



Candela is the new production of the Colombian singer "El Rey Charles", which has been played in thousands of homes, vehicles and nightclubs around the world, achieving that the single reaches approximately 111,068 reproductions in the platform from Spotify.



EL REY CHARLES

COLOMBIAN SINGER OF THE HIT SONG "CANDELA"

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an experience unforgettable

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We are a digital magazine where we highlight the positive notes of our beautiful Bay Islands and the rest of Honduras. Our focuses are topics of interest such as: tourist sites, entrepreneurship, social note, events, investment and technological advances. It is time to appreciate the efforts of our people with the

vision of achieving progressive development and continuing to grow continuously to exploit the potential of the natural beauties and especially of the island of Roatán to achieve the investment that the community needs and create an excellent business climate. We have versions in English and Spanish, our publication is monthly, follow us on our social networks.



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EDITORIAL

Droughts and storms in tropical countries



On the other hand, we have the enormous losses in the area of agriculture, in the different crops of corn, beans, and other products of the basic family basket, forcing grain and cereal producing societies to import even the indispensable beans from abroad.

Tropical countries like ours annually intertwine three dangerous seasons, dry and steamy springs, rainy summers and highly stormy autumns, this abrupt change causes bronchial and respiratory problems served as the order of the day, forest fires generate suffocating anguish, as for These rains produce floods and landslides, generating unexpected deaths without leaving aside the hurricanes and tropical storms which destroy everything in their path, taking away each year a brief fragment

of infrastructure from various parts of the country, leaving a high percentage of the population without home causing distress and suffering.

On the other hand, we have the enormous losses in the area of agriculture, in the different crops of corn, beans, and other products of the basic family basket, forcing grain and cereal producing societies to import even the indispensable beans from abroad. , including, strangely, the importation of bananas, in a country that back in 1925 displayed the village of La Lima, on the Atlantic coast of Honduras, as the “banana

capital” worldwide, due to the production and amount in the exports of this item that, in addition to food, is an exquisite dessert for various palates in the international market.

What we can make clear is that with various efforts from different sectors we can become a society that faces these events, successfully assumes them in terms of the climatic changes that the three seasons leave us, possibly taking the model of the other tropical countries located in the Caribbean, to take initiatives and gradually be able to nip this problem in the bud.



BEAUTIFUL

PAOLA CARBAJAL

Extraordinary coronation of queens at the Tela fair and carnival

The magic of the fair in the city of Tela was celebrated with great enthusiasm and joy with a coronation day, its queens were Emily Reyes proclaimed queen of the fair, the young Yaneri Torres queen of the carnival, these nominations were made in a ceremony in the central park, between beauty and joy.

A night accompanied by lights, music with the large presence of the inhabitants of the region and a diversity of tourists to enjoy the great event, the queens put on the show with a wealth of charisma among them, proudly highlighting the community, transmitting energy to the evening.

This traditional festival has been celebrated in the port city of Tela for more than 40 years, like other important fairs in Honduras. Starting in 2017, the Tela Fair is held in honor of its Patron Saint San Antonio de Padua from the 7th to the 16th. June, Tela will become the epicenter of joy and celebration, offering activities for the whole family.

Making a hybrid between religious, sports, musical, gastronomic celebrations among others of great general interest, it started with soccer tournaments and reign in the activities where various municipal authorities, unions, institutes and schools were present.



The children's queens of Tela, Kendal Estrada and Sheylid Ramos.



The very elegant carnival queen, Yaneri Torres.



The beautiful Emely Reyes was crowned the queen of the Tela patron fair.

Sampedranos enjoy Juniana Fair 2024 in a big way

The Juniana Fair in San Pedro Sula is one of the most anticipated events in Honduras, celebrated in honor of San Pedro Apóstol, combining various activities, gastronomy, culture, tradition, this vibrant celebration attracts locals and tourists.

This Saturday, June 29, thousands of people enjoyed the closing of the festivity. This year, its main attraction was the floats and the traditional carnival that returned to the ring road after years.

Different generations enjoyed and danced to the rhythm of the bands in charge of providing atmosphere all day in the industrial capital of the country, demonstrating for another year the colorful and happy side, to close the fair.

