

SALALM 2010

Panel XVII

**Beyond Institutional Borders: Archivists Document
Underrepresented Communities**

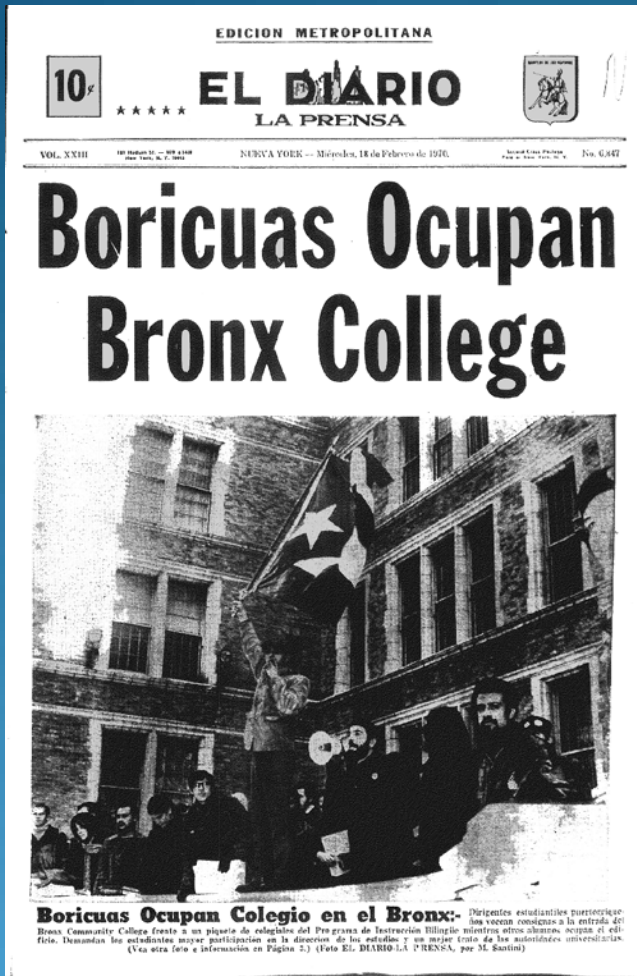
**Becoming Visible: A Profile of
The Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora
at the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños**

Pedro Juan Hernández

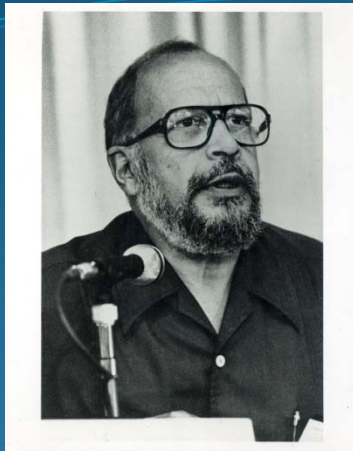
Senior Archivist

dhernand@hunter.cuny.edu

212-772-5151



Puerto Rican activists and student protests paved the way to the creation of 17 Puerto Rican Studies departments and 155 courses by 1973.

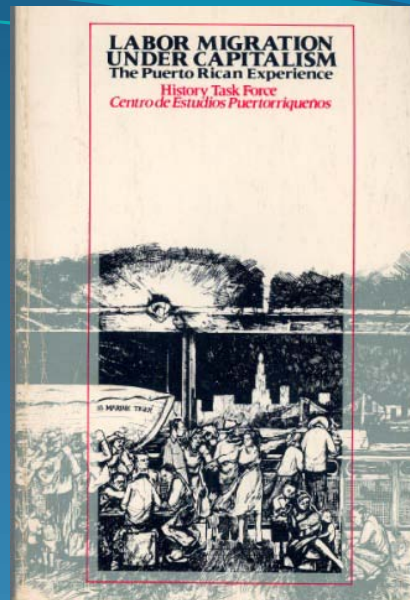


Frank Bonilla, founding first
Centro Director, 1973-1993.

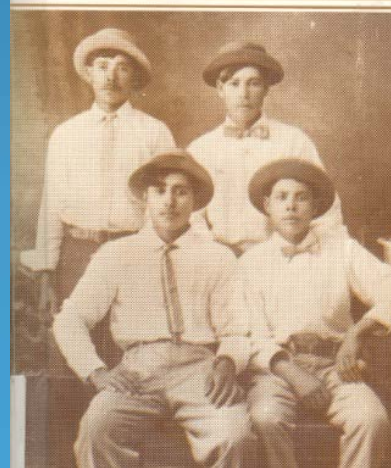
Center for Puerto Rican Studies is the nation's leading university-based research institute devoted to the study of the Puerto Rican experience in the United States. It is located at Hunter College, CUNY.

The Research Unit is responsible for producing, facilitating, and disseminating interdisciplinary research about the diasporic experiences of Puerto Ricans and to link this scholarly inquiry to social action and policy debates.

www.centropi.org



Sources for the Study
of Puerto Rican Migration - 1879-1930
History Task Force / Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños



