



AUSTIN - LIMA  
SISTER CITIES



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Prepared by:  
**FERNANDO NIERI**  
*Chair, Austin-Lima Sister Cities*

Austin-Lima Sister Cities (ALSC) is a member of the main organization Austin Sister Cities International. Our organization strengthens the relations between Austin and Lima through shared activities to raise awareness of Lima, Perú and Peruvian culture in Austin.

Founded in November 1981, during the term of Mayor Carol Keeton McClellan, Austin-Lima Sister Cities was established for the purpose of interchanging cultural, historical and peaceful thoughts, concepts and beliefs.

Our mission is to foster cultural, educational, entrepreneurial and humanitarian exchange between Austin and Lima.

As a non-profit, ALSC ensures that the people who join the committee are willing to put in the effort and work that it takes to make our organization successful. It is the committee's responsibility to create and constantly review a statement of mission and purpose that articulates the organization's goals, means, and primary constituents served.

The Committee ensures that all members have the moral and professional support they need to further the goals of the organization and enhance the organization's public standing.

Kind regards,

**Fernando Nieri**

*President*



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Foto cortesía de PromPerú

## Fostering cultural, educational, entrepreneurial and humanitarian exchanges.

1. List Committee Members (*list offices first and indicate office*) with County of Residence and Contact Information.

NAME	COUNTY	EMAIL
Fernando Nieri	Travis	<a href="mailto:chair@austinlimasistercities.org">chair@austinlimasistercities.org</a>
Angela Salas	Travis	<a href="mailto:vicechair@austinlimasistercities.org">vicechair@austinlimasistercities.org</a>
Alejandro Pedemonte	Travis	<a href="mailto:engagement@austinlimasistercities.org">engagement@austinlimasistercities.org</a>
Vanessa Arrieta	Travis	<a href="mailto:volunteer@austinlimasistercities.org">volunteer@austinlimasistercities.org</a>
Totty Pedemonte	Travis	<a href="mailto:secretary@austinlimasistercities.org">secretary@austinlimasistercities.org</a>

The members of the Austin-Lima Sister Cities committee have regular meetings to discuss the organization activities, plans, and upcoming events. During 2019, these meetings were held every other month.

2. List Committee meetings with the minutes of one meeting attached.

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE
02/13/2019	Austin Central Library	Full Committee
06/14/2019	1900 E. César Chávez, 78702	Full Committee
08/08/2019	916 Springdale Rd, 78702	Full Committee
10/15/2019	4801 Burnet Rd, 78756	Full Committee

*\*Minutes enclosed*



# AUSTIN - LIMA SISTER CITIES

## MINUTES FOR OUR MEETING, AUGUST 8, 2019

### Location:

916 Springdale Rd  
Austin, Texas 78702

### Agenda

1. We were contacted by the Peruvian consulate in Houston to help them plan their mobile consulate in Austin on Sept 21st. Our Committee was tasked with securing a location in Austin.
2. Fall festival 2019, we reached out to 2 different Peruvian dance groups to perform on the festival, we also plan the kids activity.
3. Angela Salas (ALSC Vice-Chair) was selected to represent our Committee on the ASCI International Ball Festival.
4. St. Edwards University will have students from its MBA Capstone class visiting Perú to engage in projects with Peruvian companies as part of the Capstone class. Our Committee was asked to secure a company willing to collaborate with the students.
5. We talked about having a 3-day event promoting Perú's culture in Austin during 2020.
  - Priority items: create a budget, form Sub-Committee, Select possible dates, create press kit, create branding for event
  - Define Sponsors: Pisco Porton/La Caravedo, Inka Foods, Goya, Yape, Local Peruvian Businesses, Media Sponsors (Canal Sur, Sur Perú, Univision, Telemundo)
  - Define Program/Activities: Literature, Education, Culture, Gastronomy, Technology/Innovation.
  - Determine if an Evening GALA is feasible.
  - Determine Target Audience

Next meeting October 15th, 2019.

### 3. | List of 2019 Activities with date, location, and number of participants from Austin and the Sister City.

During 2019, our committee focused its efforts on promoting and sponsoring Cultural and Artistic expressions. The following are some of the activities our organization was a part of during 2019.

#### a. El Sistema Solar (Play)

The Solar System, by playwright Mariana De Althaus tells a story that grants hope to those who carry the world on their shoulders with their secrets and emotional baggage, those who value the smallest signs of reconciliation. Swaying to the sound of music, a sign of approval, or a simple hug are only a few things everyone seeks and craves.

Every member of the family has something to hide and something to reproach in one another. Not a single adult in the family is free of sin. By digging into each other, they only worsen their own well-being; in every instance, they solidify the presence of each broken character, not in search of closure, but in depicting the perfect family relationship based on love and hate on the same level.

Directed by Alejandro Pedemonte, The Solar System is performed in Spanish with English super titles and sets the return of renown Venezuelan actor Adolfo Prieto as Leonardo and the theatrical debut in Austin of Fátima García Checa as Edurne, Fernando Ríos as Pavel, Dámaris Diéguez as Paula and the revelation of young actor Ignacio Arriagada as Puli.



