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MINERO MAGAZINE

VOLUMEN XXVII - FALL 2018

HELPING OTHERS WITH THE
GIVING PROJECT

APRENDIENDO A
VIVIR CON AUTISMO

A TOUCH OF POETRY

REVIVIENDO EL
ENTRETENIMIENTO
EN EL CENTRO DE JUÁREZ

HOW LEFTIES DEAL IN
THE RIGHT-HANDED
WORLD



Miner Canyon

Helen of Troy

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VOLUMEN XXVII - FALL 2018

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Editor's note

By: Grecia Sánchez

The day has finally arrived. It's time to represent the border as it is. The peculiarity of El Paso and Ciudad Juárez is shown in this issue from the very beginning as the magazine comes with new ideas, new stories, new experiences and new features.

In order to do this, we first had to get rid of the idea of having one theme; meaning, to publish just one aspect of the border throughout the magazine. Our job is to write in this bilingual magazine about this unequalled place between two countries, with its mismatched routines, their divergent habitants, their contrasting struggles, and their very unique ways of seeing the world; but how are we correctly reporting about the border if it is not itself within "themes?" Why don't we better put all these different ways of living in the same space? Just like our border is constantly having to interact with different perspectives and sometimes opposite ideas?

Those were questions that gave birth to this issue. The border is known for its mixes; El Pasoan restaurants with Mexican signs, bilingual schools on both sides of the border, the *pochos*, the similar architecture, one whole community going back and forth between cities, two identities shown as one in murals, in our families and in every person who is born and raised on this border. This time, we wanted to emphasize the different aspects that coexist on the border.

This time, *Minero Magazine* deals with more than just one theme. We bring different idiosyncrasies of the border into one single issue by putting together stories from different realms.

This issue talks about the cultural center of Cd. Juárez, how a group of local volunteers are changing the way the border sees homeless people, a glimpse inside the life of individuals living with autism and even the way left-handed people see the right-handed world surrounding them.

We included a story about the street entertainment in Juárez to show how this city is coping with violence, disorganization and skepticism from *juarenses*. Reporter Alfonso González interviews various entertainment artists on Avenida 16 de Septiembre and finds the story behind them.

We also have a story about a non-profit organization that not only gives backpacks for the homeless population in El Paso, but also helps them in their process of returning to a home. The Giving Project's feature includes perspectives on why we should help others and how easy it is to do so.

In addition, we also have a story about left-handed people and their struggles in, what we found out was a right-handed world. Reporter Isaiah Ramirez writes about the struggles of left-handed students at The University of Texas at El Paso and what they have learned throughout a lifetime of adaptation.

Lastly, if you are not yet convinced, my story deals with autism and the stigma surrounding it. I got to feature different experiences on both sides of the border regarding the struggles that come with autism, the awakening of one's thoughts when confronted with autism, and I got to decode several misconceptions around autism.

We are featuring in this issue the winner of *Minero Magazine's* first poetry contest. Participants had the opportunity to submit a poem dealing with one aspect of the border or in general. Professor of Creative Writing at UTEP, Sylvia Aguilar and myself worked on choosing the winning entry.

We hope you enjoy this issue as the *Minero* staff, the interviewees and students who worked on it put a lot of effort into it. I feel optimistic that our audience will get a sense of new questions that arise whenever these issues join them in their daily routine.

Thank you, readers, for your continued interest in our stories. Special thanks to Veronica Gonzalez, Gloria Heredia, Claudia Hernández, Sylvia Aguilar, Bonnie Perez and Ana Lilia Amén for their efforts and contributions in making this magazine a better one.

Grecia



¿AUTISMO?

¿Qué es eso?

Por: Grecia Sánchez

Fotos y Diseño: Itzel Lara

Son las 7 de la mañana en El Paso y Elizabeth Paz acaba de alistarse para comenzar su día. Se dirige a la cocina para preparar los desayunos. Mientras deja freír el chorizo, oye desde la cocina las risas de sus hijos Jonathon y Jacob en el cuarto. Recién se han levantado. Pero Elizabeth se preocupa cuando de repente no oye ningún ruido.

“Algo pasó”, Elizabeth piensa mientras corre al cuarto para descubrir los cajones de la cómoda medio salidos, el piso entero lleno de talco y a Jonathon haciendo figuras mientras Jacob rueda por todo el cuarto.

Aldo Sánchez, esposo de Elizabeth, no había presenciado la escena hasta que, una vez que Elizabeth limpió el piso entero, Aldo se sentó en la cama, que para su sorpresa estaba llena de talco y se ensució sus pantalones negros. Aldo se levanta, sacude la sábana de la cama y, de nuevo, el cuarto entero se llenó de talco.

Para Aldo, el comportamiento de sus hijos le resultaba familiar. Cuando

eran chicos su hermano Daniel y Aldo, también se les olvidaban las letras, leían y escribían al revés, y tampoco querían socializar con nadie. De hecho, Aldo fue diagnosticado con autismo a los 5 años en Torreón, México.

“Lo noté en los niños también y pensé ‘creo que tienen lo mismo que yo y mi hermano tenemos’. Y yo ni siquiera sabía lo que era autismo hasta recientemente”, Aldo dice.

Han pasado dos años desde que a los gemelos Jonathon y Jacob, con ahora 5 años, les diagnosticaron autismo. Ahora Aldo y Elizabeth son activistas para todas las discapacidades y forman parte del comité de padres en el Centro de Desarrollo Infantil del Paso del Norte.

Según Aldo y Elizabeth, sus hijos han adquirido habilidades de independencia gracias a la terapia ABA por sus siglas en inglés (Applied Behavior Analysis). De acuerdo con Paso del Norte, esta terapia aplica intervenciones que utilizan principios de aprendizaje y motivación

que llevan a un cambio positivo en el comportamiento del niño autista.

“La cosa es que lo que veas en la clase lo tienes que llevar a la casa, y necesitas implementarlo ahí”, Elizabeth dice. “En otras palabras, tú y el terapeuta están al mismo nivel, en la misma página. No puedes estar ‘oh, no voy a hacer esto en casa’, no, tienes que hacerlo, si es difícil tienes que seguir intentándolo y eso causó un gran impacto en nuestra vida en el hogar, en la escuela y en todo”.

Natalie Eckberg, coordinadora de desarrollo de fondos en Paso del

“
Lo noté en los niños también y pensé ‘creo que tienen lo mismo que yo y mi hermano tenemos’. Y yo ni siquiera sabía lo que era autismo hasta recientemente.
”

- Aldo Sánchez

Norte, explica que el centro se enfoca en hacer lo que ellos llaman: terapias de ambiente natural.

“Si tenemos que hacer una terapia aquí en el centro está bien. Tenemos el espacio para hacerla, pero nuestra preferencia es realmente hacer la terapia en casa con los padres en su ambiente natural”, Eckberg dice.

Eckberg dice que la meta primordial del centro es integrar al niño en el sistema escolar y después a la sociedad. Como las terapias en Paso del Norte se dividen por edades, puede haber en un grupo un niño con autismo y otro con síndrome de Down, por ejemplo.

“Hacemos eso deliberadamente porque nuestra meta es integrar al niño en sistemas de escuelas y después en la sociedad y el mundo no está dividido por partes”, Eckberg dice. “Los niños tienen que poder ir

Si no lee a los 6 años, pero cuida su dignidad como persona, lo formas como ser humano, ¿qué importa que lea a los 8 o a los 9? No pasa nada. Va a leer, si nos tardamos más en caminar hasta allá, ¡caminamos! ¿Dónde está la prisa?

