

Sergio Troncoso is the author of *Nobody's Pilgrims, A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son, The Last Tortilla and Other Stories, Crossing Borders: Personal Essays, The Nature of Truth*, and *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*; and as editor, *Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in between Worlds* and *Our Lost Border: Essays on Life Amid the Narco-Violence*.

He often writes about the United States-Mexico border, working-class immigrants, families and fatherhood, crossing cultural, psychological, and philosophical borders, and the border beyond the border.



Troncoso has taught at the Yale Writers' Workshop in New Haven, Connecticut since 2013. A past president of the Texas Institute of Letters, he has also served as a judge for the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, *New Letters* Literary Awards in the Essay category, and the Jesse H. Jones Fellowship for Writers. His work has appeared in *Pleiades, Texas Highways, Houston Chronicle, Other Voices, CNN Opinion, New Letters, Yale Review, Michigan Quarterly Review*, and *Texas Monthly*.

The son of Mexican immigrants, Troncoso was born and grew up on the east side of El Paso, Texas in rural Ysleta. He graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard College and received two graduate degrees in international relations and philosophy from Yale University. A Fulbright scholar, he was inducted into the Hispanic Scholarship Fund's Alumni Hall of Fame, Texas Institute of Letters, and Texas Literary Hall of Fame. He was named a Fellow of the Texas Institute of Letters, the first Mexican American writer to receive this distinction.

Among the numerous literary awards Troncoso has won are the Kay Cattarulla Award for Best Short Story, Premio Aztlan Literary Prize, Gold Medal for Best Novel-Adventure or Drama from the International Latino Book Awards, Bronze Award for Anthologies from the Independent Publisher Book Awards, Gold Medal for Best Collection of Short Stories from the International Latino Book Awards, Southwest Book Award, Bronze Award for Essays from *ForeWord Reviews*, and the Silver Award for Multicultural Adult Fiction from *ForeWord Reviews*.

The El Paso City Council voted unanimously to rename the public library branch in Ysleta as the Sergio Troncoso Branch Library.

His literary papers are archived at The Wittliff Collections in San Marcos, Texas.

[*Nobody's Pilgrims*](#) is an adventure story about three teenagers trying to find their place in a dystopian America and on the run from evil. Elizabeth Crook, author of *The Which Way Tree*: “Eloquent, bold and terrifying.”

[*Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in between Worlds*](#) received a starred review from *Kirkus Reviews*: “A deeply meaningful collection that navigates important nuances of identity.”

[*A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son*](#) is a book of linked short stories about immigration, Mexican-American diaspora, perspectivism, and time. Luis Alberto Urrea praised it as “a world-class collection.”

[*The Nature of Truth*](#) is a philosophical thriller about a Yale research student who discovers that his boss, a renowned professor, hides a Nazi past. Rigoberto Gonzalez for *The El Paso Times*: “Sergio Troncoso’s *The Nature of Truth* single-handedly redefines the Chicano novel and the literary thriller.”

[*From This Wicked Patch of Dust*](#) is a story about the Martinez family from rural Ysleta in El Paso, Texas who struggles to stay together after coming to the United States. In a starred review, *Kirkus Reviews* said the novel was “an engaging literary achievement,” and chose it as one of the best books of the year.

[*Crossing Borders: Personal Essays*](#) is a collection of essays about how Troncoso made the leap from poverty on the border to the Ivy League, his wife’s battle against breast cancer, his struggles as a writer in New York and Texas, and fatherhood. The *Portland Book Review* said the book was “Heart-wrenching.”

[*Our Lost Border: Essays on Life amid the Narco-Violence*](#) is a collection of essays on how the bi-national and bi-cultural existence along the United States-Mexico border has been disrupted by recent drug violence. *Publishers Weekly* called it an “eye-opening collection of essays.”

Booklist hailed Troncoso’s first book, [*The Last Tortilla and Other Stories*](#), with “Enthusiastically recommended.” *Publishers Weekly* said, “These stories are richly satisfying.”

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Website: www.SergioTroncoso.com

Professional History:

He is one of five judges of the Jesse H. Jones Fellowship for Writers from the Texas Institute of Letters, 2025.

Sergio Troncoso was inducted into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame, 2024.

