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Getting Up Pal Pueblo: Documenting cross border debates through visual storytelling

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Getting Up P’Al Pueblo!
Documenting cross border debates through visual storytelling

By Suzanne Schadl, Latin American Collections Curator University Libraries, UNM

Many years ago, as a student struggling to locate sources reflecting individuals not well-represented in the historical record, I found myself grappling with information in more ephemeral and intermittently preserved documentation. Now almost two decades later, as a collections curator and humanities professor, my appreciation for the educational value of fleeting references like advertisements, pamphlets and posters has grown. In the classroom, these data are instructive because they help students see themselves as consumers and producers of popular texts illuminating the human experience. In library collections they add increased depth and great opportunities for new research, learning and cultural empathy.

Getting Up P’Al Pueblo is the result of working, with students and colleagues as well as artists, vendors, museum directors and registrars to obtain, describe, archive, understand...

Continued on next page.
and promote ephemeral visual materials while engaging in collaborative cross national research, advocacy and creativity. *Getting Up Pa’l Pueblo* is a multi-tiered learning project, generously funded by the New Mexico Humanities Council, graciously hosted by the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) from February 28 to November 9, 2014, carefully preserved by the University of New Mexico’s (UNM) College of Library and Learning Sciences, and inspired by the Assembly of Revolutionary Artists of Oaxaca (ASARO).

Self-described as a humanist organization, ASARO is a contemporary Mexican artists’ collective that formed in 2006 after riot police violently suppressed annual teachers’ demonstrations in Oaxaca de Juárez. Residents there took to the streets in response despite continued oppression. Members of the collective found each other within this movement and the group continues as a network of young artists committed to creating and teaching public art for restorative social purposes. Their images employ visual cues to connect the past with the present, suggesting continuity and solidarity across time and space.

“Getting up” is slang for Guerilla Artists manifesting images repeatedly and generally in hard to access places. The term typically refers to street art, but the dissemination and circulation of easily repeated prints and stencils, especially in well-recognized gallery spaces like the NHCC Art Museum, is an additional form of “getting up.” However, “getting up” is about more than being seen; it also requires communications between pueblos or peoples.

The project components of *Getting Up Pa’l Pueblo* include five public forums with the same title but different subtitles, an interactive exhibition subtitled *Tagging ASAR-Oaxaca Prints and Stencils*, and digital archive—inclusive of local responses to ASARO’s work. The corpora addressed in these

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**Mission**

The New Mexico Humanities Council strengthens our connections with one another and facilitates imaginative explorations of who we are, who we have been, and who we aspire to be.

El Consejo de las Humanidades de Nuevo México fortalece vínculos de identidad y facilita la exploración visionaria de nuestro presente, pasado, y futuro, así como nuestras aspiraciones.

**The New Mexico Humanities Council**

4115 Silver Avenue SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108-2645
identifications of personages, places or events represented in the prints. Collecting these labels and audio sources helps us understand what people in New Mexico see when they look at an ASARO print or stencil, and by extension—what they might search online. Having this information helps us make this collection more accessible locally. More importantly, these processes incorporate contemporary New Mexican voices in cross-boundary reflections on colonialism, tourism, indigenous autonomy and migration.

The focus on New Mexican interactions with ASARO is a local adaptation of their invitation for broad participation and diverse means of expression. Getting Up Pa’l Pueblo presents these values as essential to humanities and archival practices. This project envisions multiple audio, visual, written and tactile references as pieces of a big picture, enhanced only by matching congruent edges to one another, as in a puzzle. The humanities cannot grow without reciprocal encounters between sources and those who engage with them.

After the exhibition, the materials collected will be incorporated into the (ASARO) Collection already available publically via New Mexico Digital Collections and the Internet Archive. Access to this dialogue extends cross-cultural debates on locally and globally important topics through New Mexico and beyond. Such availability adds important humanist processes like comparative analysis as well as critique and speculation to a locally held and digitally accessible corpus.

