



HISTORY AND LITERARY ARTS

at the NHCC





HISTORY AND LITERARY ARTS

The History and Literary Arts Program (HLA) at the National Hispanic Cultural Center houses a library, archives, and special collections, features two to four exhibits a year, and presents a wide range of history and literary arts programs serving children, youth, adults, elders and families.

EXHIBITS

January 25-June 30, 2020

“El voto femenino: sufragistas Latinas luchando por el derecho al voto”

“El voto femenino” features Latinas from 24 countries in the international Hispanic diaspora who were instrumental in women’s suffrage, including Nina Otero Warren (New Mexico, US), Bertha Lutz (Brazil), Mathilde Hidalgo de Procel (Ecuador), Elvia Carrillo Puerto (Mexico), Ofelia Domínguez Navarro (Cuba), Elena Caffarena (Chile), Josefa Llanes Escoda (Philippines) and Jovita Idar (Texas, US).

A companion piece, “Pan American Unity,” is a mural in woodblock by Albuquerque artist Julianna Kirwin. Kirwin replaced Diego Rivera’s Founding Fathers (in one of the panels of his 1940 “Pan American Unity” mural in San Francisco) with powerful women of the Americas, including Isabel Allende, Georgia O’Keeffe, Deb Haaland, Dolores Huerta, and Maria Martinez.

Coming in July— “¡Mira! Nuestra Arquitectura!” an architectural history of the NHCC in celebration of our 20th anniversary.

February 18-June 30, 2020

Three murals in conversation with “Mundos de Mestizaje”

For the NHCC History Festival, artists Reyes Padilla, Helen Atkins and Ruben Olguin created three temporary murals in dialogue with the famous “Mundos de Mestizaje” buon fresco, by master artist Frederico Vigil, located in the Torreón on the NHCC campus. Free and open to the public. (HLA Northeast hallway)

ARCHIVES

The NHCC Archives permanently house manuscript collections, institutional records, photographs, and moving images as well as special collections of rare books, maps and sound recordings.

We are happy to announce the availability for research of the Margaret Herrera Chávez Collection. Herrera Chávez was a painter, printmaker and educator born and raised in Las Vegas, NM. The collection contains photographs, correspondence, manuscript, art work inventories, exhibit listings, scrapbooks, and articles pertaining to Herrera Chávez' career. The finding aid for the collection can be found at <https://rmoa.unm.edu>

We also continue to process collections related to the Mari-Luci Jaramillo Collection. The materials provide additional insight into the remarkable life of the first Mexican American woman to become a U.S. Ambassador to a foreign country. Digitization of Mari-Luci Jaramillo Collection photographs continues, offering access to hundreds of images via the New Mexico Digital Collection: <https://econtent.unm.edu>





LIBRARY AND GENEALOGY CENTER

Our library holds over 13,000 titles with concentrations in the history and culture of the Hispanic/Latino world. The library is now circulating its collection (except for rare books and special collections) to NHCC members. The library also houses a genealogy research center with volunteers who provide free research assistance.

We are happy to announce that the NHCC Library was selected in 2020 as one of 70 libraries nationwide to take part in the **Great Stories Club**, a reading and discussion program for underserved teens.

Our library was also a beneficiary of the **Inclusive Internship Initiative (III)** for the summer of 2019. The Public Library Association (PLA), a division of the American Library Association, supports the III with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

PROGRAMS: Signature Events

History Festival

Each year in February (beginning 2020), HLA will present a History Festival. This multi-generational event will include workshops, lectures, art activities, and other exciting events for all ages. In 2020, all events were inspired by the theme of “Mundos de Mestizaje” and the famous NHCC buon fresco. Over 400 people attended the first festival, allowing us to explore Latino/Hispanic history through the cross-cultural, trans-national and multi-disciplinary influences that have created the Hispanic world. *www.nhcchistoryfest.com*

Children's Bilingual Book Festival

In April, 2019 HLA launched its first annual NHCC Bilingual Children's Book Festival featuring K-6 books in Spanish and English and Native languages and English. The second annual festival is scheduled for April 25, 2020. The festival includes author readings, student recitations, workshops, art and book activities, a book fair and also launches a summer reading program. *www.nhccbookfest.com*

Voces Summer Writing Institute for Teens

Voces is a free, month-long writing institute for high school writers. Teens (rising 9th graders through graduating seniors) are inspired to write prose, poetry and monologues through a wide range of experiential activities. The program culminates with chapbooks and a public reading/performance.

