

Longtime Valley Teacher to Retire

By Mariah Miranda

How many teachers do you know that taught at only one school their entire career? There are not too many but Mrs. Rubio is one of those rare teachers. And after today, she will be retiring from teaching.

Mrs. Rubio will be retiring after teaching for 26 years at Valley. She has taught English, Civics, Economics, Spanish, U.S. History, World History, Credit Recovery, Careers Life Skills, and was the ASB advisor.

Before Mrs. Rubio became a teacher she worked as a secretary for the Special Projects Office. During this time she would work and take evening classes to become a teacher. She attended Bakersfield College where she earned her Associates of Arts degree. She then attended California State University, Bakersfield where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree. She continued her education at National University for her teaching credential. Mrs. Rubio has always wanted to be a teacher. "I've always wanted to be a teacher, but I had considered going into real estate for a time."

Mrs. Rubio says that she has worked for many fine principals over the years such as Dr. Rodriguez, Mr. Williams, Mr. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. DeLeon, Mr. Juarez and now, Mr. Diaz. She also says that it has been a pleasure working with Therese, Diana, Mr. T. Mrs. Ott, Mrs. Feliscian, Mrs. Lara, Jose, Noemi and of course, the VHS teachers and counselor: Mr. Beltran, Mr. Santillano, Mr. Barbee, Mr. Renteria, Mrs. Valdez, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Brown. "These fine people have all brought good ideas on how to make Valley High a better place for students and staff."



"It does not surprise me that I taught for so many years here at Valley because I have always enjoyed what I do, teaching and interacting with students and staff."

- Mrs. Rubio

Mrs. Rubio's plans for retirement are to help with her mother, her four grandchildren, to relax a bit and travel. After the pandemic, she would like to visit her friends in Mexico City as it has been a long time since she visited them. She would like a return visit to Hawaii and would like to go to Cabo. She will also be taking more local trips to Monterey, Pismo, and the Los Angeles area to visit friends and relatives, and of course, Disneyland!

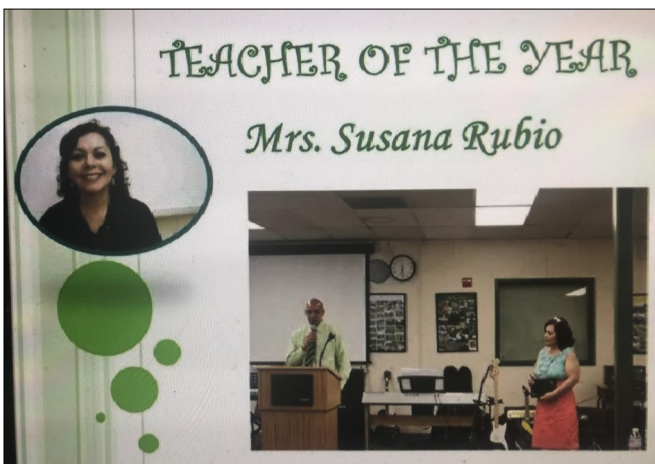
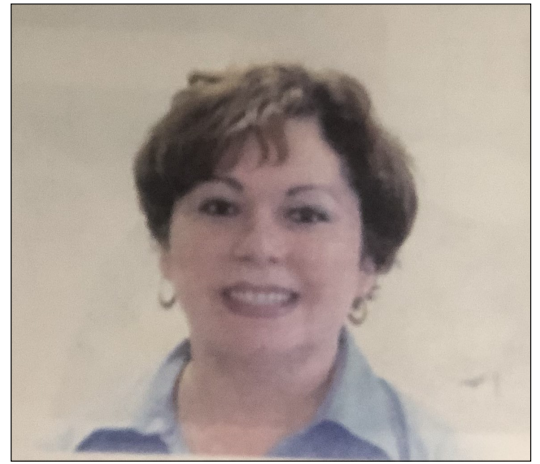
Mrs. Rubio said that she has had numerous kind and caring teachers that have inspired her. However, her mentors have always been her parents. "Before my father passed, he and my mom taught us, respect, honesty, and hard-work. I will always have their unconditional love," said Rubio.

