Empowering Latino Futures Proudly Presents
The 27th International Latino Book Awards Ceremony

MiraCosta College Concert Hall
October 25, 2025

We sincerely invite you to be a part of the

27th Annual International

Latino Book Awards Ceremony

Saturday, October 25, 2025 at MiraCosta College in Oceanside

International Latino Book Awards

Since Empowering Latino Futures created the International Latino Book Awards (ILBA) in 1998, the awards has recognized the greatness of magnitudes more books by and about Latinos than all the other book awards in the USA combined. This year it took 222 judges to evaluate all the book entries and help recognize the winners.

The ILBA has grown over the last three decades to become the largest Latino literary and cultural awards in the USA. The 87 categories include Children's, Young Adult, Nonfiction, Fiction, Poetry, eBooks, Design, Translation, and Best First Books – and the ILBA is now one of the five biggest book awards in the USA. The books are written in English, Spanish, Portuguese or in Bilingual formats.

In 2020 we created special Legend Awards named after literary and community notables. These include Isabel Allende, Rudolfo Anaya, Charlie Ericksen, Alma Flor Ada, Juan Felipe Herrrera, Dolores Huerta, Hank Lacayo, Mimi Lozano, Julian Nava, Luis Valdez, Victor Villaseñor, and Raul Yzaguirre.

❄ **Why it's important.** The Awards recognize the greatness in books by and about Latinos around the world. Winners have included the major Latino literary stars and nurtures those starting their writing career and will be the stars of tomorrow. Most of all, the Awards encourage thousands of future authors.

❄ **This is ELF's ONLY Fundraiser.** Please help our programs meet their full potential.

❄ **The Growth.** In 1980, there were less than 300 books published in the USA with a Latino author. By 1997, when the organization started, approximately 4,000 books a year were being published in the USA with Latino authors. Today, that figure is well over 35,000 books per year by Latino authors in the USA. We are very proud of that evolution. This year, Latinos in the USA will spend over $750 million on books in Spanish and English.

Desde que Empowering Latino Futures creó los International Latino Book Awards (ILBA) en 1998, los premios han reconocido la excelencia de muchos más libros escritos por y sobre latinos que cualquier otro premio literario en EE. UU. Este año, 222 jueces evaluaron todas las obras participantes para ayudar a reconocer a los ganadores.

El ILBA ha crecido en las últimas tres décadas hasta convertirse en el mayor premio literario y cultural latino en Estados Unidos. Sus 87 categorías incluyen libros infantiles, jóvenes adultos, no ficción, ficción, poesía, libros electrónicos, diseño, traducción y mejores primeros libros. Los libros se escriben en inglés, español, portugués o en formatos bilingües.

En 2020, creamos premios especiales llamados Legend Awards, nombrados en honor a figuras literarias y comunitarias, entre ellas Isabel Allende, Rudolfo Anaya, Charlie Ericksen, Alma Flor Ada, Juan Felipe Herrera, Dolores Huerta, Hank Lacayo, Mimi Lozano, Julián Nava, Luis Valdez, Víctor Villaseñor y Raúl Yzaguirre.

Por qué es importante: Los premios reconocen la excelencia en libros escritos por y sobre latinos en todo el mundo. Los ganadores han incluido grandes estrellas literarias latinas y apoyan a quienes están iniciando su carrera de escritura y que serán las estrellas del mañana. Sobre todo, los premios fomentan a miles de futuros autores.

Este es el único evento de recaudación de fondos de ELF. Ayuda a que nuestros programas alcancen su máximo potencial.

El crecimiento: En 1980, se publicaban menos de 300 libros en EE. UU. con un autor latino. Para 1997, cuando se fundó la organización, se publicaban aproximadamente 4,000 libros al año con autores latinos.

Hoy, esa cifra supera los 35,000 libros anuales en EE. UU. escritos por autores latinos.

Nos sentimos muy orgullosos de esta evolución. Este año, los latinos en EE. UU. gastarán más de $750 millones en libros en español e inglés.

TIMELINE

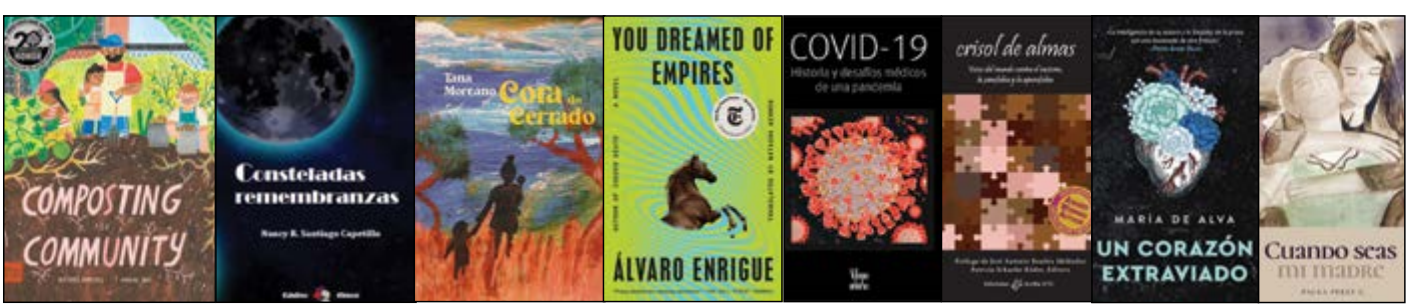
Saturday, October 25

MiraCosta College Concert Hall

2:00 pm: Children's, Young Adult Book, Poetry, Translation, Mariposa y más Awards Ceremony

4:00 pm: Food break & time to get to know the honorees

5:00 pm: Fiction & NonFiction, Awards Ceremony



THE MARIPOSA AWARDS

Best First Book - Children & Youth – English

My Ladybug, Nelida L Valentin, NV Publishings
Pedro & Daniel, Federico Erebia, Levine Querido
The Mortician's Daughter: Undertaking the 6th grade, Natalie Vazquez

Best First Book - Children & Youth – Spanish

El niño en la puerta, Sara Virginia Apping Marquez, Moon Boat Press
Las Cabanuelas; An Ancient Weather Prediction & Farming Story, Elsa Martinez Hinojosa, Del Alma Publications
The Carousel King and the Space Mission, Maxton Baeza, Cielito Lindo Books

Best First Book - Nonfiction – English

Building Material, Stephen Bruno, HarperCollins
Duty Calls, Dr. Antonia Coelle Novello and Jill S. Tietjen, PE, Fulcrum Publishing
Whiskey Tender, Deborah Taffa, HarperCollins

Best First Book - Nonfiction – Spanish

Cuando El deber llama, Dr. Antonia Coelle Novello and Jill S. Tietjen, PE, Ediciones Filos
Cuando seas mi madre, Paula Pérez
Felicidad, Lina Martinez, Penguin Random House

