

# Reyes Ramirez

www.reyesvramirez.com

## EDUCATION

MFA, 2015, Texas State University  
Emphasis: Creative Writing - Fiction  
Cognates: Film, Literature

BA, 2012, University of Houston, *Honors in Major, Summa Cum Laude*  
Majors: Political Science & Creative Writing  
Minors: Creative Work & *Phronesis*

## BOOKS

*Answers Without Questions*, Hub City Writer's Project – Hub City Press, poetry,  
*forthcoming Fall 2023*

*The Book of Wanderers*, University of Arizona Press – Camino del Sol Series, short  
stories, March 1, 2022

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Manager, *University of Houston Center for Mexican American and Latino/a  
Studies – Inter-University Program for Latino Research*, September 2021 -  
Present

Resources/Outreach/Program Coordinator, *Fresh Arts*, January 2019 – December 2021

Faculty Tutor, *Houston Community College*, September 2017 - December 2018

Outreach & Public Engagement Cultivator/Visitor Services Associate, *DiverseWorks*,  
Feb. 2016 - July 2017

Office Manager/Events Coordinator, *City ArtWorks*, June 2015 - February 2016

Assistant to Chief of Staff - *Office of Senator Mario Gallegos*, Jan. - May 2009

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Spanish Interpreting Training, June 2017, *Antena Houston*  
Emphasis: simultaneous & consecutive interpreting

Latino Leadership Initiative, 2011, Harvard University - Kennedy School for Public  
Leadership  
Emphasis: Public Leadership/Grass Roots Organizing

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Curriculum Consultant, Society for the Performing Arts, Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2019  
Courses: Interdisciplinary Creative Writing at Drew Academy

Workshop Instructor, Inprint Houston, Fall 2018 – Fall 2019  
Course: Writing at Ripley House Community Center for ESL senior citizens

Instructor/Writer in Residence, Writers in the Schools, Aug. 2015 – Dec. 2020  
Courses: Creative writing/zine making at TH Rogers Middle School, HPL  
Discovery Green, Jefferson Elementary School, Lockhart Elementary School and  
The Menil Collection to age groups between 8 – 17.

Coordinator & Writing Advisor, Barrio Writers - Austin & Houston (Center for Mexican  
Studies), Summer 2013 – Summer 2020  
Courses: 1-week long creative writing workshop on poetry, fiction, creative  
non-fiction, hip hop, etc. to age groups between 13 – 21.

Adjunct Instructor, The Art Institute of Houston, July 2016 – February 2017  
Courses: College Writing (1301 & 1301L), Creative Writing (ENGL 2307)

Teaching Assistant, Texas State University, August 2013 – May 2015  
Courses: College Writing I (ENGL 1310) & College Writing II (ENGL 1320)

Instructional Assistant, Texas State University, 2012 – 2013  
Courses: British Literature since 1785, World Literature since 1600 Writing  
Center Consultant, Texas State University, Summer 2013

Served on several University Committees (composed of Faculty, Staff, Students, and  
Administration) as a student representative at the University of Houston such as:  
Bookstore Advisory Committee, Student Publications Committee, Undergraduate  
Admissions Review Committee, University Hearing Board, etc.

## **EDITING EXPERIENCE**

Chapbook Coordinator, *Tintero Projects*, January 2022 - present

Co-Editor, *In the Loop*, *Common Field* Publication, 2019-2020

Editor, *Houston Latinx Art & Writing Series*, *Queer Latinx Writers Responding to  
Here, Ahora: Houston, Latinx Queer Artists Under 30 at Art League Houston*,  
2019.

Contract Copy Editor, *Arte Público Press* – University of Houston

Copy Editor & 8<sup>th</sup>,9<sup>th</sup> Edition Anthology Editor, *Barrio Writers*, October 2013- 2018

Staff Reviewer, *Glass: A Journal of Poetry*, August 2017- 2018

Co-Managing Editor, *Front Porch Journal*, 2014 - 2015

Copy Editor, *Front Porch Journal*, 2013 - 2014

Co-Editor & Co-Founder, *The Aletheia Literary Journal*, University of Houston  
undergraduate literary journal, 2010 – 2012

### **CURATORIAL/ORGANIZING PROJECTS**

*The Houston Artist Speaks Through Grids*, virtual exhibition featuring art & artists of color in Houston using grids in their work, Houston, TX, 2022

*Houston Eyes, Silver Screens*, virtual, multi-media reading series about pop culture featuring writers of color from Houston, Houston, TX, Oct.-Dec. 2020

*The Three Masks of Iturbide Villalobos*, a literary reading & pro wrestling performance, featuring Reyes Ramirez & Doomsday Wrestling, Houston, TX (Postponed indefinitely due to COVID-19)

