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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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Mexican Band Maldita Vecindad Champions Popular Traditions.

After the 1985 earthquake, the group organized a Day of the Dead concert.

On Tuesday, the Mexican music band Maldita Vecindad (Damned Neighborhood) and los Hijos del Quinto Patio (The Fifth Courtyardy's Children) championed popular traditions as a cultural shield and a space of peace in the face of violence.

Founded in Mexico City in 1985 and comprising Roco Pachukote, Enrique "Pato" Montes, and Aldo Acuña, the group defended culture's transformative power in times of crisis. Pachukote emphasized that each concert is a safe space to "celebrate life in peace," underscoring music as a tool of resistance.

The band's commitment to traditional festivities began after the 1985 earthquake, when they organized a Day of the Dead concert to keep the collective memory alive in the face of Halloween's influence.

As part of this cultural endeavor, they announced two themed concerts: Oct. 30 at the Arena Ciudad de Mexico and Nov. 6 at the Arena Guadalajara, followed by a performance in Colombia at the end of the year.

Pachukote championed pachuquismo and calo as streetwise and transnational expressions, describing the group's repertoire as a "living X-ray" of Mexican social history. Pachuquismo, which emerged in the 1930s with the zoot suit aesthetic, gave rise to calo, a mestizo slang that blends Spanish and English.

Guitarist Pato Montes highlighted the band's connection with different generations who share pride in neighborhood popular culture in the face of globalization.

Forty years after its founding, Maldita Vecindad remains a touchstone of urban culture and social resistance in Latin America, with key albums like "El Circo" and recognized songs like "Kumbala."



Monterrey's Contemporary Art Museum Inaugurates a Flavio Garciandia Exhibit.

The Cuban artist's works will be on view from Sept. 25 to April 18, 2027.

On Thursday, the Museum of Contemporary Art of Monterrey (MARCO) inaugurated the exhibition "Flavio Garciandia: Unauthorized Self-Portrait," a retrospective dedicated to the Cuban artist Flavio Garciandia, bringing together half a century of his artistic production.

The exhibition features 90 works selected by American curator Tobias Ostrander, who organized a journey through the artist's various creative stages from his beginnings to the present. It also examines the artist's constant stylistic shifts, from his early hyperrealistic paintings to the so-called Caribbean kitsch.

Garciandia arrived in Mexico in the early 1990s and developed a significant part of his career in Monterrey, a city that had a profound influence on the evolution of his work.

According to Ostrander, Garciandia's trajectory is characterized by continuous transformations, making the exhibition seem to "bring together the work of several artists" and reflecting his ongoing search for new forms of expression.

Among the works on display are the series "Tropicalia I" and "Tropicalia II," which incorporate symbols such as sickles, hammers, and machetes to address Cuba's political and social realities back then.

The exhibition also includes pieces such as "Swan Lake," "White Beans," "Malevich and Ryman in Havana," and the series "Ad Reinhardt in Havana," inspired by a dialogue with leading figures in international contemporary art.

The exhibition will be on view at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Monterrey from September 25 to April 18, 2027, as a comprehensive overview of one of the most singular figures in contemporary Cuban art.



International Intellectuals Reflect at the Madrid Festival of Ideas.

Among the central themes are new technologies for ocean research, including satellite observations and remote sensing.

On Monday, Panama started hosting the Latin American Congress of Marine Sciences (Colacmar 2026), one of the region's leading scientific gatherings dedicated to the study of oceans and marine ecosystems.

The five-day event brings together researchers, specialists, and students from various countries to analyze challenges related to climate change, biodiversity loss, and the sustainable management of marine resources.

Among the central themes are new technologies for ocean research, including satellite observations, remote sensing, and advanced genetic analysis tools. The congress includes more than 50 scientific sessions, 17 mini-symposia, and 16 academic mini-courses designed to foster knowledge exchange.

