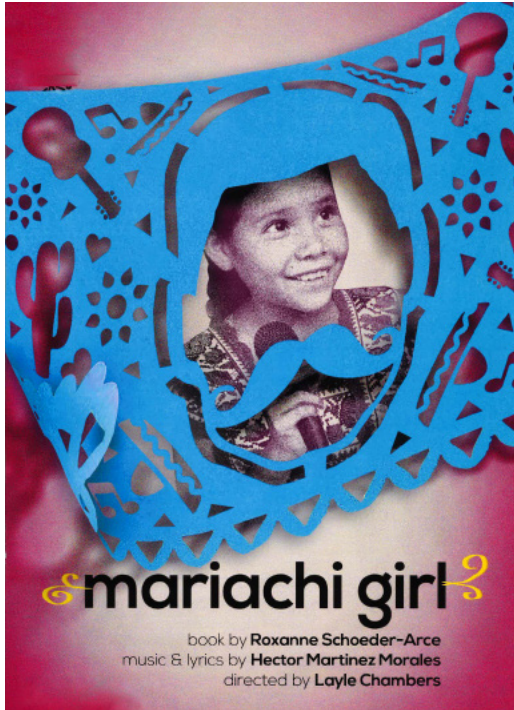
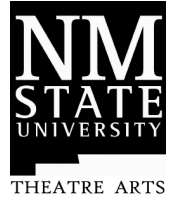




American Southwest Theatre Company
at NMSU Theatre Arts

presents



DIRECTOR

MUSIC DIRECTOR

SCENIC DESIGNER

COSTUME DESIGNER

LIGHT DESIGNER

SOUND DESIGNER

PROPS DESIGNER

STAGE MANAGER

LAYLE CHAMBERS

THOMAS GARCIA

JIM BILLINGS

DEBORAH BRUNSON

BRIANNA MIRANDA

JIM WILKINSON

DAVID HEREFORD

MIKE WISE

Produced by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC., of Woodstock, Illinois.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of
this production is strictly prohibited.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

Welcome to this year's show chosen especially for youth and families. We are honored to be able to offer performances free to school groups, in order that area youth are introduced to theatre and are able to enjoy our state-of-the-art space here at the ASNMSU Center for the Arts.



We are particularly pleased to present this production of *Mariachi Girl* as it is bilingual in order to appeal to a broad audience and to contribute to the NMSU designation as a Hispanic-serving institution. Like our heroine in the play, we all harbor dreams, the pursuit of which may be momentary or continue for a lifetime. In our often chaotic world, our dreams can sustain us and give us a way to not only elevate ourselves but to also lift those around us. I believe theatre has the ability to lift our spirits, and I hope this production will do just that and perhaps even inspire or rekindle a dream. At the American Southwest Theatre Company at NMSU, our dream is to continually provide you with quality shows while training our students to uphold the highest standards of production. With your support and patronage our dreams become reality as we work to provide you with stage stories that inspire your dreams to thrive. Let's continue to dream.

CAST

CITA	YAMILEX HOLGUIN
CARMEN	ESMAE LEON
LUIS	MOZART PIERSON
JOSÉ	ROB BUSTAMANTE
DANNY	ALEX ANGEL
MRS. PARKER	XODIA CHOATE

PLACE: Here. TIME: Now.

**The play will be performed without an intermission
and is approximately 55 minutes long.**

Do you know what a Traje de Mariachi is?

A Mariachi Traje (trah-hay) has origins in both Mexican folk wear from the Jalisco area and the Traje de Charro (horseman's suit). The current traditional look of the Mariachi developed in the 20th century when after the Revolution of 1910, the Mexican government began to promote the Mariachi as an identifiable unified cultural symbol of nationalism. The formal version is an elegantly snug-fitting short jacket, and high, tight black pants that flare over the boot at the hem. As women became mariachis as well, a long, slim skirt was added. Some variations like the Gala suit have multiple silver décor called Botonadura, while others have elaborate braid or embroidery (Greca). The outfit is often complemented by a large bowtie, a wide belt and a sombrero. Many modern variations have been developed, but generally at least bow to the traditional outfit, because Mexico's history, complexity and contrasts are vividly illustrated in the tradition of this suit, which reflects the nation's pride, passion and respect for heritage, custom and tradition. *(Paraphrased from various publications)*



**Audiences are reminded to please silence all electronic devices
(cell phones and alarms) prior to the performance.**
If you use your cell phone during the performance, you may be asked to
leave. Thank you for your consideration.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Desde Mi Pueblo /
Opening Medley | Cast |
| 2. Un Acordeón | Luis |
| 3. No, I'm Not the Same | Mrs. Parker |
| 4. Las Costumbres | Luis & Carmen |
| 5. Desde Mi Pueblo /
End Song | Cita, Luis and Company |

