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Previous Revue articles and Photo Contests
RevueMag.com

PHOTO CONTEST August
Artisans & Handicrafts of Guatemala

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From the Publishers

This edition marks the 1-year anniversary of the Revue e-zine (electronic magazine). Though we still receive comments from readers about missing the monthly print editions, most everyone agrees that decreasing circulation to cut costs for advertisers would definitely not have been a good thing — for them and for us. Was it as easy transition? It was a lot of work. Was it worth it? Definitely.

A huge thank you to Revue e-zine advertisers for all the support and confidence. The Advertiser Index makes it easy to find great restaurants, hotel accommodations, services and more. The interactive features are something that would have been impossible in print.

And above all else, thank you for reading the Revue!

This month’s photo contest theme Mercados of Guatemala brought in a treasure trove of wonderful images, which are included in this edition. We’re so grateful to have the opportunity to highlight all the talented photographers.

Simplicity and Freshness by Chef extraordinaire Amalia Moreno-Damgaard compliments the July photo contest by proclaiming “Vegetables and fruits are the stars of the Guatemalan side dish, as they are accessible, affordable and of high quality.”

The Artist Highlight this month features work by Gio López, “I believe in direct visual communication with the viewer, I like color, I like children’s lines and I like what is easy to understand.”

Hadazul Cruz provides background on La Antigua Guatemala’s Patron Saint James — a celebration in his honor is held on July 25. As well, La Antigua comes to life all month with lively festivals. Many cultural and sports groups have special activities, plus, Señorita Antigua and Señorita de las Perpetuas Rosas will be elected!

Leslie Jenkins Reed and Howard Lobb present Asociación COED is Transforming Education in Guatemala with an in depth look at how this organization is transforming lives through four innovative, sustainable programs.

Luis Argueta: Guatemalan Filmmaker Recipient of a Global Citizen Award by Mark Walker tells us the behind the scenes story why The National Peace Corps Association bestowed its highest honor, the Harris Wofford Global Citizen award, at the Peace Corps Connect Conference at the University of Texas in Austin to Luis Argueta, the first Latin American filmmaker, and Guatemalan, to be so recognized.

For a wide variety of activities, entertainment and more don’t miss the Datebook section that includes a quick click to The Antigua Guide Cultural and Events Calendar.

Have a great month and we’ll see you again in August.

— John & Terry Kovick Biskovich

Using the interactive features

As you turn a page you’ll notice some of the text/images are briefly highlighted. All you have to do is click or tap on them to enter the world of interactivity, including virtual reality tours. Double-tap on a page to zoom in. Click on a page to view highlighted content.

In the contents and advertiser index pages just click or tap on whatever subject you’re interested in and that’s where you’ll go. Videos will play directly in the page.
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Honorable Mention "Nebaj Market Day"
by Heather White
“Nuestra gente” Cobán Alta Verapaz
photo by Federico Roulet
Santiago Apóstol monument at Cerro de la Cruz
Antigua Guatemala photo by PAL1970
This month, La Antigua celebrates and honors its Patron Saint with festivities, sports, religious and cultural activities on July 25.

Saint James is one of the twelve Apostles of Jesus and the only apostle whose martyrdom is recorded in the New Testament (Acts 12:2).

Why is he Antigua’s Patron Saint?
According to scholars, following the death of Christ, James made a pilgrimage to the Iberian Peninsula to spread the word of Jesus in or around the year 40 A.C. He entered Spain through the uninhabited coast of Portugal. Credited for bringing the Christian religion to this region, he became the Patron Saint of the Spaniards and is often represented as a pilgrim wearing a traveler’s hat and a scallop shell.

A later tradition states that he miraculously appeared to fight for the Christian army during the legendary battle of Hadazul Cruz.

El Apóstol Santiago by Bartolomé Esteban Murillo. 1655. Oil on canvas, 134 x 107 cm. El Prado National Museum, Spain
“May God and St. James help us!”

Battle of Clavijo against the Moors in 844 and was henceforth known as Santiago Matamoros (Saint James the Moor-slayer). As they went into action, they raised for the first time the war cry, “May God and St. James help us!”