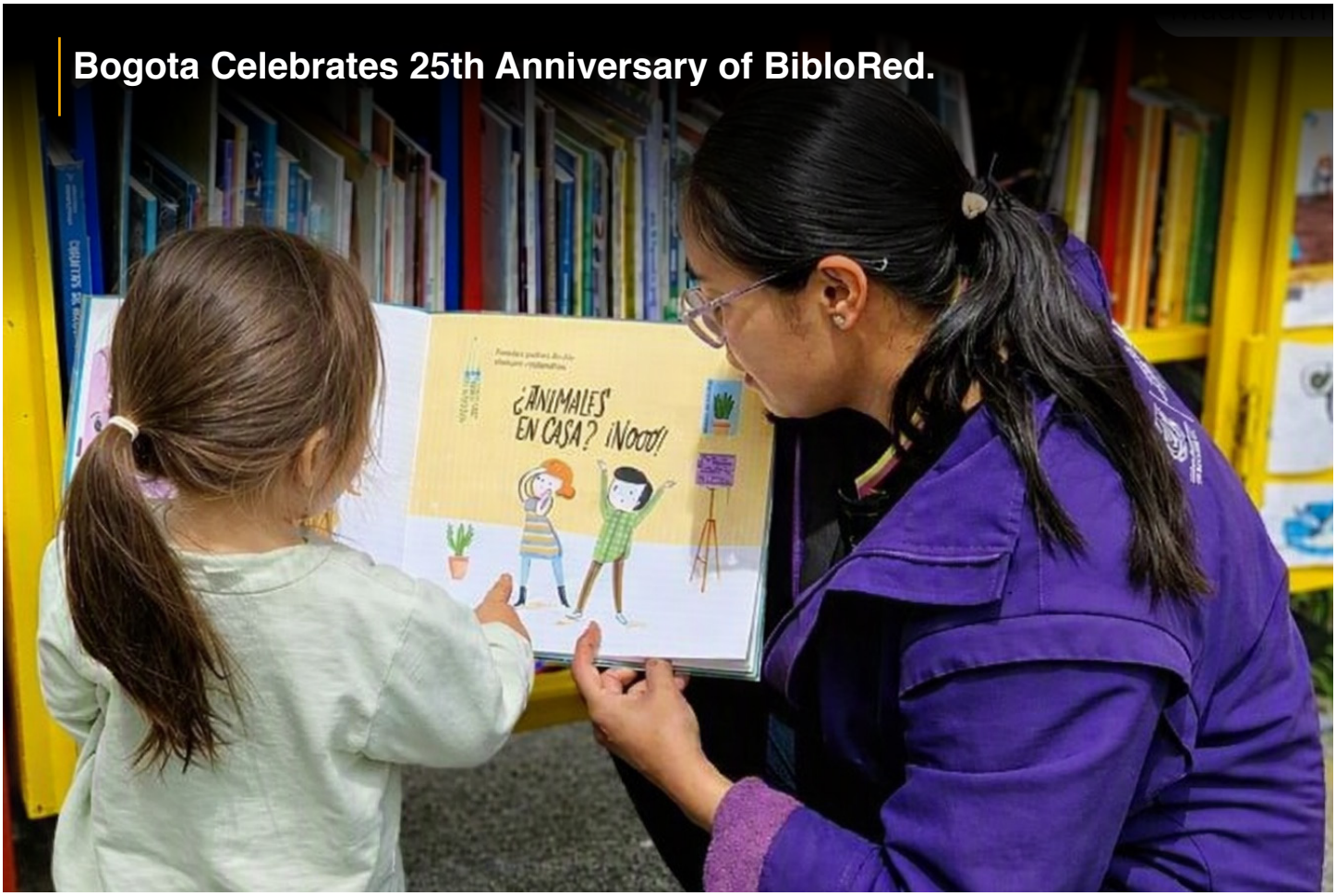
Edgardo Diaz, Secretary General of the Latin American Association of Marine Science Researchers (Alicmar), emphasized the need to strengthen regional cooperation to address challenges that transcend national borders.

The agenda also seeks to promote partnerships among universities, scientific centers, international organizations, and companies involved in the so-called blue economy, which focuses on the sustainable use of marine resources.

As part of the activities open to the public, an interactive underwater photography exhibit is on display, featuring images captured at depths of over 60 meters in ecosystems off the coasts of Argentina and Costa Rica.

Fernando Luiz Diehl, president of Alicmar, stated that the countries of the region need to boost investments and sustainable development policies to address the impacts of climate change on the oceans.

Bogota Celebrates 25th Anniversary of BibloRed.



The library network collaborates with the Muisca councils of Bogota to preserve the Indigenous language.

On Saturday, Bogota celebrated the 25th anniversary of BibloRed, Colombia's largest public library network, which was recognized with UNESCO's King Sejong Literacy Prize for its intercultural and inclusive approach.

The award highlighted the LEO Schools program, a strategy of the Bogota Secretariat of Culture that incorporates "native languages, community knowledge, and diverse experiences" into literacy processes.

