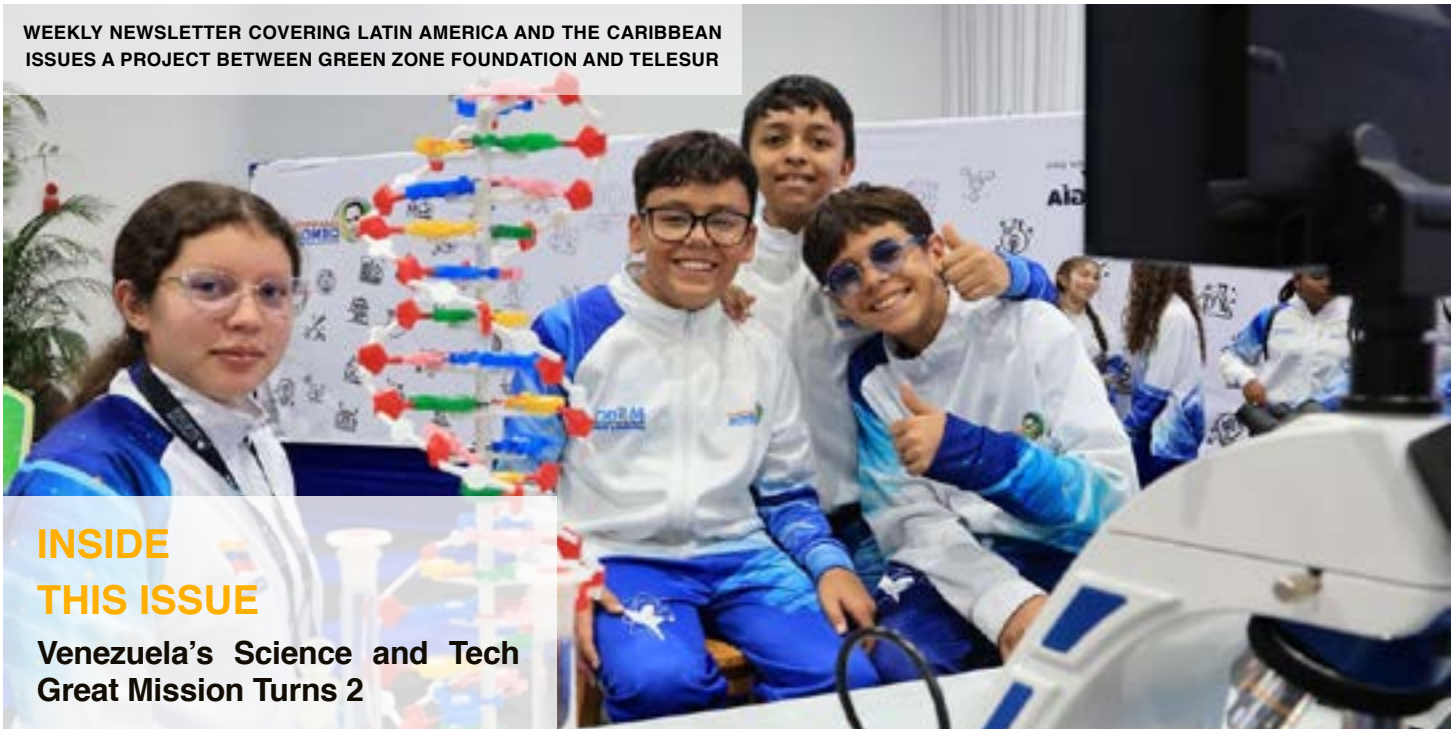
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NEWSLETTER

A VISION OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER COVERING LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ISSUES A PROJECT BETWEEN GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION AND TELESUR



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GREEN ZONE FOUNDATION

Enanitos Verdes Guitarist Dies at 64.



His legacy will endure in the songs that defined eras and in the influence he exerted on new generations of musicians in Latin America.

Felipe Staiti passed away in Mendoza, Argentina, at the age of 64, leaving a fundamental legacy in the history of Spanish-language rock.

The news was received with sorrow by fans, colleagues, and friends, who bid farewell to the renowned Argentine guitarist with heartfelt messages on social media.

His death was officially confirmed by the Mendoza Secretariat of Culture, which, through a statement, expressed its condolences and highlighted his career as one of the leading figures in local rock.