Special Performances by:

Friday - Mariachi Espuelas de Cobre

Saturday Matinee - Damian Luna

Saturday Evening - Mariachi Las Muñecas
and Orlando Antonio Jimenez

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

ALEX ANGEL (Danny/Abuelo)

Alex is majoring in Mechanical Engineering but has a deep passion for live theatre. He is currently a junior with an associate in the fine arts and automotive technology. His most recent role has been as a 1920's mob boss in a dinner murder mystery extravaganza. Alex wants to continue to pursue live theatre even after graduation, and hopes that theatre remains a great part of our culture.

ROBERT "ROB" BUSTAMANTE JR. (José)

Rob is a junior majoring in Theatre Arts with a Musical Theatre Emphasis. His previous roles include Mario in *My Big Gay Italian Wedding*, Agave in *Aesop in Rancho Cucamonga*, and Pablo in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Rob has enjoyed making the show, and hopes you enjoy the show.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

XODIA CHOATE (Mrs. Parker/Lucha Reyes)

Xodia is a sophomore Theatre Arts major in the NMSU Theatre Arts department. She was most recently seen on stage in *Our Carol Burnett Show* at Boba Cabaret, and was the Enchantress in Scaffolding Theatre Company's production of *Beauty and the Beast* earlier this year. She is so excited to be on the mainstage at NMSU, and hopes you enjoy the show!

YAMILEX HOLGUIN (Cita)

Yamilex is a sophomore majoring in Theatre Arts with a musical theatre emphasis. Her previous roles include Muffeletta in *The Servant of Two Masters* and Charlie in CSTS' *Processing and Handling*. She'd like to thank Layle for giving her the opportunity to be part of this cast that represents the Latinx community. And to her parents, brother and Tony for supporting and believing in her dreams.

ESMAE LEON (Carmen)

Esmae is in her last year at NMSU as a major in Theatre Arts. Her past productions include, *Truth Dare. . .*, *The Servant Of Two Masters*, *In The Time Of The Butterflies* and Scaffolding Theatre Company's *Beauty and the Beast*. She'd like to thank her professors, Larissa Lury and Megan McQueen for guiding her this far in her undergraduate journey. She'd especially like to thank Layle Chambers for the opportunity to be in this play that represents her background as a young Hispanic woman. And she'd like to also thank her whole family and Juan Andrés, Brianna and Torrie for being there for her when she needs a shoulder to lean on.

MOZART PIERSON (Luis)

Mozart is a senior at New Mexico State University majoring in Theatre Arts on his way to graduating this summer. He is excited to begin to use his degree and start working as an actor. His ambitions are to become a Broadway actor or to tour with a Broadway show. . . the sky's the limit. His previous acting experience with ASTC/NMSU Theatre Arts includes Mr. Fezziwig and Old Joe in *A Christmas Carol*, the Professor in *Frankenstein*, and Pantalone in *The Servant of Two Masters*.

DIRECTORS NOTES



What an incredible opportunity for me to work with the wonderfully talented production team of ASTC and the vibrant young actors of NMSU Theatre Arts and DACC! And to tell the story of *Mariachi Girl*.

The mission of theatre arts at DACC is to celebrate the unique diversity of our community and in particular to produce the work of Latinx playwrights. I first heard of *Mariachi Girl* at a conference attended by Texas playwright and educator Roxanne Schroeder-Arce and I have been waiting for the chance to do it. I knew this lovely space and the dedicated theatre artists at ASTC would make Cita's story sing!

It is important to tell the story through the lens of our border region and let it resonate for our Mexican-American students and community. It is also important to see the universality of Cita's sueños, her dreams. Cita wants to be a mariachi, but she could just as easily want to be a scientist or a football player, all male dominated worlds. But we will tell the story of a young girl's dream to be like her father from the cultural perspective of our region, which has somehow been left out of the universal lexicon, seen as different or somehow not belonging. In our hearts we know this story could be anyone's, anywhere. As Carmen says in the play, 'We have to share who we are or it dies with us'.

So enjoy the show, and feel free to shout or lend your own 'gritos' to celebrate Cita's story with us!

-- Layle Chambers

About the Playwright and Composer



Roxanne Schroeder-Arce (Playwright) is an artist, scholar and teacher. She currently serves as assistant professor of theatre education at the University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance. Prior to her current appointment, she taught at Emerson College and California State University, Fresno.

