

# UNITED CULTURES, INC.

## LA PEÑA



*A grass roots community meeting place where popular folklore and other artistic expressions accompanied by food and drink are show cased.*

**FEBRUARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**ISSUE 1 SPRING 2012**

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## About United Cultures Inc., La Peña

Hello Community readers,

On behalf of United Cultures, Inc., La Peña, we wish you have a great year and may your agency, organization, or business thrive and have success in all you do or have in mind to accomplish this year.

We are a non-profit organization that promote the arts and culture in the Central Valley. We provide cultural events every month at Arte Americas, museum, at down town area. All events are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend. Please explore our website and we kindly ask you to spread the word about our events. Invite colleagues, friends, and relatives.

**Our Community has much to offer...**

In this newsletter, we provide information about our organization so you can know who



we are. We include various resources for you to take advantage. We decided to incorporate various venues and professional individuals in our newsletter because we want to feature each one, but we also want to inform you what is available in the community. Check their website and give them a call if you have questions.

Please support our community and be inform of what happens or how you can support. Throughout the year, we will feature local non-profit organizations, local owners, community projects, gallery exhibits, news, and local talent.

In terms of community projects, we want to inform you about community projects and how you can be involve and give your support. If your agency or organization will work on a project and want to inform about it, please let us know and we will feature your project as well.

Moreover, we will inform you about local non-profits and owners by providing a brief description of who they are, what they do and their services.

On the other hand, we know the arts are very important in our community. We will include brief information about galleries in the down town area. You'll also read about current news and know about local talent. If you know of someone who is talented and needs an extra help, we would like to hear from them so please contact us to add the individual(s) in our newsletter.

Best wishes to your agency or organization!

Sincerely,

Pedro Urena, Community Outreach Director,  
United Cultures, Inc., La Peña



For the past several months, United Cultures, Inc., La Peña has offered the public an opportunity to enjoy foreign music from various cultures. People who have attended have enjoyed good music and most say they recommend others to attend.

We invite you to attend to our upcoming event in February 14, 2012. Give yourself the opportunity to learn about another culture and appreciate it's music and all it offers.

The events are during the weekend, which gives you the opportunity to attend with your family or friends. However, if you choose to go by yourself it can be a time for you to relax and enjoy good music. What ever you choose to do, please try to make it to our next event.

Not only will you enjoy good music and other refreshments, but by attending you will help the organization raise funds. The organization has many plans for the near future, but your support is needed in order to make those

things happen. For this reason, we ask you to spread the word about the events, invite others and if you don't mind post a comment on your face book or post a tweet about our cultural events.

I personally think you'll enjoy the event you attend...

Honestly, the first time I attended to one, I was happy I was there. As a graduate student, one continues to learn and explore, which is good. I am a learner, and I always like to learn about other cultures and connect with people of different walks of life. Attending to one of these events gave me the opportunity to better appreciate cultures and most of all their music. Believe me, you'll enjoy it and won't regret it. I invite you to dive into diversity!

Mark your calendar for **February 4, 2012**. United Cultures presents Trio Los Romance. Trio of Romance, is a very versatile trio in their interpretations topics such as the

Oaxacan flavor, among others, you cannot miss each other interpretations.

The doors will open at 7:30 p.m. at Arte Americas, which is located at 1630 Van Ness

Ave, Fresno, CA 93721. The general admission fee is \$12 and \$10 for members and seniors. If have questions, contact Matilde Hicks, Executive Director at 559.289.1782.



Visit United Cultures, Inc., La Peña at:

[www.nuestrasculturasunidas.org](http://www.nuestrasculturasunidas.org)

FROM THE DIRECTOR

*Hello Friends,*

*I am very excited to inform you about current news going on in our organization, United Cultures, Inc., La Pena. Please read the newsletter and check it out.*

*We have included local resources from the community. These are all talented individuals and organizations that continue to provide good services to the public.*

*Learn more about our organization and explore the website. Also, check our face book page and register to receive our monthly newsletter, which you'll receive it once a month. Take advantage of this opportunity so you know what is happening in the community.*

*Please try to attend to our next upcoming event, which will be in February 4, 2012. They are a local trio and play great music. They are a very versatile trio in their interpretations topics such as the Oaxacan flavor and among others. They are a trio you ca not miss because their interpretations are fascinating!*