Bands such as The New Combo 75, Osmosis, Orquesta Delicias, among others were present at the carnival

held on Avenida Circunvalación in San Pedro Sula.

Security was guaranteed to carry out the activities, with the protection of more than two thousand elements of the National Police, Army and Municipal Police.

On Sunday, June 30, the dog walk took place that began in the central park at 7:00 in the morning, while the role of cycling took place in Plaza las Banderas at 4:00 in the afternoon.

Likewise, the closing of the Juniana Fair and Campo Agas, it was estimated that the economic impact achieved was 3,000 million lempiras, between horse parades, concerts, fireworks shows and the color Run, it should be noted that currently San Pedro Sula is the city with the highest rate of population growth in Honduras, economic development was achieved with the arrival of transnational banana companies at the beginning of the 20th century.



Resounding success Roa Fest 2024 exceeds the goal with 4.2 million lempiras

The Roa Fest 2024 was a total success in the event, 4 million 254 thousand lempiras were raised, which will be used to equip the provincial hospital in the Adventist church in the island area.

There was an unparalleled musical atmosphere with the voices of various national artists such as Los Bohemios, Nina Maier, su Banda, Midlife Paradise Ft. Brion James, and Jensen Grant, among others.

Various companies and visitors joined the party to enjoy a day full of entertainment and solidarity, delighting the public with their charisma, the active participation of Katherine and Jimmy, renowned figures of journalism in Roatán, joined with the enthusiasm of Carolina Lanza and Milagro Flowers, adding a special touch to the activity to motivate each inhabitant of the island to be part of this noble cause.

This marks an important milestone in Roatán to provide better conditions for the region's health sector. The organizers thank each person who made this fundraiser possible and emphasize the commitment to continue these works for the benefit of the community.

Once again, the entire Roatán population highlights the unity, solidarity and brotherhood that characterizes our island and also advances to make possible the services of the Roatán Provisional Hospital, a vital center for medical care on the island. This achievement not only reflects the community's commitment to the well-being of its inhabitants, but also celebrates the 30th anniversary of Galaxy Wave.



El Rey Charles Colombian singer of the hit song

"Candela"

Candela is the new production by Colombian singer "El Rey Charles", which has been played in thousands of homes, vehicles and nightclubs around the world, achieving the single's reach of approximately 111,068 views on the Spotify platform. This popular song arose from the inspiration of the artist, "Like a woman who dazzles by dancing elegantly, who has a sculptural body, the moment the young woman dances, her vibe is candlelight, with which she infects the rest of the world, no one could stop moving to the rhythm of the dembow" is how Charles described the muse that projects this single.

This performer is close to his first tour of Honduras with the company Luxur Music Lu Show in Chicago and Miami through the Community Manager Alejandro Cerrato, originally from Honduras, with whom years ago they held various meetings via zoom and managed to open the doors for him in the world of the Honduran industry, the concern for carrying out this tour originates from his tour of various places on the Honduran coast such as Tocoa, Saba, Sonaguera, Bonito Oriental, culminating in Tegucigalpa with his media tour. "Without a doubt, Honduras is a magical space for music worldwide, its people full of positive energy emanate a desire to expand musically due to its diversity of flavors, colors and cultures." Expressed King Charles

Likewise, he confirmed that his tour will begin in Honduras, then he will continue his musical journey through Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama and El Salvador, with the aim of spreading his music throughout Central America and Europe to artistically represent the Luxur Music company, as token of gratitude for the boost they have given him in his musical career.

It is worth mentioning that this artist was attracted to music from birth, but it was not until his father and cousin Luis Uhia, who along the way were educating his ear musically, that this young man, who was only 12 years old, decided to make his first shows in a group called "Latin Flow" with Lil Latino, it is in 2020 when he launched himself professionally into stardom until today, where he is proud of all his growth in this field. The Colombian aspires to share microphones with celebrities of the like Don Omar, Alfa, El Jefe, JCP El Especialista, as well as legends like Tego Calderon, Drake and 50 Cent.

Although his journey in the artistic world has been one of ups and downs, King Charles has a very strong spirit of perseverance, strength and discipline because he looks back at his past and observes his happiness in fulfilling his dreams day by day, which perseverance has given him. served to grow professionally and personally, recognizing with humility that those who have him on his first international tour are his entire Honduran audience.