Schroeder-Arce received her MFA in drama and theatre for youth from the University of Texas at Austin and her bachelor's degree and teaching credential from Emerson College. She taught high-school theatre in Texas for six years and served as artistic and education director of TEATRO Humanidad in Austin for several years. Schroeder-Arce's bilingual plays have been presented to children and families in theatres throughout the United States. Her plays *Señora Tortuga*, *Legend of the Poinsettia* and *Sangre de un Ángel* are also published by Dramatic Publishing.

Héctor Martínez Morales (Composer) is originally from Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. He studied composition in the United States as well as in Paris, France. His works have been performed throughout the U.S. and Mexico. He has appeared as soloist with orchestras and lectured at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Tufts University; and the Istanbul Technical University in Turkey. He has received commissions from Chicago Symphony Orchestra musicians and the American Composers Forum. Martínez Morales also has a performance background in Latin-American folk music and mariachi. Also a pianist, he has performed his own works at venues such as New York University. Martínez Morales is an educator and freelance composer based out of Boston.

PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

Layle Chambers (Director) Layle is a teaching/artist and Associate Professor of Theatre Arts at Doña Community College of New Mexico State University. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Ithaca College in upstate New York, spent a decade working in New York City, and then pursued her Master's Degree from the University of Texas at El Paso, which she received in 2001. Layle co-founded Outrageous Fortune Theatre Company; working as Artistic Director, actor, grant writer and playwright focusing on innovative production of classic works for Young Audiences.

Thomas Garcia (Music Director) Thomas is a long time local musician and teacher. He received his Bachelor's in music education from New Mexico State University in 2009. He has performed with and studied under world class musicians in the classical and mariachi musical worlds. Groups under his direction have performed at many venues including Disney Land, Disney World, and the New Mexican Palace of the Governors. His students have received numerous awards in competitions and festivals. His dream is to open people's ears and hearts with music. He currently has a music education app available on the Google Playstore called Music Mover.

Violet Griffin (Assistant Director) Violet is a senior at NMSU she is currently finishing up her last semester and will be graduating with a B.A. in Theatre Arts. This is her first assistant director position. During her time at NMSU she has played Kim in *Purple Breasts*, Understudy for Clarise in *The Servant of Two Masters*, Charwoman/Passerby in *A Christmas Carol*, and Linney In *Truth Dare...* Although she is an actor she does have an interest in directing. She plans on moving to Los Angeles soon after she graduates to peruse her career.

Brianna Miranda (Light Designer) Brianna is a senior at NMSU pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre Arts. An aspiring jack-of-all-trades, Brianna enjoys participating in shows as an electrician, board operator, assistant designer, designer, stage manager or whatever else she's allowed to explore. Previous shows include co-stage managing *Truth Dare...*, technical/crew work on *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *Urinetown*, and *A Christmas Carol*, as well as Sound Design for *Equivocation* and *Urinetown*. Future goals include seeking internships in her field, and eventually graduate school.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director
Production Coordinator
Theater Manager
Scene Shop Foreman
Costume Shop Manager
Master Electrician
Lighting Electricians
Light Board Operator
Sound Board Operator
Stage Crew

Set Construction

Wardrobe Supervisor
Costume Crew
Costume Construction
House Manager
House Crew

Photographer

David L. Hereford
Mike Wise
Jim Wilkinson
James Jaworski
Tamara M. Carruthers
Jim Wilkinson
THTR 347 students
Torrie Hughes
Melissa Hernandez
Bethany Hays, Taylor Rodriguez, Maggie Jane Simpson
Sean Doyle, Jessie Hernandez, and THTR 141L & THTR 346 students
Calvin Chervinko
Calvin Chervinko
THTR 142L & 345 Students
Jacob Tellez
Bethany Hays, Taylor Rodriguez, Maggie Jane Simpson
Michael Wise

Special Thanks

Eliza "Ellie" Schwartz



RESIDENT COMPANY BIOGRAPHIES

Claudia Billings holds a B.S. in Theatre and Dance from the University of Wyoming and an M.A. in English Literature from NMSU. She currently teaches Introduction to Theatre and Acting. She also acts and directs for ASTC at NMSU.

Jim Billings received an M.F.A. in Scenic Design from the California Institute of the Arts. He has worked as a freelance designer around the country, and came to NMSU in 1985. Design credits include design for dance, theatre, opera, industrials and museums. Jim was awarded the Ralph B. Crouch Award for "Outstanding contributions to the life of the NMSU community."