*Tierra mi sangre. Sangra mi cuerpo. Riega mi sangre.*, Performance by Jessica Gonzalez & Natalia Barrientos for Common Field, April 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

*HERE, AHORA: Houston Conversations, Queer ART + LIT* reading organized by Reyes Ramirez, along with Lupe Mendez and Jasminne Mendez of Tintero Projects at Art League Houston, May 2, 2019

*La Tierra Tuya Es El Tema De Mis Canciones / Performances + Artist Discussion* featuring Jessica González, Erick Zambrano, Veronica Gaona, Antonia Claros, Farrah Fang and Ángel Lartigue at Art League Houston: April 30, 2019

*Here, Ahora: Houston, Latinx, Queer Artists Under 30*, Art Exhibition at Art League Houston, Houston, TX, March 22 - May 4

### **AWARDS & HONORS**

2022 Recipient, *The Idea Fund* Grant

2022 Writer in Residence, Crosstown Arts Residency Program

2021 Fellow, Interchange Artist Grant, Mid-America Arts Alliance for *The Houston Artist Speaks Through Grids*

- 2021 Fellow, CantoMundo Fellowship, Palm Beach Poetry Festival
- 2021 Finalist, The Jeanne Leiby Chapbook Award, *The Florida Review*
- 2021 Finalist, New Southern Voices Poetry Prize, Hub City Press
- 2021 Finalist, Houston Poet Laureate, Houston Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs
- 2021 Runner-up, Jesse H. Jones Fellowship, Dobie Paisano Fellowship - University of Texas
- 2021 Semifinalist, Philip Levine Prize for Poetry, California State University, Fresno
- 2021 Semifinalist, Brittingham and Felix Pollak Prizes, Wisconsin Poetry Series
- 2021 Semifinalist, Berkshire Prize, Tupelo Press
- 2021 Nomination, Pushcart Prize for Poetry, *december magazine*
- 2020 Recipient, Poets & Writers United States of Writing Initiative Project Grant
- 2020 CantoMundo Fellow, University of Arizona Poetry Center
- 2020 Fellow, *Desert Nights*, *Rising Stars* Fellowship, Arizona State University's Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing
- 2020 Semifinalist, Wheeler Prize for Poetry, Ohio State University Press/The Journal
- 2019 Recipient, *Houston Arts Alliance* Let Creativity Happen Express Grant
- 2019 Recipient, *Houston Arts Alliance* Let Creativity Happen Express Grant
- 2019 Recipient, *The Idea Fund* Research & Development Grant
- 2019 Winner, *Y.ES Contemporary Arts* Writers Grant
- 2019 Finalist, *Indiana Review's* Creative Nonfiction Contest, judged by Hanif Abdurraqib
- 2019 Finalist, *Orison Books* Fiction Prize, judged by Victor LaValle
- 2019 Finalist, *[PANK]* Big Book Contest for Fiction, judged by Gabino Iglesias
- 2019 Finalist, *Texas Review Press* Robert Phillips Poetry Chapbook Prize, judged by Gary Jackson
- 2019 Semifinalist, *YesYes Books* Open Reading Period for Fiction

- 2019 Honorable Mention, *Texas Observer* Short Story Contest, judged by Francisco Flores
- 2019 Longlist, *Santa Fe Writer's Project* Literary Awards Program
- 2019 Nomination, Best Small Fictions, *New South Journal*
- 2018 Finalist, *Gold Line Press* Poetry Chapbook Competition, judged by Tongo Eisen-Martin
- 2018 Finalist, *Iron Horse Literary Review* Chapbook Competition, judged by Tyehimba Jess
- 2018 Finalist, *december magazine* Jeff Marks Memorial Poetry Prize, judged by Luis Javier Rodriguez
- 2018 Shortlist, *Cosmonauts Avenue* Fiction Prize, judged by Ottessa Moshfegh
- 2018 Nomination, Pushcart Prize for Nonfiction, *Blue Mesa Review*
- 2018 Nomination, *Best New Poets*, *Gulf Coast Journal*
- 2017 Winner, *Blue Mesa Review* Non-Fiction Contest, judged by Rigoberto Gonzalez
- 2014 Recipient, CD Marshall Scholarship, *Texas State University*
- 2014 Winner, *riverSedge* Poetry Prize, University of Texas- Pan American, *riverSedge Literary Journal*
- 2012 Winner, Sylvan Karchmer Fiction Prize, *University of Houston Engl. Department*
- 2012 Recipient, Arete Award, *UH, Honors College*
- 2012 Honorable Mention, Brian Lawrence Poetry Prize *UH Engl. Department*
- 2011 Phronesis Fellow - *UH Honors College Phronesis Program*
- 2008 - 2012 Recipient, Terry Scholarship- *Terry Foundation - UH*

## **POETRY**

“Finding a Kitten Behind an Air Conditioner After a Tropical Storm is my America.”  
*december magazine*. (2021)

“The Fabulous Wondrous Outfits of the Fabulous Wonder Twins” parts I-IV.