*I also encourage you to help us raise funds so we can continue providing these cultural events to the public. We promote the arts and culture in the Central Valley. We have many plans for the near future. For instance, one of our goals is to give scholarships to young artists in the Valley. As you may know, due to budget cuts in schools, students do not have many opportunities in terms of cultural arts and music programs. Unfortunately, this is sad because there aren't much opportunities for students. That is why we plan to give scholarships to support young artists in the community.*

*Invite your family members or call your friends and let them know about the event. Join me every second Sunday of the month at Radio Bilingue so you can enjoy International music. Learn about other non-profits in the Valley and what they offer. Follow us on face book & twitter for other current news.*

*Matilde Hicks*

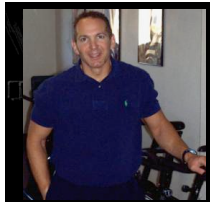
## Local Owners-Venues

### Iron Bird Beauty Bar

Julia Cantu, Licensed Esthetician, Makeup Artist, Services: microdermabrasion, full body waxing, makeup/ airbrush, chemical peels, facials & much more.

Check her place at 1929 Fulton Street, suite 111, Fresno, CA 93721, facebook/ ironbirdbeautybar

### Elite Physical Training



Provides a meaningful, all-inclusive, and above all else EFFECTIVE approach that supports the development of functional real world fitness and holistic wellness.

Need a world-class trainer but live on the other side of the world? No problem!

Working professionals, athletes, military, seniors, and those with special needs can benefit from.

Paul Watson, has been successfully training individuals for nearly 15 years. Contact him to set up a training program for you, [www.elitephysicaltraining.com](http://www.elitephysicaltraining.com)

### Ma Ly, Recognized Artist

Is the co-founder & owner of Colligo studio, art studio, gallery, & gift shop based in Fresno, CA. He is a portrait artist and his works are done in oil, acrylic, pastel and gouache.

He teaches art lessons, private lessons at the student's house, at Fresno Adult School, & at Michael's store in Clovis, CA.

Visit his website at [www.artbymaly.com](http://www.artbymaly.com) & check his work on face book as well.

Also, if you mention about this newsletter to him from January 1-31st, he will give you a 10% discount off.



Check out his most recent work, a painting of Martin Luther King, Jr at 2 receptions, at Fresno City Hall on Jan 13 & at Clovis Veteran's Memorial District on Jan 14.

From Jan 28, he will teach basic drawing, portrait drawing, and acrylic painting at Manchester Center.

## Community Resources

### Certified Nonprofit Professional

Kevin Alfaro is a known individual in the community for assisting various organizations in the area. He is a resourceful person & can help your agency or organization as well.

Alfaro, is a Certified Nonprofit Professional by the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, a national recognized organization that prepares skilled professionals and leaders to serve in America's nonprofit organizations.

Alfaro is currently completing his MBA at California State University, Fresno and is actively working towards using his skills and experience to benefit the Community Benefit Sector in the Central Valley.

Know more about him at: [www.kevinalfaro.com](http://www.kevinalfaro.com)

**Community Event,** A celebration Remembering and Renewing King's Dream for Peace sponsored by Fresno Pacific University. Friday January 27 & 28. For more info, contact Karen D. Crozier, Ph.D., at [karen.crozier@fresno.edu](mailto:karen.crozier@fresno.edu) or 559.2020

## Local Talent

### Adrian Gonzales, DJ-Dance Instructor



Adrian Gonzales has enjoyed being a DJ and currently plays at different locations in Fresno. Bachata Nights are every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month with bachata lessons at 8:45 p.m. Salsa dance every Thursday with salsa lessons at 9:15 p.m. If interested in Bachata, he can also do private dominican

bachata lessons. This dance is original bachata, but not danced as sensual modern bachata. Join him while he does what he enjoys. Contact him at 559-862-7787 to arrange a date and prices.

## News

### Radio Bilingue 91.5 FM - International Music

Join Matilde Hicks, United Cultures, La , Peña President, every 2nd Sunday of the month from 2-5 p.m. to listen International music.

# Non-profits make a difference in the Central Valley...

*Non-profits strive to help the community in different ways. Find out what they offer, their services, and how to support them.*

## Valley Cultural Coalition



*Empowering  
the Arts,  
Sciences &  
Humanities*

Valley Cultural Coalition is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the health of the arts and cultural community through advocacy, communication, cooperation and collaboration.

