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# Loteria Night at WinterFest

## Family-Friendly Event to Include Activity Booths

**EL PASO, Texas**— The City of El Paso invites the community to Loteria Night at WinterFest happening from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 19 and Thursday, December 26 at San Jacinto Plaza.

Visitors can expect a fun, family-friendly night of playing the traditional Mexican game Lotería under the canopy of historic San Jacinto Plaza.

The Lotería playing board and cards includes colorful iconic images of El Paso with matching language. Lotería, which is Spanish for lottery, is often referred to as Mexican bingo. Unlike bingo, where numbers are called out, Lotería utilizes colorful illustrated cards depicting the Mexican aesthetic replacing bingo balls – it's a game of chance, but not much strategy is needed.

Initially played by the elite, La Lotería Mexicana grew in popularity in the 19th and 20th centuries thanks to traveling fairs, known as ferias. This much-loved game, or *juego*, rose from being the pastime of social elites to a national phenomenon played by friends and familia at fiestas throughout Mexico.

The free event will include prizes such as ice-skating tickets, tickets to the El Paso Zoo, swag from various City Departments and gift certificates that were donated from various private organizations.

In addition to Loteria Night, the following activities will be provided by the Mexican American Cultural Center, the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, and the El Paso Public Libraries.

- Mexican American Cultural Center to host a Cacao & Grabado activity. Visitors can print their own El Paso holiday cards and learn about chocolate through demonstrations from Cacao Coyatoc
- El Paso Museum of Archaeology is hosting a free printmaking activity. Create a unique sparkling print with your own pot design or inspiration from the local flora and fauna in celebration of the museum's new exhibit, "Sun Sparkle" that opens December 21.
- El Paso Public Libraries will have activity booths including an opportunity for visitors to get a free Enhanced Library Card on the spot. Library staff from the Centre Future program will also be on hand providing information on career choices, and educational options.

Loteria Nights is one of several holiday events happening at WinterFest.

For more information on Loteria Nights and all of the events happening at WinterFest, visit the El Paso WinterFest social media platforms, Facebook, Instagram and X or [www.EPWinterFest.com](http://www.EPWinterFest.com).

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Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**  
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