When asked what she will miss most about teaching, she said she will miss interacting with the students and staff. "Being a small school, we get to know one another. So, I will miss you all. Also, the Friday lunches and the ASB activities," she said. She shares that her most memorable moments are the graduations and seeing how proud the students feel to achieve this goal. She has also enjoyed when the students get recognized for their academic and attendance efforts.

Mrs. Rubio would like to give advice to a new teacher is to really care about the students and have patience with them. Also, she says, to have a love for teaching because then it will not feel like a job and time will fly by as it did for me.

Thank you for all the years at Valley High School. Good luck in your retirement. You will be missed.

Farewell Mrs. Rubio



Students of the Cycle Announced

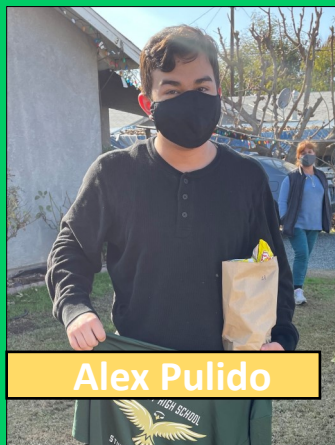
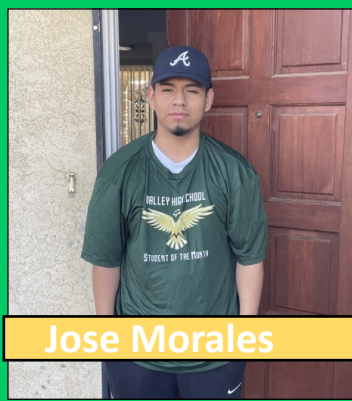
by Cameron Rios

On Tuesday, December 15, staff from Valley High School hit the streets of Delano and Earlimart to give a bag of snacks and a t-shirt to Valley students that received Students of the Cycle. Congratulations to Omar Garibay, Jose Morales, Alex Pulido, Carlos Beltran, Angel Garza, Alvaro Bailon, Carlos Coronado, Maria Galindo, Lorenzo Lara, Clarissa Gutierrez, Cameron Rios, Wendy Sablas, Mariah Miranda, Carlos Flores, Karen Fajardo and Martaicela Sigala for working hard and receiving this honor.

Mr. Diaz, Mr. Santillano, Mr. Leyva, and Mr. Beltran went to the homes of several students and presented them with a bag of treats and a Valley High School Student of the Month t-shirt. According to Mr. Diaz, a student gets this honor by several ways: teacher recommendation, academic progress, and attendance.

Mr. Santillano said that this is an important recognition that serves to reward hard work and inspire continued efforts. There were different factors that were considered such as grades, credits teacher recommendation, to name a few. Mr. Leyva thinks the student of the cycle is something everyone one should strive for. "It's good to have goals even though you don't succeed the first time. And it's especially important to keep striving after you reach your goal and in this case it's student of the cycle," said Leyva.

To win student of the cycle it takes maximum effort, good grades, excellent attendance, and a great attitude. Which are all very achievable. The student of the cycle is a great reward because it motivates students to get to it. Work hard, show up to school everyday and be motivated to get those credits so that next time you to will get a visit from a Valley High School teacher, counselor or even the Principal.



Magic Mountain Holiday in the Park Drive-thru Experience

by Briana Landeros

Looking for a great family entertainment place, somewhere the whole family could enjoy - while maintaining social distancing during this pandemic?

