



austin vida

JANUARY CULTURA GUIDE

POSTCARDS FROM THE BORDER



Texas Performing Arts presents “Postcards From the Border,” a multimedia theater production debuting at McCullough Theatre on Jan. 24 & 25 from 7:30–9 p.m. Created by Oscar Cásares, Joel Salcido, and Carrie Rodriguez, the work combines storytelling, photography, and music to tell the unheard stories of life along the U.S.–Mexico border. This production offers a fresh perspective on the border region’s cultural heritage.

LOS REYES MAGOS

Celebrate the 16th annual Octavitas with Los Reyes Magos on Sun., Jan. 19, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, 701 Tillery St., in Austin. This free event features a Parranda sing-along, dancing, and gifts for kids from Los Reyes Magos.

Don’t miss out on this vibrant celebration of Puerto Rican culture and the joy of an extended holiday season!

¡PONTE LAS PILAS EN 2025!


It’s a new year and time to kickstart your goals! Ponte las pilas and try something new or add another skill to your repertoire. Here are some ideas to get you going:

Want to improve your Spanish?

Check out the monthly film series CineClub México at We Luv Video. It’s presented by Cine Las Americas in collaboration with Cineteca Nacional and Malakita Producciones. Each month, enjoy a different Spanish-language film with subtitles. Practice speaking Spanish by asking a question during the Q&A afterward.

Want to learn how to play the guitar?

No excuses with free lessons with accomplished Salvadoran singer-songwriter Mauricio Callejas. Beginners and intermediate learners are welcome at the George Washington Carver Museum Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

 **Already know how to play?** Then step it up by learning how to write your own songs from Ecuadorian musician Javier Jara at Windsor Park Library on Mondays. Sign up for both lessons at maccwellness@austintexas.gov.

Want to improve your public speaking skills?

Try improv comedy at The Hideout Theatre’s BIPOC Improv Jam. It’s designed as a safe space for people of color to engage and embrace the stage. No experience necessary! It’s open to anyone curious about improv comedy. Swing by the first and third Sundays of the month from 3–5 p.m.



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MUST-SEE LIVE MÚSICA



The Tiarras will perform during Free Week. Photo by Mari G. Hernandez/For Austin Vida

Jan. 3 & 4: Enjoy dozens of free performances across 12 live music venues in Austin, showcasing local and regional artists during Free Week 2025. Participating venues for Free Week 2025 include Barbarella, Chess Club, Cheer Up Charlies, Mohawk, Stubb's, and more.

Check out local Latine ska band Los Kurados and sister trio The Tiarras performing at Flamingo Cantina on Jan. 4 from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Venue is 21+ and located at 515 E. 6th St.

Tuesdays in January: Catch rockabilly blues maven Rosie Flores do a departure from her typical show and sing the American songbook during her residency at the Continental Gallery on South Congress Avenue. \$10 cover starting at 8:30 p.m.

Jan. 24: From the psychedelic cumbias of El Combo Oscuro to the multinational rhythms of Cazayoux, this live taping performance at the Continental Club with a \$15 cover will keep your hips shaking starting at 10 p.m.

TEATRO PARA TI

Experience "She Was Here," a heartfelt play inspired by conversations with Austin Latina elders, running Jan. 17–Feb. 9 at Austin Playhouse. Set during the COVID-19 lockdown, the story follows a mother and daughter uncovering hidden treasures in their home, sparking stories from the past. This production reflects on connection, forgiveness and claiming one's identity. Tickets cost \$38, with a student discount at \$19.

WAYS TO CELEBRATE MLK



The annual MLK Community March, celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy, begins Mon., Jan. 20 at 9:30 a.m. with a rally on the south steps of the Texas Capitol. The march concludes at Huston-Tillotson University, with a family-friendly festival featuring vendors, local music, y más. Attendees are encouraged to support the Central Texas Food Bank by bringing healthy, non-perishable food items to the MLK Festival at Huston-Tillotson University.

Also, don't miss guided tours by Javier Wallace, founder of AfroLatinx Travel and Black Austin Tours, during MLK Week and beyond.