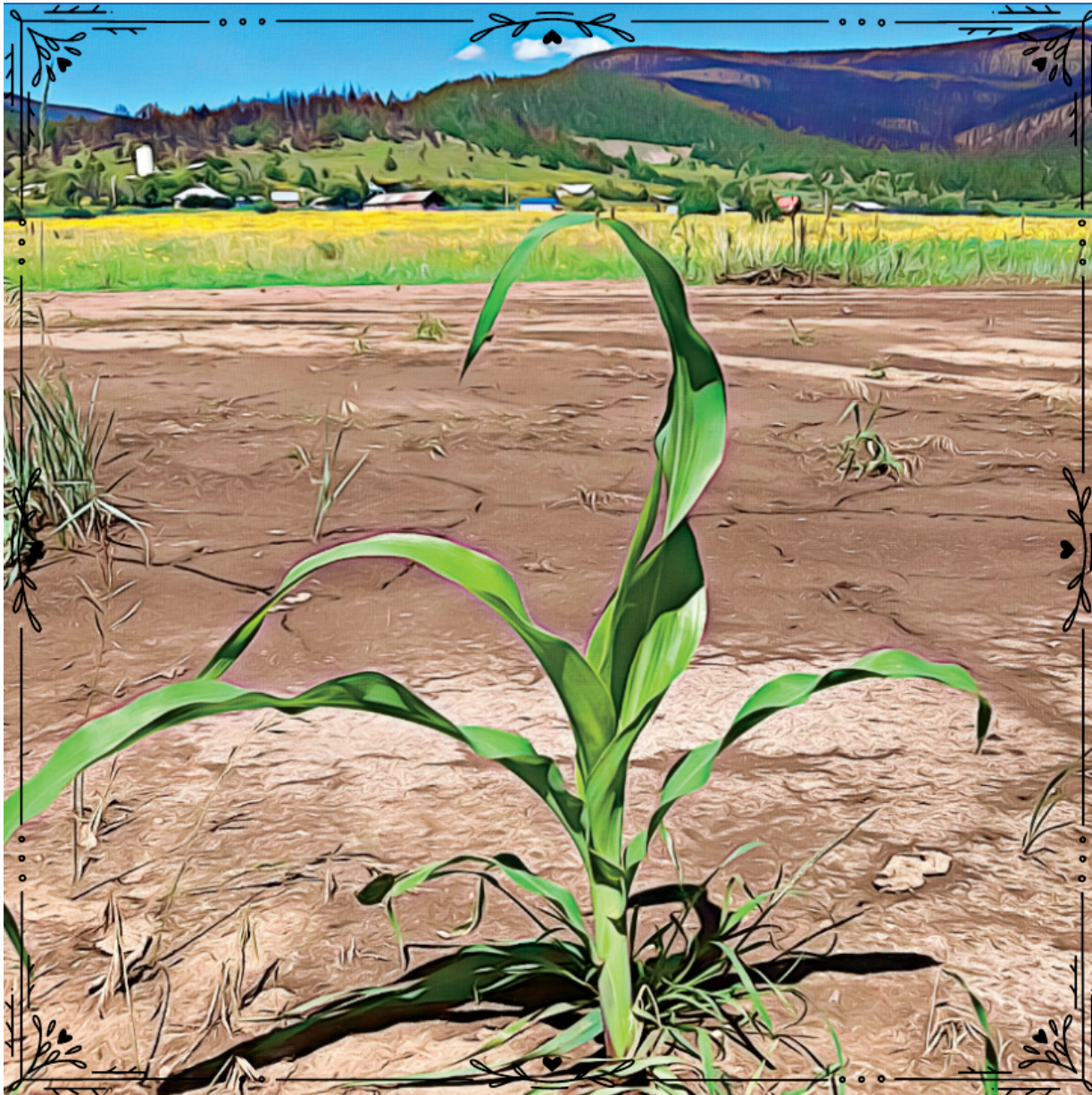


CONGRESO DE LAS ACEQUIAS 2022

TIERRA QUERIDA: BELOVED LAND

DECEMBER 9TH & 10TH, 2022
STUDENT UNION BUILDING
HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY, LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO



Corn grows from the ashes after fire and flood, Acequia Madre de Holman

Thank you for choosing to join us for Congreso de las Acequias 2022. The annual Congreso de las Acequias is a vibrant gathering of acequias and our supporters from throughout New Mexico and Southern Colorado. We gather to celebrate our culture, share knowledge, and plan for our collective future.

