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Announcing the “Nuestra Alegría” Viral Video Contest

V Encuentro launches viral video contest for young Hispanic Catholics in the U.S.

Washington, DC: The Fifth National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry (V Encuentro) releases “Nuestra Alegría” a music video featuring the official youth and young adult song for the V Encuentro. Young Catholics across the nation will develop movements and gestures to the song to compete in a viral video challenge.

The track, “Nuestra Alegría,” was released by [Oregon Catholic Press](#) under the album [Discípulos Misioneros: Testigos del Amor de Dios](#). The song highlights the theme of the V Encuentro “Missionary Disciples: Witnesses of God’s Love” and the joy of going out to encounter those in the peripheries of the Church. The song is written and performed by Iván Díaz a Catholic musician and composer.

Mr. Díaz stated, “*Nuestra Alegría* was inspired by Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel). The V Encuentro is a great opportunity to joyfully announce our faith, especially to new generations in the United States who still do not know God and those who need to hear a voice of hope. Today, young people are the protagonists. Our evangelizing efforts are visible in them and we are sowing the seeds of faith with our music.”

Music Video *Nuestra Alegría*- <https://youtu.be/AvnICQ-TzC0>

The video was shot at the Southeast Pastoral Institute in Miami, FL. and includes young Hispanic Catholics from the Archdiocese of Miami. The video is meant as a launching pad to an exciting viral challenge for Hispanic/Latino Catholic youth and young adult groups in the United States. Young people are invited to create their own movements and gestures to the song and to submit their own YouTube videos for Catholics across the nation to vote on Facebook. A panel of judges will select the winners based on the number of votes and the best gestures/movements. The first-place prize is \$1,000 and the honor of having the movements used in diocesan and regional Encuentros and the national event on September 2018 in Grapevine, TX. Second and third place prizes are \$500 and \$250.

The V National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry is a four-year process of ecclesial reflection, consultation, and action in Catholic parishes across the United States. One of the main objectives of the V Encuentro is to engage Hispanic Catholic youth and young adults, particularly 2nd and 3rd generations. The V Encuentro has developed a [mobile app](#) to engage younger generations and the viral contest is another means to involve young people in the process of the V Encuentro. Youth and young adult groups will be challenging and inviting each other via YouTube to participate in the viral video challenge.

Watch the Viral Video Invitation- <https://youtu.be/e1ivuXEaH34>

Alejandro Aguilera-Titus, National Coordinator for the V Encuentro, stated, “Music is one of the most effective means of creating a culture of encounter, particularly among young people. This viral video challenge invites young people to encounter one another in the digital continent with a joyful message of friendship, belonging, and hope!”



For more information and contest rules, visit the [*Nuestra Alegría Video Contest page.*](#)

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[The V Encuentro](#) process is a priority activity of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Strategic Plan for 2017-2020. **ENAVE** is the National Team of Accompaniment of the V Encuentro and is a representative group of national Catholic organizations committed to advancing the call to the Fifth National Encuentro of Hispano/Latino Ministry.