The Nora de Hoyos Comstock Best First Book - Fiction – English

Calaguerra, Ruben Najera, Bloodmoon Comics
THE ORCHID: The Secret Code of Modern Goddesses, Rocio Aquino, For The Highest Good Press
Women So Divine, Alicia Garza-Martinez, Page Publishing

The Nora de Hoyos Comstock Best First Book - Fiction – Spanish

Cincinnati, Heidie Rosado Nieves
Dragon, Milagros Lozano Mantilla
Haxan, Macarena Valeska Carcamo Munoz, Sietch ediciones

YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

Best Young Adult Latino Focused Book

A Bridge Home, Mona Alvarado Frazier, Arte Publico Press
Pedro & Daniel, Federico Erebia, Levine Querido
Pulido del Barrio Libre, Reynaldo G Santa Cruz Jr

Best Young Adult Fiction Book

Cruzita and the Mariacheros, Ashley Granillo, Lerner Publishing Group
El Secreto Oculto De Los Andes VI- Los Indicios, Pilarica, Caligrama
Locura bajo llave, Camila Musante, Lantia

Best Young Adult Fantasy & Adventure

On the Wings of la Noche, Vanessa L Torres, Random House Children's Books
The Brujos of Borderland High, Gume Laurel III, West 44 Books
What the river knows, Isabel Ibañez, Wednesday Books

Best Young Adult Romance Book

A Cruel Thirst, Angela Montoya, Random House Children's Books/Joy Revolution
The Quince Project, Jessica Parra, Wednesday Books
The Sofia Bosco Effect, Rosa Esthela Mora, Amazon

Most Inspirational Young Adult Book

CEO con sabiduria, Juan Adalid Rivera
Newton y el profesor de Fisica, Claudio Cid, Trayecto Editorial
Wild Dreamers, Margarita Engle, Athenevm/ Simon and Schuster

The Charlie Ericksen Best Book Written by a Youth

Dr. Pren y el Guerrero del Otro Mundo, Maximo Cesar Castellanos, Editorial Ramy
El reloj de eones, Benjamín Navarro Osorio, Áurea Ediciones Chile
The Carousel King and the Space Mission, Maxton Baeza, Cielito Lindo Books

TRANSLATION AWARDS

Best Children's Picture Book Translation - Spanish to English

Dasha: Finding your God-given talent, Andrea Briceno & Reynold Roque, Paquicornio Libros
Gregorina and her glass of water, Milagros Wallace, Snow Fountain Press

Best Children's Picture Book Translation - English to Spanish

El Tanquecito, Teri Weber, Elva Resa Publishing
Hooray, It's Three Kings Day, Annette M Clayton, Familius Publishing
¿De qué color es tu mano?, Roni Capin Rivera-Ashford, Archway Publishing

Best Nonfiction Book Translation - Spanish to English

Arepas for the Future, Ximena Montilla Arreaza, illustrated by Ira León,
A Song of Flowers, Mardonio Carballo, JBE BOOKS

Best Nonfiction Book Translation - English to Spanish

LatinoLand, Marie Arana, translated by Mateo Cardona Vallejo, Simon & Schuster
Más allá de Vietnam, Dr. Martin Luther King, HarperCollins Español
Olga muere soñando, Xochitl Gonzalez, translated by Roque Raquel Salas Rivera, Editorial Planeta USA
Puerto Rico: Historia de una nación, Jorell Meléndez-Badillo, translated by Aurora Lauzardo, Editorial Planeta USA

Best Fiction Book Translation - Spanish to English

Clean, Alia Trabucco Zerán, translated by Sophie Hughes, Penguin Random House, Riverhead Books
Dr. Pren and the Guardian of the Vortex, Maximo Cesar Castellanos, Editorial Ramy
You Dreamed of Empires, Alvaro Enrigue, translated by Natasha Wimmer, Peguin Random House

Best Fiction Book Translation - English to Spanish

Entre dos aguas, Cristina Henriquez,

HarperCollins Español

PORTUGUESE AWARDS

Best Children's Picture Book in Portuguese

O Pinguim Azul, Michelly Gassmann, Editora Goiabinha

Best Young Adult Book in Portuguese

Cora do cerrado, Tana Moreano

Ninguém mais quer saber, Maria Gravina Ogata, Caravana Grupo Editorial

Best Book - Fiction in Portuguese

Cora do cerrado, Tana Moreano

Diarios da Caserna, Rubens Pierrotti Jr, Editora Labrador

Nao se esqueca de mim!, Solange Vamira Ocker dos Santos

Os Crimes Do Jardim Celeste, Pedro Cadina, Patua Editora

YOUTH CHAPTER AWARDS

Best Chapter Fiction Book

City Girls, Loretta Lopez, Seven Stories Press

Grow up, Luchy Zapata, Alexandra Alessandri, Simon and Schuster

Lola, Karla Arenas Valenti, Random House Children's Books

Troop Esme, Lourdes Heuer, illustrated by Marissa Valdez, Tundra Book Group

Wrath of the Rain God, Karla Valenti Arenas, Simon and Schuster

Best Educational Chapter Book

Diviertete en Español-Nivel 1, Despina Kozulcali

Estado de la Union, Kitty Felde, Chesapeake Press

Terror en Halloween, Paola Alejandra Inostroza Pérez, Trayecto Editorial

EBOOKS & AUDIO AWARDS

Best eBook

Cholx Counterstory, Dr. Elvira Carrizal-Dukes, INTERMEZZO

GALENA, Pepa M. Aguilera, Circulo Rojo

WHAT COLOR IS YOUR HAND, Roni Capin Rivera-Ashford, Archway Publishing

Best Audiobook

Despertar El Arte De Aprender a morir, María Angélica Dávila

The Border Between Us, Rudy Ruiz, Blackstone Publishing

THE ORCHID, Rocio Aquino, For The Highest Good Press

DESIGN & MARKETING AWARDS

Best Cover Design

Jockey Club de Bogota, 150 anos, Alvaro Holguin y Caro, Villegas Editores

THE ORCHID, Rocio Aquino, For The Highest Good Press

Un Café con la elefanta, Haydee Zayas-Ramos, Illustrator: Marcela Rojas-Figueroa, Hilo Colectivo Books

Best Cover Illustration or Photo

Centering Pura Vida, Lily E. Espinoza, Alive Publishing

Cuidar y Crecer, Blanca R. Garcia Salgado, Illustration by Javier I. Toro Torres

El Sonador y la Estrella un Espejismo de amor, Liz de Ambar, S.E. Pinar Publisher

