



# TexTESOL III Mini-Letter

Texas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages

July 2006

[www.textesol.org/region3](http://www.textesol.org/region3)

## TexTESOL State Conference

Making your plans for fall? Put a visit to Austin on your calendar. The Texas State Conference is the place to meet fellow professionals, make new contacts, and have a great time! Follow our monthly mini newsletter for updates on the conference, on planned highlights and featured speakers. Because we would like you to enjoy your stay in Austin further, we will update you on other interesting events and activities planned for that time. Do you already live in Austin? Even a better reason to plan for the conference!

*Focusing on the Ability to Learn*  
*Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006*  
*Omni Southpark & Marriott South*  
*Austin, Texas*

Conference Registration Form is now available at:  
[www.textesol.org/region3](http://www.textesol.org/region3)

Interested in volunteering? Please email us at [volunteers@textesol.org](mailto:volunteers@textesol.org)

For information about the conference venues, visit  
Omni Southpark [www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/AustinSouthpark.aspx](http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/AustinSouthpark.aspx)

Marriott South [www.marriott.com/ausap](http://www.marriott.com/ausap)

## **Music by Conjunto Aztlan**

During the Texas State Conference awards luncheon on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, you will be entertained by the original music of Conjunto Aztlan. The group's name represents a spiritual and musical journey expressed through song and poetry. The word "conjunto" means a special kind of Tejano ensemble that has the button accordion and the 12 string bajo sexto as its main instruments. Aztlan as translated from the Aztec means a place of whiteness or the true homeland. In adopting the spiritual and cultural connection to the beliefs of the ancient Aztecs, the ensemble represents the self-determination and the affirmation of a movement meant to celebrate, defend and expand the musical and spiritual legacy of the Chicano people. Their songs feature politically, culturally and socially conscious lyrics in English and Spanish.

Members of the ensemble include: Clemencia Zapata, an Austin resident bringing together music, cultural arts and activism expressed in her powerful voice; Juan Tejeda, music instructor at Palo Alto College, is also a musician, songwriter and poet living in San Antonio; Jose Flores Peregrino, is a poet, musician, author and professor of English at Austin Community College in Austin; and Erik Flores is a musician, artist and founder of the popular Austin band, Sunvocina.

Make sure you reserve your place at the luncheon – seats are limited.

## **While in Austin ....**

### **Congress Avenue Bridge Bats**

The largest urban colony of bats in North America lives under the Congress Bridge in downtown Austin. At dusk between April and October, over 1.5 million bats fly out for their nightly feeding. The sight can be viewed at Congress Avenue and Cesar Chavez St. For information call 512-416-5700 Ext. 3636, or check

<http://www.batcon.org/discover/congress.html>

### **Texas Book Festival**

The Book Festival is scheduled for October 27 through October 29 at the grounds of the Texas State Capitol. Listen to readings and attend book signings with some of your favorite authors. Visit the children's tent, and enjoy live music and poetry reading. For information call 512-477-4055 or check <http://www.texasbookfestival.org/>

### **Austin Film Festival**

Between October 19 and 26, the Austin Film Festival will fill several venues including the beautiful Driskill Hotel on Austin's famous Sixth Street. This ever-growing conference and film extravaganza brings thousands of film aficionados, celebrities and fans to Austin each year. It now includes the Screenwriters Conference, Heart of Film Screenplay Competition, Prime Time Television Competition, Film Competition, Film Screenings Program and more. For information, call 512-478-4795 or check <http://www.austinfilmfestival.com>