- Ana Lilia Amén

una cultura orientada hacia la familia. Concuerda con Eckberg en que los niños necesitan aprender a ser independientes.

“No había visto que los padres llevaran a su hijo e hija a la universidad todos los días, y que los recogieran y los llevaran todos los días”, Agarwal dice. “Es un muy buen sistema de apoyo para nuestros estudiantes, pero al mismo tiempo es conflictivo en el sentido que nosotros queremos que los estudiantes con discapacidades se vuelvan independientes porque sus padres no pueden quedarse con ellos para siempre”.

Al otro lado de la frontera, en Ciudad Juárez, Ana Lilia Amén Martínez es la coordinadora del programa Luminar para niños autistas en Fundación Integra.

“Somos la única institución (de Ciudad Juárez) que tiene un programa que abarca los cinco días de la semana que es como escolarizado, tres horas cada día y ahí los niños tienen todas las terapias; lenguaje, sensorial, actividades de la vida diaria, tienen juego funcional, imaginativo, terapia cognitiva, de aprendizaje, terapia conductual”, Amén dice.

A diferencia de Paso del Norte donde se sigue el diagnóstico de un doctor ajeno al centro, Amén es la única psicóloga que hace las impresiones diagnósticas en Integra. Ella diagnostica si el área cognitiva del niño con autismo está comprometida.

“Ellos son inteligentes como tú y como yo, sólo que la dificultad está en el procesamiento de la información.

Cuando la información no les llega por los canales que ellos la pueden recibir, entonces ahí dices tú ‘ay es que no aprende’”, Amén dice. “Pues sí, no aprende porque no le estás ayudando a pasar la información por donde él la puede recibir”.

Como Paso del Norte, Integra también forma grupos por edades. Se enfocan también en regularizar al niño para el sistema escolar y esto se logra por medio de varias terapias.

“Le enseñamos al niño a llegar a su salón, a colgar su mochila, a sacar su cuaderno, a tomar su lápiz, a trabajar, a poner atención, a responder a su nombre, a esperar el turno, a todo lo que se hace en un preescolar”, Amén dice. “A que salga al recreo, a que cuide su lonche, a que comparta su lonche, a que respete el lonche de los otros si no le quieren dar, y a que utilice su tiempo cuando está en el recreo porque los niños con TA (trastorno autista) tienen dificultad para la utilización de su tiempo libre”.

Aldo, quien es un padre que actualmente vive con autismo, alienta a otros padres a empezar temprano las terapias con sus hijos.

“Soy mayor y va a ser más difícil para mí. No puedo quedarme quieto y me es difícil concentrarme, requiere de mucho entrenamiento”, Aldo dice. “Incluso le dije (a Elizabeth) ‘hay que empezar cuando estén chicos’ y es más fácil, funciona porque veo que (mis hijos) están más concentrados que yo y ellos hasta hacen contacto visual”.

Amén también recalca la importancia

a Target, tienen que poder ir a un restaurante; el mundo no está dividido por partes como por ejemplo ‘aquí está el Target para niños con necesidades especiales’. Necesitamos prepararlos para la autosuficiencia tanto como sea posible”.

Neelam Agarwal, directora asistente del Centro de Acomodo y Servicios de Apoyo (CASS) en la Universidad de Texas en El Paso y quien viene de Filadelfia, dice ver en la frontera





Roberto de la Rosa



The Cast

de no agobiarse como padres si sus hijos no entran a la escuela en el año en que “deben” entrar.

“Quién dijo que había prisa por aprender? ¿O que había que aprender corriendo? ¿O dónde está la regla que si no lees a los 6 años ya no vas a leer toda tu vida? ¿Quién dijo eso? Para que lo corrija porque no es así”, Amén dice. “Si no lee a los 6 años, pero cuida su dignidad como persona, lo formas como ser humano, ¿qué importa que lea a los 8 o a los 9? No pasa nada. Va a leer, si nos tardamos más en caminar hasta allá, ¡caminamos! ¿Dónde está la prisa?”

Bonnie Perez es la presidenta de la Sociedad de Autismo de El Paso. Ella dice que se necesita una comunidad entera para criar a un hijo. Bonnie dice el simple hecho de que le contesten el saludo a su hijo autista Julian los hace parte de su comunidad.

“Quién es nuestro village? Mucha gente piensa que nomás es mi familia. Que es nomás lo que está ahí cerquita. Julián ha tenido logros que OMG, no lo podemos creer, hay gente que lo conoce desde chiquito cuando recién empezamos y lo ven y dicen ‘Bonnie OMG, congratulations’ pero yo les digo ‘es que yo no lo hice sola’”, Perez dice.

Y para Maribel de la Rosa, este apoyo se necesita más para los adultos autistas. El hijo de Maribel, Roberto, comenzó terapia a los 10 años tras haber tenido un comportamiento muy agresivo en la escuela y con su familia.

Debido a esto, Maribel, quien se enteró de autismo por un colega tras un menosprecio en el juicio de una pediatra, decidió renunciar a su trabajo y enfocarse en su hijo. A los 11 años, Roberto comenzó terapia de lenguaje y, debido a una tarea de la terapeuta, él empezó a escribir un guión.

“Todo pasó muy rápido. Nos invitaron a un evento, un grupo local de producción de El Paso, fuimos porque querían hacer un documental de niños con autismo”, Maribel dice. “Mi niño luego luego le interesó que eran películas, eran cineastas entonces fue con el director que estaba encargado en ese entonces y le dijo ‘yo tengo un proyecto, yo hice un guión y yo quiero hacer una película. ¿Me puedes ayudar?’ y el muchacho se asombró tanto que dijo ‘sí, te quiero ayudar’”.

Roberto tiene actualmente 19 años y el proyecto terminó convirtiéndose en una obra que se mostró en la preparatoria de El Valle en El Paso el 2 de abril del 2018. Los fondos recaudados de la obra fueron para la sociedad de autismo de El Paso.