Best Interior Design

Consteladas remembranzas, Nancy R. Santiago Capetillo, Caballero Editores

Sons of Salt, Yaccaira Salvatierra, BOA Editions

Best Use of Photos or Illustrations Inside a Book

Dia de Muertos, Trilce, Editorial Planeta USA

Gregorina y su vaso de agua, Milagros Wallace, Snow Fountain Press

Listen, Wonder, *Ask*, Elly Berke, illustrated by Luciana Navarro Powell, Tilbury House Publishers

Best Author Video Promoting a Book

Centering Pura Vida, Lily E. Espinoza, Alive Publishing

El niño en la puerta, Sara Virginia Apping Marquez, Moon Boat Press

THE ORCHID, Rocio Aquino, For The Highest Good Press

Best Website Promoting a Book

Unraveled-A Journey Led by faith and Hope, Sylvia R. Merino, Jetlaunch

POETRY AWARDS

Best Children's & Youth Poetry Book

Haikus about Cuba in Spanish and English, Carlos Pintado & Lawrence Schimel, Ediciones Norte Sur

It's All or Nothing, Vale, Andrea Beatriz Arango, Random House Children's Books

¿Quién muerde en la pagina verde?, Mar Romera, Cuentos con Valores

The Juan Felipe Herrera Best Poetry Book Award - One Author – Bilingual

Amor entre aguaceros, Jean-Pierre Rueda, Alegria Publishing

Chén che re: A Book Inhabited by Pollen, Mardonio Carballo, Nauyaka Ediciones

There will be days, Brown Boy, Alejandro Jimenez, Mouthfeel Press

The Juan Felipe Herrera Best Poetry Book Award - One Author – English

Assimilated Natives, Gume Laurel III, Mouthfeel Press

Return Against the Flow, Susana Praver Perez, Black Lawrence Press

The Book of Wounded Sparrows, Octavio Quintanilla, The University Press of SHSU
The Eaters of Flowers, Iréne Lara Silva, Saddle Road Press

The Juan Felipe Herrera Best Poetry Book Award - One Author – Spanish

Aguacerando, Elidio La Torre Lagares, Valparaiso Ediciones
Algunos Dias en Algunas Noches, Lauro Quintanar-Carmona
Bitácora de Luna, Benjamin Yancy Crespo
Conjuros, Oscar Diaz Antillanca, Aurea Ediciones
Sabanas, Yasmarie Hernandez Gonzalez

Best Poetry Book - Multi-Author

Crisol de almas, Patricia Schaefer Røder Best Poetry Anthology Book
Despierta corazón, Lorena Andronikidis, Circulo Rojo Editorial
Here to stay, Marcelo Hernandez Castillo, HarperCollins
Latidoscuro, Richard Rivera Cardona, Luscinia

Best Audio Presentation of One or More Poems

Assimilated Natives, Gume Laurel III
La cigarra y la hormiga, Elena Busse, Cuentos con Valores

Best Video Presentation of One or More Poems

Assimilated Natives, Gume Laurel III, Mouthfeel Press

CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS

The Alma Flor Ada Best Latino Focused Children's Picture Book Award

Abuelo, the Sea, and Me, Ismee Williams, Macmillan
El Sombrero del Abuelo, Yasmarie Hernández González, Ilustrador: Alexis "Che" Cortés
Hooray, It's Three Kings Day, Annette M Clayton, Familius Publishing
I am, Yo Soy, Gaby Belt, HarperCollins

Best Children's Fiction Picture Book – English

Abuelita's Gift, Mariana Ríos Ramírez, Random House Children's Books
Life is Beautiful, Winsome Bingham, Simon and Schuster
Plátanos Are Love, Alyssa Reynoso-Morris, Atheneum Books for Young Readers
The Girl Who Wore Pants, Susanna Isern, Nube Ocho
The Littlest Grito, Nicholas Solis, Sleeping Bear Press

Best Children's Fiction Picture Book – Spanish

I am, Yo Soy, Gaby Belt, HarperCollins
La orquesta en la granja de mi abuelo, Lissedia Batista-Gonzalez
The Power of a Sister Circle, Leticia Ordaz, Cielito Lindo Books

Best Children's Nonfiction Picture Book

Best Believe, NoNieqa Ramos, Illustrated by Nicole Medina, Lerner Publishing Group
Free to Learn: How Alfredo Lopez Fought for the Right to Go to School, Cynthia Levinson, Simon and Schuster
La jugada del dia, Ariadna Sanchez Hernandez, Alegria Publishing
Samba!, Philip Hoelzel, Sleeping Bear Press

Best Educational Children's Picture Book – English

A Fairy's Whisper, Sandra Elaine Scott, Vision Your Dreams
Celebrate Cinco De Mayo, Marisa Boan, Magic Spells for Teachers
Down in the Amazon, Mame Hill, Barometer Books
Samba!, Philip Hoelzel, Sleeping Bear Press

Educational Children's Picture Book – Spanish

I Love My Magical Eye Patch!, Paty Millan Montesinos, Curious Eyes
The Adventures of Topi and Topo, Antonio Sanchez y Chavez, New Aleph Press
Un perrito mas, Chari Rodriguez Gonzalez, MR. MOMO

Most Inspirational Children's Picture Book – English

Born to play Beisbol, Kathleen Contreras, Espejo Press
Eloisa's Musical Window, Margarita Engle, Simon and Schuster
Gloriana Presente, Alyssa Reynoso-Morris, Little Brown & Company
I want to dance in Pants, Jess and Ruyman Hernandez, Sleeping Bear Press

Most Inspirational Children's Picture Book – Spanish

El bebé ve el amor, Mar Romera, Cuentos Con Valores
Gregorina y su vaso de agua, Milagros Wallace, Snow Fountain Press
I Love My Magical Eye Patch!, Paty Millan Montesinos, Curious Eyes
My Father Said/ Mi Padre Dijo, Simon Silva, Con Todo Press
The Power of a Sister Circle: A Girl's Guide to Making Best Friends, Leticia Ordaz, Cielito Lindo Books

Best Board Book

¿Quién muerde en la pagina verde?, Mar Romera, Cuentos con Valores
The Carousel King and the Space Mission, Maxton Baeza, Cielito Lindo Books
Yum, Yum, MEXICO! Mexican Food from

A to Z, Diane de Anda, Crown Books for Young Readers

THEMED BOOK AWARDS

The Dolores Huerta Best Cultural & Community Themed Book – English

Las Madres: Latinas in the Heartland Who Led Their Family to Success, Dennis R. Garcia, University Press of Kansas
Our Oceanside: A Collection of Learner Stories, Volume 2, Lupita Vergara, Amalia Morales Ramirez, Josefina Z. Doris E. Garces Lopez, Philip Gabriel Ramirez Editor: Chelsea Eggli, Oceanside READS Adult Literacy
Remembering Conquest, Omar Valerio-Jimenez, University of North Carolina Press
Somos Xicanas Anthology, Edited by Luz Scweig, Riot of Roses Publishing House