*Infrarrealista Review.* (2021)

“Being Stuck in Houston’s Traffic on I-45 S at 6PM Every Tuesday is my America.”  
*Common Field: The Loop.* (2020)

“El Salvadoreño Americano as Decolonizer, 1929-1936.” *Cosmonauts Avenue.* (2020)

“Eddie Guerrero Enters a Ring Holding the World Championship.” *BreakBeat Poets*  
*vol. 4: LatiNEXT.* (2020)

“A 4th Grade Dance Party in the Cafeteria on a Monday at 1PM in Houston is My  
America.” *What’s the New News?*, Issue 3. (2019)

“A Portrait of my Father, the Child Soldier, & Me, the Writer.” *Palabritas.* (2019)

“Selena’s Last Concert in Houston.” *Houston Public Media.* (2019)

“Ode to Hot Cheetos.” *Queen Mob’s Teahouse.* (2019)

“The Red Eared Slider.” *Tule Review.* (2019)

“New statistics: the government is separating 65 children a day from parents at the  
border.” *Queen Mob’s Teahouse.* (2018)

“How to Fight Like a Mexican.” *Queen Mob’s Teahouse.* (2018)

“Advice to my Younger Self in High School.” *TRACK//FOUR.* (2018)

“A Woefully Uncomprehensive Record of White People Erasing Latinx Lives & Being  
Rewarded For It.” *TRACK//FOUR.* (2018)

“The Body Belongs to the Self.” *TRACK//FOUR.* (2018)

“Stumbling Drunk Alongside I-45 at 1 am.” *Texas Review.* (2018)

“Eddie Guerrero Enters a Ring Holding the World Championship.” *december magazine.*  
(2018)

“Hijo, please.” *Gulf Coast Journal.* (2017).

“The Gospel of Carlos Cienfuegos.” *Origins Literary Journal.* (2016).

“Advice for White Writers.” *The Acentos Review.* (2016)

“On Selena’s Last Concert in Houston.” *pariahs anthology: writing from outside the*  
*Margins,* Stephen F. Austin University Press. (2016)

“Climbing Monte de Taxco.” *Cimarron Review*. (2016)

“On Being the Ugliest in my Family.” *riverSedge Literary Journal* (2014)

“When I Imagined my Father as my Colon,” *Analecta Literary Journal*. (2012)

“7,” “I Don’t Care, It Doesn’t Affect Me.” *Glass Mountain*. (2012)

“Thanatea.” *Glass Mountain*. (2012)

“Dedos.” *Glass Mountain*. (2010)

### **FICTION**

“An Adventure of Xuxa, La Ultima.” *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers: A Latinx Anthology*. Ohio State University Press. (2021)

“Lilia.” *Cosmonauts Avenue*. (2019)

“Xitlali Zaragoza, Curandera.” *Houston Noir*. (May 2019)

“Half a Day in America, Now.” *New South Journal*. (2018)

“Ni Sabes.” *The Acentos Review*. (August 2016)

“I Don't Care, It Doesn't Affect Me.” *Glass Mountain*, Vol. 8. (2011)

### **CREATIVE NONFICTION**

“How Eating Pozole Helps Me Hold Onto My Roots.” *Houstonia Magazine*. (2021)

“An Incomplete, Personal History of Isolation Through Video Games.” *Indiana Review*. (2020)

“In the Learning of History Begins Responsibilities.” *What’s the New News?*, Issue 3. (2019)

“On Playing Yu-Gi-Oh as a Nerdy, Brown Kid in Houston.” *Blue Mesa Review*, issue 36. (2017)

“My Workshop with a Famous Writer.” *pariahs anthology: writing from outside the Margins*, Stephen F. Austin University Press. (2016)

### **ART CRITICISM**

“Every Portrait is a Self-Portrait.” *Defunkt Magazine*. (2020)

“The Exhibition as Record: Moe Penders’ Volver & Reconciliation.” *Arteinformado*. (2019)

“Exhibition Review of Francis Almendárez ‘Rhythm and (p)leisure’ at ArtPace, San Antonio.” *Y.ES Contemporary*. (2019)

“On Houston, Cultura and the work of Moe Penders.” *Deep Red Press*. (2018)

“Science Advances, But for Who?” *FIVE:2:ONE Magazine*. (2018)