This story inspired a new iconographic type in which he is represented on horseback (white horse), bearing a white banner with a red cross (La Cruz de Santiago), brandishing a sword, sometimes with defeated enemies at the horse’s feet.
In Spanish America, the new icon of St. James was used in the Spanish colonization, as an opposing force to the indigenous Gods and protector of Spaniards. He was depicted as a “conquistador,” so when a new city was founded, it was given the name of Santiago. In fact, many cities in the Americas are named Santiago, and he is also their patron saint: Santiago de Cuba, Santiago de Chile, Santiago de Guayaquil (Ecuador), Santiago de León Caracas (Venezuela) and Santiago de los Caballeros de Guatemala, today, La Antigua Guatemala.

La Antigua Guatemala still retains the old Santiago armorial bearings granted to the city by Queen Juana I of Castile on July 28, 1532.

ANTIGUA’S ARMORIAL BEARINGS DESIGN

Divided into two parts, in the top half an armed Santiago is riding a white horse, holding a naked sword over a red field, and below are three volcanoes (Agua, Fuego, and Acatenango) the middle one emitting fiery flames. Trees symbolize effort and victory, and as a border, eight golden scallop shells appear over a blue field.

More about Antigua’s Patron Saint Festivities
Second Place Editorial Decision “¡Qué va a llevar!”
San Cristóbal, Totonicapán by Eduardo Andrino
“At the market” Chichicastenango
photo by @cristagramphoto
Second Place Popular Vote “Sustento diario”
Cubulco, Baja Verapaz by Edgar Del Cid
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“Cherries” Mercado Colón
photo by Javier Alvarez Vassaux
He began creating art at a very young age, participating in several contests obtaining his first diploma and honorable mentions in painting beginning in elementary school.

López began studying art formally in 2009 at the Centro Cultural Metropolitano and earned his diploma in Artes Visuales in 2012.

“My works of this era were self-taught, I liked the mechanical forms and the levers.”
He continued studying via free courses on perspective, landscaping, human figure and contemporary art. In 2014 he kicked off his career as a visual artist.

His works are a mixture of painting and drawing in which he seeks to approach the viewer by offering a clear visual understanding of his art.

EXHIBIT
“Series Geométricas”
by Gio López
Throughout the month of July at Colegio Santo Tomás de Aquino
La Antigua Guatemala
“There are no symbolisms or arcane meanings in my work.”
“I believe in direct visual communication with the viewer, I like color, I like children’s lines and I like what is easy to understand.”

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THEANTIGUAGUIDE.COM/CALENDAR

DATEBOOK
JULY 2019
JULY 10

Art by Lucrecia Muñoz
Galería Panza Verde

WHEN:
WED-JUL 10, 5pm-7pm

WHERE:
Galería Panza Verde
5a Avenida Sur #19

More Information:
Theantiguaguide.com

JULY 20

Conference: Why Antigüeños are called Panzas Verdes

WHEN:
SAT-JUL 20, 10am

WHERE:
Casa Popenoe
6a Calle Oriente #16, La Antigua

More Information:
Theantiguaguide.com
**JULY 21**

**Antigua’s Gastronomic Festival**

**WHEN:**
SUN-JUL 21, 11am-3pm

**WHERE:**
Central Park
5a calle, between 4th and 5th avenue,
La Antigua

**More Information:**
theantiguaguide.com

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**JULY 25**

**Journey Into Sacred Expression Women’s Retreat**

**WHEN:**
THURS-JULY 25 3pm
to SAT-AUG 3 11pm

**WHERE:**
The Yoga Forest, San Marcos La Laguna, Lake Atitlán

**COST:** $1495 (9 nights)

**More information:**
theantiguaguide.com
La Antigua Galería de Arte proudly presents “Poemas de la Noche” (Poems of the Night), a solo exhibition by Guatemalan artist Hugo González Ayala.


He has shown individually in more than 35 occasions. He has taken part in numerous group shows including: University of San Carlos, Museo Ixchel, Museo de Arte Moderno, Juannio Auction, and The Rotary Club, etc.

Internationally he has represented Guatemala in the Festival of arts in Cagnes Sur Mer, France, San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico, the Rodal Gallery in Guadalajara, Mexico, Dronninglud Kunts Center in Denmark, The Truism Fair in Madrid, Spain, Atlanta Georgia and Galeria OEA in Washington. In October 2001 he represented Guatemala at the II Festival of Spanish-American Culture in Moscow.

His Awards include several prizes at the National Hall of Watercolors, the Only Prize at the Arturo Martínez contest in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, Contest of the Century at Cervecería Centro Americana and the Golden Glyph at the Bi-annual Festival of Arts Paiz. He taught art at The National School of Arts, Guatemala City.