“We say goodbye to a fundamental musician in the history of Mendoza and Argentine rock,” the entity stated. The artist was hospitalized at the Hospital Italiano in Mendoza, where he had been admitted days earlier after experiencing health complications.

For now, no single official cause of death has been released for the leader of the rock band, although available information indicates that he had been suffering from a complex medical condition for some time.

With over four decades in the business, Staiti was a key figure in the consolidation of Spanish-language rock. His musical journey began in the late 1970s, when in 1979 he founded the band Enanitos Verdes in Mendoza, Argentina, along with Marciano Cantero and Daniel Piccolo.

From then on, he remained the lead guitarist and one of the creative forces behind the group, participating in the development of a sound that combined rock with Latin pop during a pivotal period for the genre’s growth in the region.

During the 1980s and 90s, his work was linked to songs that achieved widespread popularity such as “La muralla verde,” “Lamento boliviano,” “Te vi en un tren,” and “Luz de día,” tracks that solidified the band’s presence in the Latin American and North American markets.

His guitar style, characterized by direct and recognizable melodies, was crucial to the group’s musical identity and its enduring presence on the scene across generations. Following Marciano Cantero’s death in 2022, Felipe Staiti also assumed the role of vocalist and visible leader of the project, keeping the band active on international stages.

His career, spanning more than four decades, positions him as one of the key figures in Argentine and Latin American rock, with a legacy that remains in the collective memory through a repertoire that will continue to resonate for decades.

Staiti’s passing marks a turning point for Enanitos Verdes and for the Latin rock scene. His contribution to music transcends borders and generations, solidifying the band as a benchmark of the genre.

Panama Canal to be Honor´s Guest at FIL Panama 2026



The Panama International Book Fair 2026 integrates literature, education, and historical heritage into a program of national and international scope that consolidates the Panama Canal as a central element of identity and cultural projection a decade after its expansion.

The Panama International Book Fair (FIL) 2026 will designate the Panama Canal as its guest of honor to commemorate the tenth anniversary of its expansion, solidifying its position as a strategic space that links cultural sovereignty, public education, and historical legacy with contemporary literature.The official announcement was made at the Ascanio Arosemena Training Center with the participation of Culture Minister Maria Eugenia Herrera, Education Minister Lucy Molinar, and the Vice President of Communication for the Panama Canal, Eduardo Quiros.

The event, scheduled for August 25-30 under the theme “The Route of Thousands of Stories,” will bring together more than one hundred national and international writers.

The fair is consolidating itself as a space for cultural encounter that promotes dialogue, critical thinking, and the exchange of ideas, as noted by the president of the Panamanian Book Chamber, Orit Btesh.

The leader emphasized that “when a country invests in books, it invests in its own development,” highlighting the role of the Panama International Book Fair as a platform for literary circulation and the strengthening of national talent.

For her part, the Minister of Culture broadened the institutional vision, specifying that the event transcends the dimension of a one-off meeting to establish itself as a sustained cultural strategy.

Ministerial Guidelines

The Ministry promotes small book fairs, workshops, and literary events throughout the year in different provinces, with the goal of decentralizing access to reading.

Herrera explained that “it is a source of pride to strengthen the Panama International Book Fair,” indicating that the initiative seeks to celebrate national identity by recognizing the transisthmian colonial route and the historical legacy of the canal, an infrastructure that “is part of the seven parallels of the world” and possesses territorial and global importance that will be celebrated.

The program will include the International Seminar on Copyright and the journalism seminar “Journalism and Freedom: The Word as a Territory of Resistance,” with the participation of Cecilia Domeyko and Juan Villoro, with the aim of reinforcing ethical standards and objectivity in journalistic practice.

The cultural agenda will include theatrical performances, gastronomic events with international chefs, and the FILustrazos project, focused on professional illustration in collaboration with international partners.

Costa Rica Celebrates the Ibero-American Theater Festival

The Festival is consolidating itself as a space for scenic exchange between local and foreign companies to promote artistic diversity and cultural access.



The Ibero-American Theater Festival of Costa Rica runs until April 20th in San José with a diverse program celebrating regional and international performing arts.

This cultural event brings together companies from various countries, as well as local groups, in a showcase distinguished by its artistic quality and social commitment.

Since April 5th, audiences have had access to productions that address contemporary themes, from identity and memory to current social challenges.