He was named a Fellow of the Texas Institute of Letters by unanimous vote of the TIL Council, 2023. He is the first Mexican American writer to receive this distinction.

He was elected Investment Officer of the Texas Institute of Letters, 2023.

His literary papers are archived at The Wittliff Collections in San Marcos, TX, 2020.

Troncoso was elected President of the Texas Institute of Letters, 2020.

He was elected Vice President of the Texas Institute of Letters, 2018.

He was a National Writing Juror in the Personal Essay/Memoir Category for the Scholastic Writing Awards in 2018.

In 2017, he was final judge in the Essay category of the *New Letters* Literary Awards.

Troncoso was elected to a second two-year term (2017-2019) on the Board of Councilors of the Texas Institute of Letters. In May of 2017, he was appointed Secretary, one of four officers of the TIL.

He was a National Writing Juror in the Critical Essay category for the Scholastic Writing Awards in 2017.

Troncoso served as one of three national judges for the 2016 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction.

From 2012-2014, he was a judge on the Literature Panel of the New York State Council for the Arts, and in his final year he was co-chair of that panel.

He was one of three national judges for the Shrake Award for Short Nonfiction from the Texas Institute of Letters in 2014.

From 2004-2012, he served as a judge for the McNamara Creative Arts Project Grants from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund.

Troncoso was inducted as a Member of the Texas Institute of Letters in 2012.

From 2000-2008, he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Hudson Valley Writers' Center and served as chairman of the Finance Committee for his final two years. For many years, he was a member of the Literary Advisory Committee.

From 2009-2018, he was a member of the National Advisory Board of the George Caleb Bingham Academy.

Troncoso served as a member of the Board of Directors of Curbstone Press from 2006-2007.

He has been a member of PEN America since 2004.

Since 2002, he has been a member of the Authors Guild.

Publications:

-----Books-----

Nobody's Pilgrims, Lee & Low Books: Cinco Puntos Press, New York, NY, 2022.

Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in between Worlds (editor), Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX, 2021.

A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son, Cinco Puntos Press, El Paso, TX, 2019.

Our Lost Border: Essays on Life amid the Narco-Violence (co-editor), Arte Público Press, Houston, TX, 2013.

Crossing Borders: Personal Essays, Arte Público Press, Houston, TX, 2011.

From This Wicked Patch of Dust, University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ, 2011.

The Nature of Truth: A Novel, Northwestern University Press, Evanston, IL, 2003; Arte Público Press, Houston, TX, 2014 (revised and updated edition).

The Last Tortilla and Other Stories, University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ, 1999.

-----Short Stories, Essays, and Newspaper Articles-----

"Broken Circles of Time," *Pleiades: Literature in Context*, Vol. 44, No. 2, Fall 2024.

"Are We a Society of Superficiality or Substance?" *El Paso Matters*, Op-Ed essay, July 2, 2024.

"Predicting the Pandemic in *Nobody's Pilgrims*," *The Open Book Blog: Lee & Low*, May 12, 2022.

"Dust to Dust: A mother's hope binds her family in Ysleta," *Texas Highways Magazine*, August 2021.

"Texas shouldn't cancel debate about its history," *El Paso Matters*, Op-Ed essay, July 12, 2021.

"This is what the border reveals in all of us," *Houston Chronicle*, Op-Ed essay, April 18, 2021.

"Los viejitos: oldsters, our heritage, and the pandemic," *Houston Chronicle*, Op-Ed essay, October 17, 2020.

"Sergio Troncoso Celebrates Cinco Puntos Press's 35 Years in El Paso," *El Paso Matters*, Commentary, August 28, 2020.

"Sergio Troncoso Remembers Rudolfo Anaya," *El Paso Times*, Opinion, July 12, 2020.

"My family's El Paso's story is quintessentially American," *CNN Digital: CNN Opinion*, August 7, 2019.

