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Contributors

SYLVIA ARLENE FERNÁNDEZ was born and raised in the borderland of Ciudad Juárez/El Paso, Texas. She obtained her master's in Spanish Literature at New Mexico State University. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student at the University of Houston, where she is specializing in feminist studies and U.S. Latina/o literature.

MARTHA GALEANA (aka Malinalli), earned an M.A. in Mexican American Studies from CSU Los Angeles, and was a former Student Intern at Maternidad La Luz, El Paso Texas. During a six-month training, Martha delivered seven babies including one water birth. She attended and assisted 28 mothers and their babies during labor and delivery. She has designed Made in the Uterus ©2011 and is a ceramic artist and a workshop presenter: "We Glow Not Bleed: Re-taking and Empowering our Body through our Menstrual Cycle."

Luis-Genaro García is a Los Angeles artist and high school art teacher in South Central Los Angeles currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Education at Claremont Graduate University. Drawing from his background in education, public art, and activism, he teaches art through a social justice curriculum that accounts for the ethnic, personal, and historical experiences of working class Students of Color, in order to challenge systems of oppression that exist for them.

JENNIE QUIAHUICOATL LUNA earned her Ph.D. in Native American Studies from U.C. Davis. Her dissertation is entitled, *La Danza Mexica: Indigenous Identity, Spirituality, Activism and Performance*. She has been a practicing doula for over eight years and a traditional Mexica Dancer for over 20 years. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor in Chicana/o Studies at CSU Channel Islands.

VIRGINIA NECOCHEA received her Ph.D. in Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies, and her M.A. in Critical Race Theory and Feminist Epistemologies from the University of New Mexico. Prior to obtaining her Ph.D., Necochea had over fifteen years of experience in the field of education. Necochea is committed to social justice and the preservation of culture and traditions, and currently serves as Director for the Center for Social Sustainable Systems (CSESSOS), a community-based research and learning center, and Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Teacher Education, Educational Leadership, and Policy at the University of New Mexico. CARLOS FRANCISCO PARRA is a doctoral student in the History Department at the University of Southern California and holds a master's degree in History from the University of New Mexico, and a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from the University of Arizona.

RODRIGO JOSEPH RODRÍGUEZ'S writings have appeared in a number of periodicals. One of his favorite quotes is by Pat Mora: "Think of the quetzal, how it entrusts its life to the invisible, swoops into the unknown as we must swoop into ourselves if we are truly to change our lives." He lives in Texas.

Jesús Javier Sandoval was born in El Paso, TX and his family is from Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua. Jesús attends New Mexico State University with a double major in Criminal Justice and Spanish Linguistics with a supplementary major in Law and Society. Jesús serves as a mentor for youth at the Juvenile Citation Program in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

DIANISA Sosa was born in Temple, Texas, and had the opportunity that many desire in having the American dream at her reach. Her family moved to El Paso, Texas when she was little, bringing a new culture and way of living into her life. During the course of her youth, her identity as a Latina was both a privilege and a disadvantage for her, for she went through stages of discrimination. She attended Valle Verde Early College High School, where she graduated with a high school diploma and her Associate of Arts and Criminal Justice. She attended New Mexico State University majoring in Criminal Justice and Spanish, with a minor in Linguistics. She wants to obtain a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and a Masters in Spanish and have the opportunity to go to Law School to become a judge.

CHRISTINE VEGA is a fourth year doctoral student in the Graduate School of Education & Information Studies (GSE&IS) Social Science and Comparative Education at the University of California, Los Angeles. She holds a Masters of Education from the University of Utah's School of Education, Culture, and Society. Her training is in Critical Race Theory, Chicana Feminisms, and Education. Christine is part of two collectives; Mothers of Color in Academia (MOCA) and Chicana M(other) Work. These collectives act as support networks for members to navigate and cope with institutions of higher learning while in doctoral programs.

JOEL ZAPATA graduated with a B.A. in History and a minor in Anthropology from the University of Texas at El Paso. His research focuses on telling the stories of immigration, settlement, and community of Mexicana/os on the frontera and the greater Western U.S. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in History at Southern Methodist University.

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