreation Comm. Mtg. @ 5:00 p.m.	18 Chamber Annual Holiday Mixer	19 Angel Tea 5-7 p.m. (Library Closes @ 5p.m.) 	20 Breakfast with Santa @ Comm. Center 
21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Library Closed @ 5:00p.m. 	25 Christmas Day! Library Closed	26	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Library Closed @ 5:00p.m.	<i>Farewell 2008!</i> 