At the Bullock Texas State History Museum, we tell the continually unfolding story of Texas. We recognize that our understanding of history is always changing and are committed to presenting that history dynamically, responding to new discoveries, research, and scholarship. Our galleries are made richer by connections to institutions and individuals who loan the physical remnants of that past to us, to share with the public through new exhibitions. Just as we are committed to presenting the best scholarship on Texas’s rich history in our exhibitions, we are equally committed to sharing that scholarship with the public in programming—taking the narrative from the walls and offering context and conversation about history’s ongoing relevance to our lives.

We are pleased to co-host this conference for the centennial of the Canales investigation and hope that it will continue to further the dialogue on a critical portion of our state’s history.

Margaret Koch
Museum Director

Kate Betz
Deputy Director of Interpretation
A century ago in our beloved state of Texas, border native José Tomas “J.T.” Canales, the only Mexican American serving in the state legislature, called for an investigation into the violence unleashed by the Texas Rangers on the predominantly Mexican-origin community along the state’s southern border with Mexico. The call for an investigation by the Brownsville attorney and member of the Tejano elite was prompted by the widespread extralegal killings of Mexican Americans and Mexican nationals during the 1910s. The 1919 Texas legislature’s investigation of this state-sanctioned violence, along with its legacy for civil rights, is finally being publicly recognized by this historic conference. With major funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), this conference recognizes importance of the Canales investigation as a significant turning point for civil rights in modern U.S. history.

We hope that by reflecting upon this violent past that we can shift the public conversation today about the way in which we study state violence, civil rights, and community resilience. We thank all of our sponsors and we thank you for attending.
Philis Barragán-Goetz  
Assistant Professor  
Texas A&M University  
San Antonio

Walter Buenger  
Professor  
University of Texas

Carlos Blanton  
Professor  
Texas A&M University

Christopher Carmona  
Assistant Professor  
University of Texas  
Rio Grande Valley
SPEAKERS

William Carrigan
Professor
Rowan University

Gabriela González
Associate Professor
University of Texas
San Antonio

Trinidad Gonzales
Professor
South Texas College
McAllen

Andrew Graybill
Professor
Southern Methodist University
S P E A K E R S

Kathrine Hite
Professor
Vassar College
Poughkeepsie, New York

Benjamin Johnson
Associate Professor
Loyola University
Chicago

Jonathan Inda
Professor
University of Illinois

Beth Lew-Williams
Assistant Professor
Princeton University
Monica Muñoz Martinez  
Assistant Professor  
Brown University

Cynthia Orozco  
Professor  
New Mexico University  
Ruidoso

Richard Ribb  
Historian, Lead Achievement Consultant  
Academic Answers

James Sandos  
Professor  
University of Redlands
S P E A K E R S

Gema Santamaría
Assistant Professor
Loyola University
Chicago

Kidada Williams
Associate Professor
Wayne State University

Kirby Warnock
Independent Filmmaker
Baylor University
DAY 1: THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:30 Coffee and Breakfast

8:30 Welcome and Opening Remarks
Master of Ceremonies: Kate Betz, Deputy Director of Interpretation, Bullock Texas State History Museum
Margaret Koch, Museum Director, of the Bullock Texas State History Museum
Dr. John Morán González (University of Texas, Austin) & Dr. Sonia Hernández (Texas A&M University, College Station), Conference Co-Organizers
Carlos González Gutiérrez, Consul General of Mexico

9:00 - 9:15 Opening Act of Remembrance
"Readings from the 1919 Canales Hearings" by Donna Independent School District High School Students; moderated by Mr. Juan Carmona

9:25 - 10:15 Opening Plenary
"The Legacies of Violence: The Mexican American Community and the 1919 Canales Investigation of the Texas Rangers"
Dr. Trinidad Gonzales, South Texas College; Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Loyola University Chicago; Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez, Brown University
Moderator: Dr. C.J. Alvarez, University of Texas at Austin

10:15 - 10:30 Break

10:30 - 11:30 Panel 1: Mexican Americans, Race Relations, and José Tomás "J.T." Canales
"Race Relations in Texas during the Early 20th Century" Dr. Walter Buenger, University of Texas at Austin
"J.T. Canales, LULAC Founder and Civil Rights Activist, 1920-1976" Dr. Cynthia Orozco, Eastern New Mexico University
Moderator: Dr. Emilio Zamora, University of Texas at Austin