The Dolores Huerta Best Cultural & Community Themed Book – Spanish

Dia de Muertos, Trilce, Editorial Planeta USA
Ramas y Raices, Mario Acevedo, Colorado Alliance of Latino Mentors and Authors
Testigo 2, Manuel Martinez Maldonado, Publicaciones Gaviotas
The Power of a Sister Circle, Leticia Ordaz, Cielito Lindo Books

Best LGBTQ+ Themed Book

Gay Poetics of the Passion, Luis Lopez-Maldonado, FlowerSong Press
La máscara invisible, Estela González, Textofilia
Por que Rufus esta triste?, Sandra M. Colorado, Publicacion Independiente
Teddy Sandoval and the Butch Gardens School of Art, Ondine Chavoya, Inventory Press

The Ambassador Julian Nava Best Ethnic Studies Book

Civil Rights in Bakersfield, Oliver A Rosales, University of Texas Press
The fight for Equity in the Bronx: Changing Lives and Transforming Communities One Scholar at a Time, Dr. Elaine Ruiz Lopez, Forbes-Advantage Media

Best Academic Themed Book, College Level

Illegalized: Undocumented Youth Movements in the United States, Rafael A. Martínez, University of Arizona Press
Las mujeres asaltan la histora, Luz Nereida Lebron Delgado, Editoral Santuario-Republica Dominicana
Mujeres de Maiz en Movimiento, Edited by Amber Rose Gonzalez, Felicia 'Fe' Montes, and Nadia Zeppeda, University of Arizona Press
Playful Protest: The Political Work of Joy in Latinx Media, Kristie Soares, University of Illinois Press
Puerto Rico: Historia de una nación, Jorell Meléndez-Badillo, Editorial Planeta USA
The Serpent's Plumes, Adam W. Coon, Sunny Press
The Wound and the Stitch, Dr. Loretta Victoria Ramirez, Penn State University Press

Best Book About Military Service

Algunos regresamos vivos, Alain Pallais, Valparaíso Ediciones
De Guerrero Sin Padre a Fiel
Superintendente De Prisiones, Luis R. Marshall
El Proposito de Estrella, Krista Betcher, Gabriella Aldeman, Elva Resa Publishing

Best Latina Themed Book

Latinas imparables, Valeria Aloe, Editorial Planeta USA
Mujeres de Maiz en Movimiento, Edited by Rose González.., University of Arizona Press
Soy sostenible 360 grados, Susi Velasco
The Power of a Sister Circle, Leticia Ordaz, Cielito Lindo Books

Luis Valdez Best Play or Collection of Plays

Escribir en puertoriqueño, Luis Rafael Sánchez, Editorial Planeta USA

Best Environmental Awareness Themed Book

Composting for community, Michael Martinez, Gloo Books
Los Mundos de Lonstal, Jose Rabelo, Isla Negra Editores

Best Immigration Themed Book

Borderlands and the Mexican American Story, David Dorado Romo, Random House Childrens Books
Carmelita, Meagan O'Toole Pitts, Pittsy Pie Publishing
Estado de la Union, Kitty Felde, Chesapeake Press
Sin Padres, Ni Papeles, Stephanie L. Canizales, University of California Press
Tus pequeñas huellas, Oswaldo Estrada, Suburbano

Presentation of the Children's and Poetry Rising Stars Awards.

Group photo on the stage of Award Winning Authors, Honorable Mentions, Presenters, and ELF Team.

Latino Stories Matter: How ISLA is Making a Difference

Latino voices are making waves in the literary world, and the International Society of Latino Authors (ISLA) is helping make it happen. The group supports writers whose stories might not always get attention, showing that Latinos are not just storytellers—they love to read, too. Best of all, ISLA is open to everyone who wants to join, whether you're a writer, reader, or supporter of Latino literature.

ISLA members write all kinds of books, from novels and poetry to memoirs and children's stories. The Society hosts workshops and events where authors can improve their writing, meet other writers, and connect with readers. Its awards program also shines a spotlight on great books, helping talented writers get recognized.

ISLA also works to get Latino authors more visibility in schools and the publishing world. They help members connect with speaking opportunities, promote books by and about Latinos, and work to get more people buying and reading these books.

By supporting writers and building community, ISLA is making sure Latino stories are seen, heard, and celebrated—proving these voices really matter. Learn more about ISLA and sign up at Latinobooks.org. It's a single price for a lifetime membership.

Think of these winning books as your shopping list for Christmas & Birthdays
Piensa en estos libros galardonados como tu lista de regalos para Navidad y cumpleaños

Historias Latinas Importan: Cómo ISLA Está Haciendo la Diferencia

Las voces latinas están causando impacto en el mundo literario, y la International Society of Latino Authors (ISLA) está ayudando a que eso suceda. El grupo apoya a escritores cuyas historias no siempre reciben atención, demostrando que los latinos no solo son narradores de historias, ¡también aman leer! Lo mejor de todo es que ISLA está abierta a todos los que deseen unirse, ya sea que seas escritor, lector o simplemente un defensor de la literatura latina.

Los miembros de ISLA escriben todo tipo de libros, desde novelas y poesía hasta memorias e historias infantiles. La Sociedad organiza talleres y eventos donde los autores pueden mejorar su escritura, conocer a otros escritores y conectarse con lectores. Su programa de premios también destaca libros sobresalientes, ayudando a que los escritores talentosos sean reconocidos.

ISLA también trabaja para dar más visibilidad a los autores latinos en escuelas y en el mundo editorial. Ayudan a los miembros a acceder a oportunidades de conferencias, promueven libros escritos por y sobre latinos, y fomentan que más personas compren y lean estos libros.

Al apoyar a los escritores y construir comunidad, ISLA asegura que las historias latinas sean vistas, escuchadas y celebradas, demostrando que estas voces realmente importan. Aprende

For updates on the program, all the presenters, past winners, & much more go to www.LatinoBooks.org
Para actualizaciones del programa, todos los presentadores y mucho más, diríjase a www.LatinoBooks.org

ILBA Rising Star Honorees

Over the years the International Latino Book Awards has honored thousands of books, changing the perceptions of tens of thousands of people toward books written by and about Latinos. In the last two years, more than 20,000 people in the United States and all over the world have tuned in for our virtual Awards Ceremony.

The four Rising Star Honoree categories are Children's, Non-Fiction, Fiction, and Poetry books. The Rising Stars will be chosen from authors who are not yet making a full-time living as an author and who are Gold Medal winners in a corresponding categories for each of the four Awards.

Each prizewinner will receive a $3,500 package that includes a check for $1,000, distribution of an article about their book to 450+ Latino media outlets, a press release focusing on the four Rising Stars, a special award, and billing as a representative of the next generation of 'Must Read' authors.