This year, we remember the tremendous losses from the fire and floods, and the generational impact on acequia communities. We honor the communities who are working to heal, recover, and rebuild with the hope of having future generations of resilient, land-based communities. ¡Que Vivan las Acequias!

WWW.LASACEQUIAS.ORG/CONGRESO

ARTISTS & SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Teatro de Las Acequias



The Teatro de Las Acequias is a community theater group that presents short "actos" - politically charged and comically infused plays. Its mission is to entertain and teach through popular education acequia values to audiences of all ages. Its goal is to affirm acequia customs, traditions and culture. This year's piece, 'El Cambalache' is a acto written and played by the Teatro de las Acequias. It relates a story of a radio announcer, Vera la Acequiera, who hosts a radio classified ads show called 'el cambalache', where various items are put up for sale live on the air. The situation turns dire when, following devastating fires, locals decide to sell their land. In response one elder reminds the community of shared values of helping one another and trading using the long honored tradition of el cambalache.

Director: Yolanda Jaramillo
Teatristas: Olivia Romo, Dabi García, and guests

Luisa G.



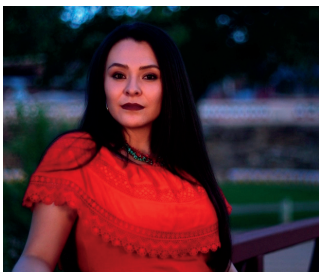
Luisa G also known as Luisa Gaytán is Singer and songwriter from the Llano Estacado. Her family resides in Lubbock, Texas and in Guadalupita, New Mexico. She recorded a corrido ballad with Daniel Lee Gallegos titled "Diosito Mándanos La Lluvia" as prayer song during the tragedy of the Hermits Peak Calf Canyon fires. Recently she is releasing her third album titled, "Con Esta Canción Y Con Esta Botella."

Lara Manzanares



Lara Manzanares is an award-winning bilingual singer-songwriter of Northern New Mexican heritage. In addition to singing the Mexican boleros, rancheras, and corridos of her sheep-ranching childhood, Lara also composes her own style of music in both English and Spanish. Through a combination of storytelling and songs both playful and sincere, Lara draws on her rural New Mexican roots and her urban experiences across the U.S. and abroad as she sings about love, loss, a sense of place, and her own connection to the land.

Olivia Romo



Olivia Romo is a farmer, poet and water rights activist from Taos, NM. She earned her dual Bachelor's degrees in English and Chicana/o Studies from the University of New Mexico in 2015. She intentionally focuses her activism and poetry to educate and mobilize New Mexicans around the risks and uncertainties of their natural resources. Her published works include the New York Times in the 2019 article "Work Songs of the Cowboy Poets". Olivia's flagship poem "Bendición del agua" was featured in the Western Folklife Center's "Moving Rural Verse" series in 2017 honoring acequia culture. She continues her journey in reclaiming her language, seeds, and stories of resilience.

Colectivo de Son Jarocho - UNM Chicanx/a/o Studies

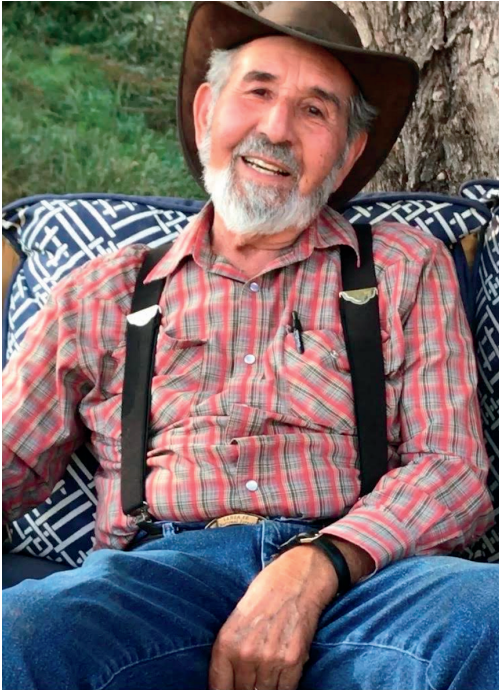
The Colectivo de Son Jarocho is a UNM Student Ensemble instructed by Master Artist, Laura Reboloso from Veracruz Mexico. The group is directed and coordinated by Dr. Irene Vásquez, chair of the Department of Chicana/o/x Studies at UNM. The ensemble plays community music and dance from the state of Veracruz.