National Latinx Writers Conference

In October of 2020, HLA will launch the first-of-its-kind National Latinx Writers Conference, bringing writers from all parts of the US together for community-building, networking, and advocacy. The NHCC conducted a survey of Latinx writers in 2019 which determined the schedule for the first gathering:
www.uslatinxlit.org.

¡Iluminarte!

In 2018 HLA launched a successful winter holiday celebration of "luminarias" (aka "farolitos")—a New Mexico tradition. ¡Iluminarte! 2019 featured storytelling, an illuminated bike parade, and theater performances by Story Riders (elementary school students) at the NHCC, along the Bosque Trail, and during the City of Albuquerque's "River of Lights." The program is a partnership between the NHCC, Story Riders, the City of Albuquerque, Artful Life, Circo Latino, AirDance New Mexico, and the Albuquerque Poet Laureate Program.





MORE PROGRAMS

2020 Centennial of the Women's Vote

In partnership with the City of Albuquerque Department of Cultural Services, History and Literary Arts has created a master calendar of New Mexico events that will be held in 2020 for the year-long celebration of 100 years of the women's vote. Access the calendar at <https://www.abqtodo.com/event-category/wvc/>

ABQ Zinefest

In partnership with New Mexico's oldest organized zine (short for "magazine") event, the NHCC and ABQ Zin Fest promote the creation of handmade books and their writers/artists on one Saturday in October. Zines are enjoying a wave of national and international popularity, promoting creative self-expression and grassroots publication for young, millennial, and GenY creatives. Partnership brings zine workshops at the NHCC, especially for teens, throughout the year.

Barelas Community Programming

In partnership with a wide range of Barelas community organizations, HLA presents a range of new programming in collaboration with residents of this historic neighborhood. The NHCC hosted a series of community storytelling workshops which inspired a trilogy of short plays by resident playwrights Mónica Sánchez, Leonard Madrid and Raul Garza. Production of the plays is scheduled for spring of 2021. The newly-formed Barelas Creative Youth Team—teens who live in the neighborhood--meets every week and are being paid to co-create neighborhood-based works of art.

Book Club

The NHCC book club launched in June 2018 with an enthusiastic group of readers. Members are reading fiction, nonfiction and poetry by Latinx authors. In 2020 the club meets on the 4th Thursday of each month and books include one author who will be reading in April at the NHCC—Sergio Troncoso.

Book Sale

Once a year, HLA sells books donated but not needed for its library as well as posters, t-shirts and other merchandise. Proceeds support HLA programming and exhibits.

Book Readings and Signings

Each year, HLA presents readings by nationally recognized and regionally important Hispanic/Latinx authors. In 2019 we featured Natalie Scenters-Zapico, ten children's bilingual book authors (during our Children's Bilingual Book Festival), Norma Cantú, Ambassador Mari-Luci Jaramillo, Jaima Chevalier (with her book about María Benitez), Sergio Troncoso, Michelle Otero (ABQ Poet Laureate), and others.

Book Review Blog

In March of 2020, HLA launched a book review blog (www.nhcclatinxbookreview.com) where we publish reviews of books by Latinx authors written by NHCC staff, book club members and volunteers, sharing our reading experiences with the world.

Bosque Chile Festival

In partnership with Bernalillo County, the NHCC co-hosts the Bosque Chile Festival each year in August. This year HLA coordinated educational talks, a short film series, arts activities, a recipe exchange, and Albuquerque Poets Laureate Michelle Otero, Hakim Bellamy, Manuel Gonzalez and Sierra Charlie reading poems on the theme of "Powder or Pods?"

Family DNA/Genealogical Project

The “Who We Are, Together” history project worked with 2-3 generations of seven New Mexico families who had their DNA tested and researched their genealogies with the assistance of the NHCC library and the Hispanic Genealogical Research Center of New Mexico (HGRC). During the fall of 2019, each family presented their discoveries. Project partners: NHCC, FamilyTreeDNA, and HGRC.

History Day

On February 14, 2020 HLA partners with the New Mexico Humanities Council to present New Mexico Regional History Day, high school student competitions that encourage students to explore history through a variety of lenses and mediums.

