

Sarah García

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- **Community Educator** with over 10 years combined experience leading community and college level classroom instruction in English Composition and interdisciplinary arts workshops, middle/high school curriculum in creative writing and multi-media arts collaboration, English as a Second Language for diverse adults, Spanish Language for all ages, and Language Arts tutoring in K-12th grades.
- **Recognized and respected as Subject Matter Expert** in arts leadership, grant writing, grant panelist, administration and support of academic, Latinx/Chicanx Studies, community and art programs focused on supporting and empowering underserved youth, communities and women.
- **Published author of a childhood memoir and collection of short stories.** Selected guest editor of 4 publications, editor of 6 youth anthologies, co-editor of hybrid collections of marginalized writers, a regular contributor and featured writer of fiction, poetry, and non-fiction pieces in multiple periodicals, anthologies and publications, and featured artist in multi-media collaborations.
- **Interactive and dedicated community member** who actively initiates community outreach for writing workshops, art collaborations, literacy, self-empowerment, people of color initiatives and professional development programs.
- **Key Attributes:** Literary Events Coordinator, Literacy Advocate, Community Outreach, Interdisciplinary Arts Education and Collaboration, Creative Writing, Peer Review and Manuscript Editing, Latinx/Chicanx Studies, and Youth Empowerment.

EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing, Fiction, Cognate in Media Studies, May 2015

Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas

Thesis Project: *Traveling Beyond Memories* (travel memoir) and *A Woman's Place* (fiction)

Bachelor of Science, Applied Sociology, Minor in Spanish, May 1998

Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas

Additional Education

University of Texas at El Paso Chicano Studies Undergraduate Online Program, 2017

Courses completed: Mexican-American History, Chicano Studies: Societal Issues, Chicana/o Literature, Cultural Diversity & Youth: United States

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Art Grants Experience

Arts Program Specialist, California Arts Council, February 2020 – Present

Manage the Arts Education grant portfolio totaling a statewide investment of \$6 million and 416 unique grantees; serve individual artists and culture producers by providing critical support to arts and culture organizations that contribute to the greater California Arts Ecosystem; analyze and write grant guidelines; lead our agency in further investing in its relationship with the statewide literary arts through the Poetry Out Loud state program and federal partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts

Grant Panelist, California Arts Council, March-December 2019

Reviewed up to 110 grant applications between three panels: Artists in Communities, Local Impact and the Emerging Arts Leaders of Color Administering Organization; ranked grant applications according to program-specific grant guidelines and review criteria; participated in panel discussions to collectively rank the applications and submit in-meeting rankings

Grant Panelist, Houston Arts Alliance, November 2019

Reviewed up to 30 grant applications for Support for Organizations; ranked grant applications according to program-specific grant guidelines and review criteria; participated in panel discussions to collectively rank the applications and submit in-meeting rankings

Grant Writing One-on-One Mentorship, City of Santa Ana, May 2019

Provided one-on-one mentorship to local artists and arts organizations in writing, editing and submitting their city-based grants under the direction of the City of Santa Ana Arts & Culture Specialist and Investing in the Artist Initiative

University Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor, Chapman University, Humanities Department, Spring and Fall 2020

Ethnofiction for Contemporary Narratives, experimental course focused on BIPOC history, creative writing and the digital humanities; English, History and elective credit

Visiting Artist, Chapman University, Museum Studies, April-June 2019

Collaborative workshops focused on community engagement, cultural diversity and place-making in the arts with Dr. Jamie Larkin, Assistant Professor in Creative and Cultural Industries and Sarah Jesse, Deputy Director of Orange County Museum of Art

Co-Instructor, St. Mary's College of California, Ireland Study Abroad Program, Jan. – Feb. 2018

Jan 180: "Rebel Artists in the Rebel City: A Sister City Exchange Between Cork and Bay Area Artists," with Dr. Raina J. León; Provided four weeks of writing workshops, along with co-facilitating interdisciplinary arts workshops, digital storytelling workshops, group excursions through Cork City and Dublin, Ireland and final interdisciplinary arts presentation

Lecturer, Texas State University, English Department, August 2013 – May 2014
English 1310 and English 1320: Planning, lecturing, grading freshman composition courses; Working with a class TRACS site and Holding student conferences

Teaching Assistant, Texas State University, English Department, August 2012 – May 2013
English 2320: Marking and grading essays; Working with a class TRACS site and Holding student conferences; Developing test questions (both essay and objective); Conducting exam review sessions; Lecturing and/or leading class discussion