To view the digital collection please visit:
http://econtent.unm.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/asamblea
or
http://library.unm.edu/about/events/2014/02/getting-up-pa-l-pueblo-exhibition-features-library-collection.php

“Getting Up P’Al Pueblo! will be at the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) from February 28 to November 9, 2014”
Letter from the Director, Craig Newbill

We greet the New Year with optimism and high expectations for an engaging and productive year. Unlike 2013, which really was a great year for the New Mexico Humanities Council, we begin this year with an executed contract from the State of New Mexico to organize, plan and implement the National History Day program and a budget to start the year from Congress. It has been almost ten years since these two essential funding sources have arrived at the NMHC offices during the month of January.

While the NMHC has always enjoyed strong bi-partisan support from the legislature, securing the State of New Mexico contract to implement the 2014 NHD program would not have been possible without the support of the Department of Cultural Affairs Secretary, Veronica Gonzales, her staff, and the NMHC Board of Directors. Working together, the Council now has adequate funds to implement this year’s contest and expand the program statewide. A sign of hope for the future was seen this past month as Congress demonstrated that they too can cooperate during a time of crisis and in an environment of partisan politics. For the first time in several years, the U.S. Congress will begin the month of February to work on next year’s budget rather than haggling over the current one which is already underway.

The Council finished the year with a 40th Anniversary Reception and free public program on November 14 at the KiMo Theatre. The program featured Dr. William deBuys, a writer and conservationist based in El Valle, NM. The author of six books, deBuys framed his presentation by discussing the “deep tradition of common and shared sacrifice in New Mexico’s history, the need to understand the current ‘classical tragedy’ resulting from our own action and inaction, and the need to correct the perception of the Rio Grande as a ‘failed river.’” The presentation was continued on next page.

“The event attracted an audience of more than 250 people and many stayed to discuss the evening’s event afterwards.”
very well received with the audience actively participating in the question and answer session. The event attracted an audience of more than 250 people and many stayed to discuss the evening’s event afterwards. The 40th Anniversary event also served as the kick-off event for a related series of panel discussions about water in the West, or the lack of it, at the KiMo Theatre which began on February 13. The lecture series is entitled, “Water Crisis in the West: Thinking Like a Watershed.” Project Director Jack Loeffler has invited well-known New Mexican authors John Nichols and Dr. William deBuys, and historian Dr. Patricia (Patty) Nelson Limerick to open the lecture series with an historic overview of human habitation and water use in the Southwest. Patty Limerick is the Faculty Director and Chair of the Board of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado, where she is also a Professor of History. Some of the topics these speakers addressed were climate change, climate instability, and the lasting effects of Manifest Destiny on indigenous cultures and southwestern habitat. Future panels will address indigenous and rural perspectives, water law, and privatizing the commons. For details about the panels, the presenters, the speakers, and all projects recently funded, please see “Announcements” on the NMHC website at www.nmhum.org. So 2013 was a very good year for the NMHC. The Council completed a Five Year Assessment conducted by the National Endowment for the Humanities, began work on its 2014–2018 Strategic Plan and completed renovations at the office to include a new fence and improved drainage. The Chautauqua Program, now under the direction of Jacobo Baca, received applications for new programs and auditions were held. A new online catalogue and “print by demand” version will be completed later this spring. National History Day workshops and webinars for history teachers were conducted in the fall in preparation for regional contests in February and March. They were facilitated by Program Coordinator Trevor Carter and Co-Coordinator Stephanie Garcia. Senior Program Officer Michelle Quisenberry is now reviewing grant application drafts for the February 1 deadline, which promises to be very competitive. Michelle is also working with Administrative Assistant and Communications Officer Marley Gibson to bring in additional funds to support a statewide book discussion program. This talented staff brings experience and excitement to the office every day and it is a pleasure to see them pursue opportunities in the public humanities on a daily basis. Please consider taking the time to look at our programs and services at www.nmhum.org.
Grant Program

Water Crisis in the West: Thinking Like a Watershed

by Jack Loeffler

“Integrity is wholeness, the greatest beauty is Organic wholeness, the wholeness of life and things, the divine beauty of the universe. Love that, not man Apart from that, or else you will share man’s pitiful confusions, or drown in despair when his days darken.”

— from The Answer, by Robinson Jeffers

Robinson Jeffers wrote “The Answer” in 1936. In these few lines, one of America’s greatest poets provided humanity with a clear perspective through which to proceed to regain balance within the flow of Nature. Now nearly eighty years later, our human population, having more than tripled, seems to have challenged the carrying capacity of our planet.