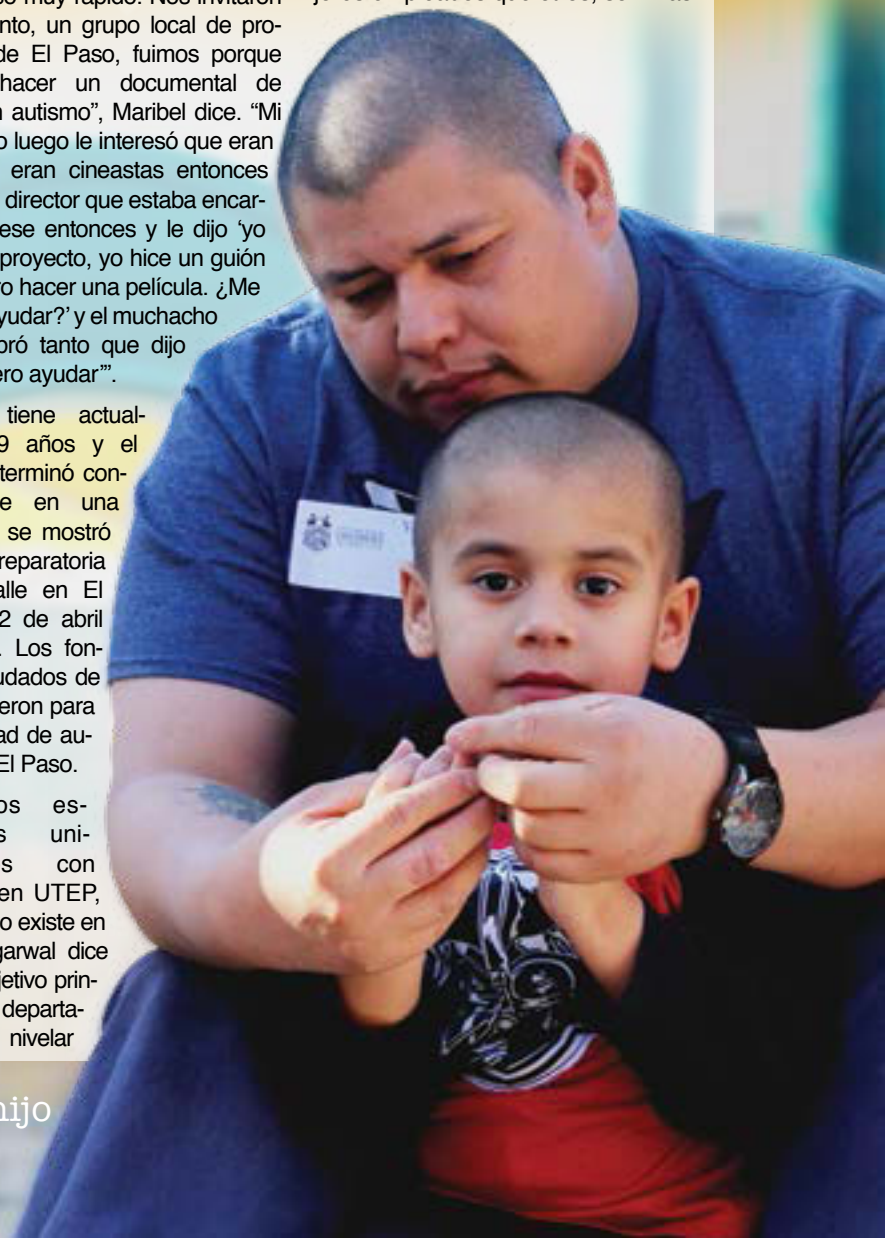
Para los estudiantes universitarios con autismo en UTEP, este apoyo existe en CASS. Agarwal dice que el objetivo principal del departamento es nivelar

el campo para que estudiantes con discapacidades puedan tener éxito como los otros estudiantes.

“Nuestro trabajo es dar igual acceso e iguales oportunidades para todos los estudiantes. Así, ellos pueden tener éxito y tener una experiencia universitaria como los demás”, Agarwal dice.

Agarwal recordó la anécdota de un exalumno de UTEP cuando, una vez graduado, el estudiante fue a una entrevista de trabajo y se sintió rechazado en cuanto el entrevistador lo vio en silla de ruedas. Agarwal dice que en cuanto alguien te ve en silla de ruedas, de inmediato asume que no eres capaz de hacer el trabajo.

“Esto no es verdad, tal vez (los estudiantes discapacitados) son mejores empleados que otros, son más



Aldo Sánchez y su hijo



dedicados, más sinceros, más apasionados, entonces todo esto puede cambiar la percepción errónea hacia ellos”, Agarwal dice. “Hay que darles la oportunidad. Ellos están calificados para el trabajo”.

Elizabeth concuerda con Agarwal en cuanto al acto de juzgar. Ella recuerda haber escuchado a otras personas decir que no tendrían hijos cuando su familia estaba en un restaurante de El Paso y sus hijos lloraban. Para Aldo, la peor parte de esto fue cuando sus hijos siguieron llorando y los demás pensaron que eran padres abusivos.

“Antes de que supiéramos que tenían autismo, una vez no se quedaban quietos en el restaurante y seguían llorando y llorando y llorando, así que le dije (a Elizabeth) ‘sabes qué, mejor ordena y vámonos’”, Aldo recuerda. “En cuanto salí del restaurante con los niños, todos empezaron a aplaudir”.

Agarwal dice que esta población de estudiantes autistas no es muchas veces comprendida y por lo tanto, la gente se forma muchos estereotipos erróneos. Elizabeth atribuye muchos estereotipos del autismo a la cultura hispana. Recuerda oír mucho el que le tenga que dar una “buena nalga” a sus hijos para que hagan caso.

“Con autismo, si les enseñas algo, ellos lo van a hacer. Así que si tú vas y les pegas, ellos se van a voltear y van a pensar ‘ok, puedo hacerle eso a mi mamá’”, Elizabeth dice. “Ellos no entienden que hicieron algo mal. O van a pensar que es un juego”.

Actualmente, Jonathon y Jacob se comunican por medio de dibujos y han logrado decir algunas palabras. Aldo y Elizabeth, así como Bonnie Perez, Maribel de la Rosa y Natalie Eckberg, siguen advocating por la comunidad autista de la frontera.

IN BRIEF

It's 7 in the morning in El Paso and Elizabeth is getting ready to start the day. She is making breakfast and hears her sons Jonathon and Jacob laughing; they have just woken up. But then, Elizabeth doesn't hear anything else.

She quickly runs into her room and discovers the floor full of baby powder with Jonathon drawing figures on the floor and Jacob rolling in it.

For Aldo Sánchez, Elizabeth's husband, the behavior of his children is familiar to him. When he and his brother Daniel were children, they would also forget letters, they wrote and read backward, and they did not want to socialize. In fact, Aldo was diagnosed with autism when he was 5 years old in his hometown of Torreón, México.

It has been two years since the twins, Jonathon and Jacob, got diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; they are 5 years old now.

Aldo and Elizabeth became

activists for all disabilities and they are part of the parent committee at El Paso del Norte Children's Development Center.

Natalie Eckberg, fund development officer at Paso del Norte, explains the center focuses on implementing what they call natural environment therapies.

“If we have to do therapy here in the center, that's fine. We have the space to do it, but our preference is to really do the therapy at home with the parents in their natural environment,” Natalie says.

On the other side of the border, in Ciudad Juárez, Ana Lilia Amén Martínez is the coordinator of the Luminar program for autistic children at Fundación Integra. She emphasizes that parents often feel bad about their children not getting into the school year when they are supposed to.

“Who said that there was a rush to learn? Or where is the rule that if you don't read at 6 years old, you're not going to read in your whole life? Who

said it? This person needs to correct this because things are not like this,” Amén says. “If the child doesn't read at 6 but takes care of his dignity, if you educate him as a human being, what does it matter if he reads at 8 or 9? Nothing happens. He is going to read. If we take a longer path, we then walk together! What's the rush?”

Bonnie Perez, president of the Autism Society of El Paso, says that the important thing as parents is to not just work with the children so they can integrate into society, the work is to also educate others in compassion for them to understand and accept.

For college students with autism at The University of Texas at El Paso, the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) offers the support system needed for students to succeed at UTEP. Neelam Agarwal, assistant director of CASS, says that the main goal of the department is to level the playing field so that students with disabilities can succeed as much as the rest of the student body.

Aldo
Sánchez y
Elizabeth
Paz





The Giving Project: It's That Easy To Help

by: Grecia Sánchez

design by: Salma Lozoya & Itzel Lara

photos by: Robert Corral

Many people are hesitant when deciding to help someone else, especially if the person lives on the streets.

There may be people who are skeptical about helping the poor due to fear of them using that money for drugs, because they assume people make bad choices or because the person's appearance does not offer a good impression.