For this exhibition, Ayala has worked on 15 oil paintings on canvas, mainly night scenes, from different places of Guatemala such as Antigua, Quetzaltenango, Sololá and some others from Totonicapán.

“Night scenes are more difficult to paint but at the same time, it becomes an advantage or an opportunity to be more creative in modifying the color palette. Through light, I seek for certain rhythms and movements. There is a certain analogy between literature and painting and the poem is a way of expressing, what I want to share, a feeling or emotion in a simple way.” Says Ayala.

The exhibit will open on July 20th, 2019, from 4pm to 7pm at La Antigua Galería de Arte. We look forward to sharing with you his latest works. The artist will attend the opening.

You can see Ayala’s work at: laantiguagaleria.com/Hugo-Gonzalez-Ayala

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“Doña Angela” Mercado de Tecpán
photo by Oscar Giovanni Orantes Ortiz
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—Daniel Webster
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Guatemalans enjoy cooking and eating the wide array of fresh fruits and vegetables that are available at the mercados abiertos, or open markets. Many families go to the markets once a week, while others go once a day to get the freshest produce. Side dishes are chosen not only for nutritional value, but also for appropriate pairing with main dishes.

Guatemalan side dishes are usually simple, quick, and easy to prepare. Freshness and great natural flavor are more important than complexity. Vegetables and fruits are the stars of the Guatemalan side dish, as they are accessible, affordable, and of high quality. They are vine-ripened, so they taste great and require little cooking or seasoning to enhance their flavor.
Legumes are also common side dishes. They pack a lot of fiber and nutrition, are very satisfying, and can complement just about any dish. Beans come in many shapes, sizes and colors. Black beans are the most prevalent in Guatemalan cooking. Garbanzos, lentils, and fava beans are delicious in savory and sweet preparations such as purees and atoles.

Trending these days in the United States are plant-based foods. What a better way to honor this trend than by embracing nature to the fullest. There is no better way to eat more wholesome and nutritious foods than the ones that comes from nature. It starts clean and pure and needs little disruption for consumption. Vegetables enhance a menu and provide texture and beautiful color to dishes.

By combining seasonal produce with various sauces you can create many different and delicious recipes. Vegan and vegetarian eating is easier in Guatemala because of the abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables. Many traditional dishes are naturally vegan or vegetarian and gluten free or or can be easily made so with quick substitutions, such as vegetable stock for chicken stock and vegetable proteins for animal proteins.

Many traditional dishes are naturally vegan or vegetarian and gluten free.
I invite you to create curtido, a staple in the kitchen of Guatemalans. It can be a side dish or a component of another one. The best part is that it takes minutes to make, it’s fresh, and super delicious! Curtido can be a topping, a salad, or a side dish. Curtidos are used to top pupusas, tostadas, mixtas, Guatemalan tacos, and other foods.

They can also serve as bases for other dishes. Curtido complements grilled or fried foods nicely because of its mild acidity and great flavor.

¡Buen provecho!

Recipe by Chef Amalia Moreno-Damgaard (AmaliaLLC.com)

**CURTIDO**

**Herbed Pickled Cabbage Slaw**

Makes 4 cups

- 3 cups green cabbage, shredded
- 1/2 cup thinly shredded carrots
- 1/2 cup julienned yellow onion
- 3 cups very hot water (or use cold water for a twist)
- 3 tablespoons champagne vinegar or white wine vinegar
- 3/4 teaspoon crumbled oregano
- 1 Serrano pepper, thinly sliced (optional)
- 3/4 teaspoon Kosher salt

Combine the cabbage, carrots, and onion with the hot water in a nonreactive bowl.

Add the rest of the ingredients and mix well to blend flavors. Let the curtido sit for 15 to 20 minutes in the refrigerator before serving. Taste and adjust seasonings, if needed.
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Imagine you are 10-years old and struggling in school. It’s challenging to learn to read when there are just a few books at your school. And most of your time is taken to help your family with daily chores like carrying water, or wood, or tending to your younger siblings.

With all of these obstacles, you decide to leave school, and thus, the cycle of poverty continues.

The plight of this 10-year old is all too common for children in Guatemala, most notably in the rural Altiplano. The story is even worse for girls, who leave school at higher rates than their male peers.

