

Sarah Rafael García

EDUCATION

Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas

M.F.A. in Creative Writing, Fiction, Cognate in Media Studies, May 2015

Thesis Project: *Traveling Beyond Memories* (travel memoir) and *A Woman's Place* (fiction)

B.S. in Applied Sociology, Minor in Spanish, May 1998

Additional Coursework:

The Business of Museums - Harvard Extension Museum Studies Graduate Certificate, 2021

Mexican-American History, Chicano Studies: Societal Issues, Chicana/o Literature, Cultural Diversity & Youth: United States - UT at El Paso Chicano Studies Online Undergraduate Program, 2017

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- **Recognized as Subject Matter Expert** in arts leadership, historical research, digital humanities, grant panelist and writer, administration and support of Latinx/Chicanx Studies, youth arts programs, and Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility strategic framework.
- **Community Educator** with over 10 years combined experience leading community and college level classroom instruction in BIPOC history through Ethnofiction, English composition and interdisciplinary arts workshops, middle/high school curriculum in creative writing and multi-media arts collaboration, English as a Second Language for diverse adults, Spanish Language for all ages, and Language Arts tutoring in K-12th grades.
- **Published author of a collection of short stories and childhood memoir.** Selected guest editor of 4 publications, editor of 6 youth anthologies, co-editor of hybrid collections of marginalized writers, a regular contributor and featured writer of fiction, poetry, and non-fiction pieces in multiple periodicals, anthologies and publications, and featured artist in multi-media collaborations.
- **Current Research #MAOD1889** is defined as the Modesta Avila: Obstructing Development Since 1889 multimedia, digital storytelling project. The project traces Modesta Avila's historical life via a virtual timeline, a research contribution to the Recovery Program via their Omeka site and augmented reality. #MAOD1889 builds movement culture by preserving and re-presenting history from a people of color (POC) point of view. Among academic documentation, #MAOD1889 cites relevant photos, historical documents, media publications and urban tales from the community and local POC artists who have focused on Modesta Avila's mugshot image to produce contemporary work. The archives will be used to source an online and book publication as well as a live hologram presentation. Through the use of the digital humanities, #MAOD1889 will provide readers and researchers the opportunity to scan the images with their phones and witness Modesta Avila come to life to tell her own story.

FELLOWSHIPS

U.S. Latino Digital Humanities Mellon-Funded Grantee, UH and Arte Público Press, 2020
All Voices Fellowship, Splendid Mola Writing Retreat, 2019
Fellow, UH Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts & Project Row Houses, 2019
Teaching Fellowship, The Desert Nights, Rising Stars Writers Conference at ASU, Feb. 2019
Artist-in-Residence, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, through a grant supporting the Artist-in-Residence initiative at CSUF Grand Central Art Center, 2016-17

HONORS/AWARDS

Recipient, Poets & Writers grants, 2009 – Present
Emerging Artist Award, Honored by Arts Orange County, October 2018
Exhibition Review, “Hector & Graciela” featured in *Dread and Delight: Fairy Tales in an Anxious World* by Emily Stamey, Weatherspoon Art Museum, 2018
Women Making a Difference, Honored by Congressman Lou Correa, March 2010, 2018
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, Social Justice Books, October 2017
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, LA Review of Books, September 2017
Exhibition Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, KCET Artbound, April 2017
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, Kirkus Review, March 2017
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, OC Weekly, March 2017
Recipient of the City of Santa Ana Artist Opportunity Grant, 2016-2017
Outstanding Contributions to Education, Awarded by O.C. Dept. of Ed., Jan. 20, 2011
Best of OC 2010: Personal Bests, OC Weekly, Gustavo Arellano, Oct. 14, 2010

RESIDENCIES/WORKSHOPS/EXHIBITIONS

Artist-in-Residence, CSUF Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA, March 2016 – 2019
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, The Collective, Houston, October 19 – 26, 2019
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, UT at Rio Grande Valley, April - May 2019
Creative-in-Residence, Community Engagement, Santa Ana, CA, April 2017 – April 2019
A Books Journey, Conceptual Art Installation, Golden West College Gallery, March 2019
LibroMobile, Book Installation, Publishing Against the Grain, Pitzer College, February 2019
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, Northwest Vista College Library, Fall 2018
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, Center for the Study of the Southwest, Texas State University, October 2017 – August 2018
Collaborative Artist Residency, The Guest House, Cork, Ireland, January – February 2018
Las Dos Brujas Writers’ Workshop with author Cristina García, San Francisco, CA, 2017
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, CSUF Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA, March – May 2017
Macondo Writers’ Workshop with author Alex Espinoza, San Antonio, TX, 2016