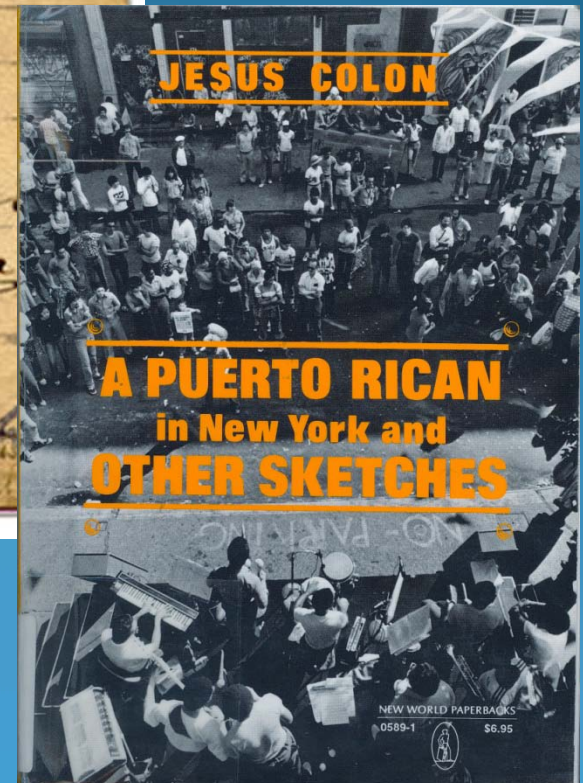
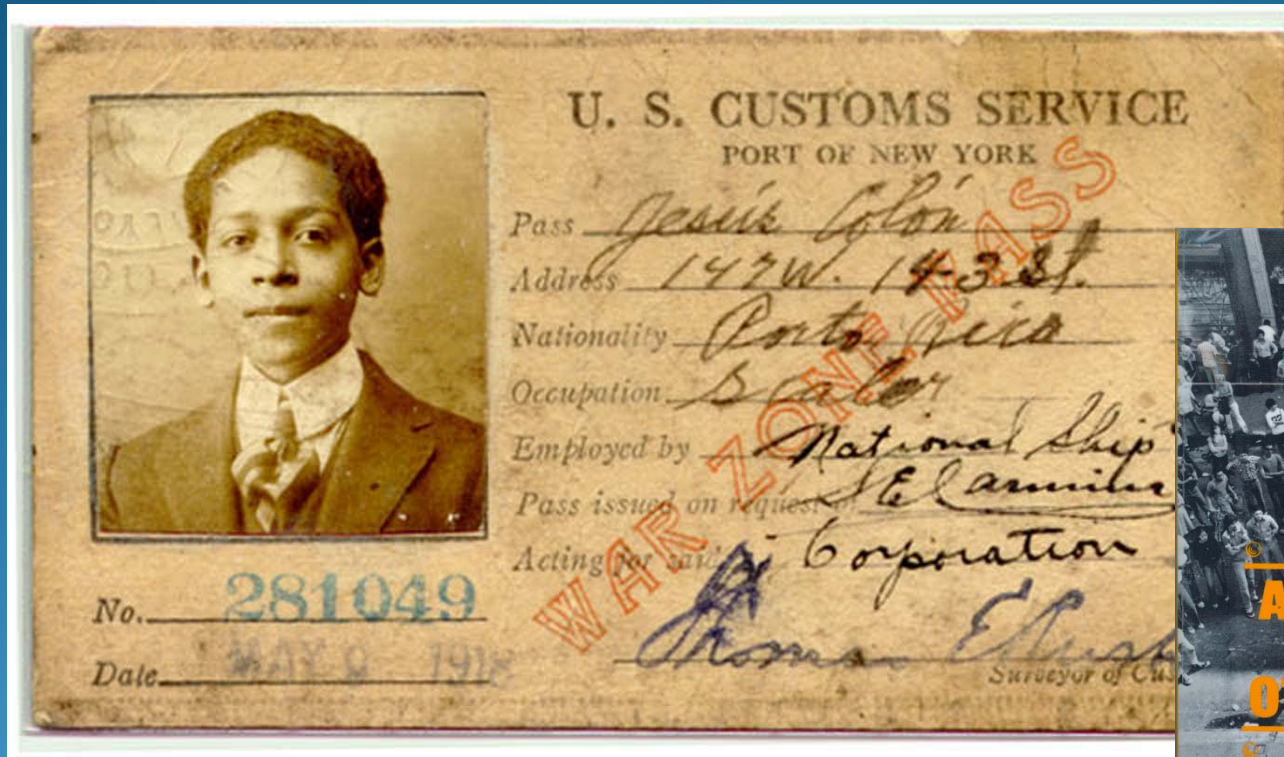
The Evelina López Antonetty Research Collection CENTRO Library



The Library collects from all areas of Puerto Rican Studies and in all formats. The collection is particularly strong in the areas of migration and the diasporic experience.

Jesús Colón, 1901-1974

1983



The Jesús Colón Papers, the first collection donated to Centro, is a significant contribution to the study of Puerto Rican history and especially to the reconstruction of Puerto Rican community history in New York.

Justo A. Martí, 1899-1990

1984



This is the second collection donated to Centro. It consists of 6,000 photographs and 10,000 negatives dating from 1950-1960's.



The Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora



SECOND CABIN STATEROOM BAGGAGE	CABIN BAGGAGE		
	Mrs. Conchita Hernandez		
	Steamer	Porto Rico	
	Sailing Date	Oct 29, 1925	
Room No.	251	Berth	C
FOR + NEW YORK			



“... to collect, preserve and provide access to archival and library resources documenting the history and culture of Puerto Ricans.”

Archival Resources

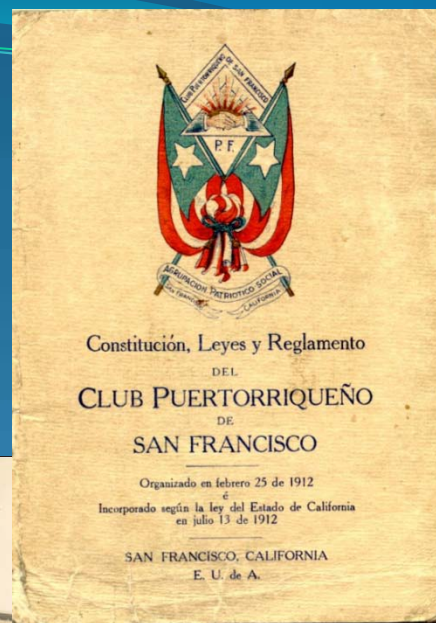


40,000 Photographs
15,000 Negatives

240 Collections

The Archives' strengths are principally in the area of social history, although there are also important holdings in culture and the arts.





