

Extended bio for Diana López

Diana López is the author of the adult novella, *Sofia's Saints*, and of middle grade books *Confetti Girl*, *Ask My Mood Ring How I Feel*, *Nothing Up My Sleeve*, and *Lucky Luna*. Her novel *Choke* was adapted as *The Choking Game* for the Lifetime Movie Network in 2014, and she also wrote *Coco*, *A Story About Music*, *Shoes*, and *Family*, a novel adaptation of the award-winning Disney/Pixar film. Her debut picture book, *Sing With Me: The Story of Selena Quintanilla*, is now available.

Diana recently retired from the University of Houston-Victoria as an Associate Professor of Creative Writing after a 28-year career as an educator at both the middle grade and university levels, but she still enjoys working with students by visiting schools and in her role as a mentor for new and aspiring writers via programs hosted by the AWP, SCBWI, and Las Musas. Diana often speaks at book festivals and educator and writing conferences. During its eight-year run, she worked as the managing editor of *Huizache: The Magazine of Latino Literature*, and she currently serves as the vice president for the Texas Institute of Letters.

After many years of living in San Antonio and Victoria Texas, Diana has finally returned to her hometown of Corpus Christi, the sparkling city by the sea and the setting for many of her books. She and her husband have opened a physical therapy clinic called FYZICAL Therapy & Balance Center where she works as the office manager. They have also adopted three fur babies—Birdy, a cuddly cat; Bella, a rambunctious German Shepherd; and Benji, a shy rescue dog.

For updates and to learn more about Diana López, please follow her on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at @dianalopezbooks.