Additional Teaching Experience

Co-Founder & Workshop Facilitator, Crear Studio, Santa Ana, California, 2017 – Present
Co-founded with local visual artist Dino Perez, Crear Studio aims to support local youth and adults who aspire to obtain education in social justice and social engagement through the arts; a free, interdisciplinary art and mentorship studio, which offers a multi-layered learning environment supported by established resources and creates access to contemporary arts education and professional careers in the field to underserved residents in Santa Ana, California; supporting “creative ideas, connections, knowledge and language to artistic presentation and opportunity”— a Do-It-Yourself MFA

Founder, Writing Advisor & Editor, Barrio Writers, California & Texas, 2009 – Present
Barrio Writers aims to empower youth through creative writing, higher education and cultural arts; Established a summer writing program as a community collaborative project; Researched, developed and implemented writing curriculum and pedagogy; Trained Program Directors/Writing Advisors and launched 13 chapters, 10 currently hosting programs: Nicholas Academic Center and Grand Central Art Center in Santa Ana, CA, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, UT at El Paso, UT at Austin, SFASU, University of Houston, Yolo County Libraries, and Mammoth Lakes Branch Library

Founder, Writing Workshop Leader, Wild Womyn Writers, California & Texas, 2010 - Present
Wild Womyn Writers provides a space where womyn can hang their labels, stereotypes and societal restrictions at the door and share their passion, goals and lives with others who are willing to listen, embrace and empower their ideas. The workshops help womyn explore their creative spirits, free themselves from societal restrictions and learn to embrace natural instincts; Organized and lead events throughout California and Texas

Instructor at English @ Work, Literacy Coalition of Central Texas, Austin, Texas, 2015 – 2016
Planning and lecturing English as a Second Language at the workplace; Integrating work rhetoric and cultural skills into weekly lessons

Spanish & Liberal Arts Academic Coach, The Austin School for the Performing & Visual Arts, Austin, Texas, August 2015 – February 2016
Planning and lecturing Spanish I, II, and III; Tutoring in Liberal Arts 9-12th grades

Substitute Teacher, Chaparral Star Academy, Austin, Texas, March 2015 – May 2015
Planning and lecturing Spanish I, II, III, AP high school courses; Marking and grading homework; Working with attendance and grade book website

Editorial/Curator Experience

Co-Editorial Advisor, *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers* Sci-fi Anthology, June 2017 – Present
Co-curator, *Canción del Inmigrante* Multi-Media Exhibition, Santa Ana, CA, March – May 2018
Guest Editorial Advisor, *Southwestern American Literature Journal*, August 2016 – April 2018
Co-curator, *Rebel Artists in the Rebel City* Multi-Media Exhibit, Ireland, Jan. – Feb. 2018

FELLOWSHIPS

U.S. Latino Digital Humanities Mellon-Funded Grantee, UH and Arte Público Press, 2020
All Voices Fellowship, Splendid Mola Writing Retreat, 2019
Fellow, UH Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts & Project Row Houses, 2019
Teaching Fellowship, The Desert Nights, Rising Stars Writers Conference at ASU, Feb. 2019
Artist-in-Residence, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, through a grant supporting the Artist-in-Residence initiative at CSUF Grand Central Art Center, 2016-17

HONORS/AWARDS

Emerging Artist Award, Honored by Arts Orange County, October 2018
Exhibition Review, “Hector & Graciela” featured in *Dread and Delight: Fairy Tales in an Anxious World* by Emily Stamey, Weatherspoon Art Museum, 2018
Recipient, Poets & Writers grants, 2009 – Present
Recipient of Summer Grant, University of Texas at El Paso, 2018
Women Making a Difference, Honored by Senator Lou Correa, March 2010, 2018
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, Social Justice Books, October 2017
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, LA Review of Books, September 2017
Exhibition Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, KCET Artbound, April 2017
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, Kirkus Review, March 2017
Book Review, *SanTana’s Fairy Tales*, OC Weekly, March 2017
Recipient of the City of Santa Ana Artist Opportunity Grant, 2016-2017
Recipient, YWAF Higher Education Scholarship, 2014
Recipient, Texas State University Graduate Scholarship, 2014
Recipient, International Fee Scholarship, 2014
Outstanding Contributions to Education, Awarded by O.C. Dept. of Ed., Jan. 20, 2011
Best of OC 2010: Personal Bests, OC Weekly, Gustavo Arellano, Oct. 14, 2010