Homenajes Rising Star de ILBA

A lo largo de los años, los International Latino Book Awards han honrado miles de libros, cambiando la percepción de decenas de miles de personas sobre las obras escritas por y sobre latinos. En los últimos dos años, más de 20,000 personas en EE. UU. y en todo el mundo siguieron nuestra ceremonia de premiación virtual.

Las cuatro categorías de Rising Star son libros infantiles, no ficción, ficción y poesía. Los Rising Stars serán elegidos entre autores que aún no se dedican a tiempo completo a la escritura y que sean ganadores de la Medalla de Oro en categorías correspondientes de cada uno de los cuatro premios.

Cada ganador recibirá un paquete de $3,500 que incluye un cheque de $1,000, la distribución de un artículo sobre su libro a más de 450 medios latinos, un comunicado de prensa enfocado en los cuatro Rising Stars, un premio especial y la promoción como representante de la próxima generación de autores "imprescindibles".

2024 Impact Report

220 ELF Activities

149,042 People Impacted

What's New

2024 was a wonderful year of evolution for Empowering Latino Futures. Here's some highlights:

*** June 5th was named Empowered Latino Futures Day by the San Diego Board of Supervisors.

*** In October the National Association of Hispanic Publications, an association of 771 Latino media outlets, awarded North County Informador a GOLD for Best NewsPrint Magazine, a GOLD for Best Health Section, and a BRONZE for Best Newsletter.

*** Sacramento Valley Informador also won a GOLD for Best Education Article.

*** Our biggest long-term change comes with our TWO new websites which combines 8 former ones. Here we can offer far more services – with less work from staff: www.ELFusa.org and www.LatinoBooks.org.

Thanks for caring,

ELF International Society of Latino Authors Programs

Awards

4,461 Authors Honored Since 1998

26th Int'l Latino Book Awards Ceremony
October 19, 2024
Los Angeles City College
322 Award Winning Authors
475 Honorable Mentions
88 Book Categories
239 Judges for the Awards
1.087 media outlets used the press release

Latino Books into Movies Awards
201 Award Winning Authors in 27 TV & Movie Categories since 2010. The goal of these awards is to help facilitate more TV show & movies by & about Latinos since books are the industry's #1 source.

Author Promotion & Education

20 Activities With 1,039 Authors Involved

Award Winning Author Book Tour Success
255 Authors participated in 8 Events with a combined 958,000 attendees
Our involvements here include 3 cornerstone events: **Guadalajara FIL** With 917,000+ attendees in 2024 this event is by far the largest book event in the Americas. **American Library Association** Now the largest book trade convention in the USA. **CABE** The largest conference of diverse educators in the USA.

ISLA Webinars
11 workshops with 721 attendees & viewers
Workshops & webinars designed to help authors advance their careers in publishing and promoting their books.

Latino Reads 2024 Success
63 Authors Interviews See these at www.LatinoBooks.org.

Empowering Latino Futures Book Club
Monthly newsletter started in 2024 with 8,500+ subscribers and reviews of AWA books.

Empowering Latino Futures Education & Community Programs

Festivals

75 Festivals Have Been Held Since 1997 With a Combined 947,000+ Attendees

San Bernardino Multicultural Book & Family Festival
May 11, 2024
CSU San Bernardino
Keynote: Victor Villaseñor
1,602 attendees with 3,523 hours spent at the Festival

North San Diego Latino Book & Family Festival
June 8, 2024
MiraCosta College
Keynotes Luis Valdez, Dra. Beatriz Villareal, Victor Villaseñor
2,842 attendees with 7,673 hours spent at the Festival

Sacramento Latino Book & Family Festival
September 28, 2024
Sacramento City College
Keynotes Edward James Olmos, Reyna Grande, & Victor Villaseñor
5,213 attendees with 21,900 hours spent at the Festival

Our Festivals are centered around 6 Villages of activities: Authors, Children's, Community, Education, and Health, as well as Entertainment & Food areas.

Building Foundations

276,222 Books Given to 86,000+ People via 1,097 Events and Activities since 2015

Education Begins in the Home
21,222 Books given to 6,632 people via 126 Events & activities

Education Begins in the Home is our 'Boots on the Ground' program out in the community every week giving free books to underserved youth. Its mission is to provide youth with a solid foundation in reading. EBH is an affiliate of the San Diego Council on Literacy.

Empowering Latino Students

Since our founding this program has distributed 183,350 copies of *The National Latino Scholarship Directory* in various editions. The Scholarship Directory itself has $920 million in resources. This program is currently on hold as we seek funding for the transition a major website.

Empowering Latino Futures Media Programs

Our Informador public service bilingual journalism efforts focusing on Health, Education, Civic Engagment, and Financial Empowerment grew out of the growing local news deserts that have formed – especially within Latino communities. Our Latino Success Stories are very popular.

North County Informador Successes
11 Print issues & 11 ePublications
50 NCI eNewsletter issues
32,500 audited readership
3 key awards from the NAHP

3 new enewsletters in 2024:
* NCI Events eNews
* Emprendedores Empoderados/ Empowered Entrepreneurs
* ELF First Time Homebuyers Club

Sacramento Valley Informador
A developing effort with one printed magazine and 4 eNews issues in 2024.

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ELF Partners

This are just some of ELF's 100+ partners:

Corporations: MacMillan Publishers, NBC7, Scholastic, SDG&E, Telemundo 20, Watkins Wellness

Educational: California State University San Bernardino, Los Angeles City College, L.A. Community College District, MiraCosta College, Palomar College, Sacramento City College **Foundations:** Alternative Newsweekly Foundation, Amazon Literary Partnership, Leichtag Foundation, Sacramento Progressive Communities

Governemental: San Diego County

NonProfits: AARP, ALA, CABE, Independent Book Publishers Association, MAAC, Molina Healthcare, NAHP, North S.D. County Promise, Route 78 Rotary, TrueCare, UnidosUS, Universidad Popular, Vista Community Clinic

A special THANK YOU to our 350+ GREAT VOLUNTEERS

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Fallbrook, CA 92028
Federal Tax ID #33-0868486
www.EmpoweringLatinoFutures.org
Office: 760-645-3455

NONFICTION AWARDS, Part One

Best Self Transformation Book – English

Badass Bonita, Kim Guerra, Grand Central Publishing
The fight for Equity in the Bronx, Dr. Elaine Ruiz Lopez, Forbes-Advantage Media
The Things That Shape Us, Maria Aponte, KDP Publishing

Best Self Transformation Book – Spanish

Imposible no mirar atrás, Rodrigo José Skaric Nualart, Trayecto Editorial
Una Mujer de Lujo, Katelin Lopez Torres, Hispanos Media Group
Yo soy Sabiduria 3:14, Juan Adalid Rivera Best Health & Wellness Book
Adiós a la inflamación, Sandra Moñino, HarperCollins Español
Covid 19, Historia y Desafios Medicos de una Pandemia, Mauricio Perez, Villegas Editores
Despierta tu Metabolismo!, Frank Suarez, Metabolic Press