Well, Holiday in the Park Drive-thru Experience at Magic Mountain is the right place. As we know a lot of things have changed due to covid-19 but the amusement park is trying to bring back some of that family enjoyment and fun while also taking precautionary measures. This experience that is in Valencia, California, about an hour south, is worth the money and time. There are spectacular lights shows and displays mixed in with sing-along songs, hot chocolate, and much more. A lot of the allure of this experience is also the fact that you are driving thru the actual park in your vehicle. It's a surreal drive maneuvering under the roller coasters and next to the attractions.



Tickets

Admissions tickets start at \$25 per person. (Children under the age of 3 are free). Tickets must be purchased online and in advance. Members and Season Passholders can use their pass for free admission along with a required reservation.

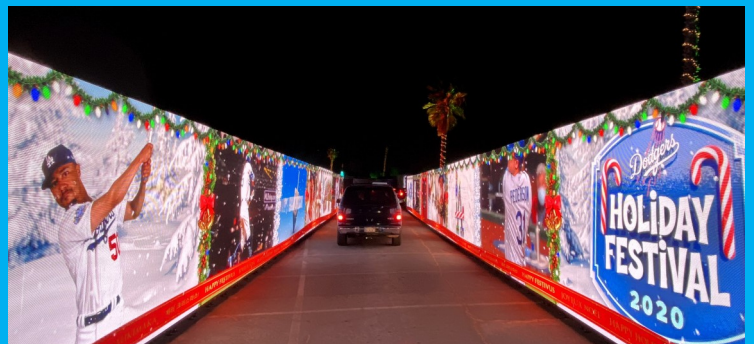
Treats & Merch

There will be treats you can purchase ahead of time such as a Holiday Snack Pack which includes 4 cups of hot chocolate, 1 dozen of tasty candy, 1 large popcorn with a souvenir bucket. Also, there will be Handmade Coaster Candy Fudge and one of the park favorites, Holiday Funnel Cake. Lastly, for every merchandise bundle purchased, a Holiday Buddy Bear will be donated to charities throughout the Los Angeles area to children for the holiday season. The Holiday Merchandise Package includes 4 Holiday in the Park themed face masks, 4 holiday themed souvenirs, and 4 holiday 3D light glasses.

Dodger Stadium Offers Holiday Drive-Thru Light Show

The 2020 World Champion Los Angeles Dodgers are hosting a Holiday Drive-Thru Light Festival for the first time. The completely drive-thru experience has a light show, a spectacular LED display that showcases the Dodgers World Championship run, fake snow, and much more.

Besides the traditional lights, this experience includes many tributes to the Dodgers. There are giant replicas of the WS Championship rings of the past, and the WS trophy. There are also many Dodger bobble heads and the Dodger mascot greeting the cars. Of course, the big fellow, Santa Claus, is there greeting the kiddos. You can also donate a toy that will be given to children of various programs affiliated with the Dodgers. Tickets starts at \$55 a car. This will last until Christmas Eve.



CALM Lights; ‘among the best in America’

The California Living Museum (CALM) in Bakersfield is once again having its Annual HolidayLights. This year is the 18th year and it will take place as a drive-thru experience because of the covid 19 pandemic. The California Living Museum’s HolidayLights was featured in USA Today’s top 10 list of zoo light shows around the country and it’s right here at home.

The event will run nightly through Jan. 2, except on Christmas, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The last vehicle will be admitted at 8:30 p.m. Passenger vehicles (no RVs, busses, or limousines will be allowed) will embark on a mile-long winding path through CALM’s expansive parking lot, flanked by everyone’s favorite dazzling animated light displays. It is truly a spectacular display and you can tune in your car radio to play holiday music to go along with the lights.

HolidayLights is a long-standing tradition in our community attended by more than 65,000 visitors every year although usually a walking event. Although it’s drive thru this year, the show is still worth the time. If you need something positive to do this holiday season, take a trip out to CALM and enjoy the light show. The price is \$30 per vehicle. You can also purchase food and snacks from Kern County’s Teen Challenge prior to entering the light show. HolidayLights is designed and installed by Bakersfield resident Josh Barnett and his company Lightasmic!.