The nonprofit Asociación Cooperación para la Educación (COED) is working in 14 departments to...
break this cycle of poverty through four innovative, sustainable programs: The Culture of Reading Program, the Textbook Program, Educational Technology Centers, and the Youth Development Program.

Since 1996, COED has served more than 188,000 Guatemalan students through its tried and tested programs. At the primary school level, the Reading Program has brought over 84,000 high-quality children's books to 17,200 students in 84 schools in Chimaltenango, Sacatepéquez, and Sololá. More importantly, the program has trained over 650 teachers in improving literacy and reading instruction and has provided invaluable in-classroom coaching that transforms classrooms into interactive and engaging learning environments.
At the básico (basic) level, the Textbook Program and the Computer Program put necessary tools for learning and success into students’ hands.

The Textbook Program was initiated in 1996, and today 123,000 textbooks are in circulation at nearly 200 schools, giving almost 25,000 students resources they otherwise wouldn’t have.

The Educational Technology Centers is an integral, self-sustaining program for institutos básicos (middle schools) that allow students to learn vital technological skills via a project-based learning curriculum.

Currently, 46 centers benefit 13,000 students. The Textbook Program and Educational Technology Centers Program both use a revolving fund model through which student families pay a small monthly fee for the use of the textbooks or computer centers. The schools save money so that after several years there is enough money to replace the textbooks and computers, ensuring the schools have resources for years to come.

The Youth Development Program helps básico and diversificado students stay in school and build skills that will improve their chance for a better future. COED also provides many
students with scholarships for their school fees and supplies. Staff psychologists and former teachers offer support to students who face obstacles such as abuse and alcoholism in the home, the pressure to marry early, and lack of resources and parental support.

Students also participate in workshops to build professional and personal skills. So far, 136 students have earned their bachillerato through the program, and 546 more students in Chimaltenango and Sacatepéquez participated in 2018. Business leaders from Guatemala City and Quetzaltenango assist with funding and provide expertise to help with project implementation and oversight.

Also, local organizations, including Domino’s Pizza, MASESA, Fundación San Benito, Megapaca, CEMACO, and Tata Accesorios Globales, change students’ lives through its generous investments in making these projects possible. Brenda, a graduate of three COED programs from Santiago Sacatepéquez, said, “They gave me the opportunity to develop my potential, the limits exist only in your head.” Classmate Rosa agreed. “It helped me not to surrender to the adversities or difficulties that exist in life and fight for what I want.”

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Students at Computer program COED.
The National Peace Corps Association bestowed its highest honor, the Harris Wofford Global Citizen award, at the Peace Corps Connect Conference at the University of Texas in Austin to Luis Argueta, the first Latin American filmmaker, and Guatemalan, to be so recognized. Last year’s recipient was Kul Chandra Gautam, the highest-ranking Nepali in the UN system since the early 2000s. Past recipients include Dr. Mohamud Sheikh Nurein Said, a Kenyan and the first African elected to the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, and Siotame “Drew” Havea, the president of the Tonga National Youth Congress and a board member of the Tonga Red Cross Society.

Named in honor of U.S. Senator Harris Wofford, who was instrumental in the formation of the Peace Corps, the award is given annually to an outstanding global leader who grew up and lived in a country where Peace Corps volunteers served, and whose life was influenced by the Peace Corps.

Returned Peace Corps volunteer Ken Lehman nominated Argueta for the award and was his pro-

Luis Argueta’s films can be viewed on demand at luisarguetaa.com
professor as a Peace Corps volunteer at the Universidad Rafael Landívar where he taught several scholarship recipients to U.S. Universities, including Argueta who was planning to be an engineering student at the University of Michigan. Over the years he would say that “My experience with the Peace Corps taught me one of the valuable lessons of my life: To treat others as one would wish to be treated — the Golden Rule.”

Lehman and Argueta were to become life-long friends, and as a student at the University of Michigan, Luis Argueta enjoyed his first American Thanksgiving with the Lehman’s parents in Highland Park, Illinois. Later Lehman and his wife, Lucy, would introduce Argueta to a very talented lady who was the chief of staff of several high-level government officials in Washington D.C. Much to their surprise, they hit it off, and Argueta went on to marry Jennifer. To this day, the couple refers to the Lehmans as their Padrinos de Boda. Ken would become the co-chairman of his family-owned automotive components parts business and later became the vice-chair of CARE International’s Board, as well as a board member of Public Radio International, NPRE WBEZ in Chicago.