Nevertheless, there are others who think otherwise. Some people believe that those who are homeless have made bad decisions just like anybody else, that those who own a home are not supposed to judge or think homeless individuals are not part of the community.

Among those who think homeless people deserve help from the community is the local organization—The Giving Project (TGP).

Back in Thanksgiving of 2015, Andy Farias, lead of vision at TGP, was enjoying his holiday break while scrolling through social media when he got an idea.

"I saw a post of somebody that put together a care packet for the homeless and it was literally just a gallon-sized Ziploc bag with crackers, water bottle from Great Value brand and the toothpaste and the toothbrush," Andy says. "First of all, that's it? Second of all, they don't have access to clean water, you don't brush your teeth by the corner of the water bottle with your toothbrush. We can do better than that."

As soon as Andy noticed the flaws, he got together with a couple of friends

while studying at The University of Texas at El Paso and he proposed a further approach than "just giving stuff."

"I don't want to just give them the backpack, you keep doing the same thing except you're just giving them a backpack, they're still homeless," Andy says. "So I did some research and I'm like 'hey what if we just get this model where you just go ahead and use the backpack as a tool, it's a quality backpack, it's generous, and we just use that to kinda be able to show you that we're here, not just to give you something, but to influence a choice in housing?'"

This is how The Giving Project was born. According to their website, TGP is a non-profit organization that focuses on assembling backpacks with basic goods and essentials, giving the homeless one less thing to worry about as they become closer to having a home of their own.

LIFE:PAKS—THE STARTING POINT

Most of the backpacks are distributed to the homeless during events such as Project Give Night: Downtown, where TGP distributes the backpacks at downtown El Paso, the area where most of the homeless community happens to be.

Jordan Barron, lead of operations at TGP, explains that during the Project Give Nights, TGP does a quick briefing about how to approach somebody and then how to ask someone if they want any help.


"If they accept it, our follow up question is always 'is there anything else that we can do to help you with?' Most of the time it's yes, so if there's something that we can immediately help them with, then we'll do it," Jordan says. "If they need to get to a shelter, if they need to do whatever, we have the resources to call the people who have the money and the facilities to do that and we go from giving them the backpack, making that connection to handing them off to somebody with more resources that can help them with their situation, get them in a home, get them in a hospital, whatever their case may be."

Because of this model, Jordan says that the backpacks are not the end solution in helping the homeless population in El Paso, but the starting point.

"The end solution is to build enough trust with that person that we can eventually get them to meet up with the other non-profits that we have partnered with to use their bigger resources to influence a choice in housing," Jordan says.

According to Jordan, if TGP is not holding an event, TGP wants people to still feel like they can help by grabbing backpacks at local businesses such as One:One Downtown and distribute them themselves to the 80 percent of the homeless that last in this situation for 42 days or less, according to TGP's website.

"What I really focus on is developing and nurturing partnerships with business owners in the community," Jordan says. "They want to be what's



called a 'pick up point' for us to drop off backpacks with them, 20-30 backpacks. And then whenever somebody knows or somebody who they see as homeless, or (if) they just want to carry a backpack in their cars, just in case they come across someone, they know where to go to pick up these backpacks if they need them."

Andy emphasizes this is an opportunity for people, who complain that they do not have cash, to go and give them real help.

"Ultimately it's about developing relationships to influence housing for shelter. 'Cause otherwise, we're not getting anywhere," Andy says.

BEING PART OF THE CHANGE

According to Andy, the goal of TGP is to bridge the gap between hope and help, wanting the community to feel like they are engaged in solving this problem.

Andy says TGP was thought to be community oriented, so "people can own this."

"It's not about us, it's not about like 'oh, Andy started it,' 'oh, it's about The Giving Project' I'm nothing. All I did was had an idea and I want the community to be part of the fact that they can feel empowered to be part of the change. That's it," Andy says. "We know the problem, we see it all the time and we don't want to make eye contact with them when we're at the intersection. We want to stop that because, just because it's a complex issue doesn't mean that we shouldn't approach it. That shouldn't stop us."

Jordan also acknowledges the importance of educating the community so that they understand they are part of the solution as well.

"People want to do all these great things, most of them don't know how to start or where to begin, but they don't need to figure out that stuff. We just inform people about 'hey this is the problem. This is the solution and it's that easy to take care of it and be a part of it,'" Jordan says. "In return, those people who are out there that need your help are gonna be more

than happy and they're gonna feel a little better about living not only in El Paso, but they're gonna feel there's a lot of hope out there for their situation, when there's people out there that actually acknowledge it and do something about it."

THE MOTIVE—WHAT SETS TGP APART

Andy remembers the first time he ever delivered a backpack to a person during Thanksgiving of 2015. The experience, he says, changed a lot of perspective.

"It was at a big store, it was on Black Friday and I approached the gentlemen and he started walking away from me, started cursing a lot, saying 'no, no, no, I don't want your help or anything' and I'm thrown a little bit," Andy says. "I'm not shocked, I'm like, I didn't know what, probably some kind of condition, I don't know, not judging. And I said 'hey, if you want it, I'll leave it here' and as I'm trying to finish my statement, he cuts me off and turns around and says 'no, you have no idea how humiliating it is to stand here, for like seven hours on a Black Friday where people are coming out of their doors with their showy bags and the cars can't even close the doors and people don't even give you two dollars, you have no idea.'"

Andy remembers feeling shocked at that moment because he realized he had no idea of what a homeless person has to live through.

"No one deserves to live that way, that's somebody's daughter, that's somebody's son, somebody who had hopes and dreams at some point and we just treat them like, 'oh, that's part of life, you know? They made bad choices,' so what?" Andy says.

Jordan has also encountered people who don't want any help.

"That's perfectly okay, I'm not gonna try to force something that they don't want on them. Some people like to live out there and that's okay, but the fact is that we try," Jordan says. "Even though they don't want anything from us, that's their choice, I'm not there

to push our agenda on them. I'm just there to see if they need our help, and if they do, I'm more than happy to help them with what I can."

Due to these bad experiences, Andy emphasizes the importance of building trust with homeless individuals.

"A lot of the things that I've noticed too with a lot of responses was that they've had bad experiences getting help. At the end of the day, it scars them," Andy says. "So that's why building trust by just being generous like, 'I don't want anything, you don't have to go to church, you don't have to sign this contract, you don't have to commit to being sober. No. You're a human being and it is ridiculous that in America, you don't have a chance to earn a living.'"

Andy says TGP gives backpacks because they want people to feel validated.

"There's ways to open up the doors and if it's because you have hit rock bottom and you feel bad about it, I can't think of it with those shoes cause I've never been there, but let's do what we can to get you feeling like a human being," Andy says. "Restore some dignity, build some confidence, put the self-worth back in place, as generous as we can, not because we have money, we don't, but by being generous through the people that come into play. That's why it's not just about us."

IT TAKES LESS THAN WHAT YOU THINK

Jordan also acknowledges that part of TGP's job is to inform people that it takes "a lot less than what they think it does to help somebody change."

"People go and buy a shirt for sixty bucks at Hollister, and they buy 10 of them of every color because they're cool and they're nice, but you know, half of that shirt could fill an entire backpack. And it's really that simple and it's a lot cheaper than people think it is," Jordan says.