Deborah Brunson received a B.F.A. in Costume Design from The University of Alabama in 1977, and an M.F.A. in Costume Design from the University of Texas at Austin in 1980. She has been Resident Costume Designer at NMSU since 1988. She designs and fabricates for a variety of artistic areas.

Tamara M. Carruthers received a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from New Mexico State University. She managed NMSU's Costume Shop for three semesters directly after graduation. She then joined Wayside Theatre (Middletown, VA) and spent ten years as their Resident Costume Designer and Shop Manager. She has spent the last five summers in the Costume Shop at Creede Repertory Theater (Creede, CO) designing and serving as their Draper, Draper/First Hand, Assistant Costume Shop Manager and, most recently, Costume Shop Manager.

Nichole Hamilton Nichole earned a BA in Theatre from the University of Montevallo near Birmingham, Alabama (PV!) and an MFA in Acting from the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL (Go Gators!). Post graduate school, she taught adjunct at the University of Florida for classes in Voice, Acting I-III, Audition Workshop, and Theatre Appreciation. Currently, Nichole is teaching an online Theatre Aesthetics course for incarcerated students through Ashland University in Ohio. Nichole is a proud member of Actor's Equity, a company member and advisory committee member at the Hippodrome Theatre in Gainesville Florida, and a teacher candidate with the Michael Chekhov Association. She has worked professionally as an actor, director and sometimes stage manager with companies in NYC, MA, FL, GA, TN, NC and CA. This summer, Nichole performed her devised solo performance entitled *Dame daDA & the Meta Show* at the Minnesota Fringe Festival. She is thrilled and honored to join the faculty at NMSU (Go Aggies!).

David L. Hereford received his B.F.A. in Theatre from UNM in 1978. He spent five summers at the Santa Fe Opera and a summer in the props shop at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon, as well as being the Props Master at the Manitoba Theatre Centre in Winnipeg, and a scenic carpenter at the Denver Center Theatre Company.

Wil Kilroy joined NMSU after many years in Maine where he was Chair and Professor of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine. At USM he directed dozens of plays and musicals including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Laramie Project* which were invited to Kennedy Center regional festivals. Wil has worked nationally as an actor, with roles ranging from Steve in *Becky's New Car* to Laertes in *Hamlet*, and on TV productions such as *All My Children* and *Babylon Five*, and is an annual alumni guest artist with The State Ballet of Rhode Island. As the co-founder of the National Michael Chekhov Association, Wil has taught nationally and internationally. Wil was awarded the Kennedy Center bronze medallion for achievement in Theatre Education in 2014.

RESIDENT COMPANY BIOGRAPHIES

James Jaworski comes from Buffalo, NY. Jim is a regionally-recognized artist and bowl maker and spends his “free time” making bowls and finding lumber.

Larissa Lury is a director, actor, acrobat, and teacher. At NMSU, in addition to teaching and directing, she heads the American Southwest Children’s Theatre Company. She directs and workshops plays in NYC and regionally, focusing primarily on the development of new plays, two of which were nominated for (and one of which won) Best Play from the San Diego Critics Circle following the productions she directed. She was recently selected to be one of the inaugural recipients of the National Directors Fellowship. She was a Resident Director at Ensemble Studio Theatre from 2008-09, is a member of the Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab, and an Affiliated Artist and a 2016-17 Audrey Resident with New Georges. MFA, UC San Diego. BS, Northwestern University.

Megan McQueen is a proud graduate of NMSU, earning a Bachelor of Music degree with a minor in theater and a Master of Arts in Education. During her undergraduate studies, she began professional work for various theater companies and arts organizations as an actress, producer, director, stage manager, and arts administrator in New Mexico, Texas, and Pennsylvania. After graduating, she continued this work, largely in Massachusetts. Megan has been teaching music and theater in Las Cruces since 2004, notably at Alma d’arte Charter High School and Centennial High School.

William Storm teaches theatre history, dramatic literature, and theory. He is the author of *After Dionysus: A Theory of the Tragic, Irony and the Modern Theatre*, and *Dramaturgy and Dramatic Character*, along with plays and essays in literary criticism and drama theory. He is co-director and dramaturg for the High Desert Play Development Workshop and was literary manager of the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles.

