

By: Alonzo

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R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Center for Mexican American Studies at The
2 University of Texas at Austin is hosting El Mundo Zurdo 2015, a
3 conference honoring the legacy of internationally recognized
4 Chicana author, feminist, and cultural theorist Gloria Anzaldúa,
5 from May 27 to 30, 2015; and

6 WHEREAS, The CMAS is joined in the endeavor by the Department
7 of Mexican American and Latina/o Studies, the Society for the Study
8 of Gloria Anzaldúa, and the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American
9 Collection, and the event serves to highlight the Benson
10 Collection's archival materials on the author, including
11 correspondence, clippings, photographs, posters, and artwork
12 pertaining to her life; and

13 WHEREAS, Born on September 26, 1942, to a family of migrant
14 farm workers in the Rio Grande Valley, Gloria Anzaldúa worked in the
15 fields at an early age; despite her humble upbringing and the
16 struggles she encountered in a segregated school system, she went
17 on to excel in her studies, and in 1969, she graduated from Pan
18 American University with a bachelor's degree in English, art, and
19 secondary education; she later received her master's degree from
20 The University of Texas and enjoyed a career as an educator,
21 teaching in public schools and eventually at universities, where
22 she led courses in feminism, Chicano studies, and creative writing;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, In the late 1960s, Gloria Anzaldúa became active in

1 the farmworkers movement and other campaigns for equality, but she
2 felt marginalized by what she perceived as a male, heteronormative
3 bias in those groups; she was drawn to feminist and metaphysical
4 studies in the mid-1970s and moved to develop her own theories
5 challenging social and cultural boundaries and illuminating the
6 need for inclusion and change; in addition to her work in academia,
7 she published the semiautobiographical *Borderlands/La Frontera:
8 The New Mestiza*, her most acclaimed book, which was named one of the
9 top 100 best books of the century by the *Hungry Mind Review* and *Utne
10 Reader*; she remained a prolific writer, publishing prose, poetry,
11 and children's books, until the end of her life on May 15, 2004; and

12 WHEREAS, Gloria Anzaldúa brought a unique and compelling
13 perspective to Chicano, political, and feminist discourse, and
14 through her writings, she left behind a rich legacy that continues
15 to resonate today; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
17 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life and work of Gloria
18 Anzaldúa and extend sincere best wishes to all those participating
19 in El Mundo Zurdo 2015 for a successful and memorable event.