



ANNOUNCEMENT

THE MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES (MAS) TEACHERS ACADEMY

JUNE 17 – 21, 2024

The Mexican American Studies (MAS) Teachers' Academy at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) invites social studies, MAS, and language arts educators to this year's academy which will be held virtually the week of **June 17 - 21, 2024, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Ethnic studies increase educational achievement by exploring Mexican American experiences, contributions, and their place in history-making. The Texas legislature, the State Board of Education, and some public school boards are limiting or censoring teacher speech, creating barriers to objective learning about racism and historical and current events, and basically whitewashing history.

However, the MAS Teachers' Academy focuses on teachers committed to their students and engaging parents and communities in advancing educational achievement, and truth. For Latinos whose experience with "A History of Systematic Recycling Discrimination"¹ in education, Ethnic Studies is vital to a quality education.

The academy, a testament to the dedication of UTSA MAS faculty, was established in 2015 as part of a statewide movement to bring MAS into Texas K-12 public schools. The only academy of its kind in the state, the MAS Teachers' Academy is a teacher-scholar-community-led effort that provides educators with foundational content and curricular support to teach MAS in Texas public schools.

Theme and Vision

The theme of this year's academy is "Florincanto" from the Nahuatl language, "in xochitl in cuicatl, which translates to "flowersong" in English--- an ancestral and multimodal approach to literacy and creative expression. This year's academy will focus on:

- Celebrating heritage and cultivating social consciousness
- Recovering lost histories, preserving ancestral knowledge and storytelling, and inspiring social justice

- Engendering self-reflection (dialogue with the heart) with students as a way of deepening knowledge of the self in relation to community, the world and all our relations
- Cultivating a sense of belonging and sacred purpose
- Creating spaces of collective joy, imagination, and beauty.

The MAS Teachers' Academy is open to all educators who want to deepen their knowledge of MAS in their classroom teaching/learning! We're excited to have an outstanding line-up of Mexican American Studies scholars who will share their scholarly expertise, and primary and secondary education teachers who will facilitate curricular workshops and share TEKS-aligned lesson plans.

Registration Information:

\$127 for educators

\$50 for pre-service teachers and community members.

<https://tinyurl.com/MASTARegistration2024>

Please don't hesitate to contact Dr. Lilliana P. Saldaña and Dr. Gloria Gonzales, Co-directors of the MAS Teachers' Academy.

REGISTRATION, SPONSORS AND SOCIAL MEDIA



¹ “Latino Education in Texas: A history of Systematic Recycling Discrimination”, St. Mary’s Law Journal, St. Mary’s University, Vol. 50 | No. 3, Article 4, October 2019, Albert H. Kauffman. Available at: <https://commons.stmarytx.edu/thestmaryslawjournal/vol50/iss3/4>