"Grateful for this beautiful country of beautiful women and good taste in food," Charles stressed.



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CULTURE

Guacamaya Fest 2024

an unforgettable experience

The organizers of the Guacamaya Fest 2024 invited you to a unique experience in Copán from June 28 to 30.

The Guacamaya Fest 2024 was an unforgettable experience, designed to bring together locals and international visitors in an atmosphere of celebration

and culture. The festival program included a diverse range of activities, such as live music, traditional dances, the ancient ball game, and a craft fair. The “Guacamaya Fest” festival, which began from Friday, June 28 to Sunday, June 30, promoted the appreciation of the traditions and natural fauna of the country; In particular, the flagship event will be the release of Macaws to the local area, after careful work and growth of the birds within the Macaw Mountain Bird Reserve.

Likewise, Copán prepared for the XI release of the Scarlet Macaw where 10 scarlet macaws were released at the Marina Copán Convention Center on June 30.

This event not only sought to entertain, but also highlight the cultural and natural wealth of Honduras, providing a platform for local artists and artisans to showcase their talent and products.



**GUACA
MAYA
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COPÁN RUINAS

ANDONI CASTILLO

Honduran anthropologist launched a Study on the Garinagu of Central America at UNESCO



The event took place at UNESCO headquarters, Paris within the framework of the tenth session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, with the aim of listening to the needs of This ethnic group from its own voice, in this process Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Belize and the United States of America were taken into account, to project an analysis of the situational state of the Garifuna culture, in this way the risks it experiences are taken into account. their language, customs and positioning of the State based on decision-making in the political sphere.

Likewise, an internal approach was sought using dialogue as a mechanism between community bearers and leaders, artists, academics, human rights defenders, to obtain results from the real situation in Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, Nicaragua and the United States, constituting first hand the set of values and cultural assets transmitted from generation to generation.

It should be noted that we face a phenomenon of resistance that allows us to detect the diversity of riches, cultural expressions and spiritual knowledge. It describes the

way in which the causes of cultural, political and social asymmetry are understood in each of the countries where they coexist, despite their great challenges, still retaining their recreated culture based on their evolution, resistance and resilience, their Interaction with nature and their life history instills a feeling of identity and relevance, an essential element for their survival.

According to UNESCO reports, the results of this study indicate that the Garifuna Language is at risk of disappearing because children no longer speak it in Belize, Guatemala, Nicaragua and in 80% of the communities in Honduras, due to cultural erosion, marginalization, social exclusion and lack of state support in educational matters. Communities fight for the recognition and protection of their territorial rights. The experiences experienced in their journey to safeguard their living heritage after the proclamation of the organization.

The key to cultural restoration is to recognize the role that each individual must play in this process internally in each country, placing the future in our hands for the prevention of the risk experienced by their mother tongue, the Central American Garifuna community in Honduras and other neighboring countries.

As a cultural initiative, on Tuesday the Study on the Garinagu of Central America "Celebrating the Living Heritage of Indigenous Peoples" was launched, coordinated by the renowned Garífuna anthropologist Andoni Castillo Pérez and the Black Organization of Central America (ONECA).





Honduras participates in FIEXPO Latin America 2024

The Honduran delegation had a spectacular day in its participation in FIEXPO Latin America 2024. With an impressive stand, Honduras presented its tourism proposal to hundreds of visitors who gathered in Panama. FIEXPO Latin America is the event par excellence where destinations and suppliers specialized in the Meetings, Events and Incentives Industry (MICE) can connect with the most prominent buyers globally. During the event, links were established with the highest authorities and policymakers, ensuring that the

economic, intercultural and social benefits of the MICE Industry in Latin America are understood and recognized. Honduras' presence at FIEXPO Latin America 2024 not only reinforces its position as an attractive and competitive destination, but also highlights the country's commitment to promoting the development of this important industry. With its participation in FIEXPO, Honduras demonstrates its ability to attract and organize high-level events, promoting business tourism and showing the world the wonders it has to offer.



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Taulabé Caves an underground journey

The Taulabé Caves are located in the department of Comayagua.