Here in the American Southwest, where aridity is the main characteristic, humans and our neighboring species face a crisis of enormous magnitude. Our watersheds are gravely endangered for myriad reasons, not the least of which is that water is becoming less abundant both on the surface of the land and in the aquifers beneath us. Water is not being replenished relative to its expenditure due to growing over-extraction and climate instability resulting in less precipitation and global warming.

As much as we may wish to deny it, the cause for this climate shift is largely attributable to human activity. We pursue our lives from within a system of cultural attitudes that is motivated far more by economics founded on turning habitat into money and other forms of energy, than by hearkening to the wisdom inherent in the flow of Nature. Robinson Jeffers gives voice to that wisdom in his poem, “The Answer”.

Thanks to the initiative of the KiMo Theater in Albuquerque and funding from the New Mexico Humanities Council, a series of five panel discussions designed to address various aspects of our water crisis will be held monthly at the KiMo Theater at 423 Central Avenue NW beginning at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 13th.

Water Crisis in the West: Thinking Like a Watershed, is a production of The Lore of the Land, and is produced and moderated by Jack Loeffler, author and radio producer who has worked closely with the New Mexico Humanities Council for many years.

Panel 1: Historic Overview (February 13) Panelists will look into human habitation and water use in the American Southwest. They will address issues including global warming, climate instability, and the lasting effects of Manifest Destiny on indigenous cultures and southwestern habitat. They will also address the limitations to capitalism in a world of finite resources, and the relationship between water, coal and hydro-electricity, and associated factors. The three panelists are: historian and author Dr. William deBuys; author and Director of the Center for the American West Dr. Patty Limerick; and author, photographer and polemicist John Nichols.

A series of five panel discussions designed to address various aspects of our water crisis will be held monthly at the KiMo Theater”

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Grant Program

Panel II: Indigenous Perspectives (March 27) Panelists will present multi-cultural land/water use perspectives including sacred, secular, economically oriented, and other attitudes that shape relationship of human culture to habitat. They will address the roles of indigenous peoples concerning both commonly held and differing perspectives within the realm of Indigenous Mind, that aspect of collective human consciousness that is shaped more by the flow of Nature through homeland, than by a list of facts about the nature of homeland. The panel will include: Dr. Rina Swentzell from the Santa Clara Pueblo; archaeologist Lyle Balenquah from the Hopi Independent Nation; and Estevan Arellano, acequiero and writer from Embudo.

Panel III: Rural Perspectives (April 24) Panelists will present perspectives of traditional ranchers and the role of Holistic Range Management in overcoming problems of over-grazing wrought by ranchers transplanted to the arid Southwest from the verdant East of earlier generations. They will introduce the growing likelihood of scarcity in both surface- and ground-water in New Mexico and the American Southwest. This scarcity is already occurring due to global warming, climate instability, drought, and over-extraction. They will also address restoration ecology as a culture of practice shared by Native American, Hispano and Anglo rural residents of New Mexico and beyond. Panelists include: rancher Sid Goodloe from Carrizozo; rancher Stanley Crawford from Cimarron; and Steve Harris, Director of Río Grande Restoration.

Panel IV: Water Law in the Southwest (May 29) Panelists will review the evolution of water law in the Colorado River and Río Grande greater watersheds. They will address the 1922 Colorado River Compact and the 1939 Río Grande Compact. They will also delve into the growing disparity between “agricultural best use” as defined in the early 20th century, and the emerging “urban/economically oriented best use” that is coming to prevail. This condition pits agriculturalists against urban populations and developers over water rights. The panel will also address instances of governmental legislation that violate laws of Nature in our anthropocentrically biased culture. The panelists will be: John Echohawk, Director of the Native American Rights Fund; Bruce Frederick of the New Mexico Environmental Law Center; and Em Hall, author and water rights attorney.

