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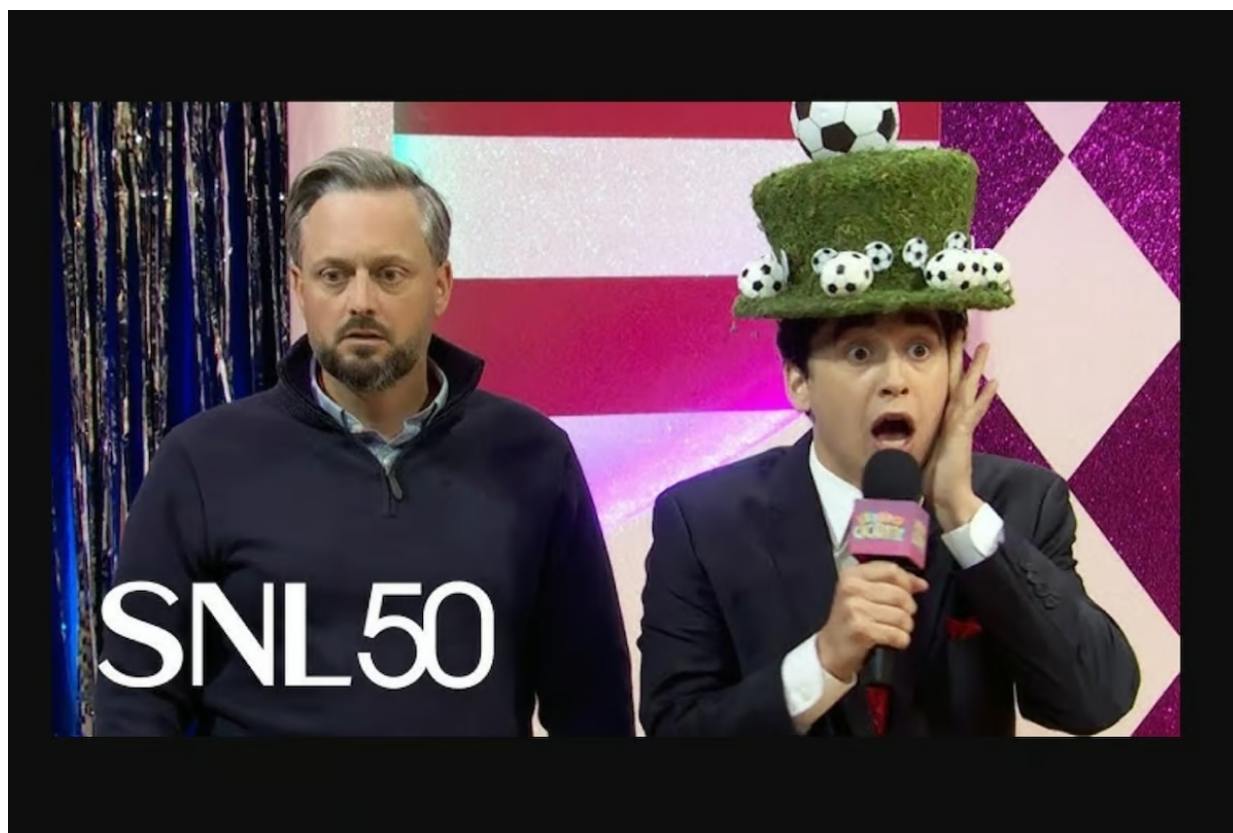
Who Knew We All Needed an SNL SÁBADO GIGANTE Skit?

But we did



[Julio Ricardo Varela](#)

October 07, 2024



Via SNL (Nate Bargatze and Marcello Hernández)

This is The Latino Newsletter's 18th week of publishing daily posts from Monday to Friday. This is our 87th post, which is going out via email to 755 subscribers. As you consider your year-end donations and believe that The Latino Newsletter should be free and accessible to all, we are set up to [accept your tax-deductible donation here](#). Thanks. — Julio

It took SNL only 50 years to realize that if it leaned into U.S. Latinidad with fresh writing and cultural takes, it might become a go-to show for the country's Latino

population. Saturday night's "Sábado Gigante" skit was perhaps the most brilliant Latino-centric moment in the history of the show. (Ok, I might give you the ["Age of Discovery" bit](#) from 2023, which renewed my faith that SNL has an opportunity to expand audiences. And yeah, Fred Armisen [was way ahead of his time](#).)

Still, it's safe to say that when it comes to Latinos, SNL and comedy, "Sábado Gigante" is now the new standard. It resonated on so many levels, not only because the original institution of a show with Don Francisco was a staple for so many Latino families back in the day (the kitschiness, the weirdness, the schlock, all of it felt strangely comforting back then), but SNL went straight after how cultures can mix in this country and produce laughs.

If you haven't seen the full skit, enjoy it.