Where “Dear Santa” Letters Go

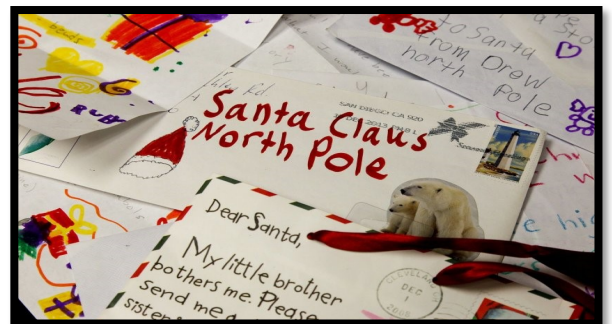
by Angel Garza

Have you ever wondered what happens to all the “Dear Santa” letters that kids (and adults) send every year? Letters that are sent to Santa at the North Pole are run through the United States Postal Service, and they respond one of two ways.

The first way is through Operation Santa. At first when the operation begun it was ordinary citizens and post workers that responded but as the work got harder and grew larger, they enlisted a non-profit organization to help write letters back and send gift. In 2017. the operation went digital but is going nationwide in 2020.

The second way is through *Letters From Santa*. Someone can include a response and send the letters to get a North Pole postmark. If a person wants to participate in *Letters from Santa* there are somethings they must do: the child can write to Santa and address it to the North Pole. Write a personalized letter addressing the child from Santa. Insert both letters into an envelope and address them to the child, add the return address be from the North Pole. Make sure there’s a stamp on the envelope. Finally address the envelope to :

NORTH POLE POSTMARK
POSTMASTER
4141 POSTMARK DR
ANCHORAGE AK 99530-9998



If the letter is addressed without the proper address it will be sorted back into Operation Santa program. If you want to make a child feel special get involved with these operations.

At The Movies

Many new movies are usually released during the Christmas season. This year is not exception other than some of these movies may be seen at home or at the theater. Here are a few of the movies that will be released this holiday season.

Video game hits the big screen in Monster Hunter

by Dominic Dominguez

Monster Hunter, the movie is an action monster film produced, written and directed by Paul W. S. Anderson, based on the video game series by Capcom. The movie stars Milla Jovovich, Tony Jaa, Tip "T. I." Harris, Meagan Good, Diego Boneta, Josh Helman, Jin Au-Yeung and Ron Perlman.

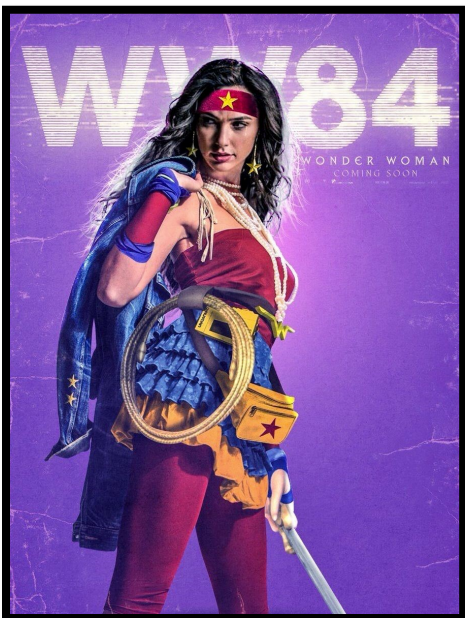
The movie is about a world of dangerous and powerful monsters that rule their domain with deadly ferocity. When Lt. Artemis and her loyal soldiers are transported from our world to the new one, the unflappable lieutenant receives the shock of her life. In a desperate battle for survival against enormous enemies with incredible powers and unstoppable, terrifying attacks, Artemis teams up with a mysterious hunter who has found a way to fight back.