The bond between these two men was evident as they shared an “abrazo” (hug) when Ken presented Luis with the prestigious Harris Wofford Global Citizen award. Luis received a standing ovation from more than 200 attendees — over 25 of whom had served in Guatemala as Peace Corps volunteers.

Over time, Argueta would become a film director and producer whose work spans feature films, documentaries, commercial and episodic TV. He’s been telling transnational immigrant stories since 1977. His feature film, “The Silence of Neto,” was set in 1954 Cold War-Guatemala in the first Guatemalan film to be internationally recognized and awarded. The Guardian lists Argueta as one of Guatemala’s National Living icons, alongside Nobel Laureate Rigoberta Menchu and Singer/Songwriter Ricardo Arjona. He has been awarded the “Order of Quetzal,” the highest honor given by Guatemala.

Argueta has worked for decades to educate people about human rights abuses against Guatemalans through the immigration process. His work counteracts the false narrative about the current immigration crisis. His experience also informs us about what needs to change the U.S. government’s dysfunctional immigration process.

Before the awards ceremony, Argueta screened one of his four documentaries, “Abrazos,” which tells the story of the transformational journey of a group of U.S. citizen children who traveled 3,000 miles from Minnesota to the Ixchiguán area of San Marcos to meet their grandparents for the first time. I found the opening scene of a bus climbing the road to Ixchiguán breathtaking, as this was my first Peace Corps site in the early 70s and is located by the highest volcano in Central America, Tajamulco. The area looked as stark, frigid and forbidding as ever. After being separated for nearly two decades, the fourteen families depicted in the film were able to share stories, strengthen traditions, and begin to reconstruct their cultural identity.

As powerful as this documentary was, the real drama occurred after it ended, when Lisa Kremer walked
into the screening room with four of the children who participated in the visit to Guatemala and are depicted in the film. Kremer is the founder of the host agency in this visit, “Abuelos y Nietos Juntos,” a family unification program that represents almost five million U.S. born children who live in mixed-status families in the U.S.

Two of the children were Jacobo’s, who had been deported and left his wife, Isabel, a daughter and a son in Minnesota. According to Argueta, Jacobo was deported after having lived underground for 11 years, during which time he had four children and was contributing to his community. His moving story can be found in the NPCA (National Peace Corps Association) journal, WorldView Magazine, “A Divided Heart: A Guatemalan Father Faces Life After Deportation,” written by Argueta.

After being introduced, all four children, who are now adolescents, shared their plans to pursue a college education, one of them is already in pre-med school. Several of the children have made follow-up visits to their grandparents after the initial meeting. Lisa, plus the four children, were front and center during the awards ceremony, which would follow.

Preceding the awards ceremony, Argueta was a panelist on “Beyond Borders” with the President of NPCA, Glenn Blumhorst, Maria Martin, the director of “The GraciasVIDA Center for Media” and a long-time contributor of NPR, and John Burnett, the Southwest Correspondent for National Public Radio. During Argueta’s acceptance speech, as well as his participation in the panel discussion, he didn’t mince words about the dire situation in Guatemala, which includes a booming population increase from five to 17 million, with the 6th highest malnutrition rate in the world, and provinces like Huehuetenango, which have the highest indices of out-migration in the country and Central America. Throughout the day, Luis reiterated that one of his primary goals was to “change the narrative” around Guatemalan migrants and to give them a “human” face, so they’re treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

He met with a number of the dignitaries and returned Peace Corps volunteers who attended the event, including the new Peace Corps Director, Jody Olsen. His wife, Jennifer, and their young daughter, Jenny, were there and his daughter could be seen taking the stage and directing some of the activities behind her father — a future entertainer?

Luis is already working on his next immigration film that will look at the long-lasting effects of family separations. He’ll also assist me, and my film director and fellow returned Peace Corps volunteer, Hal Rifken, to produce our own documentary about why so many are abandoning their homes in Guatemala, the impact of the U.S. government and examples of successful programs and policies to decreasing the growing out-migration. Luis has inspired many like Hal and me to help change the narrative around migrants with a focus on identifying solutions and opportunities represented by the present immigration crisis. And as Luis put it, “At times like the present, when powerful winds of isolation and intolerance are blowing, it is more important than ever to speak, and to speak out - to find our commonality as human beings, roll up our sleeves and to work to nurture the hope for peace in the world.”
“Antes del desorden” Sumpango Sacatepéquez
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