

little bites



Actors Jesse Borrego and wife Valeria Hernandez champion healthy eating at Collins Garden Park Farmers Market. (Photo by Sean Encino) **Below:** Sr. Martha A. Kirk, Jesse and Tonatzin Borrego celebrate Tonatzin's graduation from the University of the Incarnate Word in 2017. Father and daughter share the same Alma Mater. (Photo courtesy Sr. Kirk)

## JESSE BORREGO WINS LEGACY AWARD

**P**roducer, director and actor of the stage and screen, Jesse Borrego, will be presented with the prestigious SAFILM-San Antonio Film Festival 2018 LEGACY AWARD on August 4 at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts.

"We are so proud and excited to have the opportunity to honor our hometown star during San Antonio's Tricentennial and our 24th year," SAFILM-San Antonio Film Festival Director Adam Rocha said. "Jesse is so talented and skilled, without a doubt, one of the most versatile actors in the world. Despite his great talent and tremendous accolades, he is kind, humble and dedicated to the arts and the San Antonio community."

SAFILM will be screening five of Mr. Borrego's films, a selection curated by Mr. Borrego and Mr. Rocha, during the film festival. This Legacy Award is just one of many garnered by the actor, but Mr. Borrego said he is so proud to receive this recognition here in his hometown. He is particularly thrilled about the timing.

"It's appropriate for the legacy the San Antonio Film Festival created and the legacy of my film career to be celebrated in this honored time of San Antonio's Tricentennial," he said.

The movie star studied dance and drama at the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) before he was snatched away for a major role in FAME. He performed in 71 episodes of the successful television series, alongside Debbie Allen and guest stars like Janet Jackson.

Sr. Martha A. Kirk, a professor at the university since 1972, remembers the actor's early days well. She spotted young Jesse Borrego as a great talent and often asked him to participate in

special presentations on and off campus. "Jesse did not need to perform or practice with me for these special projects, but he always generously shared his free time for whatever performance project I had going on at the moment," she explained.



That generous and kind spirit Mr. Borrego displayed years ago is still part of him today, Sr. Martha noted.

"The TV and film industry saw the same creative spark I saw in him, but he is also deeply spiritual and continues to share his talents with so many young people," she added. "The university was so happy he helped us celebrate the Tricentennial at the Blue Hole and cast light on the importance of the Native American community."

Don't miss a minute of this year's film festival at the Tobin Center. Visit [SAFILM.com](http://SAFILM.com) for all the info and tickets.