Discovered in 1969, the impressive Taulabé Caves are a natural monument in Honduras that, in 1972, captured world attention because the Honduran airliner Frederick William Hahneman, who hijacked a plane in the US and parachuted into the Caribbean region, was hidden there. From his country with 303,000 dollars. A natural treasure that invites intrepid travelers to immerse themselves in the wonderful underground

world, these mystical caves hidden beneath the earth's surface awaken the imagination and whisper ancient stories in the wind. The Taulabé Caves are located in the department of Comayagua. This privileged geographical environment has given rise to an astonishing and diverse cave system, which extends across a vast underground area. When the visitor delves into the depths, they find a fascinating world of labyrinthine caverns with stalactites and stalagmites, which

have been sculpted over thousands of years by the power of water and erosion, rising majestically from the ground and hanging from the ceiling.

Its beauty is highlighted by the patient work of nature, sculpting different limestone formations, creating a dreamlike underground kingdom. The conditioning of the caves, in conjunction with nature, allows us to appreciate a fantasy panorama where the different lights installed allow us to appreciate the rock fis-

tures, creating chiaroscuro games that further enhance the beauty of this place.

The Taulabé Caves are made up of 24 caves of natural origin, although the total length of the caves is still unknown, the main one has a depth of 11 kilometers, of which 700 meters can be enjoyed, since they are adequately equipped. For adventure lovers, after 700 meters, extreme tours are carried out, with their respective safety equipment, facing difficult challenges.

MEDICINA
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RECIENTE POPULAR COMENTARIO



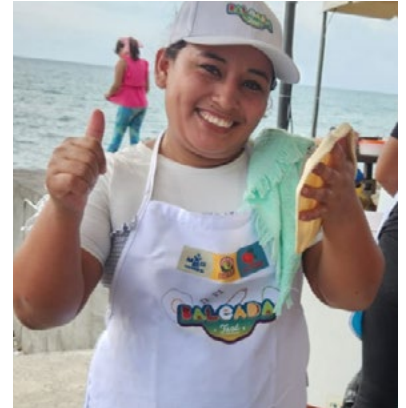
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FESTIVAL



This project was also carried out in the industrial city, annually paying tribute to one of the most symbolic dishes of Honduran cuisine, the baleada, consolidated as one of the most outstanding gastronomic events in the country.

For the third time, the Baleada Fest took place in La Ceiba. Shin Fujiyama announced it through his official social networks, the event took place on June 15 from 3:00 in the afternoon to 8:00 at night, with the objective of promoting the

gastronomic culture of Honduras by offering attendees a culinary experience. On the Malecón Prof. Enrique Martínez, La Ceiba, a celebration was held with various family activities, not only gastronomic, but also where art and performance were reflected so that all the inha-

bitants of this area could spend a healthy and enriching afternoon for the contribution of our national gastronomy. This project was also carried out in the industrial city, annually paying tribute to one of the most symbolic dishes of Honduran cuisine, the baleada, consolidated as

one of the most outstanding gastronomic events in the country. The event is sponsored by Harina la Rosa, Molino Harinero Sula, Harina de Trigo el Gallo and Harina La Rosa, with the support of their sponsors: De La Granja, Friitos Naturas, Maggi, Nescafé, Sula, Pollo Norteño among others.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

Top 10 Emerging Technologies of 2024

From advances in materials science to transformative technologies in healthcare, here are the insights contained in the renowned report.

In a recent report from the World Economic Forum, detailing the 10 most important emerging technologies of this year, prepared in collaboration with Frontiers, it reveals a future full of possibilities. This year's report, now in its 12th edition, took a broader approach, drawing on the expertise of more than 300 world-leading academics and experts from the Forum's Global Future Councils, the University & Researcher Network and members. from the Top 10 Emerging Technologies Steering Group.

From advances in materials science to transformative technologies in healthcare, here are the insights contained in the renowned report.

Connectivity technology

The world needs to implement energy reduction with 6G on the horizon. Reconfigurable intelligent surfaces (RIS) optimize wireless communications links by dynamically changing shape, combining metamaterials, intelligent algorithms and advanced signal processing to control and manipulate the electromagnetic waves.