The movie will be released in the United States on December 25th. The movie is rated PG-13 for sequences of creature action and violence. The movie is 99 minutes long. For more information on the movie go to www.monsterhunter.movie.



Wonder Woman '84 released in theaters and television

by Carina Cazares



Wonder Woman 1984 will be released in many theaters and also on HBO Max on December 25th. As with many other movies this year, this movie will also offered directly to viewers at home on the same date as the movie theater release. This will give families a chance to stay at home and watch the movie in the safety of their own home.

Wonder Woman 1984 is a 2020 American superhero film based on the DC Comics character Wonder Woman. It is the sequel to 2017's Wonder Woman and the ninth movie in the DC Extended Universe. The film is directed by Patty Jenkins. Gal Gadot stars as Diana Prince / Wonder Woman, alongside Chris Pine, Kristen Wiig, Pedro Pascal, Robin Wright, and Connie Nielsen.

Set in 1984 during the Cold War, the film follows Diana and her past love Steve Trevor as they face off against Maxwell Lord and Cheetah.

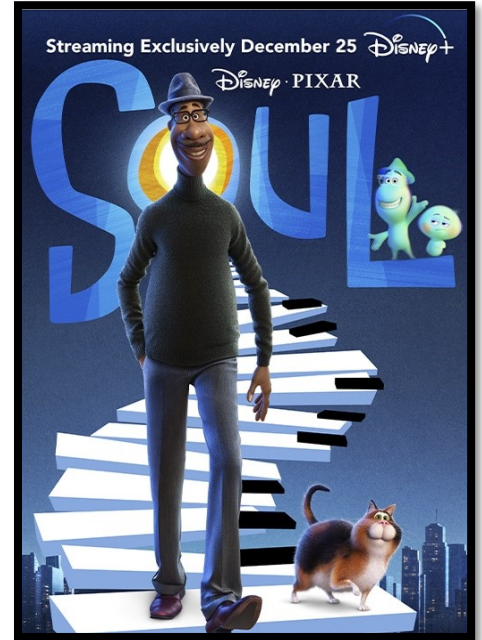
The Wonder Woman movie is a movie that many families could enjoy together in the holidays.

Pixar's SOUL is Inspirational New Movie Soul

by Joyce Calipusan

Pixar's new film Soul, starring Jamie Foxx and Tina Fey talks about a larger magical story about the human soul. Soul is scheduled to premiere on Christmas Day, December 25 on Disney+.

The movie is about Joe Gardner (voice of Jamie Foxx) – a middle-school band teacher who gets the chance of a lifetime to play at the best jazz club in town. But one small accident takes him from the streets of New York City to The Great Before – a fantastical place where new souls get their personalities, quirks and interests before they go to Earth. Determined to return to his life, Joe teams up with a precocious soul, 22 (voice of Tina Fey), who has never understood the appeal of the human experience. As Joe desperately tries to show 22 what's great about living, he may just discover the answers to some of life's most important questions. This movie is rated PG. If you want more movie information go to <https://movies.disney.com/soul>.



WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH BE VALLEY STRONG

TIPS TO HELP **teens** COPE DURING **COVID-19**

Maintain a daily **routine** with consistent sleep, activity and study patterns.

Stay **connected** with others and try to find moments of humor.

Talk to people you feel **comfortable** with about your feelings or worries, then give yourself permission to stop worrying.

Limit the amount of time you spend talking about or watching news media or social media.

Be **kind** to yourself and each other. We'll work through this together.



In The News



Why are we not playing sports?

Have you noticed it at all? So far this year there have been no sports played at any high school in California. While other states are playing, California is not.

According to the California Interscholastic Federation (C.I.F.), High school sports won't start until January 2021 at the earliest. Due to the rise in coronavirus cases all over the state, state officials have not given anyone any guidelines to play. Until there are some guidelines, no sports can be played. Locally there have been no practices in any of the high school in Delano. There were some informal workouts, but no official practices. Let's hope that all sports will come back very soon.