Jordan emphasizes that if everybody had one item to donate, then we could probably take care of the homeless population in El Paso. According to TGP's website,

the LIFE:Paks, or Life Personal Assistant Kits, include one pre-pasted toothbrush, one pack of toothpaste tablets, one skin lotion bottle, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, one pack of disposable razors, five pairs of socks, three portable facial tissue packs, one comb and brush set, hand wipes, two lip balms, sunscreen, one rain poncho, one bottle of water, two fruit cups, granola bars, a \$10 McDonald's gift card, among other things.

LIFE:Paks are worth \$15 total, according to the same website.

"The expense to help them, what we're doing, is a drop in the bucket compared to, you know, 'I'm gonna start a restaurant.' That's a lot more money than what we're doing and we get to help way more people because we're not trying to do everything, that's not the point," Andy says. "You want to

bring people to these active and very capable non-profit organizations that are doing their work and they just need people coming in."

PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE

"Them not getting any help is a perception issue. People see them, and they see that they're dirty, they see that they're carrying all their stuff around and automatically you already have like a mental bias against helping them because you don't really know what the situation is and you really don't care and that's the problem," Jordan says. "But if you just take the time to give them stuff like a deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, that kind of stuff that they can use to kinda clean themselves up and have a little more pride when it comes to walking into a place and not feel so

self-conscious about the way they look or the way they smell, and it gives them a little boost and maybe that's all they need sometimes, just a little boost."

For Andy, the issue comes down to redefining values so that our community helps each other and sets us apart.

"People are people. Humans are humans. How they got there, that shouldn't be the issue," Andy says. "If we're gonna keep drawing lines, forget it, let's just give up now because we're not gonna get anywhere with that mentality of like, 'they got this from their situation,' 'they were felons,' 'they're drug addicts,' you know what? Yes, all of the above maybe. In the end, if we can help them enough to accept the change, let's go."

En Breve

Mucha gente puede llegar a dudar cuando se trata de ayudar a otras personas, especialmente si la persona vive en las calles.

Se teme que el dinero dado en ayuda pueda usarse para comprar drogas, porque asumen que tales personas toman malas decisiones o porque su apariencia no ofrece una buena perspectiva sobre el valor de su dinero.

Sin embargo, hay otros que piensan lo contrario. Algunas personas creen que las personas sin hogar han tomado malas decisiones al igual que cualquier otra persona y merecen la ayuda de la comunidad.

Entre aquellos que piensan que las personas sin hogar merecen ayuda de la comunidad, está Andy Farias, quien fue estudiante de la Universidad de Texas en El Paso y quien tuvo la idea de crear mochilas con útiles personales para aquellos que no tienen hogar.

"Nadie merece vivir de esa manera, esa es la hija de alguien, ese es el hijo de alguien, alguien que tenía esperanzas y sueños en algún momento y simplemente los tratamos como 'oh, eso es parte de la vida, ¿sabes? Tomaron

malas decisiones '¿y qué?', Andy dice.

En el 2015 durante las vacaciones del día de Acción de Gracias, Andy estaba en las redes sociales cuando tuvo la idea de crear una organización donde la comunidad pudiera ayudar a aquellos sin hogar.

Así es como nació The Giving Project, TGP por sus siglas en inglés. De acuerdo con su sitio web, TGP es una organización sin fines de lucro que se enfoca en ensamblar mochilas con productos básicos y esenciales que les brindan a los desamparados una cosa menos de la que preocuparse a medida que se acerquen más a tener un hogar propio.

Los kits LIFE: Paks, como se le llama a estas mochilas, incluyen un cepillo de dientes, un paquete de tabletas de pasta de dientes, un frasco de loción para la piel, champú, acondicionador, desodorante, un paquete de rastrillos desechables, cinco pares de calcetines, tres paquetes de pañuelos faciales, un conjunto de peine y cepillo, toallitas para las manos, dos bálsamos labiales, bloqueador solar, un poncho para la lluvia, una botella de agua, dos tazas de fruta, barras de granola, una tarjeta de regalo McDonald's de \$10 dls., en-

tre otras cosas. Llenar estas mochilas tiene un costo de \$15 dls.

La mayoría de las mochilas se distribuyen durante eventos como Project Give Night: Downtown, donde TGP distribuye las mochilas en el centro de El Paso, el área donde se encuentran la mayoría de las personas sin hogar.

Jordan Barron, director de operaciones de TGP, dice que la manera en que la gente puede ayudar empieza por deshacerse de prejuicios.

"El hecho de que no reciban ayuda es un problema de percepción. La gente los ve, y ven que están sucios, y que cargan todas sus cosas y automáticamente ya tienen un prejuicio mental en contra de ayudarlos", dice Jordan. "Pero si te tomas el tiempo para darles cosas como un desodorante, champú, pasta de dientes, cepillo de dientes, ese tipo de cosas que pueden usar para asearse un poco y tener un poco más de orgullo cuando se trata de caminar hacia un lugar y no sentirse avergonzados por la forma en que se ven o por cómo huelen y eso les da un pequeño impulso y tal vez eso es todo lo que necesitan a veces, sólo un pequeño impulso".



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LIVING AS A LEFT-HANDED PERSON IN A RIGHT-HANDED WORLD: ADVANTAGES, STRUGGLES, AND OTHER ISSUES

By: Isaiah Ramirez

Photos by Robert Corral

Design by Salma Lozoya

Left-handed people have dealt with many struggles and complicated situations in their lives. According to rightlefttrightwrong.com, a website focused on the investigation of handedness, the dominance of one hand over the other, a communication system conformity was placed upon students who were left-handed in the 18th and 19th century during the age of enlightenment. Forms of punishment for students that were left-handed ranged from tying the left hand of students to their backs to prevent them from using it, among other forms of corporal punishment.

American psychoanalyst Abram Blau said in his book, "Master Hand: A Study of the Origin and Meaning of Right and Left Sidedness" in 1946, that being left-handed was solely because of a person's stubbornness and emotional negativism. This claim blamed left-handed people for their "condition," as if left-handed people were in control of a choice to be left-handed and simply refused to use their other hand.

Rightlefttrightwrong.com describes the

peer pressure parents and teachers often implemented on a child's life during those years in the sense that people may impose their own peer pressures, causing the child to become subject to the status quo.

During one's childhood, a student may feel the need to switch their dominant hands to make life easier for themselves, according to Blau. He also suggested that left-handed people grew up to be rebellious and rigid and were causing a negative impact on society.

Moreover, according to rightlefttrightwrong.com, a website focused on the history of handedness in the world, in the late 1960s and 1970s, Catholic school teachers inflicted corporal punishment and psychological pressure on left-handed students often accusing them of being involved with the devil and even of being communists, one of the worst insults in America during this time period.

Today, everything and anything has been essentially created for right-handed people. Whether it be desks, scissors and even hardware

tools, Stacey Sowards, Communication Department chair at The University of Texas at El Paso, says these objects are complicated to use and operate, as she is left-handed herself.

"Using scissors, ironing boards, driving and writing, which is difficult for left-handed people due to the ink and graphite smearing on our hands, are problems for left-handed people," Sowards says.

Research done by livescience.com, a website focused on delivering comprehensive and compelling news and analysis on health and innovation, concludes that only 10 percent of the world's population is left-handed.

Michael Thompson, creative writing major at UTEP, says that being able to adapt or overcome one's surroundings of a right-handed environment is mandatory.

"Being left-handed forced me to adapt to my surroundings rather than complain about the situation," Michael says.

Are there specific advantages to being left-handed?

According to Education and Career News, a website focused on providing readers with insightful and educational information within their fields of interest, the difference in being left-handed as opposed to being right-handed is more complex than people may think.