The purpose of the Valley Cultural Coalition is to improve the quality of life in Central

California region through the enhancement of the cultural arts, science and humanities sectors. By helping to make Central California a place where engagement in delivery, participation and appreciation of arts, science and humanities can flourish.

The organization represents small, medium and large cultural arts organizations, along with artists, galleries, businesses and individual art enthusiasts. The coalition stands for their members and the greater cultural arts sector.

The Coalition supports cultural arts, science and humanities organizations with: information sharing, training, coordination, resource sharing, fund raising, advocacy, public awareness and education.

For more information visit:  
[www.valleyculturalcoalition.org](http://www.valleyculturalcoalition.org)

## Parent Institute Quality for Education



PIQE is committed to connect families, schools and community as partners to advance the education of every child parent engagement. Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) is working to create a community in which parents and educators collaborate to transform every child's educational environment, both at home and at school, so that all children can achieve their greatest academic potential.

Some of it's objectives are to encourage and support low-income, ethnically-diverse parents of K-12 school children to take a participatory role in their children's education, engage and collaborate with teachers, counselors, and principals, encourage high school and college graduation.

PIQE has enhanced the education of more than 1.5 million parents & serves over 500 K-12 schools in California each year.

It offers programs such as K-12 Parent Engagement in Educational Program, Pre-K Development Program, Four-Month Follow-Up Parent Coaches Program, Teacher Parent Engagement Workshop, & Family Financial Literacy Education Program.

For more information visit: [www.piqe.org](http://www.piqe.org) or call the Fresno's office: 559-277-9858

## Valley Arts and Science Academy



Does your child enjoy art and science? Have you considered VASA?

VASA is a tuition-free, publicly funded charter school which offers a core curriculum rich in the arts and science for students in kindergarten through sixth grade.

VASA offers visual and performing art instruction to enhance student learning by stimulating non-verbal awareness, creating a common bond, and making school more human. VASA offers science instruction because it stimulates and reinforces reading, math and thinking skills.

VASA has openings in all grades for the 2011-2012 school year.

VASA is located in the Tower District behind the Ted C. Wills Community Center.

For more information visit:  
[www.vasaelementary.com](http://www.vasaelementary.com)

# In Appreciation

*Thank you for your support and contribution to United Cultures, Inc., La Peña organization. We ask for your support to continue presenting cultural events.*

**LUIS JOVEL, CUSTOM COYBOY BOOT MAKER**

Luis Jovel, a fourth generation custom cowboy boot maker, creates his artistry in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley and has been featured in the Fresno Metropolitan Art Museum. Jovel specializes in custom hand crafted western style footwear, utilizing all natural products, leather and exotic skins.

For more information visit:  
[www.luisjovelboots.com/index.html](http://www.luisjovelboots.com/index.html)

**ARTE AMERICA**

Arte Americas is the largest non-profit cultural in the Valley with over 10,000 square feet of gallery, performance, meeting and classroom spaces.

It's Grand Plaze sits on half a city block and features a large kiosko and concierto mainstage.

For over twenty-five years they have featured an eclectic variety of Latino poets, filmmakers, photographers and artists

from traditional and non-traditional mediums.

For more information visit:  
[www.arteamericas.org](http://www.arteamericas.org)

## United Cultures, Inc., La Peña



We are a grass roots community meeting place where popular folklore and other artistic expressions accompanied by food and drink are showed.

La Peña Cafe exists to promote and disseminate the arts, culture and gastronomy of all countries from the continents of the Americas to the Latino cultures of Europe. It embraces the

philosophy of global brotherhood while promoting respect for our environment.

La Peña Cafe is a welcoming community gathering. It provides the place where artists of all disciplines have the opportunity to share diverse cultural traditions, and it also has the mission to support artistic development while providing exposure to local musicians, poets and other performing artists.

We need your support to continue providing these events to the public. If interested in donating, please contact the organization or give through paypal in our website. Thank you!

## United Cultures Board Members

- Matilde Hicks — President/Treasurer**
- Pablo Lopez — Vice President**
- Maria Lopez — Secretary**
- Pedro Urena — Community Outreach Director**

### Visit us online:

[www.nuestrasculturas.org](http://www.nuestrasculturas.org)

### Newsletter News/Subscription

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