Although most of the archival collections document Puerto Ricans in New York City, there are collections about the migration to Hawaii, California and other Northeast region states.



5000 cubic feet of documents

TOTAL: **2,000** sq ft

PUERTO RICANS COMMUNITIES IN:

California, Connecticut (Hartford),
Delaware (Dover), Florida (Miami),
Hawaii, Illinois (Chicago),
Massachusetts (Boston), New Jersey
(Camden and Keyport), New York
(Buffalo, Middletown, Newburgh,
NYC, Riverhead and Rochester), Ohio
(Cleveland), Pennsylvania
(Hamburg and Philadelphia),
Puerto Rico

SPAN DATES: 1713-2007

BULK DATES: 1930-1990's



Lillian López
Librarian



Eddie Mercado
Public Official



Lourdes Torres
Community Activist



Diana Caballero
Educator



Petra Santiago
Community Organizer



Luis O Reyes
Educator



Joseph Monserrat
Public Official



Frank Torres
Elected Official
Judge



Felipe N. Torres
Elected Official
Judge



Petra Allende
Community
Activist



Kathie Andrade
Labor Leader



Julia Jorge
Labor Leader



Robert García
Elected Official



Alice Cardona
Community
Organizer



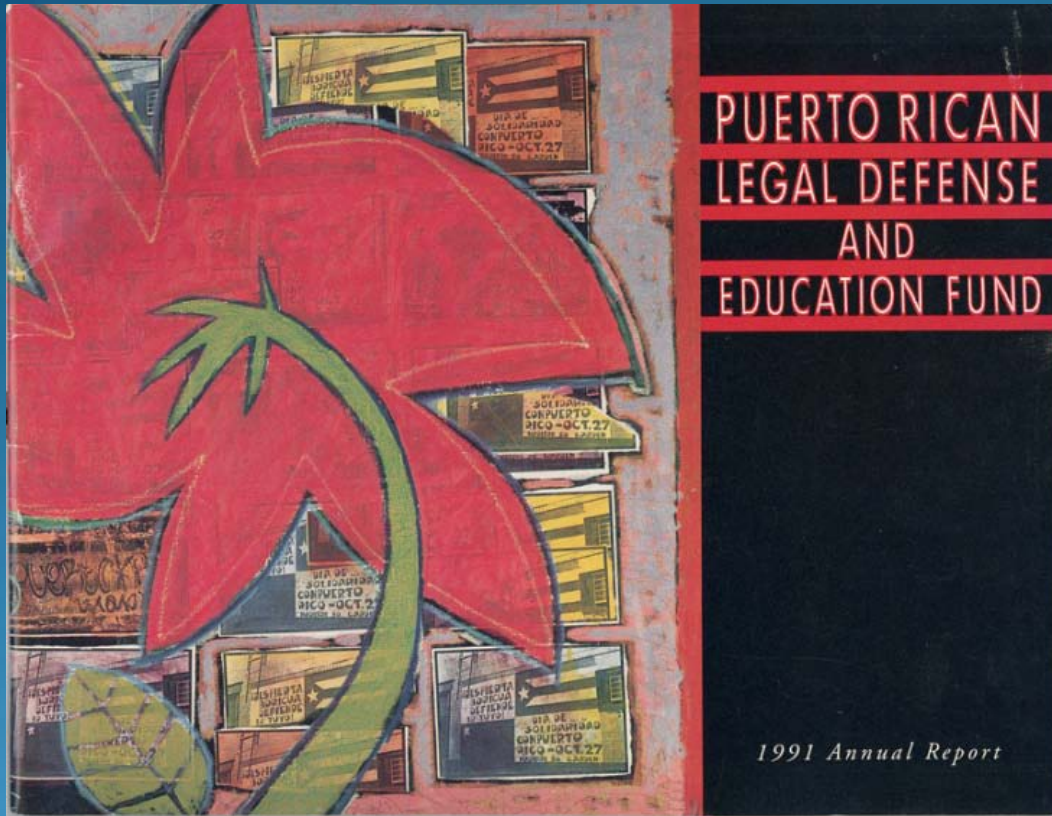
Manuel T. Sanchez
Minister



Antonia Pantoja, awarded
the Presidential Medal of
Freedom in 1996

Helen Rodríguez Trías,
awarded the Presidential
Citizens Medals in 2001





The Records of the Puerto Rican Legal
Defense and Education Funds (PRLDEF), 1973-1993



Sonia Sotomayor

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION
FORM FOR STATE APPLICANTS

#1525

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
 The Puerto or Puerto Rico
 City or New York:

I, Bernardo Vega, a Native or Puerto Rico and
 a legal citizen of the United States of America, hereby apply to the Board of the New York
 Board of Commerce and Industry of Puerto Rico, for a certificate of identification as a
 United States born in Puerto Rico.

I do hereby swear that I was born at
Lagun,
 I of Puerto Rico, on or about January 14, 1985.
 I am the son of Antonio Vega
Petilla, P.R. and his wife Rebeca
Alcántara.
 That I am domiciled in the
city of San Juan Puerto Rico
of March 2, 1917
is an incident. Mrs. Lucia Vega
is 386 Belmont April 24, 1917 should be notified.
Bernardo Vega
(Signature of applicant)

WITNESS
E. T. Saldaña
(Signature of witness)

[Stamp]



APPLICANT
ib.
ib.