RESIDENCIES/WORKSHOPS/EXHIBITIONS

Artist-in-Residence, CSUF Grand Central Art Center, Santa Ana, CA, March 2016 – 2019
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, The Collective, Houston, October 19 – 26, 2019
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, UT at Rio Grande Valley, April - May 2019
Creative-in-Residence, Community Engagement, Santa Ana, CA, April 2017 – April 2019
A Books Journey, Conceptual Art Installation, Golden West College Gallery, March 2019
LibroMobile, Book Installation, Publishing Against the Grain, Pitzer College, February 2019
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, Northwest Vista College Library, Fall 2018
SanTana’s Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, Center for the Study of the Southwest, Texas State University, October 2017 – August 2018
Collaborative Artist Residency, The Guest House, Cork, Ireland, January – February 2018
Las Dos Brujas Writers’ Workshop with author Cristina García, San Francisco, CA, 2017

SanTana's Fairy Tales Multi-Media Exhibition, CSUF Grand Central Art Center,
Santa Ana, CA, March – May 2017
Macondo Writers' Workshop with author Alex Espinoza, San Antonio, TX, 2016

PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCES (2012-Present)

Academic

Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, San Antonio, Texas, 2020
National Women's Studies Association Conference Panel Presentation, San Francisco, CA, 2019
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, Portland, Oregon, 2019
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel Presentation, Washington D.C., 2017
National Women's Studies Association Conference Panel Presentation, Montreal, Canada, 2016
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional
Conference, LoneStar Community College, Houston, TX, 2016
Association of Writers & Writing Programs Panel, Los Angeles, CA, 2016
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional
Conference, LoneStar Community College, Houston, TX, 2015
Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association 35 Workshop – UT at Austin, TX, 2015
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional
Conference, Northwest Vista College, San Antonio, TX, 2014
3rd Annual Cultural Studies in Education Workshop, University of Texas at Austin, TX, 2014
National Association of Chicano & Chicana Studies Panel Presentation – Tejas Regional
Conference, UT at Rio Grande Valley, Edinburg, TX, 2013

Arts

The Community Artists' Collective, Houston 2019
University of Houston 2019
LAPL Summer Authors Program 2016, 2017, 2019
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley 2019
University of Texas at Austin 2019
Howard Zinn Book Fair 2018
OC Zine Fest Workshop 2017 & Panel 2018
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona 2018
Santa Ana College 2018
Santa Ana Public Library 2018
Texas State University 2018
LitQuake San Francisco 2016, 2017, 2018
Litcrawl Los Angeles & Austin 2017
Texas Book Festival 2017
Wise Place Women's Shelter 2017, 2018
CSUF Grand Central Art Center – Barrio Writers Live Reading 2016, 2017
Arizona State University – Barrio Writers Live Reading 2014
California State University, Fullerton – Barrio Writers Live Reading 2012, 2013
University of Texas at Austin – Barrio Writers Live Reading 2012, 2013, 2015

PUBLICATIONS (Pen Name: Sarah Rafael García)

Books – Fiction, Memoir & Anthologies

1. García, Sarah R., Goodwin, Matthew D. and Hernandez, Alex, *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers*. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio State Press (anthology), 2021
2. García, Sarah R. *SanTana's Fairy Tales*. Austin, Texas: Raspa Press (Short Stories), 2017
3. García, Sarah R. and Monica Teresa Ortiz, *pariahs, writing from outside the margins*. Nacogdoches, Texas: SFA Press (anthology), 2016
4. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Seventh Edition*. Nacogdoches, Texas: SFA Press (anthology), 2016
5. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Sixth Edition*. Nacogdoches, Texas: SFA Press (anthology), 2015
6. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Fifth Edition*. Lake Elsinore, California: Lincoln Book Publishers (anthology), 2014
7. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers Fourth Edition*. Lake Elsinore, California: Lincoln Book Publishers (anthology), 2013
8. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers 2nd-3rd Edition*. Santa Ana, California: Self-Published (anthology), 2012
9. García, Sarah R. *Barrio Writers First Edition*. Santa Ana, California: Self-Published (anthology), 2010
10. García, Sarah R. *Las Niñas, A Collection of Childhood Memories*. Mountainview, California: Floricanto Press (Memoir), 2008

