

Statesman

TONIGHT: Fiesta del Grito, commemorating Mexican Independence, to take place at Capitol

[Katie Hall](#) - American-Statesman Staff

5:27 p.m Friday, Sept. 15, 2017



In celebration of Mexican Independence Day, the Capitol's south lawn will host the traditional Fiesta del Grito this evening.

The free event begins at 5 p.m. and will feature food and entertainment such as ballet folklórico, mariachis and live musical performances.

The evening's highlight will be at 9 p.m., when Austin's Consul General of Mexico Carlos González Gutiérrez will lead attendees in the traditional "grito," which commemorates the beginning of the Mexican War of Independence and ends with three shouts of "Viva Mexico!"

"Grito" translates to "shout" or "cry." On the early morning of Sept. 16, 1810, priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla rang the bell of his church in Dolores, Mexico, to summon the townsfolk and called them to raise in arms against Spanish rule.

In Mexico, every year on the eve of Independence Day, the Mexican president leads the Grito in Mexico City, while ringing the same bell that Hidalgo rang in 1810.