

New art exhibit brings families across the border together



by: Shelby Kapp Nov 12, 2019

EL PASO, Texas (KTSM) — Lights have been shining over and across the border near Bowie High School in El Paso's South Side.

The lights are part of a new art exhibit called "Border Tuner," which shoots light beams across the border fence.

"In this region, there's a vibrant set of communities that are speaking to each



By turning the dial you can move the lights.

border is all about," said Rafael Lozano-Hemmer the Artist of Border Tuner.

Starting Wednesday, people on either side of the border will be able to control the lights with a dial.

When the light connects in the sky, it allows people to speak to one another through a microphone. These conversations will also be broadcast internationally on Bordertuner.net.

"Sometimes they ask me is this going to be private conversations, no, border tuner is not about private conversations it is about making your voice public and for it to be amplified," said Lozano-Hemmer.

Lozano-Hemmer is a Mexican-Canadian artist and wants to give families the opportunity to connect and also let the world connect to our border cities.

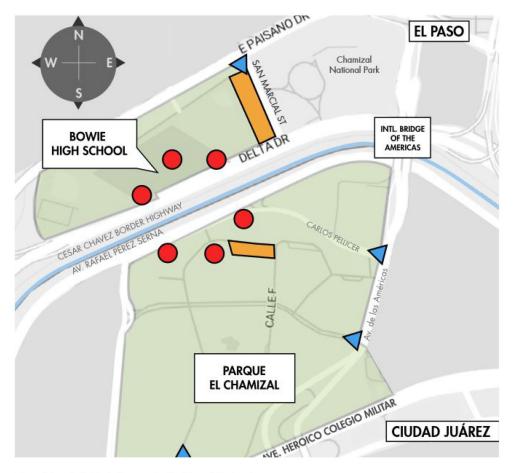


Once two lights from either side of the border touch you can speak through this microphone.



"I know that there are families that have been separated across the border. I would love for them to take over the installation and speak to each other through this light," said Lozano-Hemmer

There are a total of six light stations. Three in Parque El Chamizal in Juarez and three in El Paso behind Bowie High School along the border highway. The lights are visible with a 10-mile radius.



Map of the six light stations on both sides of the border.

The exhibit will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. and is free to the public. However, if you can't make it you can send a recording of your voice and it will be played over the microphone for everyone to hear.