

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Voice Your Language

A Free Public Forum on Multilingual Education in California

FEBRUARY 20, 2017 – MONTEZUMA HALL  
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM



REYNA GRANDE

Award-winning author of *The Distance Between Us*, *Across a Hundred Mountains*, and *Dancing with Butterflies*



AMADA IRMA PÉREZ

Award-winning author of *Nana, Qué Sorpresa/Nana's Big Surprise*, *Mi Diario De Aquí Hasta Allá/My Diary from Here to There*, and *Mi Propio Cuartito/My Very Own Room*



123ANDRÉS

Bilingual musician and 2016 Latin Grammy Winner - Best Children's Album



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Presented by students from the:  
Department of Dual Language and English Learner Education

Must register to attend: <https://goo.gl/forms/3zhKRf53Wcj4bfvo2>

Made possible by Student Success Fee, Academically Related Programs funding



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# Welcome

He said that if culture is a house, then language was the key to the front door; to all the rooms inside. Without it, he said, you ended up wayward, without a proper home or legitimate identity.

*-Khaled Hosseini*

Students in the Department of Dual Language and English Learner Education at San Diego State University welcome you to the **3rd annual Voice Your Language (VYL) Forum** on multilingual education in California. This grassroots effort is dedicated to recognizing the many facets of language. Language communicates culture and cultivates both individual and group identity. It also plays a crucial role in educational policies and practice. We aim to promote awareness that languages are valuable and powerful tools that can greatly impact and facilitate learning.

This year our VYL guest speakers bring knowledge and experiences that contribute to our broad understanding of language, literacy, culture, immigration, and identity. Thank you for accepting our invitation to participate in a dialogue about how we, as multilingual learners and educators, can construct and promote multilingualism in our schools, community, and world.

Please use Twitter and Instagram to share your comments and photos from the Voice Your Language Forum using the hashtag **#VYL2017**. Books and CDs from our guest speakers will be given away randomly throughout the event to individuals sharing their experiences on social media!



# Agenda

10:00 AM - 10:10 AM

**Welcome:** Arturo Navarro and  
Dr. Karen Cadiero-Kaplan  
*DLE Department Chair*

10:10 AM - 10:50 AM

**Amada Irma Pérez**  
Introduced by: Ivan Sillas-Navarro

10:50 AM - 11:30 AM

**123 Andrés**  
Introduced by: Karina Padilla

11:30 AM - 12:10 PM

**Reyna Grande**  
Introduced by: Sandra Diaz

12:10 PM - 12:50 PM

***Panel Discussion and Community Dialogue***  
With Reyna, Andrés, and Amada  
Facilitated by: Arturo Navarro and  
Dr. Sera Hernandez

12:50 PM – 1:00 PM

***Concluding Thoughts:*** Dr. Cristina Alfaro

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

***Book and CD Signing***



## Guest Speakers

### *Amada Irma Pérez:*



Amada Irma Pérez is an award-winning bilingual children's book author. After more than 25 years of being a classroom teacher, from kindergarten through university graduate classrooms, she wrote her first book, *My Very Own Room-Mi propio cuartito*. It won the Tomas Rivera Children's Book Award, was inducted into the Latino Literature Archives of the University of Southwest Texas, San Marcos, and is given to every newborn in San Antonio, Texas through the Library Foundation's "Born to Read" program. Her second autobiographical fiction bilingual picture book, *My Diary From Here to There-Mi diario de aquí hasta allá*, was published and distinguished with the Pura Belpre Honor Book Award which is given by REFORMA through the American Library Association.

### *123 Andrés:*



Andrés Salguero, better known as 123 Andrés, is one of the most exciting new voices in the family music scene in the US and Latin America. He is referred to as "a rockstar for little language learners" by Billboard Magazine. Andrés, a native of Bogotá, Colombia brings joyful sounds, passion for bilingualism, and a high-energy to his audience through music that gets kids singing and dancing in Spanish and English.

## Guest Speakers

### Reyna Grande:



Reyna Grande is an award-winning novelist and memoirist. She has received an American Book Award, the El Premio Aztlán Literary Award, and the International Latino Book Award, among many others. Reyna's works have been published internationally in countries such as Norway and South Korea. In her latest book, *The Distance Between Us*, Reyna writes about her life before and after illegally immigrating from Iguala, Mexico to the United States. An inspirational coming-of-age story about the pursuit of a better life, *The Distance Between Us* is now available as a young readers edition. Reyna is an active promoter of Latino literature and is a sought-after speaker at high schools, colleges, and universities across the nation.



# My Thinking



# Panel Discussion and Community Dialogue



# Acknowledgements

**Keynote Speakers:** 123 Andrés, Reyna Grande, and Amada Irma Pérez

**Faculty Sponsor and Mentor:** Dr. Sera Hernandez

**VYL Planning Committee and Volunteers**

**Student Lead Organizer:** Arturo Navarro

**Student Volunteer Lead:** Sandra Diaz

**Harpist:** Miguel Lopez

**Special Thanks To:** Dr. Cristina Alfaro, Dr. Karen Cadiero-Kaplan, Gisel Barrett, Esmeralda Cortes, and Elizabeth Delgado

**Funding Support:** Student Success Fee/Academically Related Programs Funding

**Breakfast Generously Provided By:**



After the event, please respond to our VYL reflection using the barcode or website below. Thank you!

**Gold Coast Deli and Bagels**

5658 Lake Murray Blvd. La Mesa, CA  
(619) 589-9048

[goldcoastdeliandbagels@gmail.com](mailto:goldcoastdeliandbagels@gmail.com)



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