WITNESS
E. T. Saldaña
(Signature of witness)

[Stamp]

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION
 is issued by the Board of Commerce and Industry of Puerto Rico, U. S. A., approved April 20, 1985, this

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION
 is issued at New York City, N. Y., this 23rd
 day of SEP., 19 85

**GOVERNMENT
 of
 PUERTO RICO
 U.S.A.**

**IDENTIFICATION
 SERVICE**

447 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

Bernardo Vega
 (Signature of applicant)

E. T. Saldaña
 (Signature of witness)



IN TESTIMONY whereof, and in virtue of the authority in me vested by Act No. 46 of the Legislature of Puerto Rico, U. S. A., approved April 20, 1985, this

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION
 is issued at New York City, N. Y., this 23rd
 day of SEP., 19 85

E. T. Saldaña
 (Signature of witness)

Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños
 at Hunter College
 The City University of New York

G. H. Hunt
 September 1, 2000

Identification and Decentration Program



During the years of race through 1990, the Bureau of Employment and Identification (BIE) and the Migration Division of the Labor Department of Puerto Rico issued identification cards. Although the ID cards were not mandatory, they were extremely valuable documents for providing Americans of knowledge and making the way for emigration.

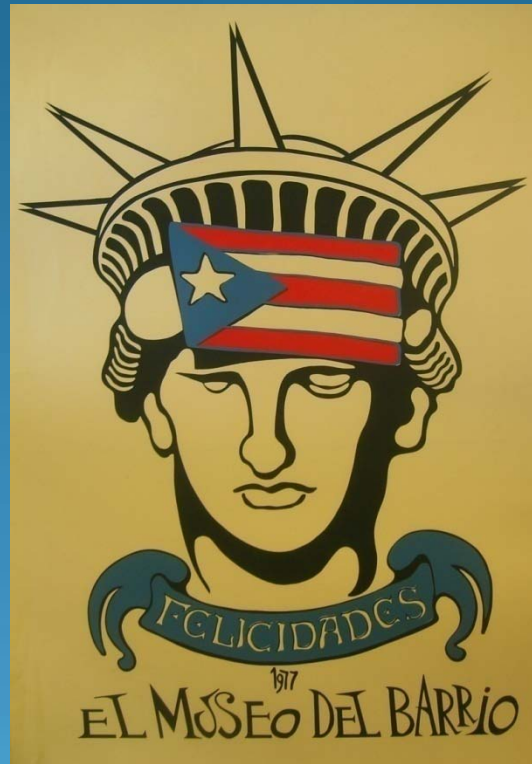
This site is the first phase of a project to digitize selected records from these valuable agencies that we have grouped under the name of the Office of the Government of Puerto Rico in the United States. Goals is committed to making these documents accessible in digital format and will continue the project as funding permits.

On this site, you may:

- Browse through a sample of all applications for an identification card.
- Search through the archive of Puerto Rico's ID card applications for an ID card.
- Request records and schedule an appointment to verify if the name listed on your records is your relative.
- Access the best knowledge of key dates in the history of Puerto Rican migration to the U.S. and U.S. citizenship for Puerto Ricans.

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2,000 Art and Political Posters, Drawings, other materials

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Photo: JORGE VERAS FERRER / XAVIER MORALES

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\$15 at door

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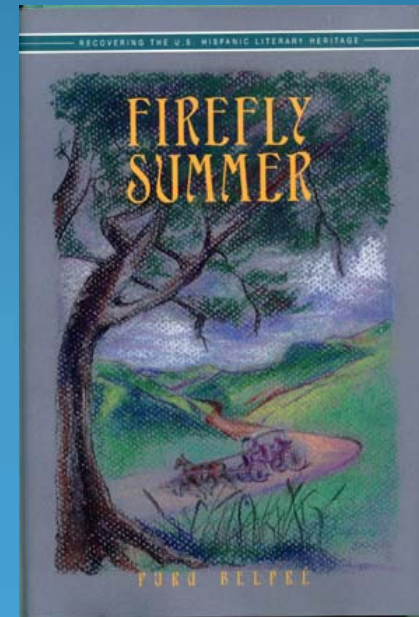
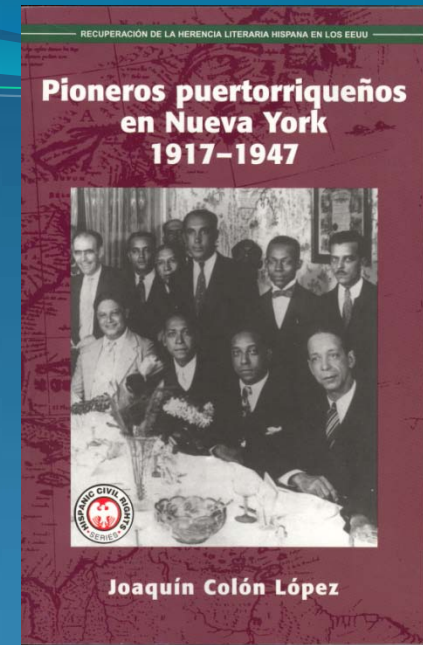
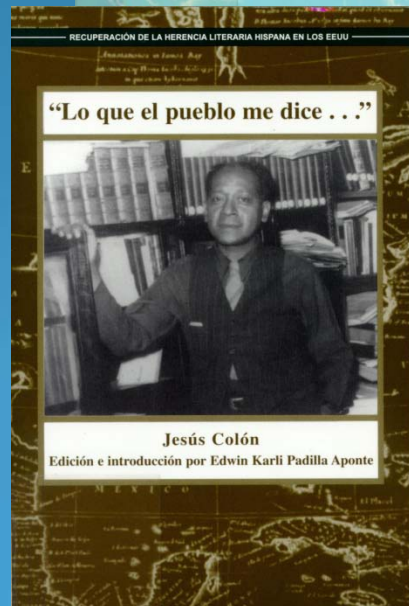
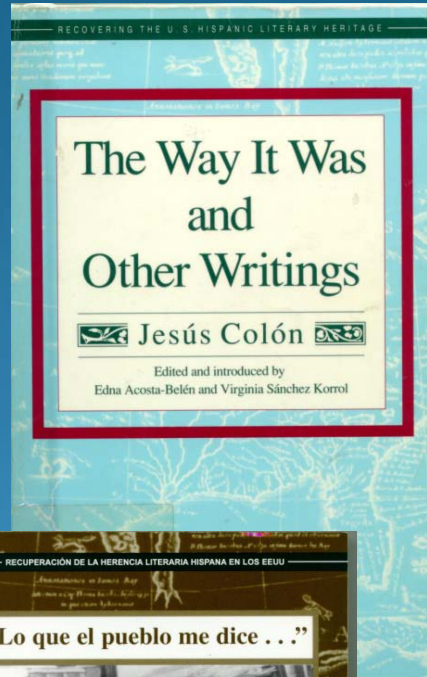
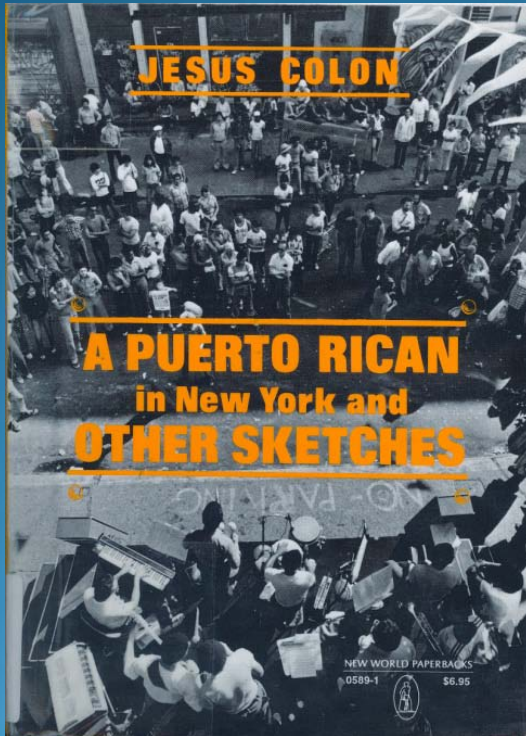
sábados 5pm 89.7fm (metro). 88.3fm (oeste) & [phantomvox ★ com](http://phantomvox.com)