Panel V: Privatizing the Commons (June 26) Panelists will focus on southwestern dams, hydroelectric power, inter-basin water transfers, and visibly diminishing waters in the American Southwest concomitant with rising human populations. The Central Arizona Project will be assessed as an example of political, corporate and legalistic will to provide water to develop a desert ecosystem for human habitation and economic growth. This panel will identify certain “conflicting absolutes” that stand between human beings and other fellow species that comprise the life-forms within the watersheds of the American Southwest. Panelists will include: author and editor Dr. Sonia Dickey; Albuquerque Journal science editor John Fleck; and Bureau of Reclamation Area Director Mike Hamman.

Water Crisis in the West: Thinking Like a Watershed is intended to discuss the current issues relating to water and to include the many perspectives held by water stake-holders. Each panel starts at 7:00 p.m. and is free of charge.
The New Mexico Humanities Council’s busy autumn began with our reviewing over two dozen new proposals for the Chautauqua and Speaker’s Bureau Program. Proposals came from all over the state, many from veteran Chautauquans. We were impressed with the many proposals we received and thank all those who submitted applications as well as those who helped spread the word about our call for proposals. Thank you! The Chautauqua Program is pleased to welcome Lucinda Lucero Sachs, a long recognized expert on both Clyde Tingley and the New Deal in New Mexico, to our Speakers Bureau. Lucinda was one of the recipients of a NMHC’s Centennial Grants in 2012, where she toured her Tingley presentation to venues across the state.

“...The Chautauqua Program is pleased to welcome Lucinda Lucero Sachs, a long recognized expert on both Clyde Tingley and the New Deal in New Mexico, to our Speakers Bureau.”

**New Programs**

The Chautauqua Program is also adding new programs by standing scholars in our Speaker’s Bureau, particularly on the Cold War Era and topics in New Mexico history, culture and ecology. Stefanie Beninato now offers the program *Free Speech Movement and Counterculture*. Historian Jon Hunner lends us his expertise on Cold War America with his *J. Robert Oppenheimer and the Cold War*, which explores Oppenheimer’s opposition to America’s nuclear armament. And Bill Martin offers a one of a kind presentation in *How the Porgy and Bess Opera Cracked the Iron Curtain During the Cold War*, a presentation that grew from his family’s experience taking Broadway to Russia in the 1950s.

Our offerings on New Mexico topics expand with Alan Osborne’s *New Mexico Before Columbus*. Bill Dunmire explores the fauna and flora of our state with two new programs: *New Mexico’s Livestock Heritage* (also a NMHC Centennial Grant recipient) and *New Mexico’s Living Landscapes*. Sherry Robinson offers an important presentation on the unheralded *James S. Calhoun*, New Mexico’s first Territorial Governor. Dorothy Smoker now offers a talk on *George McJunkin*, the former slave and cowboy who discovered the Folsom Site in 1908. And Jane Voss and Hoyle Osborne use their musical talents to bring us *1912: A Musical Snapshot of America In The Year New Mexico Became a State*. Finally, retired theatre professor and past NMHC Grant recipient Lynn Miller now offers her presentation *Gertrude Stein, Edith Wharton, and The Fool’s Journey*, which traces her own creative journey through personal narrative and performance.

We are excited to add new Chautauqua presentations as well, bringing literary, musical, and even fictional characters to life. Ann Beyke has added *Rosie the Riveter* to her repertoire, giving us an icon of women’s liberation and a representation of the woman industrial worker, an essential part of the America’s military and economic might on the homefront in World War II. Deborah Blanche’s portrayal of *Georgia O’Keeffe* is a presentation twenty-years in the making and adds a portrait of one of New Mexico’s defining artists. Consuelo Luz

*continued on next page*
Coming Soon!
A new printed program catalog.
Look for it in the next few months.

Please spread the word about these great new additions and request a new or existing program. Bring our outstanding public humanities programs and presenters to an audience in your town!

Sopranos and Six-Shooters: Grand Ladies of Theatre in the Old West, a multi-character presentation that gives us an insight into the spartan conditions singers in the west endured in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century to bring entertainment to an “uncultured West.” The multi-talented Brenda Hollingsworth-Marley brings one of jazz’s all-time great singers to life with Billie Holiday. And Susi Wolf now offers Grandmary: A Victorian Lady, a program that will give audiences of all ages a window into the culture of the Victorian era and the Suffragist movement.

We are in the process of adding these new programs to our online catalog and we will be designing a new printed catalog in the next few months.