Inside Songwriting

In partnership with AMP Concerts, HLA presents an “Inside Songwriting” panel each year during Globalquerque. In 2019 the subject was “Songs of Rebellion.” HLA Director Valerie Martínez moderated a panel which included members of *47Soul* (Palestine, Jordan), Natu Camara (Guinea), Dat Garcia (Argentina), Jackie Zamora (Baracutanga, Albuquerque) who talked about the importance of writing lyrics that address issues of urgency for them and their countries.

“Inside Opera”

In January and February of 2020, HLA presented three free interactive presentations about “Il Postino” in partnership with Opera Southwest. Over three Tuesday evenings, Valerie Martínez and conductor Oliver Prezant took participants into a journey through the stories, the libretto and the music of the opera as it made its way from Chilean novel by Antonio Skármeta to the 1997 film to Daniel Catán’s opera. In 2018 we did the same with “Maria de Buenos Aires” by Ástor Piazzolla.

La Canoa

This monthly series (September-May) features talks by Hispanic/Latino academic and community researchers with long-standing and distinguished records of research and teaching about New Mexico and the region. Partners: NHCC and UNM Center for Regional Studies. La Canoa 2020 features women scholars and speakers from January-June in conjunction with “El voto femenino” exhibit in HLA.

Memoir, Poetry and Fiction Writing Workshops

These community workshops are offered throughout the year in order to cultivate new writing. Writers read excerpts from memoirs, poetry and popular Latinx authors to inspire them, and each workshop culminates with a public reading.

Mis Abuelos dicen...

This project gathers wisdom from our elders and shares it with our NHCC community. Via Facebook, the NHCC called for home remedies “prescribed” by grandmothers and grandfathers. In 2019 these were displayed at public events at our HLA booth, where visitors could contribute their own remedies. A companion program is our **Jardín de remedios**, a pocket-garden near the entrance to La Fonda del Bosque (starting spring 2020) which will grow healing herbs, promote natural healing remedios, and educate visitors about traditional healing practices of New Mexico and the Americas.

New Year’s Eve at the NHCC

In partnership with the City of Albuquerque, HLA presented a first-time New Year’s Eve event from noon-2 pm on Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Visitors celebrated New Year’s Eve by touring 12 stations with interactive activities.

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Each station celebrated New Year's Eve with a different tradition from a different Hispanic country. In Brazil, people eat seven raisins. Uruguayans tear up their calendars. Mexicans pocket a handful of lentils. Columbianos create a little suitcase to celebrate adventures to come. The event is free for all.

National Poetry Month

During April, HLA celebrates poetry by Hispanic/Latinx writers by distributing pocket-size poems (in English and Spanish), hosting poetry readings and book signings (including those associated with the Children's Bilingual Book Festival) and featuring poetry displays.

Podcast

As a result of the devastating coronavirus pandemic in 2020, HLA began exploring new ways of reaching our visitors and patrons online, including the development of a half-hour podcast that would continue to bring Hispanic/Latino history and literary arts to those in quarantine and home isolation. The podcast debut is scheduled for April, 2020.

Student Leadership Institute/Dual Language Education of New Mexico

In 2019 HLA hosted the 11th Annual Student Leadership Institute which brings together linguistically and culturally diverse high schools students from all parts of the U.S. to focus on issues of identity, leadership, and the development of an asset-based perspective related to their diverse backgrounds. HLA led groups of students through identity-mapping sparked by the fresco, "Mundos de Mestizaje."

Torreon/Fresco Art Curriculum

HLA is currently working with fresco artist Frederico Vigil, scholars, AmeriCorps Vista volunteers, educators, students, and community

members to create a K-12, Title I school curriculum based on our beloved “Mundos de Mestizaje” fresco. This online curriculum (a first for the NHCC) will include a website for online fresco tours, lesson plans, classroom activities, experiential journeys, and more.

Un Poema: Tantas Voces

The “One Poem: Many Voices” project engages elementary, middle and high school students as well as their teachers and families, in the translation of a single poem by a contemporary poet writing in Spanish. The project culminates with a public presentation in which young translators present their translations and talk about the “art” of translation, as well as engage the audience in a deeper understanding of the poem.



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