It was designed to improve the connectivity capacity and especially the environmental sustainability, of the (RIS)

Technology against climate change

Technologies that address and solve the climate crisis feature prominently in this year's top 10.

Elastocaloric technology is a rapidly advancing field, described as "heating systems that work like muscles," which could offer more sustainable

ways to stay cool. With a warming climate and increasing demand for data, this has never been more important. Heat pumps that use elastocaloric materials such as nickel and titanium that emit heat when mechanical stress is applied and cool when the stress is relaxed are proving to be more energy efficient

than traditional heating and cooling systems.

Advances in transplants

Although transplants save lives, there are not enough organs available to meet demand. But recent advances in genetic manipulation, such as CRISPR-Cas9, could change this

situation.

Genomics for transplants: The successful implantation of genetically engineered organs in a human being represents a significant advance in healthcare, offering hope to millions of people waiting for a transplant.

CELEBRATION

Roatán Mayor's Office celebrated members of the National Police

Last Monday, June 11 of this year, the Mayor's Office of Roatán celebrated the members of the National Police, in commemoration of its emblematic day that recognizes the efforts of each person throughout the country. The event took place at Club Sol and Mar. The main purpose was to provide a well-deserved celebration to these brave men and women who perform a fundamental task for security and order on the island. To open the ceremony, Mayor Ron McNab thanked the National Police. "We wanted to do something special for the Police, they celebrated their day yesterday since they are people who every day are exposing their lives to try to guarantee order on this island. We feel very happy to be here and live with them. We recognize that it is a sacrificial and valuable

profession," said Mayor McNab. However, Deputy Police Commissioner Suyapa Posadas also addressed a few words of gratitude to the Mayor's Office for its constant support. «We appreciate the support of the Mayor's Office, I have no complaints, excellent initiatives such as security cameras will soon come. That's what it's about, carrying out joint strategies," said Deputy Commissioner Posadas. The celebration was attended by numerous members of the police community, who enjoyed a day of recognition and camaraderie. This event reflects the commitment of the Mayor's Office of Roatán to the safety and well-being of its inhabitants, as well as the respect and gratitude towards those who daily ensure peace and security on the island.



POLICÍA NACIONAL



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INTERNATIONAL

ANDONI CASTILLO

Shakira will sing in the final of the Copa América 2024

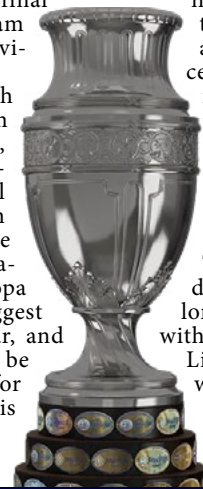
The famous Colombian singer-songwriter has become an icon in the sports world and with her song Puntería continues her legacy of fusing the spirit of soccer with the energy of Latin music. First he did it with Hips Don't Lie (Hips Don't Lie) in Germany 2006, then with Waka Waka, the official song of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, then he followed La La La, the theme of the 2014 World Cup in Brazil and now he will return to the stage to make all those attending the final of the oldest national team tournament in the world vibrate.

Her single Puntería, which is part of her new album Las Mujeres No Lloran, was chosen as the soundtrack of the Conmebol sporting event and, upon hearing the news, the singer originally from Barranquilla said: "The Copa América is the event biggest football game of the year, and we know this song will be the sound of summer for fans around the world. It is

the power of our culture and our music." And he was right. Shakira's selection for this event reflects her global popularity and ability to attract a diverse audience. Known for her energetic performances and her repertoire of global hits, Shakira promises to deliver an unforgettable show that will complement the excitement of the final match still being played between Argentina, Canada, Uruguay and Colombia.

Last Sunday, July 14, the Barranquilla native lit up the stage at halftime of the closing of the Copa América 2024, in a spectacular performance, the mix of Latin and pop rhythms that characterize the singer's dance style made the event, an unforgettable moment establishing herself once again as one of the most influential artists in the world.

This show was a dazzling display of energy, the Colombian performer opened with her iconic song Hips Don't Lie, lighting up the stadium with vibrant choreography.