Safety in the midst of a pandemic

By Jordy Pineda

This pandemic has been a burden on everyone. There are many things that you can do to help protect both yourself and the others around you.

One of the most common forms of protection is wearing a mask, but not all masks are made the same. Different materials make the effectiveness of each vastly different. According to reports, gaiter mask and bandanas are by far the worst to wear. They may be easy to wear and breathable but that makes it extremely easy to get sick.



One of the most used masks are surgical mask. This is because they're found in almost every store and are extremely effective at preventing the spread. Another type of mask are ones with tightly woven fibers such as tight-weave 100% cotton mask. These masks are often more comfortable than the rest, but tend to become stretched out.

Finally, are the most effective masks the N95 masks. This is by far the most effective type of mask out there because as the name implies it blocks out 95% of very small particles. Though they are the most effective we shouldn't try and buy any of them because they are in extremely short supply and must be used for medical first responders and healthcare staff.

So wear a mask and take all precautions. We can get through this if we all do our part.

The Grinch: Book or Movie - Your choice

by Wendy Sablas

The Grinch is a children's story by Theodore "Dr. Seuss" Geisel written in rhymed verse with illustrations by the author. It is about the Grinch, a grumpy, lonely creature who attempts to end Christmas by stealing Christmas-themed items from the homes of the nearby town, Whoville on Christmas Eve. The Grinch realizes that Christmas may not all be about money and presents. The story was came out as a book in 1957.

In 2000, How the Grinch stole Christmas was released as a movie. Jim Carrey stars as the Grinch. From his cave, the Grinch can hear the noisy Christmas festivities that take place in Whoville. He was annoyed, he devises a wicked scheme to steal their presents, trees, and Christmas food. Crudely disguised as Santa Claus and with Max as a reindeer, the Grinch rides a sleigh down the mountain to Whoville, where he begins to steal the Whos' Christmas presents, Christmas trees and decorations, and food. If you get a chance this Christmas watch this must see holiday movie or read the book.



Must See Christmas Movies

1. *Elf*
2. *It's a Wonderful Life*
3. *A Christmas Story*
4. *Home Alone*
5. *The Santa Clause*
6. *Die Hard*
7. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*
8. *Miracle on 34th Street*
9. *Jingle All the Way*
10. *The Polar Express*

Must hear Christmas Songs

1. "All I Want for Christmas Is You"
by Mariah Carey
2. "Last Christmas" by Wham!
3. "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" by Jackson 5
4. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"
by Harry Connick Jr.
5. "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas"
by Michael Bublé
6. "Please Come Home For Christmas" by Jon Bon Jovi
7. "The Little Drummer Boy (Peace on Earth)"
by Bing Crosby & David Bowie
8. "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" by Bruce Springsteen
9. "Carol of the Bells" by Trans-Siberian Orchestra
10. "Believe" by Josh Groban

A Look Back . . . Valley Rumor marks 30 Year Anniversary

According to the school records and past issues on file, this year marks the 30th year that the Valley Rumor Newspaper has been in existence at Valley High School.

We will be looking at old stories from past issues and republishing them here in our "A Look Back" section.



Mrs. Rubio Teacher of Year

By: Alyssa Lara

This year Mrs. Susanna Rubio has been selected Teacher of the year. I had time to talk to Mrs. Rubio about being selected "Teacher of the year". She said it is a great honor and she is flattered being named Teacher of the year. Mrs. Rubio has four wonderful children and their names are Eric, Cristian, Chloe and Gabriela. Her hobbies are spending quality time with her children and making sure they are well cared for and happy.

She likes working at VHS because she likes working with young people and the staff in general. What inspired her to work at Valley was her former boss, Dr. Efrain Rodriguez, suggested that she consider working at Valley High while searching for a teaching job. Ever since she can remember she wanted to be a teacher. During recess she would play the role of a teacher. So she worked hard to complete her education while working full

time until she became a teacher.

