



# Biography

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Josefina López is best known for authoring the play and co-authoring the film *Real Women Have Curves*, a coming-of-age story about Ana, a first-generation Chicana torn between pursuing her college ambitions, a personal goal, and securing employment which is a family expectation. Along the way, Ana confronts a host of cultural assumptions about beauty, marriage and a woman's role in society. Although *Real Women Have Curves* is Lopez' most recognized work, it is only one of many literary works she has created since her writing career began at 17. Born in San Luis Potosi, Mexico in 1969, Josefina Lopez was five years old when she and her family immigrated to the United States and settled in the East Los Angeles neighborhood of Boyle Heights.

Josefina attended the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, graduating in 1987. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Film and Screenwriting from Columbia College in Chicago, 1993, graduating with a 4.0 G.P.A. She then obtained her M.F.A. in Screenwriting from UCLA's school of Film and TV.

Josefina is the recipient of a number of other awards and accolades, including a formal recognition from U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer's 7th Annual "Women Making History" banquet in 1998; and a screenwriting fellowship from the California Arts Council in 2001. She and *Real Women Have Curves* co-author George LaVoo won the Humanitas Prize for Screenwriting in 2002, The Gabriel Garcia Marquez Award from L.A. Mayor in 2003, and the Artist-in-Residency grant from the NEATCG for 2007.

Even though she is best known for the success of *Real Women Have Curves*, Josefina has had more than 80 productions of her plays throughout the United States. In addition, Josefina also writes poetry, performs, designs, lectures on writing, Women's Studies, and Chicano theater. She currently resides in Boyle Heights, and is the founder of "Casa 0101 Theater Art Space" in Boyle Heights, where she teaches screenwriting and playwriting and nurtures a new generation of Latino artists.

Josefina is presently workshoping the musical version of *Real Women Have Curves* at CASA 0101, finishing her first novel *Hungry Woman in Paris* and starting her second one *A Girl and A Ball*, writing *Trio Los Machos*, a play about three bachelor men in their seventies who play in a guitar trio who met while participating in the Bracero Program, for Brava Theater in San Francisco. She is also currently writing a quinceanera movie based on *Once Upon A Quinceanera* for Sony/Lifetime, and is writing her gorilla low-budget feature she hopes to direct herself.

## *Contact Information*

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To purchase Josefina Lopez's plays please go to:

<http://dramaticpublishing.com/TitlesByAuthorCat.cfm?titlelink=9581&author=Lopez,%20Josefina>

and also <http://www.amazon.com>

# *Biography*

"Josefina Lopez" (playwright biography). In Dictionary of Literary Biography. Vol. 209, Chicano Writers, Third Series, ed. Francisco A. Lomeli and Carl R. Shirley, 133-137. Detroit: Gale Group, 1999.

To purchase a copy of Josefina Lopez's biography go to:

[http://www.mitchelllane.com/hispanic\\_heritage/fphh.html](http://www.mitchelllane.com/hispanic_heritage/fphh.html)

## **ARTICLES AND MORE INFO ON JOSEFINA**

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<http://www.entertainment.msn.com/celebs/celeb.aspx>

[http://www.iofilm.co.uk/fm/r/real\\_woman\\_have\\_curves\\_2002.shtml](http://www.iofilm.co.uk/fm/r/real_woman_have_curves_2002.shtml)

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