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Co-Founder, Crear Studio, Santa Ana, California, 2017 – Present
Co-founded Crear Studio, which aims to support local youth and adults who aspire to obtain education in social justice and social engagement through the arts; a free, interdisciplinary art and mentorship studio, which offers a multi-layered learning environment supported by established resources and creates access to contemporary arts education and professional careers in the field to underserved residents in Santa Ana,

California; supporting “creative ideas, connections, knowledge and language to artistic presentation and opportunity”— a Do-It-Yourself MFA

Founder, LibroMobile Bookstore & Arts Cooperative, Santa Ana, California, 2016 – Present
LibroMobile is a literary project in collaboration with Red Salmon Arts established in Santa Ana, California—it integrates literature, visual exhibits and year-round creative workshops and live readings. The LibroMobile bookstore offers affordable books by writers of color, bilingual and Spanish books for children, youth, and adults, as well as books that speak to culture and social justice issues relevant to the local community. Stocked items, which started with about 60 titles, now include over 3000 books ranging from handmade zines to popular titles, to small press bilingual publications, a community board to post local resources and a Little Free Library. The Arts Cooperative is a collective of community organizers, cultural producers, and local artists working collaboratively to form a workers' cooperative.

Founder, Barrio Writers, California & Texas, 2009 – Present
Barrio Writers aims to empower youth through creative writing, higher education and cultural arts; Established a summer writing program as a community collaborative project; Researched, developed and implemented writing curriculum and pedagogy; Trained Program Directors/Writing Advisors and launched 13 chapters, 5 currently hosting programs: Grand Central Art Center in Santa Ana, CA, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, University of Texas at Austin, Pflugerville Public Library, TX, and Stephen F. Austin State University.

EDITORIAL/CURATOR

Co-Editorial Advisor, *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers* Sci-fi Anthology, June 2017 – Present
Co-curator, *Canción del Inmigrante* Multi-Media Exhibition, Santa Ana, CA, March – May 2018
Guest Editorial Advisor, *Southwestern American Literature Journal*, August 2016 – April 2018
Co-curator, *Rebel Artists in the Rebel City* Multi-Media Exhibit, Ireland, Jan. – Feb. 2018

PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCES (2012-Present)

Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, Virtual, 2021
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, San Antonio, Texas, 2020
National Women’s Studies Association Conference Panel Presentation, San Francisco, CA, 2019
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, Portland, Oregon, 2019
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, Washington D.C., 2017
National Women’s Studies Association Conference Panel Presentation, Montreal, Canada, 2016
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional Conference, Lonestar Community College, Houston, TX, 2016
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel, Los Angeles, CA, 2016
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional Conference, Lonestar Community College, Houston, TX, 2015
Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association 35 Workshop – UT at Austin, TX, 2015
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional Conference, Northwest Vista College, San Antonio, TX, 2014
3rd Annual Cultural Studies in Education Workshop, University of Texas at Austin, TX, 2014

PUBLICATIONS (Pen Name: Sarah Rafael García)

Books – Fiction, Memoir & Anthologies

1. García, Sarah R. *A Womyn's Place*. McAllen, Texas: Flowersong Press (Short Stories), 2021
2. García, Sarah R., Goodwin, Matthew D. and Hernandez, Alex, *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers*. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio State Press (anthology), 2021
3. García, Sarah R. *SanTana's Fairy Tales*. Houston, Texas: Raspa Press (Short Stories), 2017
4. García, Sarah R. and Monica Teresa Ortiz, *pariahs, writing from outside the margins*. Nacogdoches, Texas: SFA Press (anthology), 2016
5. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Seventh Edition*. Nacogdoches, Texas: SFA Press (anthology), 2016
6. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Sixth Edition*. Nacogdoches, Texas: SFA Press (anthology), 2015
7. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Fifth Edition*. Lake Elsinore, California: Lincoln Book Publishers (anthology), 2014
8. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Fourth Edition*. Lake Elsinore, California: Lincoln Book Publishers (anthology), 2013
9. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers 2nd-3rd Edition*. Santa Ana, California: Self-Published (anthology), 2012
10. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers First Edition*. Santa Ana, California: Self-Published (anthology), 2010
11. García, Sarah R. *Las Niñas, A Collection of Childhood Memories*. Mountainview, California: Floricanto Press (Memoir), 2008

