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TEATROBILL

Walker's Point Center for the Arts
Milwaukee, WI

The Royal Mexican Players
Present

One Hot Texican Summer (or the summer I found out I was Mexican)

Written and Performed
by
Alvaro Saar Rios

Directed
by
Michelle Lopez-Rios

May 12-14, 2011

Co-funded by a grant from Northwestern University

www.royalmexicans.com

A Note from the playwright

While at Northwestern, I was hoping to write a one-man show about my neighborhood (Cottage Grove) and the crazy characters that lived there. Yet, each time I sat down to write a monologue or a scene, memories of adventures with my big brother filled my mind--making milkshakes, riding bikes at the park, hanging out at the mall, swimming in ditches, listening to Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, cruising with dad in the van with no air conditioning, sitting on the porch and eating cold watermelon, etc...

Without much hesitation, I put the show about my neighborhood on hold and just wrote about my big brother. Thinking back, it all made sense. He was as big an influence on my life as my neighborhood. Without him, my life would not have been filled with those stories that colored my life. He inspires me as much as those writers whose books sit on my shelves and whose plays I've studied. I hope you enjoy this show as much as I enjoyed creating it.

--asr

Special Thanks

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The Royal Mexican Players

Alvaro Saar Rios is a writer and a performer. He holds an MFA in Writing for the Stage & Screen from Northwestern University and is the co-founder of The Royal Mexican Players. Mr. Rios is the author of various plays, such as *The Crazy Mexican Show*, *Welcome to Milwaukee/Bienvenidos a Milwaukee*, and *A Trip Through the Mind of a 'Crazy' Mexican*. His work has been performed in New York City, Hawaii, California, Chicago, Milwaukee, and all over Texas! Mr. Rios lives in Milwaukee with his wife (Michelle), his son (Augusto) and their cat (Zaide). He teaches at UW-Milwaukee and will be teaching Playwriting in the Fall.

Michelle Lopez-Rios is a professional voice coach, actor, and director. She directed *Trip through the Mind of a Crazy Mexican*, *Nuestra Voz*, *Nuestra Historia*, and *Mexicans in Milwaukee* for TRMP. Other directing credits include: *Decaffeinated Tragedy* (2009 Prague Fringe Festival), *A Rose for Mrs. Kemp* (MCT's Young Playwrights Festival), and *By the Bog of Cats* (UWM). Coaching credits include: Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks and Stages Repertory Theatre. Acting credits include: Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, The Mark Taper Forum, The Court Theatre, and Ojai Shakespeare Festival. Michelle is an Assistant Professor at UW-Milwaukee, a featured coach on www.accenthelp.com, and a founding member of The Royal Mexican Players.