- “Life as Crossing Borders,” *New Letters*, Vol. 85, No. 4, 2019.
- “Fragments of a Dream,” *New Guard Literary Review*, Volume VII, 2018.
- “Eternal Return,” *Yale Review*, Volume 106, No. 3, July 2018.
- Review Essay: “Leaving El Paso,” *Texas Monthly Magazine*, June 2018.
- “Five Fresh Looks at the Tejano/Mexicano Experience,” *Dallas Morning News*, Book/Arts Section, September 24, 2017.
- “Library Island,” *Michigan Quarterly Review*, Volume 56, No. 1, Winter 2017.
- “Turnaround in the Dark,” *Origins Journal*, Issue 1, Volume 2, Fall 2015.
- “Book review: Isabel Quintero’s *Gabi, a Girl in Pieces*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, April 19, 2015.
- “The Good Son,” *Texas Monthly Magazine*, April 2015.
- “Yamecah,” *Review: Literature and Arts of the Americas*, Issue 89: The Americas in New York, Americas Society/Council of the Americas, Vol. 47, No. 2, November 2014.
- “Book review: Denise Chávez’s *The King and Queen of Comezón*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, November 23, 2014.
- “Blair Academy and the Border,” *The Blair Review*, Blair Academy, Summer 2014.
- “Book review: Bill Minutaglio and Steven L. Davis’s *Dallas 1963*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, November 3, 2013.
- “Book review: Daniel Chácon’s *Hotel Juárez: Stories, Rooms, and Loops*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, June 16, 2013.
- “New Worlds: April-May 1989,” *Front Porch Journal*, Texas State University, No. 23, May 2013.
- “Book review: Rigoberto González’s *Red-Inked Retablos*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, March 31, 2013.
- “Book review: Joy Castro’s *Hell or High Water*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, September 30, 2012.
- “A Patriot’s Right To Firmly Disagree,” *The El Paso Times*, Sunday Editorial Section, January 1, 2012.
- “Harvardiana Latino,” *The Packinghouse Review*, Vol. II, No. 4, 2011.
- “New Englander,” *The Packinghouse Review*, Vol. II, No. 3, 2011.

“This Wicked Patch of Dust,” *The Packinghouse Review*, Vol. II, No. 3, 2011.

“The Loss of Juárez: How Has the Violence in Juárez Changed Border Culture?” *Literal Magazine: Latin American Voices*, Issue 23, Winter 2011.

“A Third Culture: Literature and Migration,” *Literal Magazine: Latin American Voices*, Issue 20, Spring 2010.

“Michael Phelps and the Violence in Mexico: Connect the Dots,” *The News*, English-language newspaper from Mexico City, February 11, 2009; *Newspaper Tree*, Online newspaper from El Paso, Texas, February 10, 2009.

“Trapped,” *T-Zero Quarterly*, Writers’ Village University, January 2009.

“Apostate of my Literary Family,” *Pembroke Magazine*, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Vol. 40, 2008.

“Book Review: Daniel A. Olivas’s *Latinos in Lotusland*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, April 27, 2008.

“The Father Is in the Details,” *Westchester Review*, Vol. 2, 2008.

“Beyond Aztlán: Chicanos in the Ivy League,” *Academic Curriculum for Excellence*, ENLACE Program, New Mexico State University, 2007.

“Why Should Latinos Write Their Own Stories,” *Academic Curriculum for Excellence*, ENLACE Program, New Mexico State University, 2007.

“Book Review: Ana Castillo’s *The Guardians*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, July 22, 2007.

“Book Review: Eileen Welsome’s *The General and the Jaguar*,” *Multicultural Review*, Vol. 16, No. 2, Summer 2007.

“Downtown Revitalization Proponents Don’t Understand El Segundo Barrio,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Editorial Section, June 25, 2006.

“Book Review: Rudolfo Anaya’s *The Man Who Could Fly and Other Stories*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, April 2, 2006.

“Book Review: David Dorado Romo’s *Ringside Seat to a Revolution: An Underground Cultural History of El Paso and Juárez: 1893-1923*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, November 13, 2005; *La Voz De Esperanza*, Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, Vol. 18, No. 10, December 2005-January 2006.

“Book Review: Luis Alberto Urrea’s *The Hummingbird’s Daughter*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, October 30, 2005.

“Mexican Revolution,” *Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture, and Society in the United States*, edited by Ilan Stavans and Harold Augenbraum, Grolier Scholastic, New York, NY, 2005.

“El Paso,” *Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture, and Society in the United States*, edited by Ilan Stavans and Harold Augenbraum, Grolier Scholastic, New York, NY, 2005.

“Cuento,” *Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture, and Society in the United States*, edited by Ilan Stavans and Harold Augenbraum, Grolier Scholastic, New York, NY, 2005.