Non-Fiction

1. García, Sarah R. "Collecting and Re-presenting US History: Digital Storytelling as Archives." Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Blog. January 2021. Web.
2. García, Sarah R. "Culture Shock." *Feminist Pilgrimage: Journeys of Discovery*. Sacramento, California, Litwin Books. September 2020. Print.
3. García, Sarah R. "No Symptoms [Asymptomatic]." La Tolteca Zine: Califas Creatives. September 2020. Web.
4. García, Sarah R. "The Bidi Bidi Bom Bom that keeps us dreaming..." *Dreaming: A Tribute to Selena Quintanilla-Perez*. McAllen, Texas, FlowerSong Press. August 2020. Print.
5. García, Sarah R. "When I Had to Give Up Flour Tortillas, I Lost My Culture". Eater. April 2019. Web.
6. García, Sarah R. "Santa Ana's LibroMobile: More Than Just Books." Women Who Submit. June 2018. Web.
7. García, Sarah R. "Barrio Writers: A 'Community of Resistance' or Academic Pedagogy?" As/Us Journal. Spring 2017. Print.
8. García, Sarah R. "Our MFA Experiences." The Acentos Review. November 2016. Web.
9. García, Sarah R. "Project Amplify: Barrio Writers." Origins Journal. November 2016. Web.
10. García, Sarah R. "LibroMobile Puts the Focus on Literacy and Community." Poets & Writers. 2016. Web.

11. García, Sarah R. "Are you really, really ready to attend an M.F.A. in Creative Writing program?" *Women Who Submit*. September 2016. Web.
12. García, Sarah R. "Xicana Travelogues." *La Tolteca Zine: Journeys Issue*. Summer 2016. Web.
13. García, Sarah R. "My MFA Experience." *As/Us Journal Issue 6*. May 2016. Print.
14. García, Sarah R. "We Are Writers, Too." *The Texas Observer*. March 2016. Web.
15. García, Sarah R. "My Parents' Country." *La Tolteca Zine: Education Issue*. Fall 2015. Web.
16. García, Sarah R. "Ch-air, ch-air, chair!" *Salsa Dancing in Gym Shoes: Exploring Cross-Cultural Missteps with Latinos in the Classroom*. March 2015. Print.
17. García, Sarah R. "Café Calacas Success Recipe: Cultura, Community Pride & Dedication". Brooklyn & Boyle. December 2012. Print.
18. García, Sarah R. "Dreaming of America." *LATINO Magazine*. Fall 2012. Print.
19. García, Sarah R. "Doing Great Things." *LATINO Magazine*. Fall 2012. Print.
20. García, Sarah R. "Memorias de Mis Besos Nobel." *La Bloga*. August 2012. Web.
21. García, Sarah R. "Crossing Borders," *Connotation Press: An Online Artifact*. April 2011. Web.
22. García, Sarah R. "A Father's quest: All for the family." *The Orange County Register*. September 2008. Print.

Fiction

1. García, Sarah R. "Just A House." *Fields Magazine*. Spring/Summer 2018. Print.
2. García, Sarah R. "The Movement." *The Acentos Review*. August 2016. Web.
3. García, Sarah R. "Selling Happiness." *Lumen Magazine*. February 2016. Web.
4. García, Sarah R. "The Workers." *Outrage: A Protest Anthology for Injustice in a Post 9/11 World*. Slough Press. International. 2015. Print.
5. García, Sarah R. "Little Secrets." *Contrapuntos III: A Live Anthology*, Digitus Indie Publishers. International. 2015. Ebook.
6. García, Sarah R. "Intertwined." *IN MY BED Magazine*. Canada. 2014. Print.

Poetry

1. García, Sarah R. "Immigration: A Child's Perspective." *¡This Used to be Mexico! Zine*. September 2016. Print.
2. García, Sarah R. "Without a Name." *In The Words of Womyn International: 2016 Anthology*. April 2016. Print.
3. García, Sarah R. "Xicana Queen" (revision). *El Retorno: Our Serpent's Tongue III Chapbook*. April 2015. Print.
4. García, Sarah R. "Her-Story." *Seeds of Resistance Zine*. March 2015. Print.
5. García, Sarah R. "Xicana Queen." *Flies, Cockroaches & Poets Zine*. April 2013. Print.
6. García, Sarah R. "Returning to Santa Ana." *Santanero Zine*. March 2013. Print.
7. García, Sarah R. "Without a Name." *Label Me Latina/o: Special Edition: Latina Authors-Asserting Female Agency*. June 2012. Web.
8. García, Sarah R. "Immigration: A Child's Perspective." *Poets Responding to SB1070*. April 2011. Web.