

Panelist Biographies

Starla Lewis

Starla Lewis has taught at San Diego Mesa College for over twenty years, and served as Department Chair for eleven years. A seven-time recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award, Starla has over 40 years of research and experience in Ethnic Studies, Women's Studies and African Studies. Starla is the founder of C.E.L.L (Celebration of Everlasting Love and Life) a human potential consultancy firm, where she has worked for thirty years as a life mastery coach. In addition to being a lifelong activist, Starla is also a poet and the author of *Sunkisses*, a multilingual and multicultural children's book.

Roberta H. Martínez

Roberta H. Martínez has been the volunteer Director of Latino Heritage and has invested huge amounts of energy and dedication to promoting knowledge of the Latino experience and history, in Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley, through cultural and educational programs. She was a founder and led the successful Latino Heritage parade and jamaica for 15 years. Roberta is the author of the well-received book, *IMAGES OF AMERICA: LATINOS IN PASADENA* (2009). She has spoken to historical groups, children's groups, and others in her effort to share her meticulous scholarly knowledge. She is a history scholar and lecturer and also holds a master's degree in music history.

Carlos M. Montes

Carlos Montes is a nationally respected leader in the Chicano, immigrant rights, and anti-war movements. Carlos was one of the founders of the Brown Berets in East Los Angeles from 1967 to 1970, and he was one of the leaders of the 1968 East Los Angeles High School Walkouts o protest against racism and inequality in Los Angeles-area high schools. Carlos continues to organize against police brutality and ICE raids, for worker and immigrant rights, community empowerment and public education through his involvement with Centro CSO, the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council and other grassroots organizations and as a writer for Fight Back News.org.

Raúl Ruiz

As a student at CSULA the 1960s, Raúl founded the Inside Eastside & the Chicano Student Movement newspapers and was a co-editor of the influential Chicano grassroots community journal *La Raza*. A lifelong Chicano activist, he was a key figure in organizing the 1968 East LA High School Walkouts and a leader of *Catolicos por la Raza* and went on to become a leader of *La Raza Unida Party*, running for state assembly and mayor. Raúl earned his Master's and Doctorate degrees at Harvard University and is an Emeritus Professor of Chicano/a Studies at California State University, Northridge.

MAY 3 PANEL DISCUSSION is presented in as part of **Time Travel** a series of public art posters created by Deborah Aschheim to celebrate 50 years of student activism in Pasadena and East L.A. This free public event is produced by Deborah Aschheim and La Pintoresca Teen Education Center.