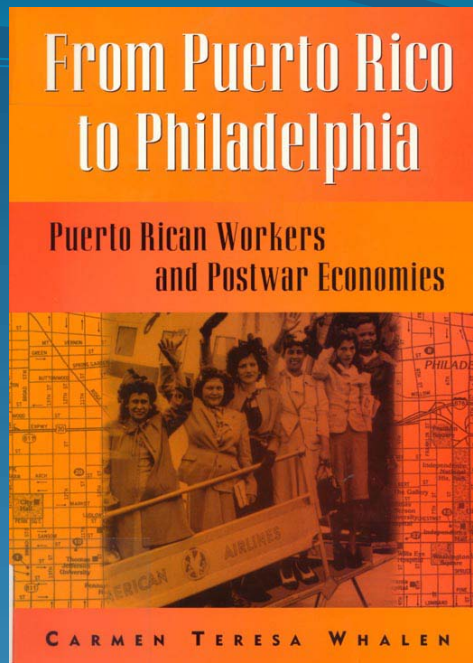
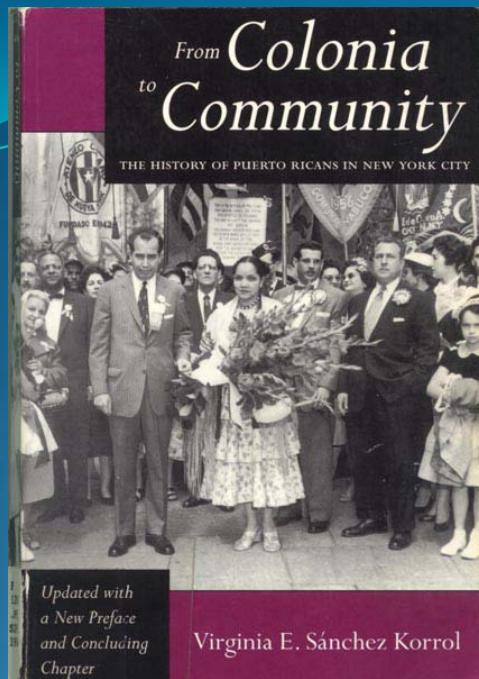
Awards