Best Parenting/Family Book

Decidi Ser Padre, Jose E. Rodriguez Agosto, Power Lion/Ofelia Perez
Educación del Dotado Puertorriqueño, Carmen Serrano Bruno, CSB Ediciones Libros
¡Se sabio Hijo Mío!, Juan Adalid Rivera

Best Women's Issues Book

Frontera Madre (hood), Edited by Cynthia Bejarano and Maria Cristina Morales, University of Arizona Press
Mujeres de Maiz en Movimiento, Edited by Amber Rose Gonzalez, Felicia Montes, and Nadia Zeppeda, University of Arizona Press
Somos Xicanas, Edited by Luz Scweig, Riot of Roses Publishing House

Best Religious Book

Balidos Humanos, Fernando Reyes, Power Lion Books

Best Spiritual Book

El Chamán un águila y yo, Iliana Esparza
Florecer en la viudez, Angela Maria Sierra Bustillo, Letrame Gupo Editorial
Gathering Stardust, Victor Villaseñor, Waterside

Best Sports/Recreation Book

Born to play Beisbol: The magical career of Fernando Valenzuela, Kathleen Contreras, Espejo Press
La jugada del dia, Ariadna Sanchez Hernandez, Alegria Publishing

FICTION AWARDS, Part One

Best Novel - Mystery – English

Every Arc Bends Its Radian, Sergio De La Pava, Simon & Schuster Trade
Not the Killing Kind, Maria Kelson, Crooked Lane Books
The Postcard, Mariela Dabbah, Red Shoe Movement

Best Novel - Mystery – Spanish

Frío bajo cero, Maricruz Velázquez Rivera, Universo de Letras
Hotel California, Ramón Valdés Elizondo, HarperCollins Español
Quitral, Javi Zanelli, Áurea Ediciones

Best Novel - Fantasy

Dragon, Milagros Lozano Mantilla
Más que luz v oscuridad, Imara Msanii, Trayecto Editorial
Solo un alma más, Sandra GJ, Mil Amores

Best Novel - Science-Fiction

Coagulación Necrótica Diseminada, Nicolás Ignacio González Coloma, Trayecto Editorial
Frankenstein Chicano, Daniel A. Olivas, Editorial Planeta USA
Rebel Unbound: First Book of the Promissa Triology, E.R. Phoenix, E.R. Phoenix
The Ghosts of Gwendolyn Montgomery, Clarence A. Haynes, Grand Central Publishing

Best Novel - Romance

Cincinnati, Heidie Rosado Nieves
DOROTEA, Martín Macouzet García, Caligrama
El secreto de Esmeralda, Eimy Rodríguez, Barker Books
Guía para escapar del infierno, Elisa Menz, Áurea Ediciones

Best Graphic Novel

Halfway to Somewhere, J Jose Pimienta, Random House Children's Books
Just Another Story: A Graphic Migration Account, Ernesto Saade, Lerner Publishing Group
Speak Up, Santiago, Julio Anta, illustrated by Gabi Mendez, Random House Children's Books

Best Collection of Short Stories – English

A Mexican Maze Without Borders, Marc Zimmerman, La Casa Chicago
Guatemalan Rhapsody, Jared Lemus, Ecco, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers
Tales from the Tortilla Curtain and other Stories, Rolando J Diaz, Proisle Publishing Service
The Best That You Can Do, Amina Lolita Gautier, Soft Skull Press/ Catapult

Best Collection of Short Stories – Spanish

Cuatro Estaciones, Michael Vera Villanueva, Trayecto Editorial
Exodos, Juan Feliz Algarin Carmona, Isamarie Castrodad.., Ediciones Yunque
Solo Para Insomnes, Rocio Uchofen, Suburbano Ediciones/Maquinaciones Narrativa

Best Fiction - Horror

Quitral, Javi Zanelli, Áurea Ediciones
Ritual de Sombras, Daniel Krowman

NONFICTION AWARDS, Part Two

The Raul Yzaguirre Best Political/Current Affairs Book

Central America in the Crosshairs of War, Scott Wallace, George F. Thompson Publishing

Excited Delirium: Race, Police Violence, and the Invention of a Disease, Aisha M. Beliso-De Jesús, Duke University Press
Sin Padres, Ni Papeles: Unacompanied Migrant Youth Coming of Age in The United States, Stephanie L. Canizales, University of California Press

Best History Book

Central America in the Crosshairs of War, Scott Wallace, George F. Thompson Publishing
Only A Few Blocks To Cuba, Mauricio Castro, University of Pennsylvania Press
Remembering Conquest: Mexican Americans, Memory and Citizenship, Omar Valerio-Jimenez, University of North Carolina Press

Best Business Book

Build a Beautiful Business con Confianza, Rosalie Ennes
El nuevo manual del vendedor exitoso, Claudia Ruiz Henano, Pan House
Financially Lit!: The Modern Latina's Guide to Level Up Your Dinero & Become Financially Poderosa, Jannese Torres, Hachette Book Group / Grand Central Publishing
Manual del sueño americano, Esteban Morano, Editorial Planeta USA

Best Arts Book

Amalia Mesa-Brains, Tomas Ybarra-Frausto, UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center Press
Teddy Sandoval and the Butch Gardens School of Art, C. Ondine Chavoya, Inventory Press
Writing An Identity Not Your Own, Alex Temblador, ST. Martin's Essentials

Best Gift Book

Dia de Muertos, Déborah Holtz y Juan Carlos Mena, Editorial Planeta USA
The Carousel King and the Space Mission, Maxton Baeza, Cielito Lindo Books
The Confident Leader, From Self-Doubt to Authentically You, Ana Larrea-Albert, MANUSCRIPTS PRESS

Best Cookbook

Buenos Dias! The Mexican Breakfast Book, Ericka Sanchez and Nicole Presley, Familius Publishing
La Enchilada Completa, The Whole Enchilada, Glenda Galván-García, Editorial Planeta USA
Sabor Judio: The Jewish Mexican Cookbook, Ilan Stavans and Margaret E. Boyle, Ferris & Ferris Books

Best Reference Book

El buen morir, Dr. Elmer Huerta, Editorial Planeta USA
Formas de comunicación de las aves, Lorenzo Roca Moreno, Caligrama
Voltaire, Jaime Said, Universo de Letras

FICTION AWARDS, Part Two

The Rudolfo Anaya Best Latino Focused Fiction Book Award – English

Like Happiness, Ursula Villarreal Moura, Celadon Books/Macmillan
The Best That You Can Do, Amina Lolita Gautier, Soft Skull Press/Catapult
The Border Between Us, Rudy Ruiz, Blackstone Publishing