“Posadas,” *Encyclopedia Latina: History, Culture, and Society in the United States*, edited by Ilan Stavans and Harold Augenbraum, Grolier Scholastic, New York, NY, 2005.

“Book Review: Ernesto Quiñonez's *Chango's Fire*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, November 21, 2004.

“Latinos do not want to be categorized,” *El Paso Times*, Editorials and Opinions, May 11, 2004.

“Commentary: Crossing Borders,” *Hadassah Magazine*, Vol. 85, No. 6, February 2004.

“Spanish Lessons,” *Westchester Journal News*, co-written with Christine Lehner, October 2, 2003.

“Believable unbelievable stories,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, June 22, 2003.

“Book Review: Dagoberto Gilb's *Gritos*,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, May 18, 2003.

“My Trip to the El Paso Public Library,” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, April 13, 2003.

“Why is literature not necessarily elitist?” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, December 22, 2002.

“How do we turn our children into early readers?” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, November 10, 2002; *Street Scenes*, Bank Street College of Education, Winter 2003.

“What should Latino literature be?” *El Paso Times*, Sunday Book Section, October 20, 2002.

“We Will Grieve Now, But Then We Will Get Up Again,” *Newsday*, Editorials and Viewpoints, September 12, 2001; *Jewish World Review* (www.jewishworldreview.com), September 13, 2001.

“Latinos Find an America on the Border of Acceptance,” *Newsday*, Editorials and Viewpoints, July 8, 2001; *El Boletín*, Latino Studies Program, Cornell University, Fall 2001.

“Imagine Ysleta,” *BookSense* (www.booksense.com), June 2001.

“Why Should Latinos Write Their Own Stories?” *QueSuave* (www.quesuave.net), November 2000; *InLaCasa* (www.inlacasa.com), February 2001.

“A Day Without Ideas,” *T-Zero Xpandizine* (www.4-writers.com), Vol. 2, No. 1, January 1999.

“Fresh Challah,” *Hadassah Magazine*, Vol. 80, No. 5, January 1999.

“Remembering Possibilities,” *Other Voices*, University of Illinois at Chicago, Vol. 10, No. 27, Fall/Winter 1997.

“Angie Luna,” *Electric Mercado* (www.mercado.com), Vol. 3, No. 1, February 1998.

“Espíritu Santo,” *Electric Mercado* (www.mercado.com), Vol. 1, No. 11, September 1996; *T-Zero Writers' Annual* (www.4-writers.com), Vol. 1, No. 1, January 1998.

“The Snake,” *Blue Mesa Review*, University of New Mexico, No. 7, 1995; *Electric Mercado* (www.mercado.com), Vol. 1, No. 10, August 1996.

“The Gardener,” *American Way*, The Magazine of American Airlines, Vol. 27, No. 22, November 15, 1994.

“A Rock Trying To Be A Stone,” *Blue Mesa Review*, University of New Mexico, No. 6, 1994; *Electric Mercado* (www.mercado.com), Vol. 2, No. 1, May 1997.

“The Abuelita,” *Río Grande Review*, University of Texas at El Paso, Vol. 8, No. 2, Spring 1989.

-----Anthologies-----

“Life as Crossing Borders,” *Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in between Worlds*, edited by Sergio Troncoso, Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX, 2021.

“Passing Ambition,” *We Wear the Mask: Fifteen True Stories of Passing in America*, edited by Brando Skyhorse and Lisa Page, Beacon Press, Boston, MA, 2017.

“Why Read?” *Critical Thinking, Thoughtful Writing*, edited by John Chaffee, Cengage Learning, Sixth edition, New York, NY, 2014.

“The Loss of Juárez,” *NewBorder: Contemporary Voices from the US/Mexico Border*, edited by Brandon D. Shuler, Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX, 2014.

“The Loss of Juárez: How Has the Violence in Juárez Changed Border Culture?” *The Master Reader and Writer: High School Edition*, First Edition, edited by D. J. Henry, Pearson/Longman, New York, NY, 2014.

“The Loss of Juárez: How Has the Violence in Juárez Changed Border Culture?” *Writing for Life: Paragraphs and Essays*, Third Edition, edited by D. J. Henry, Pearson/Longman, New York, NY, 2013.