SHAKIRA

14 DE JULIO | HARD ROCK STADIUM - MIAMI

CONMEBOL
COPA AMERICA
USA 2024

Shakira made history by singing during halftime of the 2024 Copa América final, which took place on Sunday, July 14 at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami, Florida. This will be one of the most outstanding presentations of the tournament because the Pies Descalzos performer will once again contribute her musical talent to a soccer championship.

Margot Robbie shows the curves of her first pregnancy

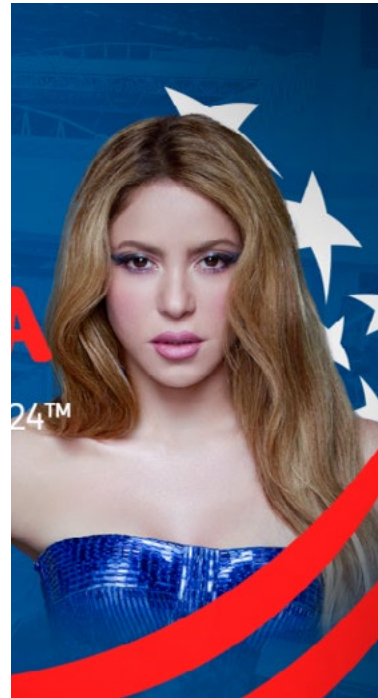
Last weekend the news broke that Margot Robbie and her husband Tom Ackerley will become parents for the first time in the coming months, this was confirmed through the latest photos of the actress without the need for words.

The Twitter profile @21metgala has shared images captured by paparazzi in which the 34-year-old actress can be seen showing off her belly under a cropped top, combined with a black skirt and a blazer, her ultra-elegant look marks the first of a series that we will see over the next few months.

It is worth mentioning that the actress has managed to carry this pregnancy in secret, even with her co-workers, who suspected absolutely nothing. Robbie is immersed in her new filming A Big Bold Beautiful Journey, alongside Colin Farrell, but everyone went unnoticed of the state of pregnancy.

“She looks incredible and seemed very happy,” a source explains to People, saying that it was the only thing that could “give away” the actress who, on the contrary, was very focused on her work and gave no signs of experiencing any symptoms typical of the first months of pregnancy.

The protagonist of Barbie and the assistant director, both 34 years old, met on the set of Suite Française in 2013. Three years later, they married in a private ceremony in the actress’s homeland.



Patricia Sanchez, the honduran with high professional versatility at the national level

This young woman from the capital has had the honor of helping in national education by exercising her Pedagogy as an institutional director and teacher, with the initiative of leading working groups of educational programs in favor of educational innovation, this area being one of her passions, she became involved in the creation of various training schools, implementing advanced pedagogical methods and prioritizing the individual development of each student, hand in hand as a consultant specialized in programs intended to benefit returned migrants, contributing significantly to their development and labor reintegration.

Within Sánchez's adaptability, her wonderful role as a film, theater and television actress stands out, her impeccable participation in the film "Una Luz en el Camino", where she played a stellar role leading the cast to win an EXTRA award, said Staging is special for Patricia because the filming was done with her sons Erick and Jheimy who are her greatest inspiration, however her career took place in commercial advertisements for various brands recognized throughout the country such as: Banrural, BAC, Larach & Cia, Óptica Santa Lucía and a significant documentary of real cases from the Honduran Institute of Social Security (IHSS) in the "Mamá Canguro" program.

The member of the theatrical group *Imágenes y Café Teatral* and with the *Sin Fronteras* Producer, consolidated her training in acting at the National School of Dramatic Art (ENA), currently specializing in scriptwriting, direction, production, sound, editing, photography and other knowledge related to cinema at the *UNA MIRADA PROPIA Film School*.

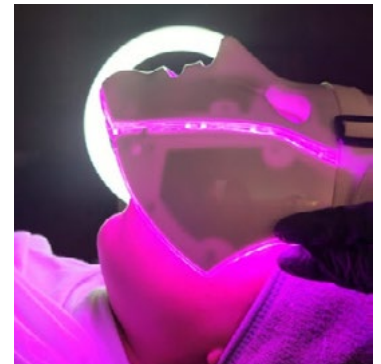
This multifaceted Honduran is a clear example of running her own business called *Perla Estudio Hn*, located near the Tegucigalpa airport, carrying out scheduled tours nationwide in various cities in the country, thus managing to offer my services to all the people who visit her. need.