Please spread the word about these great new additions and request a new or existing program. Bring our outstanding public humanities programs and presenters to an audience in your town!

Visit nmhum.org for programs, grant information, and more!

www.nmhum.org
The bigger piece is about what everyone can learn about strong women in society and the important mark that they left in history,” says Ann Beyke when sitting down to discuss her newest Chautauqua program, Rosie the Riveter. Beyke joined the Chautauqua program in 2011, bringing with her two powerhouse characters, Margaret Sanger and Rachel Carson. By adding Rosie, Beyke continues to develop a portfolio of strong influential women. From an early age Beyke developed a keen interest in history—in particular women’s history—reading as a child biographies on figures such as Susan B. Anthony and Beryl Marcum. Beyke comes from a family of strong females that instilled an importance of education, reading, and free thinking. She watched her grandmother, an early widow, raise her family and live independently, a strength that was passed to her mother and now her. In portraying such inspiring and influential characters, Beyke is able to draw from her own values and personality.

Portraying characters was a passion formed later in life when she worked for the Albuquerque children’s museum, Explora, but the love for performing was sparked at an early age. When Beyke was in the 4th grade attending Catholic school, her teacher, a nun, needed a ballerina for the Christmas play she had written. With no volunteers in sight, Beyke assumed the role. Some years later, as an adult, Beyke was needed again but this time to be the American author, Willa Cather for one of Explora’s events. As a woman who has spent a large part of her career helping nonprofits, Beyke did not hesitate to say yes. She explains on her website: “I experienced the joy of performing and realized how it can not only entertain but also change people’s lives.” One of the lives changed was Beyke’s, beginning what would be her future in the portrayal of historical characters.

As Beyke creates her programs, the question she asks is, “What is it about this character that resonates with you?” Margaret Sanger, who opened the first birth control clinic in the United States, developed after she joined the fundraising committee for Planned Parenthood; Rachel Carson, an American marine biologist and conservationist, out of a personal love for the outdoors and the environment. And Rosie the Riveter was born after learning that her own grandmother was a Rosie. This is the character that she feels the deepest connection to. “I spent summers in Pennsylvania bird watching with my grandmother...she had a great influence on me,” she said, her face coming animated, a slight laugh indicating the happy memories formed and now being re-lived. Despite their close bond, her grandmother rarely mentioned her involvement with the Rosies, never considering that work a special accomplishment. As Beyke discovered, many women of that generation worked all night so they could take care of their children during the day, saved their stockings for weapon construction, and even rationed food, approaching these sacrifices as, “normal, just what needed to be done.” Now Beyke is motivated to share and honor these women’s stories by recreating Rosie, a life that has so profoundly impacted history. “All of these women are really part of me,” says Beyke.

You can find full descriptions of Ann Beyke’s programs by visiting, www.nmhum.org/Chautauqua. For more information about booking a program, please contact our Chautauqua Coordinator, Jacobo Baca at (505) 633-7371 or jbaca@nmhum.org.
Ashley Page, an alumna of Moriarty Public Schools, participated in National History Day in New Mexico for 5 years, from eighth grade to twelfth grade.

Ashley’s favorite medium for her history day projects was documentaries. In the 5 years of participation two of her documentaries went to the finals at nationals which placed her in the top 12 projects in the nation.

Her 2011 documentary *Concrete Jungle: Chimpanzees of Alamogordo* won the Animal Protection of New Mexico’s Milagro Youth Leadership Award. This award is given to recognize humanitarian efforts towards animals. The documentary examined the debate over what to do with the chimpanzees that were once used for medical testing.

When Ashley applied for the Davidson College (NC) Dean Terry Scholarship, it required an interview with a panel of adults. Ashley attributed her comfort and success during this and other college interviews to the skills she acquired doing NHD. The scholarship board was impressed with Ashley’s interview and she is attending Davidson. She continues to apply her ability to engage in intelligent and analytical conversation, learned from her participation in NHD, to many areas of her life.

Davidson is ranked in the top colleges for rigor. Ashley stated that many of the students in her freshman class attended prep schools and Moriarty High School wasn’t that type of educational institution. Without the skills she gained doing NHD, such as analysis, writing, and staying organized, she would have struggled to make it through her first year.