“Work@Character,” *Writing for Life: Sentences and Paragraphs*, Second Edition, edited by D. J. Henry, Pearson/Longman, New York, NY, 2013.

“El Paso, Texas: la pérdida de la frontera,” *Nuestra Aparente Rendición: Antología*, edited by Lolita Bosch, Random House Mondadori, Mexico City, Mexico, 2011.

“Nuts,” *You Don’t Have a Clue: Latino Mystery Stories for Teens*, edited by Sarah Cortez, Arte Público Press, Houston, TX, 2011.

“Punching Chickens” and “The Snake,” *Camino del Sol: Fifteen Years of Latina and Latino Writing*, edited by Rigoberto González, University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ, 2010.

“New York Chicano,” *Hit List: The Best of Latino Mystery*, edited by Sarah Cortez and Liz Martinez, Arte Público Press, Houston, TX, 2009.

“The Abuelita,” *Literary El Paso*, edited by Marcia Hatfield Daudistel, Texas Christian University Press, Fort Worth, TX, 2009.

“A Rock Trying To Be A Stone,” *Hecho en Tejas: An Anthology of Texas-Mexican Literature*, edited by Dagoberto Gilb, University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, NM, 2007.

“My Life in the City,” *Latino Boom: An Anthology of U.S. Latino Literature*, edited by John Christie and Jose Gonzalez, Pearson/Longman Publishing, New York, NY, 2005.

“The Gardener,” *Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment Test*, Harcourt Assessment, Inc., New York, NY, 2005.

“The Snake,” *Once Upon a Cuento*, edited by Lyn Miller-Lachmann, Curbstone Press, Willimantic, CT, 2003; *City Wilds: Essays and Stories about Urban Nature*, edited by Terence Dixon, University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA, 2002.

“Una Piedra Tratando de Volverse Roca,” (Spanish translation of "A Rock Trying to be a Stone") *Tierra Adentro: Cuentario*, Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, Mexico City, Mexico, No. 117-118, August-November 2002.

“Angie Luna,” *New World: Young Latino Writers*, edited by Ilan Stavans, Dell Publishing, New York, NY, 1997.

Selected Awards and Honors:

Inductee, Texas Literary Hall of Fame, 2024

Sergio Troncoso Day, El Paso County, El Paso County Commissioners' Declaration, October 28, 2024

Honorable Mention, *Nobody's Pilgrims*, Fiction Award, Philosophical Society of Texas, 2023

Top Ten List for Fiction, Nonfiction, and Social Advocacy, *Nobody's Pilgrims*, *In the Margins* Book Awards, 2023

Bronze Award for Anthologies, *Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in Between Worlds*, Independent Publisher Book Awards, 2023

Finalist for Multicultural Adult Fiction, *Nobody's Pilgrims*, *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Awards, 2023

Finalist for Montaigne Medal for most thought-provoking book, *Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in Between Worlds*, Eric Hoffer Book Awards, 2023

Gold Medal for Best Novel- Adventure or Drama (English), *Nobody's Pilgrims*, International Latino Book Award from Empowering Latino Futures, 2022

Bronze Medal for The Rudolfo Anaya Best Latino Focused Fiction Book Award (English), *Nobody's Pilgrims*, International Latino Book Award from Empowering Latino Futures, 2022

Finalist in Edwin Shrake Award for Best Short Nonfiction, "Dust to Dust: A Mother's Hope Binds Her Family in the Border Town of Ysleta," Texas Institute of Letters, 2022

Silver Medal for The Rudolfo Anaya Best Latino Focused Fiction Book Award (English), *A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son*, International Latino Book Award from Empowering Latino Futures, 2021

Silver Medal for Best Culturally Themed Academic Book, *Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican American Literature on Families in Between Worlds*, International Latino Book Award from Empowering Latino Futures, 2021

Gold Medal for Best Collection of Short Stories (English or Bilingual), *A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son*, International Latino Book Award from Empowering Latino Futures (formerly Latino Literacy Now), 2020

Silver Award for Multicultural Adult Fiction, *A Peculiar Kind of Immigrant's Son*, *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Awards, 2020

Winner of the Kay Cattarulla Award for Best Short Story, "Rosary on the Border," Texas Institute of Letters, 2020

