



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LACCD Partners with Latino Theater Company and Award-Winning Director for Unique Dramatic Arts Course

Spring 2022 semester course will be taught by acclaimed director José Luis Valenzuela

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) is honored to announce a groundbreaking partnership with award-winning Latino Theater Company and their Artistic Director and Board President, José Luis Valenzuela.

This new partnership will provide students districtwide with a world-class education in dramatic arts. The Theater 285–Directed Study course being taught by theatrical legend and UCLA Emeritus Distinguished Professor Valenzuela, allows students at any of the nine LACCD colleges to learn from an iconic director and attend performances at the Los Angeles Theatre Center on Spring Street in downtown Los Angeles.

“The District is deeply appreciative of this partnership of the Latino Theater Company and the generous spirit of Professor Valenzuela,” said LACCD Board President Gabriel Buelna, Ph.D. “This will be a truly special course that highlights so much of what the LACCD and Los Angeles are all about, and will provide world-class teaching to an extremely deserving student body.”

The course will be offered as an in-person/virtual hybrid course during the Spring 2022 semester, with classes every Tuesday between April 11 and June 6 from 6-8 p.m. Lectures will be conducted in-person and online, with plays and performances held at the Los Angeles Theatre Center. The Latino Theater Company received critical funding to expand its artistic reach to diverse audiences through a 2019-20 state budget request by Senator Maria Elena Durazo, a longtime champion of arts education and community colleges.

“Los Angeles is at the intersection of arts, entertainment and cultural diversity. This creative partnership is exactly the type of synergy needed to enrich our communities through the arts, especially as we learn to live with the pandemic,” said Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D. “This is a wonderful partnership for Los Angeles Mission College, and I want to thank Senator Maria Elena Durazo for her vision and support in providing this unique opportunity to students across the district.”

The first-of-its-kind class is offered in person as Section 28049 and online as Section 27213. It is based at Los Angeles Mission College, but offered on a space-available basis to all interested LACCD students throughout the County.

“The arts are a critical part of our goal at Los Angeles Mission College to educate the whole student,” said Los Angeles Mission College President Armida Ornelas, Ph.D. “Community college students aspiring to a career in film or theater typically do not get access to legends like Professor Valenzuela, and I am personally honored that Mission College was chosen to host this program.”

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The course will be taught by Valenzuela, an acclaimed director of film and theater and tenured professor at the UCLA School of Theater, Film & Television. He is the creator of the Latino Theatre Company at the Los Angeles Theatre Center and the Latino Theater Initiative at the Mark Taper Forum. Valenzuela's recent works include *Whittier Boulevard* and *Mother of Henry* by Evelina Fernandez (LATC); *La Victima* by El Teatro de La Esperanza (LATC), and *La Virgen de Guadalupe, Dios Inantzin* (Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral)—all produced by the Latino Theater Company.

“It is my absolute honor and pleasure to be able to work with the community college students who will become the next generation of leaders in Los Angeles. I hope this course will inspire the students to understand their cultural and historical contributions to American society,” Valenzuela said.

Registration information for the Theater 285 course is available for students enrolled districtwide at bit.ly/latinotheaterclass. With the combination of virtual lectures and the new fare less public transit GoPass program that allows students to take Metro for free, students can participate in this course and get a rich experience for an extremely low cost.

The LACCD “[Colleges of Los Angeles](#)” include: [Los Angeles City College](#); [East Los Angeles College](#); [Los Angeles Harbor College](#); [Los Angeles Mission College](#); [Los Angeles Pierce College](#); [Los Angeles Southwest College](#); [Los Angeles Trade-Technical College](#); [Los Angeles Valley College](#) and [West Los Angeles College](#).

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About the Los Angeles Community College District

We are the Colleges of Los Angeles! LACCD (www.laccd.edu) is the nation's largest community college district, educating about 250,000 students annually at its nine colleges that serve the residents of more than 36 cities and communities from 900 square miles of Los Angeles County. Since 1969, the District has been providing an important learning pathway for students seeking transfer to four-year colleges or universities while also offering two-year degrees and certificated training programs to Southern California's diverse workforce in many specialized trades and professions. Follow us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/LACCD>, @LACCD, and on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/laccd> @laccd and Instagram, https://www.instagram.com/laccd_edu/ @laccd_edu.

Members of the Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 27, 2022

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L.A. MISSION COLLEGE PARTNERS WITH LATINO THEATER COMPANY, AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR FOR THEATER COURSE

SYLMAR, CA — Los Angeles Mission College is honored to announce a groundbreaking partnership with the award-winning Latino Theater Company and their Artistic Director and Board President, José Luis Valenzuela.

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Los Angeles Mission College is committed to the success of its students. The college provides accessible, affordable, high-quality learning opportunities in a culturally and intellectually supportive environment. Learn more at www.lamission.edu.

Theater 285 – Directed Study

Latino Theater Company Experience

Professor José Luis Valenzuela



Spring 2022 – **4/11 to 6/6**

Sections: **#28049** (In-Person, On Campus)
#27213 (Zoom/YouTube/Streaming)

Class time: **Tuesdays 6pm to 8pm**

Location: **AMP Theater Rm 107 / ZOOM /
Live on YouTube**

To Register, visit: bit.ly/latinotheaterclass



Request for Accommodation: We encourage people with disabilities to participate in college activities/events. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation, or have questions about issues of access at the location of the activity/event, please contact the Office of the Vice President of Student Services at DisabilityAccess@lamission.edu or call **818-364-7766** as soon as possible, but no later than seven business days prior to the event.