Marcello Hernández crushed it, and I can't think of a better uncomfortable American than Nate Bargatze to play the role of the unsuspecting contestant. It reminds me of the days when I had to explain the Sábado Gigante phenomenon to my non-Latino friends.

It's about time. Apparently, [many agree](#) that this skit is exactly what we all needed.

To those of you who did not grow up watching sabado gigante, enjoy this clip.... no they didn't make el chacal or the random hat or el leon up

— gabri ella (@gabsvibes)

4:38 AM • Oct 6, 2024

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♥ 29

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This week, @STEEEZUSCHRIST worked harder than I've ever seen him work to bring the Sabado Gigante sketch to #snl. Steven always goes above and beyond with his sketches but this was a whole new level. I'm so proud of him, his accomplishments and the barriers his work is breaking.

— Kalhan (@KalhanR)

4:18 AM • Oct 6, 2024

Every Latino kid who watched a thousand hours of Sabado Gigante with our grandmas watching #SNL right now, like:

— Melissa Morales (@Melissa_In_DC)

4:09 AM • Oct 6, 2024

For those wondering, Yes, Sábado Gigante was that weird. #SNL

— Joel Garcia (@MrJoelGarcia9)

4:06 AM • Oct 6, 2024

Even Don Francisco agreed.

Don Francisco, host of Sábado Gigante, thanks Marcello Hernández and Saturday Night Live for parodying the variety show on #SNL last night!

— Saturday Night Network (@thesnlnetwork)

6:18 PM • Oct 6, 2024

What We're Reading

Latinos in Arizona and Nevada: USA Today's Rebecca Morin filed a Monday morning story about new polling from Suffolk University (Go Rams!) and "The Nation's Newspaper." As Rebecca writes, "More than half —57%— of Latino voters in Arizona said they plan to vote for or lean toward Harris, while 38% said they lean toward Trump, according to a statewide poll of 500 likely Hispanic voters there. Harris also leads Trump among Latino voters in Nevada, 56% to 40%, the statewide poll of 500 likely Hispanic voters found."

Harris leads among Latinos in swing states, but it may not be enough

Harris holds an edge among Latino voters in Arizona and Nevada. But Trump is making inroads, exclusive



Part of the reason why the support in this poll for Harris is not at the same 2020 level as it was for Biden?

Young Latino men in Nevada and Arizona.

El culpable!

The reason Kamala Harris isn't doing as well among Hispanic voters as Joe Biden did in 2020?

Young Latinos.

Exclusive Suffolk/USA TODAY polls of likely Hispanic voters in Nevada and Arizona:

NV MEN (18-34) Trump 53% - Harris 40%

AZ MEN (18-34) Trump 51% - Harris 39%

— David Paleologos (@davidpaleologos)

9:13 AM • Oct 7, 2024

Migrant Crossings at Lowest in Biden Administration: What Camilo Montoya-Galvez of CBS tweeted out on Monday morning.

The number of migrants crossing into the U.S. illegally at the southern border reached the lowest point of President Biden's administration in September, according to Department of Homeland Security statistics obtained by CBS News.

[cbsnews.com/news/u-s-mexic...](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-mexic...)

— Camilo Montoya-Galvez (@camiloreports)

1:45 PM • Oct 7, 2024

The Latino Justice Climate Framework: Also on Monday, advocacy group GreenLatinos released its 2025-2028 Latino Justice Climate Framework, which, according to a media release, “expands on climate issues directly impacting Latinos and the solutions needed to address outstanding environmental and racial injustices.”

The Latino Climate Justice Framework – El Plan De Nuestra Gente

The new LCJF 2025-2028 represents our collective voice, calls for environmental liberation for all & serves as blueprint to advocate for our comunidades.

www.lcjf.greenlatinos.org



About the Author

[*Julio Ricardo Varela*](#) is the founder and interim publisher of *The Latino Newsletter*.

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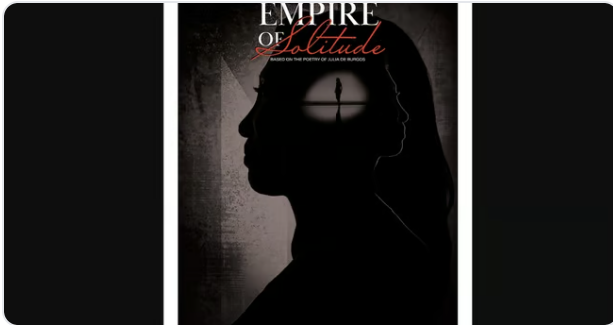


The 2024 U.S. Latinos in Media Report paints a stark picture



A New Bad Bunny Children's Book Is Out

I connected with author Claudia Romo Edelman about the next installment of the Hispanic Star series



Denver's Puerto Rican Theater Is Revolutionary

In more ways than one

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