"I seek to connect with people who share my passion in my different facets, and to be able to expand my experience as a Pedagogue, Cosmiatry and develop film projects that impact and transform society with a committed and passionate approach," said Patricia.

The initiative arose from its specialization in Cosmiatry and Cosmology, having various diplomas, mole and wart removal courses, specialty in Japanese technique in deep hydration, facial cleansing workshop, therapeutic masseuse among others, due to the fascination with skin care. skin and the well-being of others set out to offer high quality services.



From Honduras, Patricia Sánchez has captured the attention of several fans of performing arts, education and aesthetic beauty, with her professional versatility at the national level.





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The Honduran Institute of Tourism granted legal personality to companies in Omoa, Cortés

Committed to the tourism development of the beautiful municipality of Omoa, Cortés, the official delivery of legal status to the businessmen of the Muchilena community was carried out. The association is called EMBATU-MUCH (Multiple Services Entrepreneurs of the Muchilena Tourist Bay), made up of businessmen who, day after day, work with dedication for the progress of their municipality.

Among the guests at the ceremony were institutions such as the Center for Marine Studies (CEM), the Omoa Chapter Chamber of Commerce, municipal councilors, key actors such as the water board, the board of trustees, the fishermen's board and other organizations. They all witnessed the official delivery of legal status to the Muchilena businessmen.



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INFOP Roatán continues to teach free courses throughout the island department



The National Institute of Vocational Training (INFOP) continues to expand its efforts to offer education and technical training to all corners of the island department.

In its most recent initiative, INFOP's professional team has moved to the island of Guanaja, taking with it the mobile computer laboratory.

This initiative responds to a request for computer training aimed at young people and adults in the area, with the aim of improving their digital skills and increasing their job opportunities. The courses taught are free and focus on basic Word and Excel, essential tools for professional development in the digital age.

The mobile computer laboratory allows participants to access equipment and resources necessary for practical and quality training. This effort is part of INFOP's ongoing

commitment to providing accessible and relevant education throughout the island territory.

The basic Word and Excel courses not only provide technical knowledge, but also strengthen participants' skills in managing documents and spreadsheets, essential skills in many current work environments. INFOP Roatán has received an enthusiastic response from the Guanaja community, and hopes to continue bringing these educational opportunities to more islands in the department in the near future.

With initiatives like this, INFOP reaffirms its mission to promote the professional and personal development of the island population of Honduras.



The cultural, social and economic value of Swan Island

Its value is overvalued, for ecological reasons the Swan Islands are home to exceptional biodiversity, serving as critical habitats for endemic, migratory and endangered species. The protection of these islands will help preserve unique genetic resources and maintain ecological balance within the Mesoamerican Reef System and the greater Caribbean.

It has unique ecosystems throughout the country, captivating various tourists among its mangroves, seagrasses, and patches of humid forest. Likewise, the island provides habitat for various key species such as sea turtles, sharks, cetaceans, and seabirds. These species play a crucial role in maintaining the health and stability of marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Regarding climate regulation, its terrestrial and marine ecosystems participate daily by sequestering carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, stabilizing the global climate, and in turn providing protection against tropical storms and coastal erosion.

It has a high social weight due to the history that Swan Island brings to the Caribbean, its exquisite past that reminds buccaneers, pirates, Caribbean families and great foreign powers, an invaluable contribution in terms of education and awareness of biodiversity. Various scientific investigations and the contribution to the conservation of archipelagos, terrestrial and marine resources, however, awareness is forged about nature conservation, promoting good environmental management and inspiring future generations to protect their natural heritage.

Without a doubt, the economy is an important factor. It could house resources that are unknown, such as medicinal plants, unique compounds, and it is possible that these will reach a commercial value and influence pharmaceutical development in the country. Fishing provides snappers, groupers, horse mackerel, and lobsters, which support the livelihoods and economic opportunities of the coastal communities of the country, Central America and the greater Caribbean.



AWARD



The Honduran Institute of Tourism made the fifth delivery of awards to tourism companies, certified with the Central American Integrated System of Quality and Sustainability SICCS, to entrepreneurs nationwide. The event took place in the city of Comayagua where seven companies in the hotel industry and eight restaurants received the certification of the long-awaited seal. Also, there is a new certified company.