David Wolfman, author of "A Left-Hand Turn Around the World," says there are advantages to being left-handed. One attribute often linked to left-handed people is creativity.

According to the American Journal of Psychology, "lefties" (a common nickname for left-handed people) appear to be better at divergent thinking. Divergent thinking deals with a creative way of processing information with more intricate and complex ways of analyzing problems.

Notable lefties include 44th President of the United States Barack Obama, talk show host Oprah Winfrey, Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg and former richest man in the world Bill Gates. Therefore, lefties being viewed as different or unique in society can be a perspective given to this trait due to the realm of notable and accomplished lefties.

According to research conducted in 1985 by Stanley Coren, a neuro-psychological researcher and psychology professor at The University of British Columbia, lefties have more "mental flexibility" than the rest of the population, meaning left-handed people are more likely to think outside the box.

Despite the world being essentially designed or articulated for right-handed people, resilience and early adaptation to these circumstances are mandatory for lefties according to Sowards.

"Most people are resilient and learn how to function in the world they are given," Sowards says. "The everyday struggle of lefties is highly adaptable, but at the same time can be a nuisance in the small aspect of this issue."

Through this adaption, a left-handed person may also become so accustomed to using an object with their non-dominant hand that they never use that same object with their dominant hand again.

"I learned how to use a mouse right-handed and now I can't use a left-handed mouse," Sowards says.

Michael has also dealt with the usual problems lefties deal with, whether having ink smeared on your hand due to one's hands being spread across the paper, or desks not being accommodating for him because the desk is made for right-handed people. These desks can be found at UTEP as well as many educational facilities across the country.

"Essentially, if a person is left-handed, your thinking must change in order to successfully accomplish what you want to accomplish," Michael says.

Do left-handed people learn to adapt?

Another attribute discovered with left-handed people is adaption. According to Michael, your adaption skills as a leftie are needed all the time.

"Adaptation is necessary because you just can't change an object that is more suitable for a right-handed person, and the end game is you just have to change your approach," Michael says. "Adapting is something that is really important and unfortunately, we can't just change things to make it more comfortable for us, we really just have to learn to live with it and figure it out ourselves."

Due to the adaptation, for some lefties, the use of that non-dominant hand is necessary as well. For example, if a leftie is using scissors that are made for a right-handed person using their non-dominant hand, the leftie may feel uncomfortable, but eventually, the use of the righthand becomes almost second nature. Just like freshman Ricardo Soto, a student from Yale University, one may become ambidextrous, which means the ability to use both right and left hands fluently.

"Because I was forced to learn some muscular control with my non-dominant hand, I have become fairly ambidextrous. Nowadays, I am more fluent using my left hand than in the past, and I learned how to do certain activities in terms of both dominant hand styles," Ricardo says. "Nowadays, I am able, at least more easily than most right-handed people, to learn how to do certain activities in terms of both dominant hand styles."

Are more accommodations needed for left-handed people?

When it comes to students being affected by the same caliber of everyday difficulties, Michael refers to a lack of academic accommodations.

"There isn't a lot of accommodations for left-handed people, with little accommodations for left-handed peo-



"BEING LEFT-HANDED FORCED ME TO ADAPT TO MY SURROUNDINGS RATHER THAN COMPLAIN ABOUT THE SITUATION."

-MICHAEL THOMPSON, UTEP STUDENT

"BECAUSE I WAS FORCED TO LEARN SOME MUSCULAR CONTROL WITH MY NON-DOMINANT HAND, I HAVE BECOME FAIRLY AMBIDEXTROUS."

-RICARDO SOTO, YALE UNIVERSITY STUDENT

ple, one is forced to change his mindset," Michael says. "There's just really nothing you can do about it, referring to less accommodations and you just learn to deal with it."

There are some accommodations lefties like Michael desire to have to make everyday activities easier to accomplish, such as more desks suitable for lefties in classrooms.

"I feel sometimes it is harder to function without the proper set up," Michael says. "It's somewhat of an inconvenience to have to figure out how to do what needs to be done just so I can be comfortable enough. I have learned to adapt to it all, but it still can be a challenge at times."

Adding to that, Ricardo suggests other accommodations that could help.

"Instruments in general, mostly stringed like guitars, should be more available for left-handed people. They do currently exist, but they are often harder to find than their nor-

mal right-handed counterparts," Ricardo says. "Changes to specific objects that would be much easier for lefties to use as an aspiration is hopefully satisfied."

With little accommodations moving forward, left-handed people such as Michael deal with the normalcy of little accommodations and persevere through their everyday struggles. When it comes to the result of these accommodations and how they can be resolved, the only real result is acceptance of the constant surroundings of left-handed people.

"Things are the way they are and you just have to accept it," Michael says. "Certain day-to-day activities may take left-handed people longer to complete than usual. There are some people that take a little longer to get used to doing things and that can add to the time it takes to do it, I

think it all comes down to learning the discipline that comes along with doing that," Michael says.

Future accommodations would be beneficial to lefties and would relieve lots of feelings of unpleasantness upon them.

"I think that more accommodations for left-handed people would benefit us a lot in society and would help us use simple objects even more effectively," Ricardo says.

EN BREVE

Las personas zurdas se han enfrentado a muchas luchas y situaciones complicadas en sus vidas a causa de usar predominantemente su lado izquierdo.

Rightistrightwing.com, un sitio web centrado en la investigación de las personas zurdas, dice que durante la era de la iluminación, los estudiantes zurdos sufrían castigos físicos como estarle la mano izquierda a su espalda para evitar que la usaran.

Los problemas para los zurdos no terminaron en esas épocas. Hoy en día, las personas zurdas sufren a causa de la falta de recursos que pueden facilitarles sus tareas diarias.

Stacey Sowards, directora del departamento de comunicación en la Universidad de Texas en El Paso y quien también es zurda, dice que muchos

objetos de uso diario son difíciles de usar porque fueron diseñados para los diestros, las personas cuyo lado dominante es el derecho.

"Usar tijeras, tablas de planchar, conducir y escribir es difícil para las personas zurdas debido a la línea y el grafito que se mancha en nuestras manos, son problemas para las personas zurdas", Sowards dice.

Según livescience.com, un sitio web enfocado en la entrega de noticias comprensibles y análisis sobre salud e innovación, sólo el 10 por ciento de la población mundial son zurdos.

Michael Thompson, estudiante de escritura creativa en UTEP, dice que es obligatorio para un zurdo ser capaz de adaptarse y superar los obstáculos de un entorno hecho para diestros.

"Ser zurdo me obligó a adaptarme a mi entorno en lugar de quejarme de la situación", Michael dice.

Hay cosas que los zurdos como Michael desean tener para hacer las actividades diarias más fáciles, como más escritorios adecuados para los zurdos en las escuelas.

"Ojalá hubiera más instrumentos para personas zurdas, la razón es que a veces siento que es más difícil funcionar en la configuración adecuada", dice Michael. "Es un poco frustrante tener que descubrir cómo hacer lo que hay que hacer sólo para poder estar lo suficientemente cómodo. He aprendido a adaptarme a todo, pero a veces puede ser un desafío".



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ENTRE PACHUCOS, PAYASOS Y MÚSICA: **LA DIVERSIÓN** EN EL CENTRO DE CIUDAD JUÁREZ

Por: Héctor Alfonso González

Fotos: Claudia Hernández

Diseño: Alejandra González

Entre los bares y los viejos edificios del centro de Ciudad Juárez, se muestran pequeños destellos de entretenimiento para la gente que vive en los barrios que conforman esta zona de la ciudad y también para los turistas que la visitan.

