SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE DOCUMENTARY
HYBRID IDENTITIES: ARTISTIC VOICES FROM THE BORDER
SCREENS AT SAN DIEGO LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

February 23, 2011; San Diego, CA- In 2010, three departments from San Diego City College collaborated in a joint venture to produce the documentary, “Hybrid Identities: Artistic Voices from the Border.” The idea was developed by then World Cultures Director and English Professor, Elizabeth Meehan, and Professor of Spanish, Antonio Jimenez. Residing south of the border, Jimenez wanted to share more positive information about his city, Tijuana, B.C.. He contacted a group of local artists including: Sculptor Carmela Castrejon, Musician Emilio Lopez Guadarrama, Poet Elizabeth Cazessus, Painter Nina Moreno, Photographer Javier Ramirez Limon, and Visual Artist, Gabriel Boils. Together they discussed the art scene along the San Diego-Mexico border region and the many reasons they choose to call Tijuana home.

Jimenez and Meehan approached City College Professor of Radio and Television, Laura Castañeda with the idea of co-producing the film and the idea took off. Jimenez and Meehan wrote the first draft of the script, and Castañeda served as Executive Producer/Film Director.

Unique to this collaborative effort is that former and current college students and staff worked collectively with the professional artists during the year-long project. Castañeda solicited the creative efforts of current and former students, Field Producer Micaela Arroyo (now Correspondent for San Diego Red), Videographer Willie Williams (now Operations Director for the San Diego Urban League) and Editor Pepe Alvarez (Owner of La Lluvia Films.) Professional voice artist and Radio Professor, Scott Chatfield also lent his voice to the project. “I know the talents of our former and present students as well as our own professors. We are fortunate that our team was willing to roll up their sleeves and pitch- in especially on a shoestring budget” said Castañeda. Brothers of Pepe Alvarez, musicians Carlos and Emilio Alvarez, also wrote and performed an original music score for the documentary.

Hybrid Identities: Artistic Voices from the Border is also being translated into Spanish with the narration provided by freelance journalist, Carmen Escobosa. In addition to screenings on both sides of the border, the collaborators hope that both the English and Spanish versions will be used as a teaching tool inside the classroom in subjects such as Languages, Film, Social Sciences, Music, and English.

Funding for the documentary was provided in part by the San Diego City College Foundation, the Radio TV Department, and the World Cultures Program.

The 18th Annual Latino Film Festival runs from March 10 -20 at the Ultrastar Mission Valley Cinemas Hazard Center at7510 Hazard Center Road (off 163 & Friars Road).

Latino Film Festival - http://dev.sdlatinofilm.com/
San Diego City College – www.sdcity.edu
About San Diego City College
Founded in 1914, San Diego City College serves as the educational cornerstone of downtown San Diego. With more than 18,000 students, City College offers 240 Associate Degrees and Certificates and 1,500 day, evening and weekend classes, including programs in Radio and Television, Journalism and Communications. City College is part of the San Diego Community College District, comprised of City College, Mesa College, Miramar College, and Continuing Education.  [www.sdcity.edu](http://www.sdcity.edu)

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