Her goals while working at Valley are to teach students basic skills and to have a positive attitude and to encourage the students to have goals and aspirations.

So far she likes working here at Valley. Mrs. Rubio has a goal also—she wants to pursue getting a counseling degree.

According to members of the ASB which help to select Mrs. Rubio, she was selected as Teacher of the Year because she is friendly, outgoing and tolerates behavior at times. She lets the students do independent study and helps with various donations.

Her advice for any student is to have a positive attitude, a positive self image, and a lot of patience and perseverance. She said the qualities needed to be an effective teacher are to have a true love of teaching and enjoy being around young people.



Find 10 Differences



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

*Feliz
Navidad*



WHAT MUSIC DOES OUR STAFF LISTEN TO

We asked our staff to let us know what kind of music they listen to. We also asked for their favorite songs. Here is what some of them said.

Mr. Santillano

Favorites in English and Spanish

- Holding Back the Years by Simply Red
- Time to Say Goodbye by Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman
- Hold Me by Fleetwood Mac
- Everywhere by Fleetwood Mac
- Bitter Sweet Symphony by The Verve
- Una Vez Mas by Conjunto Primavera
- Prenda Querida by Los Cadetes de Linares
- La Llorona by Jaguares
- Viento by Jaguares
- Lobo-Hombre en Paris by La Union



Mr. Diaz

1. Religious Man by Mr. Loco
2. Hallelujah by the Tenors
3. Como la brisa by Jesus Adrian Romero
4. All the Songs by NF
5. Sweetly Broken by Jeremy Riddle
6. Jesus by Jon Gruden



Mrs. Truman

Almost any song by the Beatles – ONE of my favorites is “Here Comes the Sun”.



Mr. Leyva

I listen to a lot different kind of music hip/hop and rap to rock and jazz. But I've really

been listening to this R&B/Soul band Durand Jones and The Indications. Songs like “Don't you know” and “How can I be sure” are some of my favorites.

DURAND JONES & THE INDICATIONS



Mrs. Rubio

I listen to different types of music and don't have a favorite song but here are my favorite music artists. I like all of their music:

- Michael Jackson
- Chris Brown
- Bruno Mars
- Earth, Wind & Fire
- Selena
- Queen
- Cristiano Castro
- Marc Anthony
- Romeo Santos
- Luis Miguel
- Pepe Aguilar
- Vicente Fernandez
- Mana
- Camila



Las Posadas: What are they and where did they start?

Christmas traditions around the world can all look a little different. Here in California, some of our traditions are influenced by the Mexican culture. If you grew up in California or the Catholic church, you may have heard of las posadas or participated in one.

Posadas, some say it's similar to caroling. A group goes house to house singing Christmas or religious songs and at one point the singing group gets invited in for holiday treats and festivities. However, it has a deeper religious meaning to it. Las posadas was a tradition brought to Latin America by the Spanish and adopted in both Mexico and Guatemala. Starting December 16 at dusk, families, friends and neighbors dress up as angels, or shepherds-- and two people are dressed as Mary and Joseph. The group reenacts the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph as they walk from Nazareth to Bethlehem in their neighborhood. At each home they stop and the group sings a song in hopes to have a place to stay. They are turned down at each home until the end of the event, when the final home eventually invites the group in for food and festivities.



The journey symbolizes how Mary and Joseph were turned down the night of Christ's birth until one inn keeper made room for them in a manger. Posadas repeat for eight nights with a different home, accepting the group in for an evening festival. On December 24 the ninth and final night of the posada, everyone attends midnight mass followed by a big meal. Even though rooted in religion, las posadas had become a popular tradition in California for both Catholics and non-Catholics -- the gathering with friends and families, singing songs door to door and sharing food and drinks -- which brings neighborhoods and communities together during the holiday season.



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