

# THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIRROR



ALAMO  
COLLEGES  
FOUNDATION

MELISSA  
& CHARLES  
BARRETT

HELLER  
FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

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## ***THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIRROR / AL OTRO LADO DEL ESPEJO EXPLORES CENTURIES OF HISTORY BETWEEN SAN ANTONIO, TX AND QUERÉTARO, MX***

*Groundbreaking art exhibit at the Museo de Arte de Querétaro and KLRN documentary  
showcases San Antonio artists, historians and storytellers, beginning on  
Friday, September 20, 2024*

**SAN ANTONIO, TX** – While many people know that the San Antonio Missions, including the Alamo, were built under the supervision of Spanish missionaries, it is less known that these missionaries came from Querétaro, Mexico, where they were trained. This began an over 300-year binational cultural relationship between these two cities. To commemorate that history, the City of San Antonio, Alamo Colleges Foundation, local philanthropists and corporations, have assembled a groundbreaking art exhibit debuting September 20, 2024 at the prestigious Museo de Arte de Querétaro.

The exhibit, titled *The Other Side of the Mirror / Al Otro Lado del Espejo*, is organized by renowned artists Lionel and Kathy Sosa and Museo de Arte de Querétaro Director Antonio Arelle Barquet. It will bring San Antonio Latino artists, along with scholars, photographers, ceramists, poets and historians, to share their experiences and artistic inspiration with their Mexican counterparts. Jesse Treviño, Alfredo Rodriguez, Jacinto Guevara, Cristina Sosa Noriega, Ito Romo, Terry Ibañez, Celeste De Luna, and Cruz Ortiz are among the 23 artists included in the exhibit, which will run through January 31, 2025.

“When two spirits from different places join together in a piece of art, I think that is one of the most beautiful things that can happen to people,” shares Antonio Arelle Barquet. “Because they see on the other side of the mirror what their brothers and sisters are living on the other side of the border.”

Coinciding with the grand opening of the exhibit, leaders from both Queretaro and San Antonio will be signing a Friendship City agreement, the first step to a future Sister City designation. There will also be educational programming and workshops that are open to the public, exploring the cultural linkages between San Antonio and Querétaro. Additionally, five outstanding students from the Alamo Colleges District will have the opportunity to participate in an educational exchange program, immersing them in the arts and culture of Querétaro, Mexico.

“People in Querétaro and in San Antonio have been creating connections through history, culture, heritage, education and business. These linkages on both sides of the border are strong and have been strong through the ages,” said San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg.

To further highlight participating artists and dive deeper into the hidden history of San Antonio’s founding, a four-part documentary by the same name will run for four weeks on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm on KLRN-TV starting on October 17th. The documentary will focus on the historical ties between the two cities, including the missions, and how they impact the identity and culture of San Antonio today.

With the San Antonio International Airport offering non-stop flights twice weekly, travel to Querétaro for *The Other Side of the Mirror / Al Otro Lado del Espejo* exhibit is encouraged. However, those unable to make the trip can expect to see accompanying events and programming in San Antonio. Visit <https://othersideofthemirror.com> for more details, travel/lodging recommendations, and ongoing updates leading up to the exhibit’s opening.

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### **City of San Antonio - Vibrant & Thriving**

San Antonio is a vibrant city with a thriving economy, deep cultural heritage and communities that are compassionate, inclusive and proudly diverse. It is the seventh largest city in the United States and one of the strongest fiscally managed cities in the country, nurturing entrepreneurship, encouraging investment and funding infrastructure. The City fosters partnership and growth opportunities in aerospace, bioscience, cybersecurity, green technologies, healthcare, and information technology. San Antonio’s famed Riverwalk and Alamo are the top tourist attractions in Texas, and its historic missions are a designated World Heritage Site – the first and only in Texas. Proudly called Military City, USA®, San Antonio is home to one of the largest populations of active-duty military and veterans, as well as mission-critical commands, including military medicine, cybersecurity, pilot training and basic training. For more information, visit [SanAntonio.gov](http://SanAntonio.gov) and follow @COSAGov on social.

### **The Querétaro Art Museum**

The Querétaro Art Museum, known as MAQRO, was inaugurated on September 22, 1988 in the former Cloister of San Agustín. Its construction dates back to the 18th century and in 1987 it was declared Cultural Heritage by decree of former President Miguel de la Madrid. It has a New Spain baroque courtyard that is considered one of the most beautiful in Latin America. Currently, after some restorations, it has exhibition halls with permanent and temporary displays that house works spanning from the 17th to the 19th century.

### **About The Alamo Colleges Foundation**

Alamo Colleges Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Alamo Colleges. Our focus is scholarships — life-changing gifts that help students come in and stay in, and achieve their dreams of a college education.

### **Full List of *The Other Side of the Mirror / Al Otro Lado del Espejo* Featured Artists:**

Ricky Armendariz	Cruz Ortiz	Kathy Sosa
Mel Casas	Larry Portillo	Lionel Sosa
Celeste De Luna	Al Rendon	Jesse Treviño
Barbara Felix	Chuck Ramirez	Kathy Vargas
Carolina Flores	Alfredo Rodriguez	Jose Villalobos
Jacinto Guevara	Elizabeth Rodriguez	Andy Villareal
César Martínez	Ito Romo	Terry Ybanez
Cristina Noriega	Eva Sanchez	