*Photo courtesy of Pedemonte Productions*

# EL SISTEMA SOLAR



## b. NO ME DIGAS SOLTERONA (MOVIE)

During the Cine Las Americas International Film Festival 2019, Austin-Lima Sister Cities sponsored the Welcome Reception & Press Conference of Peruvian Director Ani Alva Helfer who directed the Peruvian movie “No Me Digas Solterona” (Don’t Call Me a Spinster).

The reception and press conference was held at Takoba, where the movie trailer was shown for the first time in Austin. Participants were able to meet Ms. Alva Helfer and had an opportunity to ask questions about the movie.

No Me Digas Solterona is a comedy in which Patricia (main character) is a 35-year-old hopeless romantic who discovers her long-time boyfriend Alonso has cheated on her with beautiful 20 year old Belén, just before their wedding. Patricia is forced to return to the ranks of single life where she will try to survive with the help of her close friends. To add to her troubles, her mother reminds her daily that she’s about to miss the boat.

Ani Alva aimed to offer a fresh take on the classic romantic comedy. The film has been a success as it has been watched by almost 900 thousand viewers making Ani the first female director to achieve such success at the box office in Perú.



*Photo courtesy of Amazon.com*



*Director Ani Alva and Executive Producer Alex Pedemonte*



NO ME DIGAS  
SOLTERONA



## c. CONSULADO ITINERANTE

On September 21st, members of the Peruvian Consulate based in Houston came to Austin to help the Peruvian community in Austin with any consular-related paperwork. Some of the services offered were: Passport renewal, National Identification Document renewal, Power of Attorney, etc. This service is provided to those Peruvians in Austin that cannot travel to Houston to do such paperwork.

The Austin-Lima Sister Cities Committee partnered up with the Peruvian Consulate to make this effort possible. Around 125 people benefited from the services provided on September 21st.



## d. ST. EDWARD'S GLOBAL CAPSTONE

The Austin-Lima Sister Cities Committee helped Mr. John M. Mueller, Professor of the MBA Capstone Class at St. Edward's University, with organizing a trip to Perú for the students from his class. 2019 was the second year in which the St. Ed's MBA class does a Global Capstone for its students.

The purpose of this course was to provide a management consulting experience that directly relates to what the students have learned in their previous courses in the MBA program at St. Edward's University. As part of the course the students worked on a consulting project with VisaNet Perú, the largest payment processing company in Lima, Perú. The students defined the scope of work and the deliverables to the client.

A group of eleven (11) students traveled to Perú from October 27th to November 2nd. During their stay in Lima, the students were able to work on projects that were assigned to them by VisaNet Perú. After their stay in Perú, the Global Capstone students continued their Lima assignments in Austin.



**VisaNet**  
Perú

St. Edward's MBA Global Capstone Students in Lima at VisaNet Perú Offices. Photo courtesy of VisaNet Perú.

## e. PASSPORT TO THE WORLD

The Austin-Lima Sister Cities committee was honored to participate in ASCI's Fourth Annual Fall Event: Passport To The World.

Austin-Lima Sister Cities invited all its followers to the Passport To The World event, in which people were able to learn about the history, culture and traditions of the different sister cities and especially Lima. This was a free family-friendly event with Live Performances & Kids Activities.

The Committee prepared two arts and crafts activities for kids. The first was a "create your own t-shirt", and the second was "build your own pan flute". Both activities were heavily attended and popular amongst the participants. We also prepared an interactive cultural booth. We established connections with people who had travelled to Peru in the past.

Amongst the performances, the ALSC participated with two different Marinera dances. First, the Marinera Palo Blanco performed by Capullanas USA as a group. Right after, Ms. Miriam Kerslake and Mr. Jose Carlos Montero performed the Marinera Sonando El Cuero del Tambor.

Marinera is a coastal dance of Perú and is a graceful and romantic couple's dance that uses handkerchiefs as props. The dance is an elegant and stylized reenactment of a courtship, and it shows a blend of the different cultures of Perú. The dance itself has gained a lot of recognition and is one of the most popular traditional dances of Perú.







#### 4. | List of Proposed Activities in 2020.

The Austin-Lima Sister Cities committee is in the process of creating its strategic plan for 2020. Our committee is planning the following activities:

##### **PERÚ IN SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST 2020**

Due to budget cuts by the Peruvian government, Casa Perú 2019 was not possible. ALSC is resuming conversations with PromPerú, the agency of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism Specialized Technical Agency, to bringing Perú to SXSW for the second time to Austin during 2021.



##### **TOUR PERÚ**

ALSC is organizing a festival to introduce the richness of the Peruvian culture through cinema, music, literature, and gastronomy. This celebration of Peru's historical legacy is scheduled to be in November, and will be open to the public.

5. | Fundraising Activities: List events and amounts raised.

The Austin-Lima Sister Cities Committee did not have any fundraising-related activities for 2019. Our committee is planning fundraising initiatives for 2020.

6. | Economic Impact of Activities.

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	ATTENDEES	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
10/20	Austin World Tour	Austin Public Library	275+	Booth Decor, Promo Items & Gift Book	\$150
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$150</b>