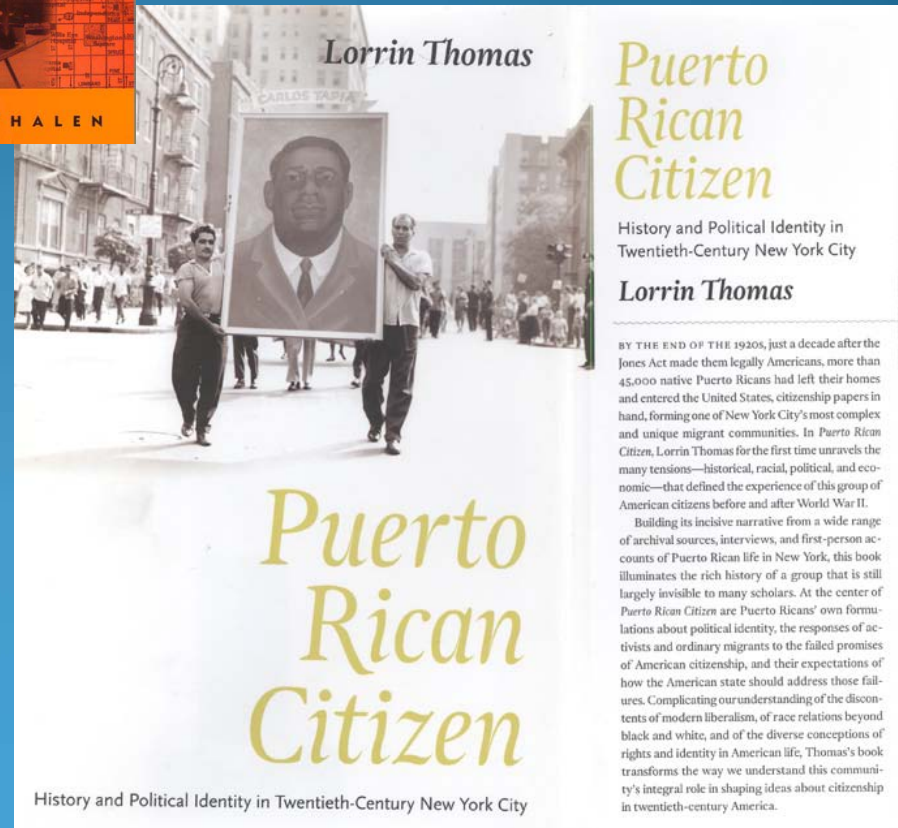
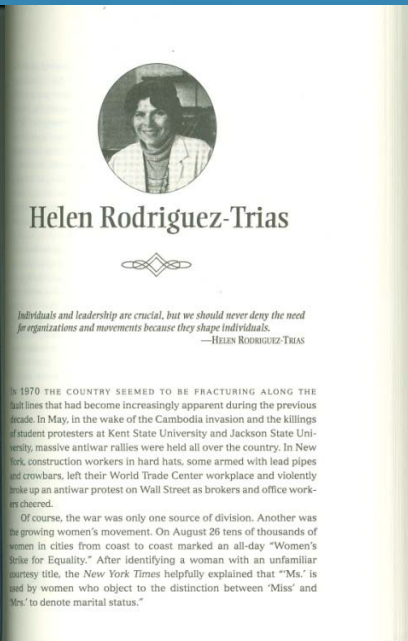
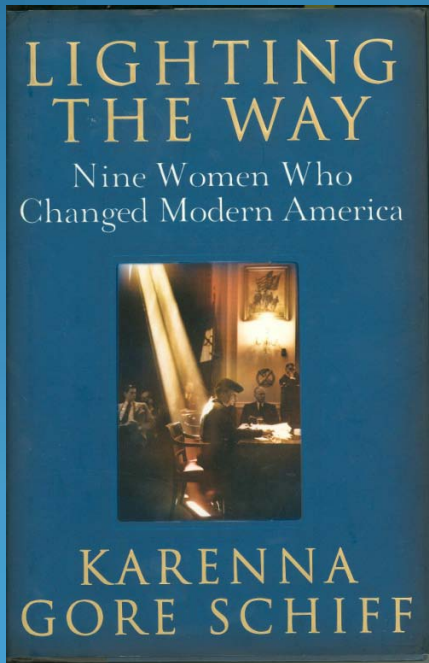
1987 Achievement in Promoting Library by the Northeast Chapter of Reforma
1994 Program Excellence in an Historical Record Repository by NYSA