“Notes From Alabama Song: Reyes Ramirez on [Moe] Penders.” *Glasstire*. (2018)

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

*Lot* by Bryan Washington. *Porter House Review* (2019)

*Kitchen Table Translations* ed. by Madhu Kaza. *In Other Words* (2019)

*Images of America: African Americans in Houston* by Ronald E. Goodwin. *Deep Red Press* (2018)

*Beast Meridian* by Vanessa Angelica Villarreal. for *Glass: A Journal of Poetry* (2018)

*Virgin* by Analia Sotelo. *Glass Poetry Press* (2018)

*Images of America: African Americans in Houston* by Ronald E. Goodwin. *The Journal of South Texas* (2018)

*Hands That Break & Scar* by Sarah A. Chavez. *Glass Poetry Press* (2017)

*Imaniman: Poets Writing in the Anzaldúan Borderlands* ed. by ire’ne lara silva & Dan Vera. *Glass Poetry Press* (2017).

*Messenger to the Stars: A Luis Omar Salinas New Selected Poems & Reader* ed. by Christopher Buckley & Jon Veinberg. *Front Porch Journal* (2015).

## **ANTHOLOGY INTRODUCTION**

*Barrio Writers Anthology: 5<sup>th</sup> Edition* (Stephen F. Austin University Press, 2014).

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

2021 Juror, Scholastic Writing Competition, *Harris County Department of Education*



- 2021 Juror, SinMuros: A Latinx Theatre Festival Play Selection Committee, *Stages Repertory Theater/Tintero Projects*
- 2021 Judge, Houston Youth Poet Laureate, *Writers in the Schools*
- 2021 Grant Application Evaluator, Cultural District Project Grant, *Texas Commission on the Arts*
- 2021 Juror, Art of Equality Art & Literacy Contest, *Juneteenth Legacy Project*
- 2020-2021 Panelist, Grant Application Evaluator for Emergency Fund, *Greater Houston Area Arts Relief Fund*
- 2020 Juror, Scholastic Writing Competition, *Harris County Department of Education*
- 2020 Juror, SinMuros: A Latinx Theatre Festival Play Selection Committee, *Stages Repertory Theater/Tintero Projects*
- 2020 Grant Application Evaluator, Arts Create Grant, *Texas Commission on the Arts*
- 2020 Grant Application Evaluator, Artistic Innovations Grant, *Mid-America Arts Alliance*
- 2019 Juror, Scholastic Writing Competition, *Harris County Department of Education*
- 2017 Grant Application Evaluator, Arts Create Grant - Multidisciplinary Panel, *Texas Commission on the Arts*
- 2017-2018 Panelist, Houston Poet Laureate Program Selection Committee, *Office of the Mayor of Houston*
- 2015 – 2019 Fiction & Young Adult Fiction Prize Judge/Chair, *National Association for Chicano & Chicana Studies- Tejas Foco*

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- “The Critic is Essential: A Latinx Arts Critics Panel & Discussion.” National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures Latinx Summit, October 1, 2021
- “The Art of Process: Writing About Another Process.” Desert Nights, Rising Stars Writers Conference, Arizona State University Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing, Feb. 22, 2020
- “Science Advances, But for Who?” 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Hispanic Studies, "Defining Community: Intersections & Ruptures," University of Houston, Feb. 9, 2018.

“Creative Writing and Grassroots Organizing: Building Narrative as an Entry to Community Organizing for Youth,” 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in Hispanic Studies, "Hispanic Language, Writings and Culture in the New Political Arena," University of Houston, April 28, 2017.

“Murals and Chican@ Identity: a panel on murals in different spaces...” & “Barrio Writers & UH MASSO: Empowering the Next Generation,” NACCS- TejasFoco 2015, Lone Star College- North Harris, Feb. 27-28, 2015

“Mainstream American Wrestling and Chicano Identity: The Career of Eddie Guerrero,” ILASSA 35 Student Conference on Latin American Studies, University of Texas, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

“Barrio Writers Pedagogy Community Workshop: The Write Path to Higher Education & Cultural Empowerment,” 3<sup>rd</sup> Cultural Studies in Education Conference- University of Texas, March 1, 2014.

“A Story of a Chicano Mural,” NACCS Tejas Foco 2014, Northwest Vista College, Feb. 21, 2014.

“Eating: What We Mean when We Deny or Accept Consumption,” 8<sup>th</sup> Interdisciplinary and Multicultural Conference on Food Representation in Literature, Film, and Other Arts, University of Texas – San Antonio, February 19, 2014.

## **LANGUAGES**

English- Native Language

Spanish- Speak, read, & write with native proficiency