2022 AWARDS

Acequia Lifetime Achievement Award

Gilbert Sandoval

President of the Jemez River Basin Coalition of Acequias



Gilbert Sandoval is the recipient of NMAA's Lifetime Achievement Award for 2022. He has been a Mayordomo on the East-West Sandoval Ditch for over 60 years, where he holds a special status as a respected community elder. He lives with his family along the Jemez River where he grows a garden of vegetables that he readily shares with family, neighbors, and visitors. Gilbert has been instrumental in the recently signed Pueblos of Jemez and Zia Water Rights Settlement Act, developed after years of negotiation grounded in the core values of respect and community. Through the negotiations, he worked with Pueblo and acequia leaders on water sharing agreements and plans for infrastructure investments. He has been a member of the Concilio of the NMAA for almost 25 years where his leadership has guided the organization with wisdom and steadfast commitment to the NMAA vision. He was a co-founder of the Mayordomo Project and serves as the model for mentoring his daughter Juanita Revak in the art of mayordomia. In addition to his role as an acequia leader, Gilbert is a beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, husband to his deceased wife Jenny Sandoval, and active member of his faith community at Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church. He retired from the US Forest Service and served over 30 years as a volunteer EMT with the Jemez Spring Search and Rescue.

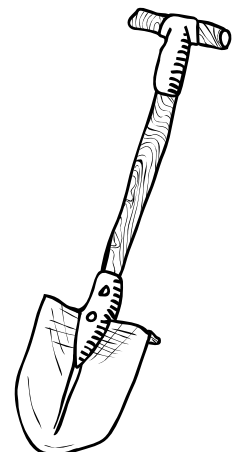
Acequia Community of the Year Award

Rio de las Gallinas Acequia Association

We honor the decades of dedication it took the leadership of the Rio de las Gallinas Acequia Association to finalize their difficult water rights adjudication with the City of Las Vegas. While the acequias in the region have been resilient in continuing their irrigation practices, we also acknowledge the historic loss of water rights that the area experienced. We are inspired by the determination and diligence that the regional leadership showed in their dedication to community, water, and our beloved acequias. In response to the recent fires and floods, acequias have also been vigilant in working toward their recovery by engaging in efforts to restore, repair, and rebuild acequias in their community.

Association of the Community Ditches of the Rio San Jose

We acknowledge the tremendous accomplishment of the Rio San Jose Acequia Association in completing their water rights adjudication settlement with Acoma Pueblo and Laguna Pueblo. Their advocacy for their acequias in the San Jose basin was rooted in a deep culture of stewardship and care for their precious and scarce water resources. We are grateful for their leadership in building consensus among their acequias and their neighboring Pueblos to resolve long-standing claims and to move forward for a future of greater community unity and water resilience.



AGENDA

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9TH - WORKSHOPS & RECEPTION

9:45 am - Welcome and Mañanitas (atrium)

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Workshop Session 1 - concurrent sessions

- Regional Acequia Association Roundtable (classroom #322)
- Peones de San Isidro (classroom #321)

12:00 - 1:30 pm - Lunch

1:30 - 3:00 pm - Workshop Session 2 - concurrent sessions

- HPCC Acequia Recovery Roundtable (classroom # 322)
- El Agua Se Defiende (classroom #321)

3:00 - 3:30 pm - Break

3:30 - 5:00 pm - Workshops Session 3 - concurrent sessions

- Resolutions Review (for Regional Delegates) (classroom #Room 322)
- Youth Rising to Protect Water for Future Generations (classroom #321)

5:00 - 6:00 pm - Reception with tamales and music by Colectivo de Son Jarocho (atrium)

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH - CONGRESO DE LAS ACEQUIAS

8:00 am - Procesión from Río de las Gallinas with Los Peones de San Isidro

8:30 am - Doors Open and Música

9:30 am - Welcome, Roll Call of Acequias and Bendición de Las Aguas

10:00 am - Remarks from Sen. Ben Ray Lujan, Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez, and other dignitaries

10:20 am - Remembrance of the Fires and Floods of 2022

- Diosito Mándanos la Lluvia by Luisa G.

10:30 am - State of the Acequias, Awards and Recognitions

11:00 am - Tragedy of the Commons - Poetry by Olivia Romo

11:10 am - Introduction of NMAA Youth and Apprentices

11:20 am - Music by Lara Manzanares

11:40 am - Teatro de las Acequias

12:00 pm - Lunch, Art Awards

1:30 pm - Closing Remarks

Thank you to the Sponsors of Congreso 2022!