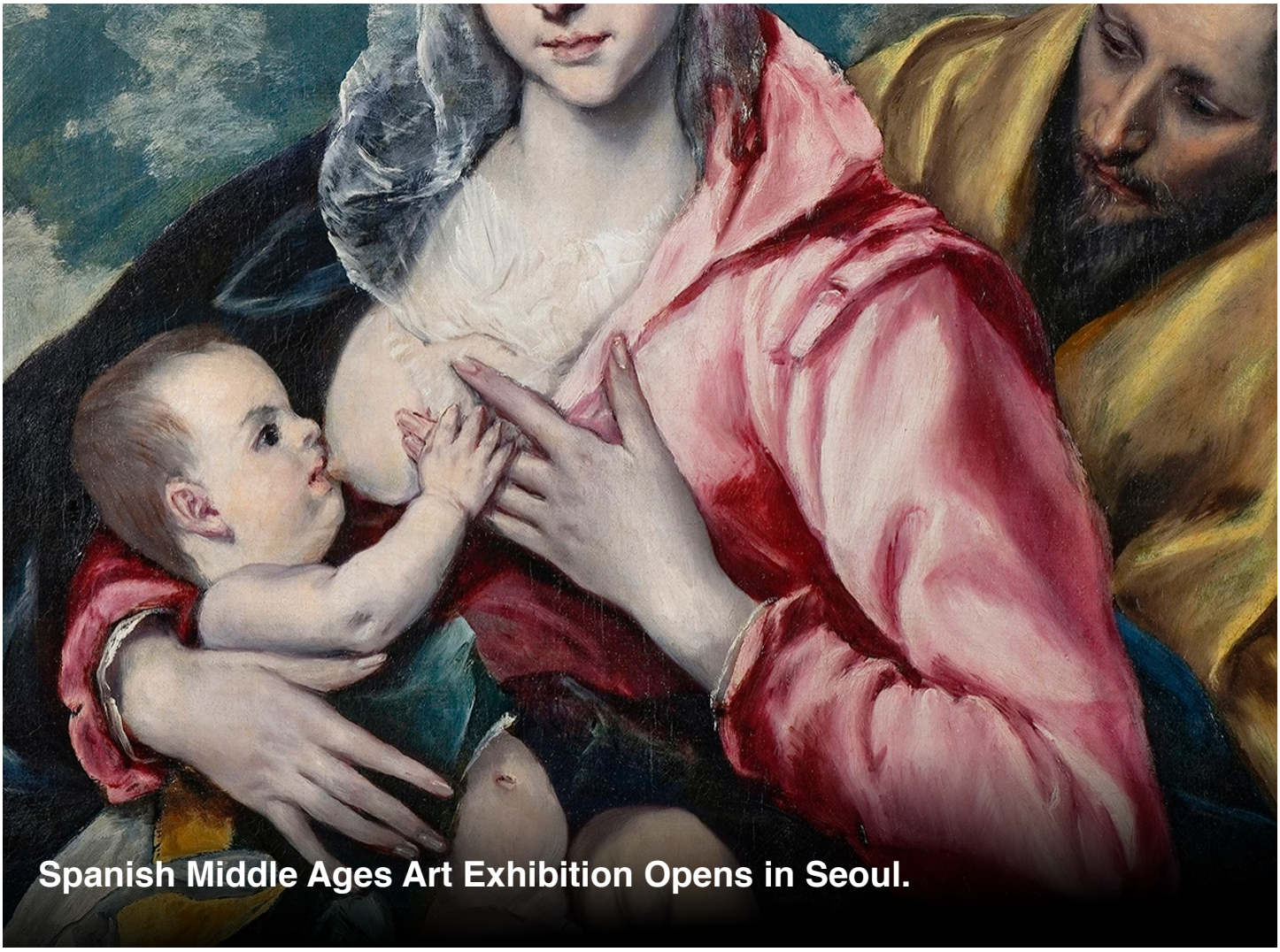
According to Secretary of Culture Santiago Trujillo, the project works native languages, community knowledge, and diverse experiences. The program began in 2014 and has benefited more than 10,000 people, promoting reading and writing in different demographics.

BibloRed collaborates with the Muisca councils of Bogota to preserve the Indigenous language, strengthen ancestral memory, and revitalize cultural expressions in the urban area.

The model seeks to modify the traditional teacher-student relationship by promoting the idea that everyone becomes literate and learns through diverse ways of reading the world.

Among the actions taken, Muisca-language signage was installed to identify fruits, routes, and sacred spaces. BibloRed was founded with the construction of large libraries such as the Virgilio Barco Library and later incorporated spaces like El Tunal and Julio Mario Santo Domingo.

It currently has 145 reading spaces, including libraries and reading points in plazas and parks, and will reinvest the US$30,000 prize money in strengthening the LEO Schools program.



Spanish Middle Ages Art Exhibition Opens in Seoul.

This is the first presentation in Asia of pieces belonging to the Hispanic Society of America.

On Tuesday, the exhibition “500 Years of Spanish Art: A Chronicle of Light and Darkness,” featuring 95 works spanning from the Middle Ages to the 20th century, opened in Seoul.

The exhibition is organized into six sections: Medieval Religious Painting, Renaissance, Golden Age Baroque, Goya and Romanticism, Genre Painting, and Modernism.

Among the featured works are El Greco’s “Holy Family” (1585), Velazquez’s portrait of Cardinal Camillo Astalli, Goya’s “Don Manuel Lapeña” (1799) and a Joaquin Sorolla’s portrait of the Marquis of Jerez de los Caballeros (1914), alongside works by Miguel Viladrich and Hermenegildo Anglada Camarasa.

The exhibition is organized by the Hispanic Society and the South Korean newspaper Korea Economic Daily, with support from the Embassy of Spain in South Korea.

The Hispanic Society was founded by Archer Milton Huntington and opened to the public in 1908, with its headquarters in New York. It currently holds more than 500,000 pieces and documents related to the art and culture of Spain, Portugal, and Latin America.

The exhibition will remain open until January 20, 2027, at the Hangaram Design Museum in the Seoul Arts Center. This is the first presentation in Asia of pieces belonging to the Hispanic Society of America, based in New York.



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