Jim Wilkinson is a graduate of Oñate high school in Las Cruces New Mexico where he studied technical theater. He continued his education at Full Sail University in Orlando Florida where he received an associates of science in show production and touring. He returned to New Mexico to become the head of the audio department at the Spencer Theater in Alto, NM. He travelled the U.S. and Canada on tours of Broadway shows including; *Oklahoma*, *Big River*, *My Fair Lady* and *Movin’ Out*. In 2007 he moved to New York City and worked as a sound operator and mixer on many Broadway productions including *Hair*, *Spamalot*, *Porgy And Bess*, *A Christmas Story*, *Spiderman: Turn Off the Dark*, and *If/Then*. Jim is thrilled to be back living in the southwest and to be part of the NMSU Theatre Department. He would like to thank his wife, Jackie for her continued support.

Michael Wise received his B.A. from UC Santa Barbara, and has been working professionally in theatre for the past 40 years. He has worked for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Bathhouse Theatre Company, A Contemporary Theatre in Seattle, The Seattle Group Theatre, Intiman Theatre, The Empty Space Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Mt. Hood Repertory Theater, The Player’s Guild in Canton, Ohio, New City Theater, Laguna Inter-Arts Repertory, Southern California Conservatory Theater, Seattle Childrens Theatre, lo-fi productions, and the Las Cruces Community Theater.

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From the ASTC Board President

The American Southwest Theatre Company (ASTC) welcomes and thanks you for attending *Mariachi Girl*. This production is part of the Theatre for Young Audiences program to ensure access to our youth to professional theatre. *Mariachi Girl* is free for school groups with three public performances for all to enjoy.



This season will also include *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* for our holiday production followed in the spring with *The Odyssey* and ending our season with the award winning musical *Rent!* ASTC will sponsor three fund raising events for our community to enjoy. The first will be a Halloween Bash, Saturday, October 28th at 6:30pm. Costumes are encouraged but not required to enjoy a haunting evening of music, dancing, contests, and silent auctions! More information can be found in this program. During the run of *It's a Wonderful Life* ASTC will sell raffle tickets for another beautiful quilt donated by Las Colcheras Quilt Guild. In March of 2018 Megan McQueen will bring a musical taste of Broadway back to Las Cruces for the third year with *Broadway Today!* Join us for an evening you won't forget.

Visit our website for ticket and performance information for all events: <http://www.nmsutheatre.com/>

ASTC is a non-profit organization which raises funds to enhance the NMSU Theatre Arts departments teaching of theatre students. Thus, enabling the department to expose our students to professional actors, directors, producers, and choreographers.

If you are interested in making a difference and supporting our students by joining the ASTC board or making a donation please contact via e-mail me dwelsh@nmsu.edu or Wil Kilroy wkilroy@nmsu.edu.

Denise Welsh-Pirtle, President
ASTC Board of Trustees

ASTC Board of Directors

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ASTC RESIDENT COMPANY / NMSU THEATRE ARTS FACULTY / STAFF

Wil Kilroy	<i>Professor/Department Head/Managing Director</i>
Claudia Billings	<i>College Associate Professor</i>
Jim Billings	<i>Scenic and Lighting Designer</i>
Deborah Brunson	<i>Costume Designer</i>
Tamara M. Carruthers	<i>Costume Shop Manager</i>
Cumy Gower	<i>Fiscal Assistant</i>
Nichole Hamilton	<i>Assistant Professor</i>
David Hereford	<i>Technical Director</i>
Jim Jaworski	<i>Shop Foreman</i>
Larissa Lury	<i>Assistant Professor/ High Desert Co-Director</i>
Megan McQueen	<i>College Assistant Professor</i>
Susie Ouder Kirk	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Dr. William Storm	<i>Professor/High Desert Co-Director</i>
Jim Wilkinson	<i>Theater Manager/Sound Designer</i>
Michael Wise	<i>Production Manager/Stage Director</i>

THE KENNEDY CENTER

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival 50th, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David and Alice Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Barnstein and Wilma E. Barnstein; the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation.

KCACTF is part of JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy, inspired by five enduring ideals often ascribed to JFK: Courage, Freedom, Justice, Service, and Gratitude. Support for JFKC: A Centennial Celebration of John F. Kennedy is provided by Ambassador Elizabeth Frawley Bagley, Chevron, the Blanche Irving Laurie Foundation, and Target.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

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Calvin Chervinko

Torrie Hughes

Arianna Swinson

Xodia Choate

Karina Ortega

Palma Tavenner

Melissa Hernandez

Maggie Jane Simpson

Melis Derya White

OTHER LOCAL PRODUCTIONS

Las Cruces
Community Theatre
Annie
Dec. 1 - 17

Rio Grande Theatre
A Children's Theatre
The 3 Musketeers
Oct. 27 & 28

No Strings
Theatre Company
*Little Shop of
Horrors*
Oct. 6 - Oct. 29