11:30 - 1:00 Lunch Break (On your own)

Moderators commentary and audience questions will take part in the last 15 minutes of each panel.
Panel 2: Violence, the 1910 Mexican Revolution, & the Canales Hearings

“José Tomás Canales and the Paradox of Power”
Dr. Richard Ribb, Lead Achievement Consultant, Academic Answers

“Recovering the 1919 Canales Investigation into the Texas Ranger Force in 1975 & its Consequences”
Dr. James Sandos, University of Redlands

Moderator: Dr. Paul Hart, Texas State University San Marcos

2:15 - 2:30  Break

Panel 3: State Making & Violence in the Borderlands and Beyond

“Lynching and Violence in Mexico”
Dr. Gema Santamaria, Loyola University Chicago

“Reckoning with the Past Toward the Here and Now”
Dr. Katherine Hite, Vassar College

Moderator: Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Loyola University Chicago

3:30 - 3:45  Break

Panel 4: Testimonials, Public History, and Activism

“Hermanos En La Lucha (Siblings in the Struggle): The Human Rights Journalism of Jovita and Eduardo Idar”
Dr. Gabriela González, University of Texas at San Antonio

“A Parallel Universe”
Mr. Kirby Warnock, Independent Filmmaker

Moderator: Dr. Sarah Zenaida Gould, Director of the El Museo del Westside (San Antonio)

4:45 - 5:00  Break


Family Descendants Speaking:
Norma Longoria Rodriguez,
Melba Coody,
Arlinda Valencia, and
Elsie Albarado

Mr. Daniel Blue Tyx, Investigative Journalist

Moderator: Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez, Brown University
DAY 2: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

SCHEDULE

8:00 - 8:30 Coffee and Breakfast

8:30 - 9:30 Panel 6: Mob Violence, State Violence and/in Defending the Frontier
   *“Anglos, Mexicans, and Rangers in Texas, 1850-1900”*  
   Dr. Andrew Graybill, Southern Methodist University
   *“The La Hora de Sangre in Comparative Perspective”*  
   Dr. William Carrigan, Rowan University
   Moderator: Dr. Omar Valerio-Jiménez, University of Texas at San Antonio

9:30 - 9:45 Break

9:45 - 10:45 Panel 7: Literary Production as Cultural Resistance, Legacies of Violence & Memory
   *“Resilience in a Time of Terror: Writing El Rinche and the Telling of the Unrecorded History of La Matanza, 1910-1920”*  
   Dr. Christopher Carmona, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
   *“The Violence of Chinese Exclusion”*  
   Dr. Beth Lew-Williams, Princeton University
   Moderator: Dr. George Díaz, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

10:45 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:00 Panel 8: Gender, Violence, and Legacies of Institutional Violence
   *“The Killing of Anastasio Hernández Rojas”*  
   Dr. Jonathan Xavier Inda, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
   *“African American Lynching and Trauma”*  
   Dr. Kidada Williams, Wayne State University
   Moderator: Dr. Nancy Plankey-Videla, Texas A&M University, College Station

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch Break (On your own)

Moderators commentary and audience questions will take part in the last 15 minutes of each panel.
1:45 - 2:45  Panel 9: *Legacies of Mexican American Resistance through Cultural Production and Education*
“The World of Education Among Mexican Immigrants and Mexican Americans in J. T. Canales’s South Texas”
Dr. Carlos Blanton, Texas A&M University, College Station, and Dr. Phillis Barragan-Goetz, Texas A&M University, San Antonio
Moderator: Dr. Angela Valenzuela, University of Texas, Austin

2:45 - 3:00  Break

3:00 - 3:45  Dramatic Reading: *Testimonials from the Canales Investigation*
As performed by Donna High School Students & Mr. Juan Carmona

3:45 - 4:00  Closing Remarks
Dr. John Morán González (University of Texas, Austin) & Dr. Sonia Hernández (Texas A&M University, College Station), Conference Co-Organizers

Refusing to Forget Members
Dr. Trinidad Gonzales, South Texas College
Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Loyola University Chicago
Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez, Brown University

Texas State Representative Terry Canales
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