The 2026 festival program prioritizes the dissemination of works that explore identity, historical memory, and contemporary social challenges.

Performances competing at the Costa Rica International Theatre Festival.

Among the featured productions are “La casa sin Bernarda”, a reinterpretation of Federico García Lorca’s classic; “Cartografías del olvido”, focused on Latin American memory; and “El eco de los pasos”, which integrates physical theater and audiovisual resources to analyze regional migration. The performances are taking place in various venues and have enjoyed consistent audience attendance.

The event includes workshops, discussions, and training opportunities for actors, directors, and students.

Organizers indicate that the initiative promotes access to culture, supports young talent, and strengthens collaborative networks in the performing arts.

Specialized critics

Researcher Carlos Herrera stated that “the festival demonstrates a remarkable maturity in the productions, with shows that engage with current issues without sacrificing artistic rigor.”

For her part, critic María Fernanda Quesada highlighted “the capacity of local companies to innovate and compete internationally.”

Specialized critics value the aesthetic richness and diversity of theatrical languages present in the program. The event is establishing itself as one of the leading events in Ibero-American theater and contributes to the dynamism of the sector.

The program will continue with new performances and parallel activities in the coming days. Cultural sector authorities emphasized the importance of the event as a platform for creative exchange and the strengthening of the performing arts.



Uruguay Adds Manantiales Serranos as Second UNESCO Global Geopark

UNESCO declares Manantiales Serranos a Global Geopark and positions Uruguay in the global sustainable development network

The designation of Manantiales Serranos as a UNESCO Global Geopark positions Uruguay within the global network of territories that manage geological heritage under criteria of protection, education, and sustainable development.

From Paris, the UNESCO Executive Board approved the designation of Manantiales Serranos as a Global Geopark, a recognition that highlights the environmental and cultural value of this Uruguayan territory.

With this declaration, Uruguay adds its second geopark at the global level, alongside the Grutas del Palacio Global Geopark, thus consolidating its commitment to the protection of natural heritage and sustainable tourism.

The designated area covers more than 2,000 square kilometers in the department. This region encompasses mountain ranges of high scientific value, strategic water resources, and emblematic sites for local cultural identity.

The territory encompasses the headwaters of the Santa Lucía River, which supply drinking water to a large part of the country, as well as other aquifers of importance to national water security.

The Education Vice Minister Gabriela Verde highlighted that the designation represents “excellent news” and emphasized that it is “a vibrant area, where the community lives, where exchanges take place, and where topics are explored in depth, not only geological ones, but also the connection with nature, climate change, education, and community issues.”

The nomination was made possible thanks to the collaborative work between local governments, educational institutions, and civil society, in line with the international standards of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

UNESCO Global Geoparks are territories where geological heritage is managed under three fundamental pillars: protection, education, and sustainable development, with the active participation of local communities.

Venezuela's Science and Tech Great Mission Turns 2



Acting President Delcy Rodriguez presided over the commemoration of the second anniversary of the Great Mission for Science, Technology, and Innovation "Dr. Humberto Fernandez-Moran," a government initiative that coordinates the efforts of national talent in strategic areas of knowledge.

The event served to review progress in biotechnology, food sovereignty, and robotics projects, driven by participants in the National Scientific Seedbeds Program.

As part of the event, Rodríguez announced the creation of a national registry for young Venezuelan talent, both residents of the country and abroad. This registry will include professionals in electrical engineering, finance, health, and science, with the aim of integrating their skills into national development projects.

Science and Technology Minister Gabriela Jiménez informed that the Scientific Seedbeds Program has reached over one million participants, with the challenge of doubling this figure. So far, female participation in this program exceeds 50.6 percent.

Venezuela has 341,206 young people involved in robotics projects, 368,911 participants in 646

The Great Mission for Science, Technology, and Innovation currently encompasses 5,236 educational institutions distributed across 223 of the country's 335 municipalities.

The mission was created with the goal of expanding the use of science and technology, integrating scientists, technologists, and organized communities in the search for sovereign solutions for the nation.

Its approach seeks to break with dependent models and promote the development of endogenous capabilities under the concept of "Made in Venezuela."

The Great Mission for Science, Technology, and Innovation is consolidating itself as a pillar for resilience and economic development in a context of global challenges, prioritizing the collaboration between grassroots organizations and academic institutions to address the country's structural problems through national intellect.


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