2002 Debra E. Bernhardt Excellence in Documenting New York's History by NYSA

Manuscripts

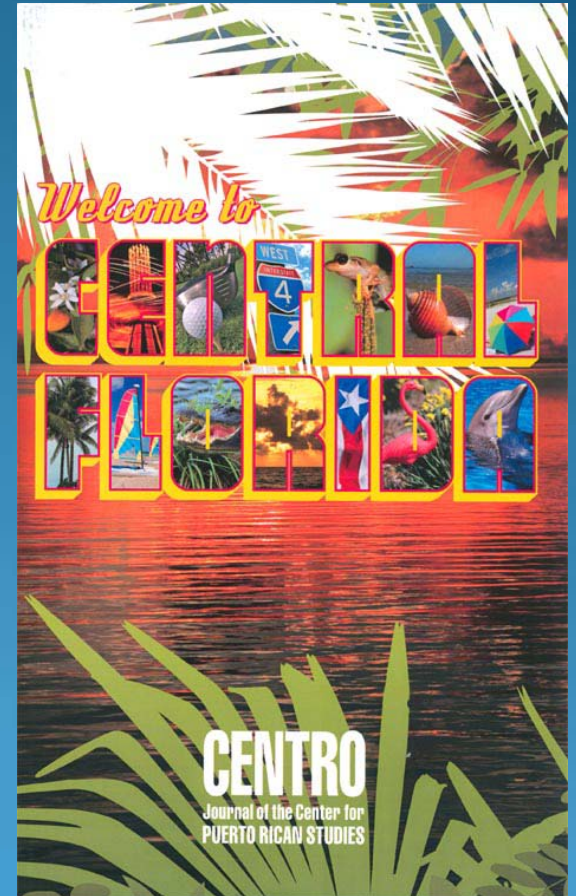
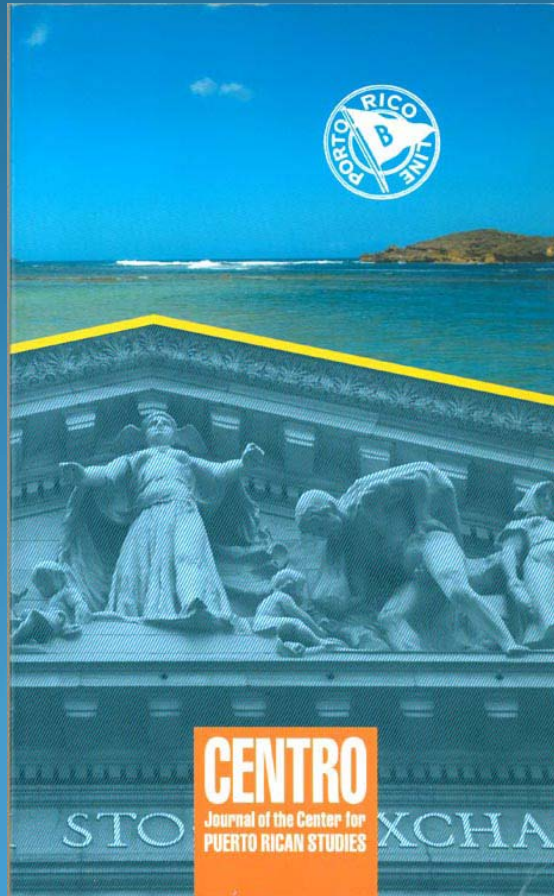
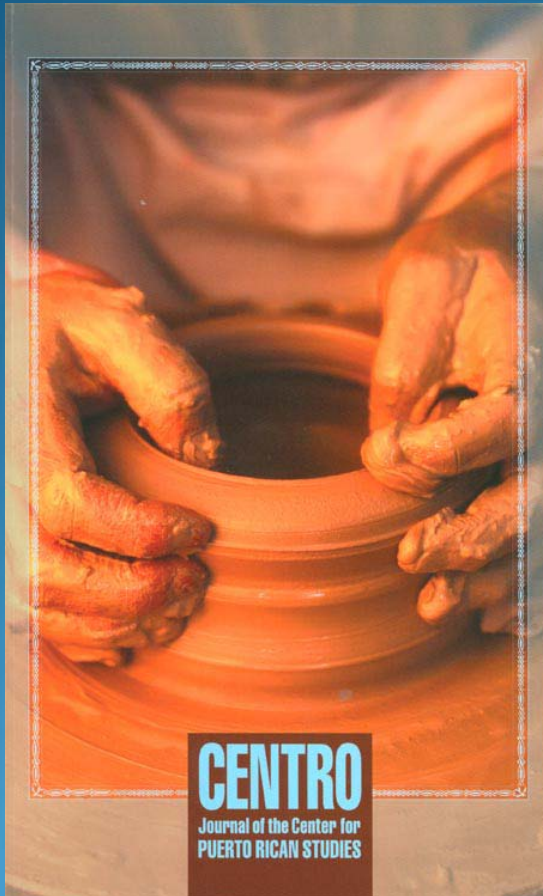




