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**CENTRO CULTURAL AZTLAN TO CELEBRATE PUBLICATION
OF COLLECTION OF POEMS WITH READING AND RECEPTION**

**San Antonio native Pablo Miguel Martínez
will read from collection titled “Brazos, Carry Me”**

San Antonio, TX (March 10, 2013) – Malena González-Cid, Executive Director of Centro Cultural Aztlan (CCA), today announced that CCA will host a reading and reception to celebrate the publication of Pablo Miguel Martínez’s debut collection of poems, titled “Brazos, Carry Me.” The event will take place at CCA’s gallery, located in the Deco District, at 1800 Fredericksburg Road, on Thursday, March 21, from 6:30 to 8 P.M. The event is free and open to the public.

“We are very pleased to be the host venue for this event,” said González-Cid. “Pablo’s collection comes at a crucial point in our community’s history. At a time when Arizona is eliminating Ethnic Studies programs and other states are considering similar measures—in effect, erasing our history—authors like Pablo are affirming our lives and histories in their work.” González-Cid also noted that Martínez is one of several published poets and writers whose work celebrates realities not often found in textbooks. She said many of the poems in “Brazos, Carry Me” first appeared in the *San Antonio Express-News*, one of the few daily papers in the country that regularly publishes poetry.

Richard Blanco, the 2013 Inaugural Poet, said Martínez’s poems “are as delicate as bare branches on the cusp of spring, or dare I say, as honest as the very brazos—the figurative arms—that carry him, and embrace us with poetic splendor and insights into new realms of being.” And noted Chicano scholar Tomás Ybarra-Frausto said, “The poems are deeply felt explorations of Chicano experiences, reminding us that in its plenitude North American literature is also multicultural and multilingual.”

Prior to relocating to Louisville, Martínez taught English at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, and at Lone Star College in Houston. In 2009 he received the Robert L.B. Tobin Award for Artistic Excellence, as well as the Literary Arts Award from the Artist Foundation of San Antonio. His work has also received support from the Alfredo Cisneros Del Moral Foundation. In 2005 he was a recipient of the prestigious Chicano/Latino Literary Prize.

“Brazos, Carry Me” is published by San Francisco-based Kórima Press, which is built on the Rarámuri tradition of sharing. The press is an independent publisher committed to queer Chicana and Chicano literary art.

For more information, visit the Website www.brazoscarryme.com. Centro Cultural Aztlan receives support City of San Antonio: Department for Culture & Creative Development, The AKR Foundation, Texas Commission on the Arts, The National Endowment for the Arts and the many friends of Centro Cultural Aztlan.