Two summers ago her NHD skills helped her establish an internship with the NM State Historian at the NM Records and Archives. She did research on the care of the acequias by the mayordomos.

Ashley established a minority mentorship program between Davidson and local students in 8th grade through their freshman year of college. The program helps minority students to prepare for and navigate college entrance as well as the academic expectations of their first year.

This past semester, her junior year, she decided to follow her NHD passion for documentaries. Ashley took time from her regular classes to study film-making in Prague (Czech Republic) and travel around Europe.

In the future she plans to attend law school and get her degree in water rights law. This desire is a culmination of her many experiences including NHD, her summer internships and her work with diverse populations.

Ashley loved the NHD experience, including the friendships she made, her exposure to other academic people at nationals, and the enrichment gained from visiting Washington D.C. each year.”
National History Day in New Mexico

Teachers and Students
Register for the Regional and State Competitions: http://53518704.nhd.weebly.com

- The Northwest Regional contest will take place on February 28th at San Juan College in Farmington.
- The Southwest Regional contest will take place on March 4th at the Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces.
- The Central Regional contest will take place on March 7th at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in ABQ.
- The New Mexico State Competition will take place on April 25th at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque.

Teacher Registration
- Teacher Registration opens on January 13th
- Teachers/parent sponsors must register all students with basic information before the students will be allowed to register.
- Teachers may only enter three projects per category

Student Registration
- All Student Registration opens on January 27th.
- Central Regional Competition in Albuquerque closes February 21st
- Northwest Regional Competition in Farmington closes February 18th
- Southwest Regional Competition in Las Cruces closes February 14th

All papers and websites are due two weeks prior to the contest date!
Send papers by email to trevor at: historyday@nmhum.org in one document using Microsoft Word.

Judges are needed for the New Mexico National History Day 2014 Regional and State Competitions

National History Day makes history come alive for students by engaging them in the discovery of the historic, cultural and social experiences of the past. These young historians develop research papers, exhibits, documentaries, websites and performances based on topics related to this year’s theme:

Rights and Responsibilities in History

Judges will be trained prior to the contest. Judges need not be historians, but a well-rounded working knowledge of history, and a desire to help kids develop a love of history is required.

Competition Dates:
- **Southwest Regional**: Las Cruces, March 4th at the Farm and Ranch Museum
- **Central Regional**: Albuquerque, March 7th at the National Hispanic Cultural Center
- **Northwest Regional**: Farmington, February 28th at San Juan College
- **New Mexico State Competition**: Albuquerque, April 25th at the National Hispanic Cultural Center

Register to judge at http://61974051.nhd.weebly.com
For more information you can contact Trevor or Stephanie at (505) 633-7372 or email at historyday@nmhum.org.
The Grant Program

The New Mexico Board of Directors has provided partial funding for the following projects for the October and November grant cycles. To learn more about these grant supported projects, or if you are interested in applying for a grant, contact Senior Program Officer K. Michelle Quisenberry at (505) 633-7374—she can help you determine if your project fits NMHC granting guidelines. We would love to hear from you!

October Regular Grant Awardees

$5,828 to Cinefemme for The Harvey Girls Documentary—Film and Discussion
Katrina Parks, Project Director (415) 244-5161 • www.cinefemme.net

$8,475 to the Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for Getting Up P’al Pueblo: The Visual Revolution of ASAR—Oaxaca in New Mexican Perspective
Dr. Suzanne Schadl, Project Director schadl@unm.edu • (505) 277-8637

$8,193 to OASIS for Focus on the Humanities
Dr. Michael Nutkiewicz, Project Director mnutkiewicz@oasisnet.org (505) 889-0927 www.oasisnet.org/Cities/West/AlbuquerqueNM.aspx

$15,000 to the Center for International Studies for Bubble, Bubble, Boil and Trouble: Critical Countries We Need To Understand
Dr. Marina Oborotova, Project Director info@abqinternational.org (505) 856-7277 www.abqinternational.org/

$7,500 to New Mexico State University (NMSU) for Danza in the Southwest: Examining the Relationship and Histories of Indigenous Mexican and Hispanicized Native American Cultural Practices
Dr. Spencer Herrera, Project Director spencer@nmsu.edu • (575) 520-3536