The Rudolfo Anaya Best Latino Focused Fiction Book Award – Spanish

Entre dos aguas, Cristina Henriquez, HarperCollins Español
Marina con almendrones, Patricia Schaefer Röder, Ediciones Scriba NYC
Sabor a chocolate, Rocky Barilla, Rosquete Press

The Isabel Allende Most Inspirational Fiction Book Award – English

Hombrecito, Santiago Jose Sanchez, Penguin Random House
Lady Without Land, Krystal Anali Vazquez, Texas Review Press
The Best That You Can Do, Amina Lolita Gautier, Soft Skull Press/ Catapult

The Isabel Allende Most Inspirational Fiction Book Award – Spanish

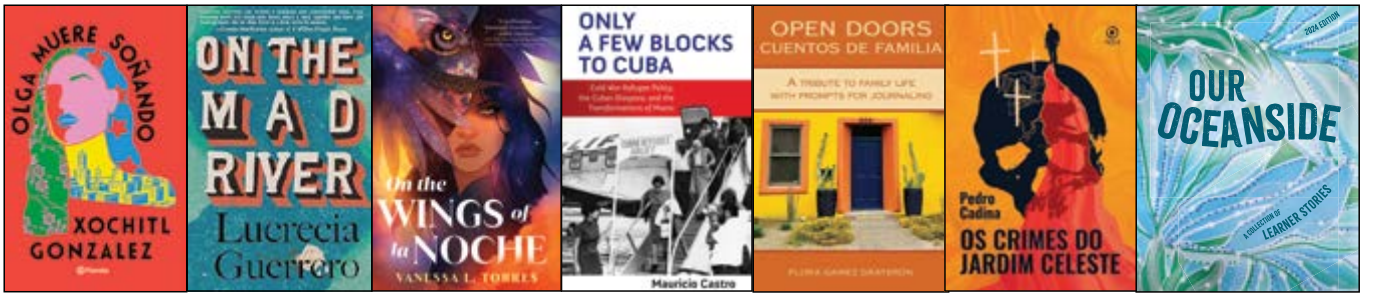
El dia que trascendi los limites de la cordura, Sandra M Colorado, Portadas PR
El rugido de lautaro, Daniel Cano, Trayecto Editorial
Las hijas de Enrico Russo, Ericarol Carlo, Ericarol Carlo Creadora de Libros
Siempre la lluvia, Clara Astarloa, Caligrama

Best Popular Fiction

El dia que trascendi los limites de la cordura, Sandra M Colorado, Portadas PR
El Eslabon De Chihuahua, Miguel Angel Santiago, Elvo Editoral
The Many Mothers of Dolores Moore, Anika Fajardo, Gallery Books

Best Novel - Adventure or Drama – English

On the mad river, Lucrecia Guerrero, Mouthfeel Press
The Fabulous Mickey Finn, Mike Powell, Shootin' Newton Publisher
THE ORCHID, Rocio Aquino, For The Highest Good Press



Best Novel - Adventure or Drama – Spanish

Astrogol, Daniel Belgrado, Circulo Rojo Casa Grande, Ana Cadavid
TERCA, Lupita Vera, Huequito Literario

Best Novel - Historical Fiction – English

A Bridge Home, Mona Alvarado Frazier, Arte Publico Press
Dispossessed, Desiree Zamorano, RIZE Press
Gardens Of Plenty, Ron Arias, Peace Corps Worldwide
Malinalli, Veronica Chapa, Simon & Schuster/Primero Sueno
The Things We Didn't Know, Elba Iris Pérez, Gallery Books

Best Novel - Historical Fiction – Spanish

Azul Humo, Atolina Ortiz Moore, Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla
Entre dos aguas, Cristina Henriquez, HarperCollins Español
La maldición de Santa Águeda, José Francisco Buscaglia, Editorial Verbum
Los Seteros, Jose Luis Marin Aranda, Grupo Editorial Sial Pigmalion
Un Corazón Extraviado, María de Alva, HarperCollins Español

NONFICTION AWARDS, Part Three

The Victor Villaseñor Best Latino Focused Nonfiction Book Award – English

Banned! The Fight for Mexican American Studies in the Streets and the Courts, Nolan L. Cabrera and Robert S. Chang, Cambridge University Press
The Fear of Robachicos in Mexico: Media, Childhood and child Kidnapping 1900-1968, Susana Sosenski, Bloomsbury Publishing
They Call You Back, Tim Z. Hernandez, University of Arizona Press

The Victor Villaseñor Best Latino Focused Nonfiction Book Award – Spanish

Así veo las cosas, Jorge Ramos, Editorial Planeta USA
Darien la sombra detrás del sueño americano, Solanyely Ruiz, 0! Ediciones
Ecos Migrantes, Soudi Jimenez, Traveler

Most Inspirational Nonfiction Book – English

From Fatherless Warrior to Faithful Warden, Luis R. Marshall
Gathering Stardust, Victor Villaseñor, Waterside
Las Madres: Latinas in the Heartland Who Led Their Family to Success, Dennis R. Garcia, University Press of Kansas
Open Doors, Cuentos de Familia, Flora Gamez Grateron, Wheatmark
The fight for Equity in the Bronx, Dr. Elaine Ruiz Lopez, Forbes-Advantage Media
When the light goes out, Alma Lazar

Most Inspirational Nonfiction Book – Spanish

Deséenme un buen viaje, Gina Montaner, Editorial Planeta USA
Imposible no mirar atrás, Rodrigo José Skaric Nualart, Trayecto Editorial
Lo que te apasiona te hace libre, Paola Alejandra, LIBALULA EDITORAS
Un Lugar en el Mundo, Maria Juliana Pachecho Blel, Ediciones Urano Colombia

Best Biography

Celia en Cuba, Rosa Marquetti Torres, Editorial Planeta USA
Deséenme un buen viaje, Gina Montaner, Editorial Planeta USA
La Flecha Derecha: The Life and Times of Don Victor R. Garza, Miguel Briones, Know Culture Publishing
René and René, René Ornelas, Amigos Publishing
The Ballad of Roy Benavidez: The Life and Times of America's Most Famous Hispanic War Hero, William Sturkey, Basic Books

Best Autobiography – English

Detained: A Boy's Journey of Survival & Resilience, D. Esperanza, Simon & Schuster/ Primero Sueno
Escaping the Kill Zone, Mike Powell, Shootin' Newton Publishing
Relentless: My Story of the Latino Spirit That Is Transforming America, Luis A. Miranda Jr, Hachette Book Group/Grand Central Publishing