Finalist in Edwin Shrake Award for Best Short Nonfiction, "Passing Ambition," Texas Institute of Letters, 2018

Finalist in Machigonne Fiction Contest, “Fragments of a Dream,” *New Guard Literary Review Volume VII*, 2018

Longlist in Disquiet Literary Prize (Fiction), “Mexican Rosary,” *Guernica Magazine*, 2016

Finalist in Genre Fiction, *The Nature of Truth* (revised and updated 2014 edition), Housatonic Book Awards, 2016

Bronze Award for Multicultural Fiction, *The Nature of Truth* (revised and updated 2014 edition), *Foreword INDIES* Book of the Year Awards, 2015

The El Paso City Council voted unanimously to rename public library branch in Ysleta as the Sergio Troncoso Branch Library, 2014

Gold Medal for Best Latino-focused Nonfiction Book (Bilingual), *Our Lost Border: Essays on Life amid the Narco-Violence*, International Latino Book Award from Latino Literacy Now, 2014

Southwest Book Award, *Our Lost Border: Essays on Life amid the Narco-Violence*, Border Regional Library Association, 2013

Short-listed runner-up for biannual PEN/Texas Southwest Book Award for Fiction, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, 2013

Literary Legacy Award, El Paso Community College, 2013

Southwest Book Award, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, Border Regional Library Association, 2012

Finalist for Red Hen Short Story Award, “Turnaround in the Dark,” 2012

Best Books of 2012, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, *Kirkus Reviews*, 2012

Finalist for Reading the West Award in Adult Fiction, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, Mountains and Plains Independent Booksellers Association, 2012

Bronze Award for Essays, *Crossing Borders: Personal Essays*, *Foreword INDIES* Book of the Year Awards, 2012

Honorable Mention for Multicultural Fiction, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, *Foreword INDIES* Book of the Year Awards, 2012

Silver Medal for Fiction, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, Nautilus Book Awards, 2012

Silver Medal for Multicultural Literature, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, Nautilus Book Awards, 2012

Honorable Mention for Best Novel in English (Adventure/Drama), *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, International Latino Book Awards from Latino Literacy Now, 2012

Silver Medal for Best Biography in English, *Crossing Borders: Personal Essays*, International Latino Book Awards from Latino Literacy Now, 2012

Inductee, Texas Institute of Letters, 2012

Honorable Mention for Fiction in the Tejas Fiction Award, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies, 2012

Notable Book in *Southwest Books of the Year*, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, Pima County Library, 2011

Best Books of 2011, *From This Wicked Patch of Dust*, *Dark Sky Magazine*, 2011

Best Books of 2011, *Crossing Borders: Personal Essays*, *The Hispanic Reader*, 2011

Honoree, Hudson Valley Writers' Center Annual Gala in Sleepy Hollow, New York, 2011

Honorable Mention in Nonfiction, *New Millennium Writings*, 2011

Inductee, Hispanic Scholarship Fund's Alumni Hall of Fame, 2003

Best Literary Web Site, *America Online Hometown*, 2003

El Paso Public Library selection of *The Last Tortilla and Other Stories* for the citywide book club, *Read as One/Leamos Juntos*, 2003

Southwest Book Award for *The Last Tortilla and Other Stories*, Border Regional Library Association, 2000

Premio Aztlán Literary Prize for *The Last Tortilla and Other Stories* for the Best Book by a new Chicano writer, author Rudolfo Anaya and the University of New Mexico, 1999

University Fellowship for graduate work in Philosophy, Yale University, 1991-92

Charlie Deere Wiman Fellowship for graduate work in Philosophy, Yale University, 1990-91

National Hispanic Scholarship, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, 1990

University Fellowship for graduate work in Philosophy, Yale University, 1989-90

Summer Scholarship for studying German in Vienna, Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research, 1989

National Hispanic Scholarship, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, 1988

University Fellowship for graduate work in International Relations, Yale University, 1985-87

National Hispanic Scholarship, Hispanic Scholarship Fund, 1984-85

Fulbright Scholarship to study in Mexico, United States Government, 1983

Magna Cum Laude for senior thesis in Government Department, Harvard College, 1983

Latin America Certificate for undergraduate work, Harvard College, 1983

Scholarship from Gannett Newspaper Foundation and *The El Paso Times* to attend Blair Summer School for Journalism, 1978