$12,320 to Lore of the Land for Thinking Like a Watershed
Mr. Jack Loeffler, Project Director loeffler@newmexico.com (505) 466-0490

November Mini Grant Awardees

$1,990 to the Harwood Museum of Art of the University of New Mexico for Panel Discussion with Curator, Douglas Dreishpoon for Ken Price: Slow and Steady Wins the Race Exhibition
Ms. Rebecca Aubin, Project Director raubin@unm.edu • (575) 758-1475 www.harwoodmuseum.org

$2,000 to the Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for China Then and Now: 8,000 Years of Chinese Ceramics
Dr. David Phillips, Project Director dap@unm.edu • (505) 277-9229

$2,000 to New Mexico State University for Salt of the Earth/Sal de la Tierra, 60th Anniversary Symposium
Dr. Camilo Perez-Bustillo Project Director camilopb@nmsu.edu • (575) 528-2046

The next grant deadline is June 1st, and for other upcoming grant opportunities and deadlines, visit: http://nmhum.org/grants
Following Walt Whitman’s “Open Road”… 44 years and counting

Once you find something you love it is hard to let it go. Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass has been that very thing for Bruce Noll. He has now entered his 44th year of sharing Whitman’s poetry through his presentations, which in New Mexico, take the form of Walt Whitman’s America, funded by the New Mexico Humanities Council Chautauqua Program. He has been with NMHC for the past sixteen years. “In the late 1960s I became entranced by Whitman’s Leaves of Grass,” he explains. “By 1970 I realized I needed to share this enthusiasm, that people needed to hear his poetry and so I created a program called PURE GRASS…an experience with Whitman’s Leaves.”

His first performances were held in a small playhouse in a meadow in southern Vermont. Several years later while living in South Dakota he received a grant from the South Dakota Arts Council to present his program at various venues. Before long the reputation of PURE GRASS led him to surrounding states. In 1992 he was invited to perform at the centennial of Whitman’s death at the bard’s home in Camden, New Jersey for the Walt Whitman Association. That same week he presented at the International Whitman Scholar’s Conference held at the University of Iowa.

Noll’s Whitman presentations, in which he interacts with the audience using only words from the poet’s work, amaze people in the way they can personally connect with the many universal themes from Leaves of Grass. As for the Chautauqua format he says, “At first I was uncertain how the structure would work and how I would adapt to it. However, after the first few times out answering questions from the audience as Walt, I found it to be intellectually exciting. I like the challenge of responding and have had to learn much more about Whitman’s life to accurately inform the audience. I often follow up a query with excerpts from Whitman’s poems.”

His performances of Leaves of Grass have taken him to 27 states and five other countries including China, Italy, Korea, Iceland and Portugal. Because of the format of interacting with the audience through poetry he never tires of sharing Whitman’s poetry with a new audience. “It is always new to me because I am looking into faces and communicating Whitman’s words and the responses are fresh. It’s like meeting new people, making new friends.”

In February, Noll will be presenting in New York City at the well-known venue, The Bowery Poetry Club, a site for many other poetic presentations. Bruce also writes his own poetry and came out with a chapbook and, most recently, his collection entitled, Notes to My Mortician (2013), which has already been warmly received. He is also the primary editor of an eBook soon to be released, The American Entomologist Poet’s Guide to the Orders of Insects.

“Poetry has become a major part of my life in the past few decades,” he says. “I write a poem everyday, read any number of other poets’ works and, of course, am always thrilled to share my enduring fascination with Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass.”

Visit us on facebook: www.facebook.com/NewMexicoHumantitiesCouncil
Also on Twitter @HumanitiesNM
Thank you, Gabriel!

by Marley Gibson

We met on Twitter. Gabriel Montes, an independent photographer based in Rio Rancho, began following @Humanities-NM (NMHC) and within minutes had offered to donate his services at an event of our choosing. Needless to say, we were both amazed and excited at his generous offer. With upcoming Chautauqua additions, we could think of no better use for his talents.