Luego de varios años sumida en la triste violencia, algunos artistas callejeros no se han quedado de brazos cruzados y, por su cuenta, tratan de regalarle a la población alegría con música, baile y comedia.

Cada fin de semana una gran y estruendosa bocina con rock and roll, swing o mambo le da la bienvenida a la gente que camina frente al Museo de la Revolución en la Frontera desde hace cuatro años. Aquí, cuando una persona va por la Avenida 16 de Septiembre hasta la Plaza de Armas y la catedral de la ciudad, podemos encontrar baile con el grupo de Pachucos 656, música en vivo con Proyecto 5 y comedia con el payaso Frijolito.

En la década de 1940, los pachucos eran un grupo que demostraba la rebeldía de los hijos de inmigrantes mexicanos que portaban añoranzas, melancolías y recuerdos en un país completamente ajeno. Pertenecían a la clase media trabajadora de Estados Unidos. Frank Pérez, profesor en

la Universidad de Texas en El Paso con doctorado en estudios chicanos y de la frontera, explica el origen de la palabra Pachuco.

“

“Nuestras familias también fueron pachucos, y heredamos la tradición. Nosotros tenemos tanto sangre juarense como paseña bombeando en nuestros corazones”.
-Frank, miembro de los Pachucos 656

“La palabra ‘pachuco’ viene del apodo que la gente de Cd. Juárez le dio a la ciudad El Paso en 1940. Básicamente, los adolescentes mexicanos y mexicoamericanos que vivían en Juárez y El Paso eran llamados pachucos. La cultura se esparció hacia Los Ángeles con el movimiento laboral y familiar desde nuestra frontera”, Pérez dice.

Incluso tenían sus propios cantantes

de la época. Don Tosti fue uno de los cantantes reconocidos por la cultura del pachuco.

“Tosti era originario de El Paso, Texas, y fue el primer latino en vender un millón de copias de su sencillo ‘Pachuco Boogie’”, Pérez explica.

Hoy en día, un grupo de juarenses conservan la tradición del pachuco en la ciudad que los vio nacer. El grupo Pachucos 656, se junta con otros grupos importantes de la ciudad para hacer un show en la intersección de calles Avenida 16 de Septiembre, Ugalde y la Juárez. La calle se vuelve pista de baile cada fin de semana desde el 2014, donde el grupo, conformado por Nicolás, Frank, Juan Rafael y David, se pasa la tarde bailando y bromeando con el público que se acerca a mirarlos bailar con sus novias y esposas. Frank, uno de los miembros que más tiempo ha estado en Pachucos 656, dice que en el grupo se sienten nacidos tanto en Cd. Juárez como en El Paso.

“Nuestras familias también fueron pachucos, y heredamos la tradición. Nosotros tenemos tanto sangre juarense como paseña bombeando en nuestros corazones”, Frank dice.



El atuendo es otra cosa que nos recuerda que siguen vivos los pachucos. La vestimenta se conforma por zapatos de charol blanco, camisas rojas, pantalones bombachos y saco de color blanco y unos tirantes que terminan el conjunto. Pérez explica de donde salió el estilo “zoot suit” que portan los pachucos.

“Los músicos afroamericanos solían portar estos trajes muy largos. Cab Calloway, cantante muy importante de jazz con su orquesta en 1930, vistió con estas prendas”, Pérez dice.

Después de deleitar al público con rock and roll, David, miembro de Pachucos 656, dice que lo que importa es darle alegría a la gente.

“La buena causa de regalar un rato de alegría a la gente es lo que nos importa, y los que nos unió para crear a los Pachucos 656”, David dice.

A pesar de que tratan de animar el centro de la ciudad cada fin de semana, hay gente mayor que no ve a los pachucos de buena manera. Frank nos da un antecedente del por qué.

“No eran una pandilla, o una banda de jóvenes revoltosos. El problema comenzó durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial. Los marinos estadounidenses tenían que atravesar por la zona este de Los Ángeles, donde el barrio mexicano se encontraba, para volver a sus casas en la parte ‘normal’ de la ciudad, como la gente blanca le decía. Esto generaba que se golpearan o asaltaran entre sí”, Frank explica.

Pérez cuenta que en junio de 1943, hubo un movimiento pachuco conocido como “zoot suit riots”.

“

“Ahora son casi 100 personas escuchando nuestra música. El mejor pago para nosotros no es el dinero que el público nos regala, es que la gente nos diga que somos su alegría”.

-Mara Arciniega, vocalista de Proyecto 5

“Fueron 10 días de incertidumbre, golpes, y violencia en la zona de la base de la marina americana, y el este de Los Ángeles”, Pérez dice. “Esto derivó que los pachucos fueran perseguidos hasta en las salas de cine. El gobierno hizo que la gente los viera como una mala imagen, y tuvieron que huir de la policía”.

Sin embargo, la generación de pachucos que ahora conforman Pachucos 656 se pueden encontrar pintores, trabajadores de maquila, y pensionados que dieron su mayor esfuerzo en la construcción de edificios.

Con mucha alegría, Frank dice que al centro de Juárez no le falta nada.

“Claro que la gente nos apoya con alguna moneda, pero no es el objetivo. La armonía, los aplausos del

público, y el saber que estamos haciendo que la gente pase una tarde amena, es nuestro pago semana a semana. El dinero sólo ayuda a mejorar nuestro show para el público”, Frank dice.

Sin alejarse del círculo de espectadores que tienen los Pachucos 656, se encuentra la banda Proyecto 5. Un grupo que, como su nombre lo explica, fue un proyecto para empezar a dar entretenimiento al centro de Cd. Juárez después de la violencia. Ellos se conforman por cinco músicos de agrupaciones que surgieron entre las décadas de 1970 y 1980 en la región tocando baladas de conjuntos que brillaron en los ‘70s y ‘80s y cumbias.

Mara Arciniega, hija del creador de la agrupación y vocalista de la banda, cuenta el origen de Proyecto 5.

“La gente no salía a la calle, y mi papá, al sentirse triste por su ciudad, fue como empezó la banda a ensayar”, Mara explica. “Fue hace tres años que mi papá veía la falta de entretenimiento sano para la gente juarense. No se quedó con los brazos cruzados, y junto a sus amigos músicos empezaron a tocar aquí, en el centro de Juárez”.

Las ovaciones que el público en la calle le regala a Proyecto 5 al final de cada canción, es pagada con monedas y con la alegría del público que semana a semana viene a ver su show. Para Mara, todo empezó con “un mirón en la calle”.

“Ahora son casi 100 personas escuchando nuestra música. El mejor pago para nosotros no es el dinero que el público nos regala, es que



la gente nos diga que somos su alegría”, Mara dice.

Además de la música y el baile, la comedia es muy común. Gente con botargas de personajes de películas, estatuas humanas, y pregoneros complementan el entretenimiento del centro de la ciudad. Por ejemplo, Javier, mejor conocido en las calles del centro de Juárez como el payaso Frijolito, platica que empezó su travesía en la comedia “viendo a otros payasos”.

“Fue como aprendí que ésta era mi vocación. El payaso Chirrín, papá de los payasos más famosos de Juárez y todo México, Los Chicharrines, me invitaban como relleno a sus presentaciones cuando alguien faltaba, entonces yo tenía 7 u 8 años”, Javier dice. “El maestro pidió permiso a mi mamá por mi edad”.