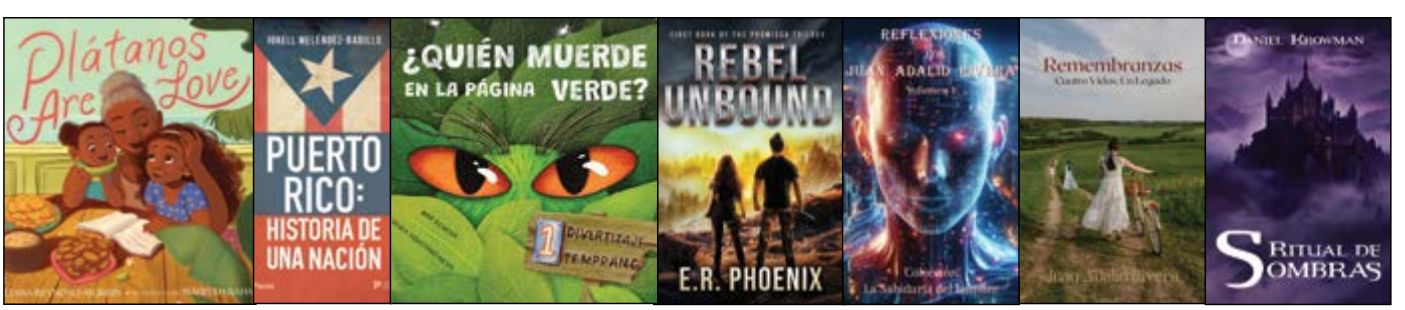
Best Autobiography – Spanish

Así veo las cosas, Jorge Ramos, Editorial Planeta USA
Despertar El Arte De Aprender a morir, María Angélica Dávila
Flechando Sueños, Barbara Hernandez, Ericarol Carlo Creadora de Libros

The Mimi Lozano Best Family History Book

Las Madres, Dennis R. Garcia, University Press of Kansas
Pulido del Barrio Libre, Reynaldo G Santa Cruz Jr
Un barco de sueños, Jenisbel Acevedo

Presentation of the Fiction and NonFiction Rising Stars Awards. Group photo on the stage of Award Winning Authors, Honorable Mentions, Presenters, and ELF Team.



Honorable Mentions

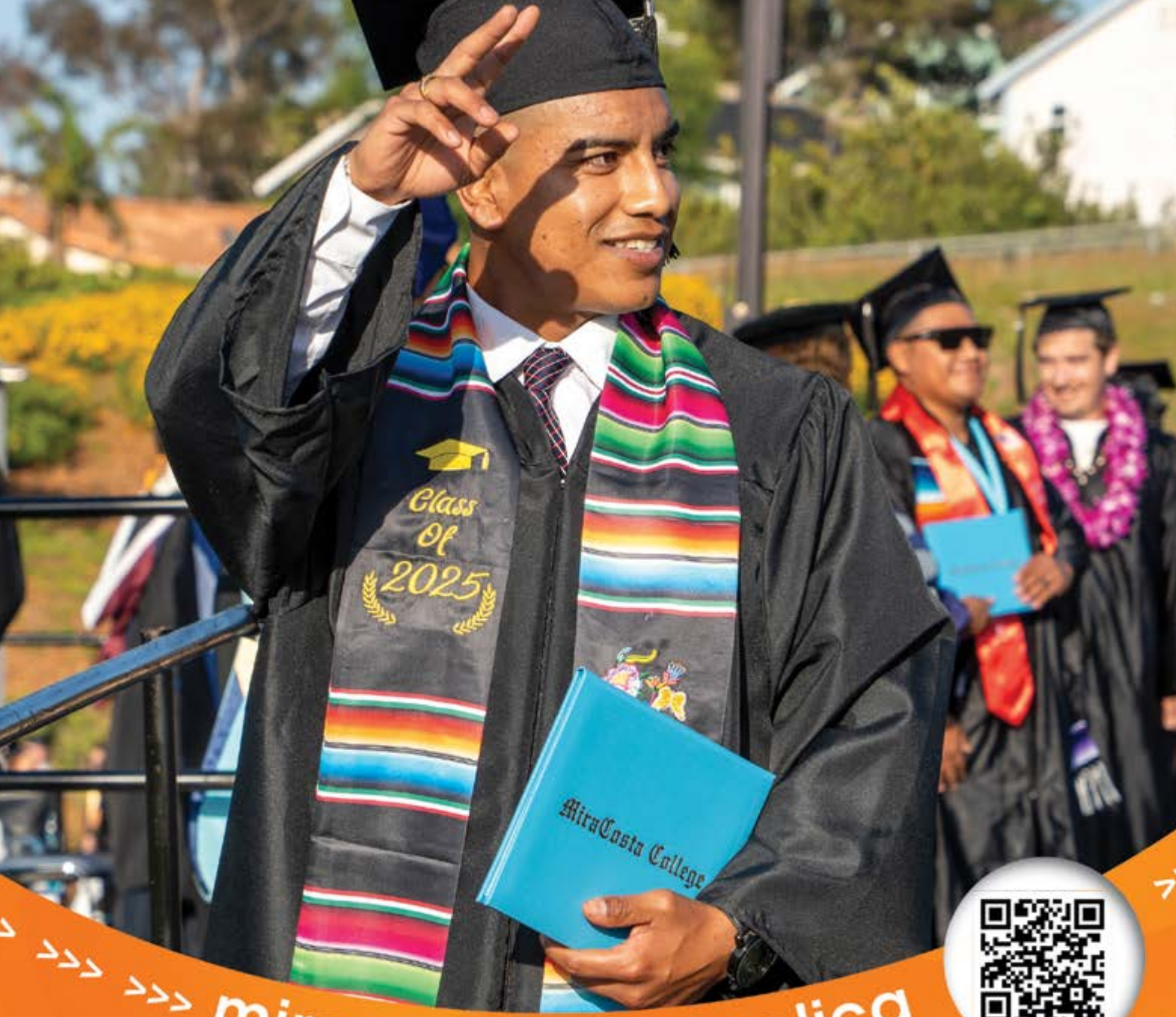
As the International Latino Book Awards has grown in number of entries over the decades we've also seen a growth in the quality of the books being entered. Because we want readers, librarians, and educators to be aware of all these great books by and about Latinos being written – as well as informing the book industry overall, we created the Honorable Mentions as a way to make sure these very good books are not forgotten. Thank you for your involvement.

Menciones Honoríficas

A medida que los International Latino Book Awards han crecido en número de entradas a lo largo de las décadas, también hemos visto un aumento en la calidad de los libros presentados. Para que lectores, bibliotecarios y educadores conozcan todos estos excelentes libros escritos por y sobre latinos, así como para informar a la industria editorial, creamos las Menciones Honoríficas como una manera de asegurarnos de que estos muy buenos libros no sean olvidados. Gracias por tu participación.

For updates on the program, all the presenters, past winners, & much more go to www.LatinoBooks.org

Para actualizaciones del programa, todos los presentadores y mucho más, diríjase a www.LatinoBooks.org



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