Montes reserved the whole day—arriving with multiple cameras, a light umbrella, and plenty of vision. Even after a full day of shooting, Montes went further by continuing the photo shoot with select performers in different settings. This was the case with Edward Wallace (portrayer of Jim Beckwourth) when Montes took him out to the Bosque to take his photo. “[I] wanted to do something that was filled with creativity and close to people. The Humanities Council has crystalized the trajectory I want—being with people and being part of the project,” says Montes.

The New Mexico Humanities Council extends a heartfelt thank you, Gabriel Montes! Montes focuses on producing art prints, portraits and is available for special request. He can be reached by phone or email—and don’t forget to check out his website!

(505) 399-9824
bosquephotography@gmail.com,
www.bosquebymontes.com

“Montes reserved the whole day—arriving with multiple cameras, a light umbrella, and plenty of vision.”
NMHC Board Members Needed

The New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the humanities to public audiences throughout New Mexico. NMHC has a continual need for interested and qualified board members. NMHC invites your nominations of both humanities scholars and members of the public for its Board of Directors. The full board meets three or four times a year to conduct business. Board members also serve on committees, assist with fundraising, and contribute their expertise and energy to the activities of NMHC. An NMHC Board member’s term is for three years.

Each nomination must include the following: a letter of recommendation from the nominating party, a resume or biographical statement providing useful information for evaluating the potential contributions of the nominee, and a letter from the individual nominee indicating his or her willingness to serve and make a commitment to public humanities programming. The nominee’s letter should include personal information, past accomplishments and achievements related to the Council’s work, and what the nominee brings to the Council in terms of helping it achieve its mission. Board members must live in the State of New Mexico.

Please send all nominations and supporting documents to:

The New Mexico Humanities Council
4115 Silver Ave SE • (505) 633-7370
www.nmhum.org • NMHC@nmhum.org

In Memoriam: Donald Gutierrez, 1932–2013

The NMHC Chautauqua program sadly learned of the death of Donald Gutierrez on October 29, 2013 in Albuquerque. Donald was born on March 10, 1932 and raised in the San Francisco Bay area, excelling in both academics and athletics before moving onto UC Berkeley, where he earned his B.A. in Literature and an M.L.S. in 1958. He taught in the English department of the University of Notre Dame after gaining his Ph.D. from UCLA in 1964 and later moved to Silver City, where he had a long career teaching English at Western New Mexico University before retiring to Albuquerque. An expert on late 19th and early 20th Century English and American writers, he maintained a brilliant career as a poet, literary critic, and essayist, writing seven books and over fifty published essays. Donald joined the New Mexico Humanities Council’s Chautauqua and Speaker’s Bureau more than twenty years ago, elegantly and enthusiastically sharing his insights on literature and poetry with audiences young and old. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Donald’s family and friends. He will be deeply missed.

NMHC Grant Deadlines

For grant guidelines and eligibility go to www.nmhum.org.

**Regular Grants (more than $2000)**

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**Mini Grants (up to $2000)**

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New Mexican Folk Music/Cancionero del Folklor Nuevomexicano: Treasures of a People/El Tesoro del Pueblo

Cipriano Frederico Vigil is the most important performer of traditional Nuevomexicano folk music in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. This bilingual panoramic book presents the songs that are his life’s work, spanning half a century of listening, playing, composing, and singing ritual, social, and dance music.

New Mexican Folk Music includes much traditional material that has never been seen before or studied by scholars or students. Renowned as a composer, Vigil works in traditional genres such as the romance, the décima, the cuando, and corrido. Like the Mexican group Los Folkloristas with which he apprenticed in the late 1970s, his goal has been to research and master local styles, to introduce new listeners to traditional music, and to build on tradition by creating new compositions that address contemporary social themes.

An audio CD accompanies this comprehensive study on the work and music of Cipriano Frederico Vigil.

About The Contributors

Cipriano Frederico Vigil has been recognized by the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities and the Smithsonian Institution. He received the New Mexico Governor’s Award in 1994. Vigil taught for many years at Northern New Mexico Community College.

CoPublished in association with The New Mexico Humanities Council

New Mexican Folk Music/Cancionero del Folklor Nuevomexicano: Treasures of a People/El Tesoro del Pueblo is a New Mexico Centennial of Statehood funded NMHC initiative.

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