Al aceptar su mamá, Javier comenzó a sentir nervios por primera vez. Con maquillaje en su rostro y una pelu-

ca, el payaso Chirrín le demostró a Javier durante su primer show que no había de que preocuparse si su objetivo era hacer reír al público. Es así como nació Frijolito.

Al bajar el sol, se empiezan a prender las luces brillantes de los bares en la Avenida Juárez. Ahí es donde el doble sentido y la comedia subida de tono empieza a aparecer.

“Tratamos de que el público de todas las edades tenga su rato de risas”, Javier dice. “Por eso, tratamos de avisarle a las mamás, o papás que lo que van a escuchar sus hijos van a tener que explicárselo con manzanitas”.

Además de Javier, o Frijolito, existen otros payasos animadores, y músicos que habitan esta zona de la ciudad. Con tantas muestras de expresión, llega a existir confusión y hasta molestia entre los artistas.

“La organización es sumamente

importante. Necesitamos alguna persona, o administración para que no tengamos amontonamientos de sonido”, Javier dice.

Además de esta situación, Javier explica que el respeto llega a perderse con algunos actos.

“Entiendo que uno de mis actos es usando el doble sentido, pero me gustaría que la gente no lo pidiera y que desapareciera”, Javier dice. “Así, sería bonito que los niños en el público no sean alejados por las groserías, o bromas en doble sentido que lleguen a decirse”.

Sin lugar a duda, la belleza del centro de Cd. Juárez tiene cuatro años de reconstrucción. Después de la tristeza y amargura que se tuvo tiempo atrás, los fines de semana, a partir de las 12 del día, todos estos artistas pueden encontrarse en la calle peatonal 16 de Septiembre en el centro de Cd. Juárez.



IN BRIEF

Between bars and historic buildings in downtown Ciudad Juárez, entertainment performances enliven the streets on weekends for those who want to take a stroll, relax and have a good time.

For the past four years, on weekends, a loud speaker playing rock and roll, swing or mambo welcomes an audience walking on the street Avenida 16 de Septiembre by Plaza de Armas and the city's cathedral.

A group called Pachucos 656 can be found dancing along with live performances by a group called Proyecto 5. Also, children and adults can enjoy the evening laughing at jokes made by a famous and local clown called "Frijolito."

The history behind the pachucos begins in the 1940s. The pachucos belonged to the working class of the United States. They were a group of

young adults that demonstrated the rebellion of the children of Mexican immigrants, who carried longing, melancholy and memories in a completely foreign country.

Despite its negative history, Pachucos 656 celebrates and keeps the pachuco tradition alive with their famous attire and their lively dancing.

Another group that works to bring the community together is a band called Proyecto 5. Initially, the band began as project (hence the name) to give people a break away from all the violence happening in the city.

Proyecto 5 is made up of five musicians from groups that emerged between the 1970s and 1980s in the region playing ensemble ballads that shone in the '70s and '80s and cumbias.

Mara Arciniega, daughter of the founder of the group and vocalist of

the band, says the group has created a positive impact in the city.

"People did not go out, and my dad, feeling sad for his city, got the band to begin rehearsing," Mara says. "It was three years ago that my dad saw the lack of healthy entertainment for the people of Juárez. He did not stay with his arms crossed, and with his musician friends they started playing here, in the center of Juárez."

Aside from lively music to dance to, families can enjoy an evening full of comedy presented by local comedians. One famous comedian is Javier, or better known as "Frijolito," who began his career by simply observing other clowns. Javier found his calling for comedy before he even turned 8 years old.

"We try to make the audience of all ages have some good laughs," Javier says.

Make responsible choices.

Be true to yourself and stay mindful of your values.

Avoid binge drinking.
Choose not to increase your risk of high blood pressure, heart attacks, fatal car accidents, family violence, suicide, unwanted sex, or being victims of robbery.

Live alcohol & drug free!



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
Student Health & Wellness Center





JUÁREZ

ODIANDO, UNO APRENDE A AMAR.
HATING, ONE LEARNS TO LOVE.

André Aguilar

Juárez.

De sombrías pesadumbres
nace la noche.
Se me escabulle el sueño entre
mil miedos.

A lo largo de mi cuadra,
dulce compañía,
Cantan coros de pistolas.
¡PAM PAM!

Cantan todos.
¡PAM PAM!
Gritan todos.
re. do. la. si.
Re. do. la. si.
¡PAM PAM!

Sus cuerpos azules le ciñen
a la tierra.
Entre campos, avenidas,
inusuales tolvaneras.

Allá en mi ciudad donde late
el olvido.
Sin hastío, mis reyes elocuentes
crean la mentira.

Nadie los sigue,
ni los acompaña.

Se anidan decisiones, cambios,
avidez.

Mientras, cruzo la serpiente aluzada,
me detengo.

¿Es acaso hora de despedirnos,
tierra quemada?
En el frío succulento del verano
le camino.

BIOGRAFÍA

André Aguilar is a student pursuing a bachelor's degree in Digital Media Production at the University of Texas at El Paso. He was born and raised in Ciudad Juárez, moved to Dallas in 2010, and came back to El Paso when he was a sophomore student at Coronado High School. He has always been interested in the visual arts, but with his return to the bordertown, André grew an interest for the performing arts, especially in cinema. Ever since, he has written and directed several short films, both amateur and professional. He became interested in creative writing on Spring 2018 semester to expand his knowledge of story structure and short stories. To his surprise, he fell in love with poetry during the first part of the class given by Professor Alessandra Narváez. With her help and previous knowledge, he wrote his first poem exploring the case of Paulette Gebara from México City. Later, he decided to venture in and wrote an anthology entitled "b̄'i'lInGgwel" where he explores his life in both México and the United States. The poem "Juárez" is the first piece in this anthology.

To read the rest of "b̄'i'lInGgwel" and the second place winning entry, go to mineromagazine.com.

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Do not dump waste, chemicals, paint, custodial waste, and general rubbish items (tires, old car parts, shopping carts, etc.) into storm drains, channels, or ditches.

No tirar basura, aparatos electrodomésticos, muebles, llantas, ó chatarra a canales y acequias del sistema de drenaje pluvial.



Properly dispose of hazardous wastes, pesticides, and fertilizers. Call UTEP EH&S to schedule waste pickups.

Deseche correctamente los residuos peligrosos, pesticidas, y fertilizantes. Llame al departamento EH&S en UTEP y agende su cita para recoger los desperdicios.



Storm drains are easily identified with "NO DUMPING" decals at stormwater inlets.

Los alcantarillados de aguas pluviales son identificados con anuncios de "NO TIRAR DESECHOS AQUI"



Keep material out of the stormwater conveyance system (curbs, gutters, sidewalks, streets, drains, culverts, and arroyos). Dispose of grass, leaves, yard waste, and construction debris properly.

No tapar el flujo pluvial, canales, alcantarillas ó arroyos con basura. Disponga correctamente de basura vegetal (césped, ramas, y hojas) así como de basura de construcción.



Leave natural vegetation in place where possible to prevent erosion.

Si es posible, deje crecer la vegetación de forma natural para evitar erosión.



Recycle oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids, or dispose of them properly to prevent the pollution of stormwater, groundwater and the Rio Grande.

Recicle aceite, anticongelante ó lubricantes y disponga propiamente de ellos para prevenir contaminación del sistema de drenaje pluvial, mantos acuíferos y del Río Bravo.

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