Non-Fiction

1. García, Sarah R. "The Bidi Bidi Bom Bom that keeps us dreaming..." *Dreaming: A Tribute to Selena Quintanilla-Perez*. McAllen, Texas, FlowerSong Press. Forthcoming. Print.
2. García, Sarah R. "Culture Shock". *Feminist Pilgrimage: Journeys of Discovery*. Sacramento, California, Litwin Books. Forthcoming. Print.
3. García, Sarah R. "When I Had to Give Up Flour Tortillas, I Lost My Culture". *Eater*. April 2019. Web.
4. García, Sarah R. "Santa Ana's LibroMobile: More Than Just Books". *Women Who Submit*. June 2018. Web.
5. García, Sarah R. "Barrio Writers: A 'Community of Resistance' or Academic Pedagogy?". *As/Us Journal*. Spring 2017. Print.
6. García, Sarah R. "Our MFA Experiences". *The Acentos Review*. November 2016. Web.
7. García, Sarah R. "Project Amplify: Barrio Writers". *Origins Journal*. November 2016. Web.
8. García, Sarah R. "LibroMobile Puts the Focus on Literacy and Community". *Poets & Writers*. 2016. Web.
9. García, Sarah R. "Are you really, really ready to attend an M.F.A. in Creative Writing program?". *Women Who Submit*. September 2016. Web.
10. García, Sarah R. "Xicana Travelogues". *La Tolteca Zine: Journeys Issue*. Summer 2016. Web.
11. García, Sarah R. "My MFA Experience". *As/Us Journal Issue 6*. May 2016. Print.
12. García, Sarah R. "We Are Writers, Too". *The Texas Observer*. March 2016. Web.
13. García, Sarah R. "My Parents' Country". *La Tolteca Zine: Education Issue*. Fall 2015. Web.

14. García, Sarah R. "Ch-air, ch-air, chair!". *Salsa Dancing in Gym Shoes: Exploring Cross-Cultural Missteps with Latinos in the Classroom*. March 2015. Print.
15. García, Sarah R. "Café Calacas Success Recipe: Cultura, Community Pride & Dedication". Brooklyn & Boyle. December 2012. Print.
16. García, Sarah R. "Dreaming of America". LATINO Magazine. Fall 2012. Print.
17. García, Sarah R. "Doing Great Things". LATINO Magazine. Fall 2012. Print.
18. García, Sarah R. "Memorias de Mis Besos Nobel". La Bloga. August 2012. Web.
19. García, Sarah R. "Crossing Borders," Connotation Press: An Online Artifact. April 2011. Web.
20. García, Sarah R. "A Father's quest: All for the family". The Orange County Register. September 2008. Print.

Fiction

1. García, Sarah R. "Just A House". Fields Magazine. Spring/Summer 2018. Print.
2. García, Sarah R. "The Movement". The Acentos Review. August 2016. Web.
3. García, Sarah R. "Selling Happiness". Lumen Magazine. February 2016. Web.
4. García, Sarah R. "The Workers". *Outrage: A Protest Anthology for Injustice in a Post 9/11 World*. Slough Press. International. 2015. Print.
5. García, Sarah R. "Little Secrets". *Contrapuntos III: A Live Anthology*, Digitus Indie Publishers. International. 2015. Ebook.
6. García, Sarah R. "Intertwined". IN MY BED Magazine. Canada. 2014. Print.

Poetry

1. García, Sarah R. "Immigration: A Child's Perspective". ¡This Used to be Mexico! Zine. September 2016. Print.
2. García, Sarah R. "Without a Name". *In The Words of Womyn International: 2016 Anthology*. April 2016. Print.
3. García, Sarah R. "Xicana Queen" (revision). El Retorno: Our Serpent's Tongue III Chapbook. April 2015. Print.
4. García, Sarah R. "Her-Story". Seeds of Resistance Zine. March 2015. Print.
5. García, Sarah R. "Xicana Queen". Flies, Cockroaches & Poets Zine. April 2013. Print.
6. García, Sarah R. "Returning to Santa Ana". Santanero Zine. March 2013. Print.
7. García, Sarah R. "Without a Name". Label Me Latina/o: Special Edition: Latina Authors-Asserting Female Agency. June 2012. Web.
8. García, Sarah R. "Immigration: A Child's Perspective". Poets Responding to SB1070. April 2011. Web.

AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Women Business Owners, Orange County Chapter, 2019
 National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC) Member, 2017 – Present
 Community Organizer, Texas Teen Book Festival, 2016 – Present
 Chair for the NACCS Tejas Foco Fiction & Young Adult Book Awards, 2015-2016

WEBSITES

www.sarahrafaelgarcia.com
www.barriowriters.org

www.libromobile.com
www.santanasfairytale.com