

Shine Brighter Première

File 1 Border Identities

Video p. 15 – Extrait du reportage “One Texas border town’s split identity”, *CBS News*, 2024.

Resident 1: Just like anywhere else where, like, you have the Everglades culture, you have Appalachia, you have the Ozarks, this is the border culture.

Voice-over: Almost all of its nearly 30,000 residents have Latino or Mexican descent. The city’s violent crime rate is well below the national average. And the pride the residents here take in their binational, bicultural, bilingual traditions is visible everywhere.

Resident 2: We celebrate both countries, we celebrate both identities, we celebrate all of it.

Voice-over: On Friday nights, residents root for the home teams like the Mavericks and the Eagles. The Mom and Pop grocery store welcomes you to their neighborhood. And birthdays are celebrated in the park under a Texas sky.

“One Texas border town’s split identity”, *CBS News*, 2024.

Doc 1. Video p. 16 – Extrait du reportage “Manifest Destiny”, *History for Kids*, 2022.

American history since its colonial days has been in many ways a continual push westward and in the 1800s, America expanded beyond their wildest dreams, with the Louisiana Purchase, acquiring Florida, removing Indian tribes to take more of their land, but still, Americans' appetite for land was growing. In the 1840s, many Americans became determined to expand the country from coast to coast, from sea to shining sea. And not only were they hoping for new rich lands and resources, they also hoped to spread American ideals into those lands: liberty, Protestant Christianity and Republican government. These twin desires were wrapped up into what was called the Manifest Destiny. It argued that Americans had a god-given right to expand across the continent, spreading their superior values as they saw them. This painting called *American Progress* captures this belief perfectly.

“Manifest Destiny”, *History for Kids*, 2022.

Doc 2. Video p. 16 – Extrait du reportage “What Was the Mexican-American War?”, *History*, 2017

Needless to say America’s neighbour Mexico wasn’t thrilled about the westward expansion craze. Both countries were already on thin ice and Mexico was bitter about losing Texas to the US after it won its independence in 1836. President Polk wanted California and New Mexico too and he offered Mexico \$30 million to purchase them but they refused to sell. But...hang on...Conquering was America’s Manifest Destiny, right? So Polk wouldn't take no for an answer and he picked a fight sending troops to occupy a disputed area of the Texas and Mexico border and when American troops and the Mexican cavalry clashed, Polk seized the opportunity to declare war on Mexico on May 13th, 1846 (...).

After two years of fighting, Mexico was defeated and in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, it ceded a third of its territory to the US, areas that include modern-day Utah, California, Nevada, Arizona and Texas. The Mexican American war had a major impact because it resulted in one of the largest territorial expansions of the United States.

“What Was the Mexican-American War?”, *History*, 2017

Doc 1. Video p. 18 – Extrait du reportage “At U.S.-Mexico border, a tribal nation fights wall that would divide them,” *PBS NewsHour*, 2019.

Journalist: The Arizona desert is a breathtaking, albeit unforgiving environment. The state shares nearly 400 miles of border with Mexico and much of the area is inhabited by an ancient and little known Native American tribe. As the national battle over a border wall continues, if plans for a wall do get approved, it will have to get through the Tohono O’odham Nation and their land. It’s an area roughly the size of the state of Connecticut that includes more than 60 miles of the US Mexico border. Verlon Jose is the vice chairman of the Tohono O’odham Nation.

Verlon Jose: To put a border wall here, it would be detrimental to our people. It would have a psychological effect. It would have an emotional effect. I think you wouldn’t like it if I built a wall right through your home. This is our traditional homelands.

Journalist: Like most Native American tribes, the Tohono O’odham are U.S. citizens with a self-governed reservation. But unlike most tribes, it has members living in both the U.S. and Mexico. According to tribal administration, roughly 32,000 live in the U.S., while 2,000 members live in Mexico.

Verlon Jose: We’ve never crossed the border. The border crossed us. We see just another obstacle in our path to go visit family, to go visit friends, to go to sacred sites in Mexico.

“At U.S.-Mexico border, a tribal nation fights wall that would divide them,” *PBS NewsHour*, 2019.

Doc 2. Video p. 21 – Extrait du reportage "Folk Frontera", *PBS*, 2022.

Molly Rodriguez: I am the - what would you call it - the minority of this area. My parents lived in Presidio but now live in Ojinaga which is literally only 5 minutes away, crossing the bridge. And I grew up in Presidio, went to school in Presidio, made friends in Presidio (laughs) but I was one of three white kids that went to the school in Presidio. I remember being a little girl and just thinking well if I want to have friends where I'm living I need to feel comfortable speaking Spanish, like I just have to. Our family dynamic is very interesting because, being a white person, as a mariachi player, it's... you have to gain the respect, because if you don't, it's embarrassing. (G...G...A...). Obviously when we play somewhere and they see that we're white you know it's kind of like... they just stare at us. Like, it doesn't matter who it is. Anybody, it's like what.... what is going on? The moment we play though that all goes away. It's kind of like , "Look, we know it looks weird but we've got something to show you".

"Folk Frontera", *PBS*, 2022.

Video p. 28 – Extrait du reportage “ What is Tejano culture?”, *KRIS 6 News*, 2021.

Host: Welcome back to Sunrise everyone. This morning, we’re taking a look at the Tejano culture and the impact that Selena made on it.

(...)

Professor Marquez: It’s to be from Texas and of Mexican descent.

Journalist: Professor Marquez teaches Mexican-American history at Texas A&M Corpus Christi Marquez says she always teaches her students about Tejano culture, why it’s so unique. She says the roots of Mexican-Americans living in Texas were here before the US government acquired the state.

Professor Marquez: There are many Mexicans who remained in Texas, and to maintain that identity, being Mexican and also being Texan, it’s a blending of those two things.

Journalist: Professor Marquez says over time Tejano culture has evolved as a result of that union.

Professor Marquez: Anytime you have the blending of Texan culture, Mexican culture, really is the birth of Tejano.

Journalist: The Tejano culture is known for its food, art, music and musicians like Corpus Christi’s very own legend Selena Quintanilla. Her global impact has inspired many young people who say they too want to be just like Selena. And for one person in particular: Miss Honey Andrews. A Tejano herself, says she’s been impersonating Selena for 14 years and says the Tejano culture is a mixture of cultures, especially when it comes to the music.

Miss Honey Andrews: Spanish mixed with a little bit of English, with a little bit of pop and a little bit of rock.

Journalist: In an industry that was dominated by men at the time, Selena conquered Tejano music and proved that the impossible is possible by winning 36 Tejano music

awards. Professor Marquez says she thinks back to when she was a teenager when Selena rose to fame.

Professor Marquez: For me she represented someone like me, like us, like people in my community.

“ What is Tejano culture?”, *KRIS 6 News*, 2021.