The SICCS seal measures the quality of tourism services, processes, environmental and social commitments; constant training, which elevates and makes a distinctive mark for all those companies that acquire this voluntary commitment.

In this way, not only national tourism is strengthened but also an important economic benefit to the entire Central American region and the Dominican Republic, as well as the awards during the event, the Minister of Tourism, Yadira Gómez and the president of CANATURH, Andrés Ehrlér.

Honorable mentions were also made to national tourism service providers, who are in the process of receiving such an important certification. There are 19 companies that are currently beginning with the implementation of SICCS standards (lodging, restaurants and tour operators) who are expected to deliver in 2025.

Fifth delivery of awards to certified tourism companies

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The geographical isolation of La Mosquitia in Honduras, caused by multiple lagoon mirrors that limit access to air and water routes, explains the protection of the ancestral culture of an indigenous people that lives around one of its most recognized natural riches: the Lagoon System of Karataska. Around this system of lagoons of 3,700 square kilometers live 24,679 people, distributed in five areas and 82 communities, quite distant from each other. The five marine-coastal Indigenous Territorial Councils are located there: Auhya Yari, Bamiasta, Lainasta, Katainasta and Watiasta. It is at this site where IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), in consortium with Goal and with the support of local partner, MOPAWI, implements the Regional Coastal Biodiversity Project. This project prepared the "Environmental Report Card for the Honduran La Mosquitia Area (Laguna de Karataska)", a study that, based on the analysis of secondary information, reveals the current state of the territory in environmental, social and economic terms.

Life in a remote area

The cost of living in Mosquitia is high. The remoteness and difficulties of access make its development slower compared to the rest of the country, which is reflected in health, education, employment and productivity indicators.

Although the Human Development Index (HDI) of the department of Gracias a Dios is 0.635, for average human development, the Human Poverty Index (HPI) is 53%. In the area, only 40% of the population has water and electricity. In addition, there are lacks of basic infrastructure, such as sewage or paved streets.

The inhabitants of said place have a particular dynamic of internal migration, between municipalities and communities. In the coastal strip and in the Tansing area, families migrate to grow basic grains in the meadows of the Mokorón River. Young people, who represent more than 50% of the population, migrate to Tegucigalpa and La Ceiba for study and the majority return to the area once they finish. Some migrate outside of Honduras.

Biodiverse paradise

This territory is home to the Coco or Segovia, Patuca and Plátano Rivers, three of the most important rivers in the country. In fact, the network of rivers and lagoon systems in said place constitute the largest reserve of fresh water in Honduras.

The largest continuous extension of protected areas in Honduras is in La Mosquitia, made up of the Wetland System of the Río Plátano Man and Biosphere Reserve (SHRHBRP), declared a World Heritage Site, the Tawahka Asangni Biosphere Reserve (BTA) and the Patuca National Park

(PNP).

At this site are 20 of the 21 families of waterfowl reported for Honduras. It protects the green guara and the harpy eagle, in danger of extinction, and the green ibis, the golden cholo, the parasitic gull, the rufous tiger heron and the avocet, recognized as endemic birds.

It is the habitat of tree species of medicinal value such as the tunu and the batana palm, from which an export

oil is extracted. In addition, it is a refuge for the American crocodile, the alligator and the turtle lizard, part of the threatened or endangered reptiles, according to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Its extensive masses of forests make it the most significant forest remnant in Honduras. The mangrove forest is the dominant coastal ecosystem, with an

area of more than 23 thousand hectares. It constitutes a vital ecosystem for the communities of the Karataska Lagoon System, since it serves as a nursery for many of the commercial species on which local fisheries depend. 76 species of fish have been identified and among the commercial species of greatest interest are: white bass, grouper, tarpon and snapper, which depending on their biological state migrate to the sea and vice versa.

La Mosquitia and its biodiverse, coastal and among water mirrors

Located in the northeast of Honduras, in the department of Gracias a Dios, is the Honduran La Mosquitia, land of the Miskitus, one of the nine indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples that inhabit this Central American country.