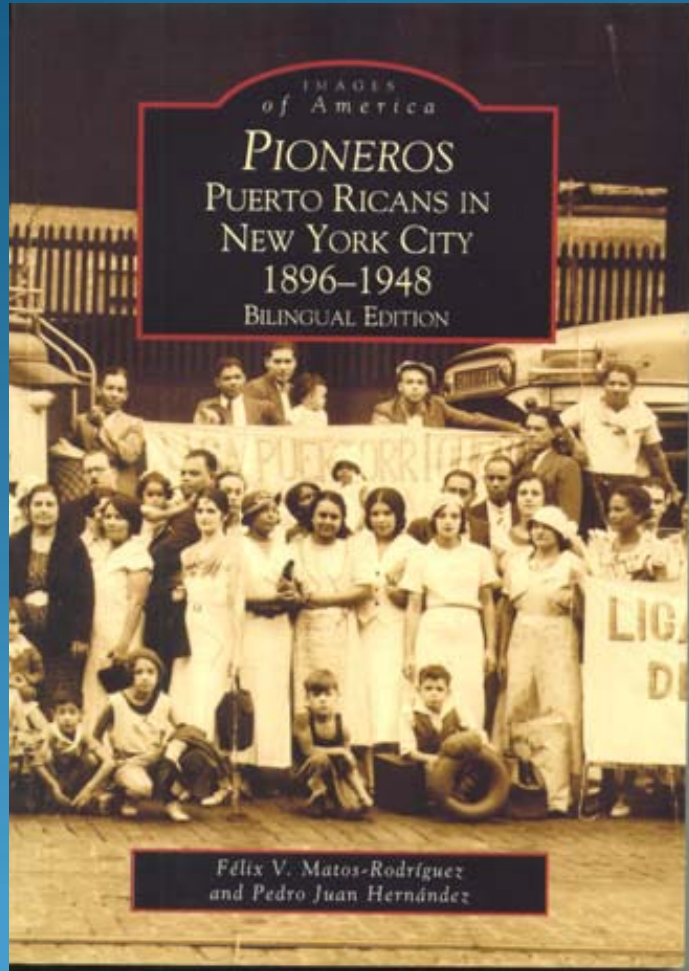
Academic Publications



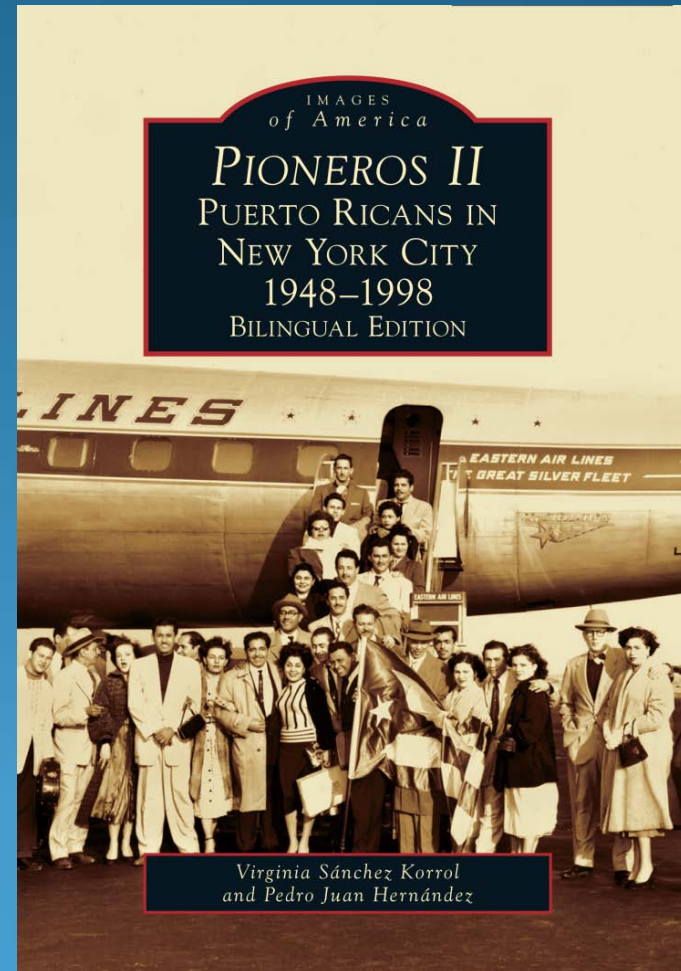
CENTRO Journal



Non-academic Publications

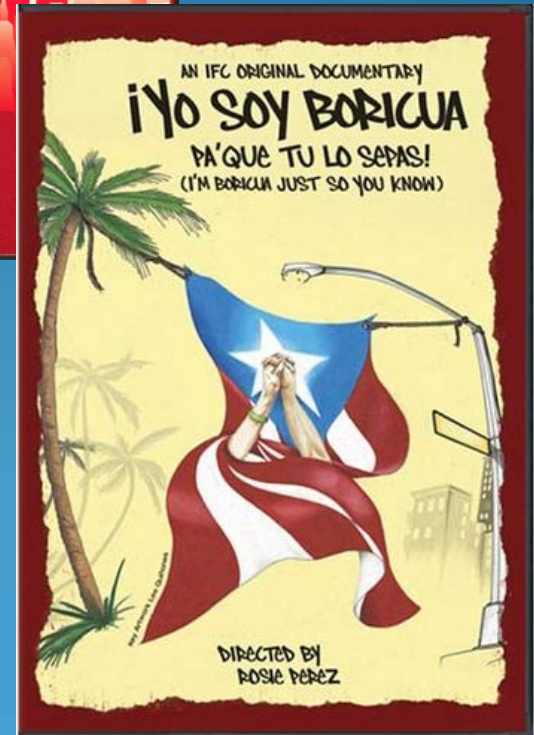
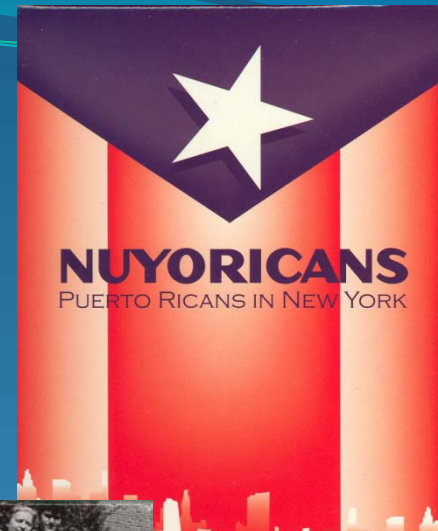
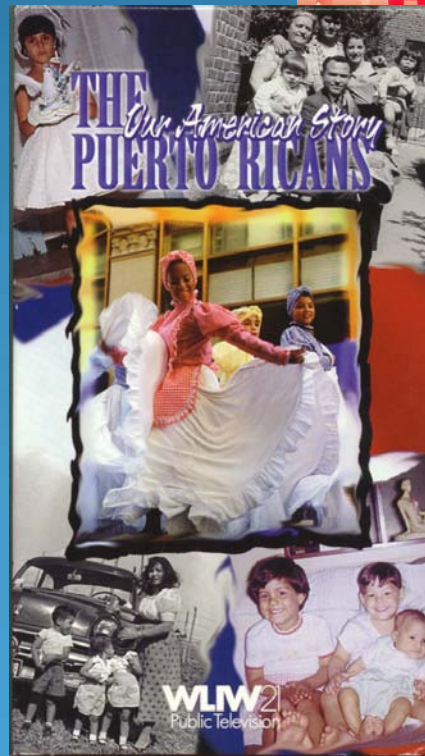


2001



2010

Films



Traveling Exhibits



The Mission: Gilberto Concepción de Gracia and His New York Years, 1936–1939



La Misión: Gilberto Concepción de Gracia y sus años en Nueva York, 1936–1939

Curated by Alma Concepción and Pedro Juan Hernández

April 29 – July 31, 2010

An Exhibition at the Newark Public Library
5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ • Fourth Floor Gallery

Photo: Vito Marcantonio and Gilberto Concepción de Gracia shaking hands surrounded by supporters, New York City, circa 1938. Photo courtesy of Félix Ojeda.

Presented by the NJ Hispanic Research and Information Center at The Newark Public Library
and El Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY



www.npl.org

Cory A. Booker, Mayor, City of Newark
Jeffrey A. Vanderbeek, President, Board of Trustees
Wilma J. Grey, Director, The Newark Public Library



at The Newark Public Library



The Newark Public Library

Volume 21 Number 2, July 2010

Focus on Founder of Puerto Rican Independence Party



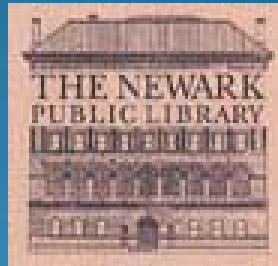
In partnership with the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, CUNY, the Library is presenting *The Mission: Gilberto Concepción de Gracia and His New York Years, 1936-1939*, on view on the fourth floor at Main Library from April 29 through July 31, 2010.

Dr. Gilberto Concepción de Gracia (1909–1968) came to New York City in 1936 as the attorney for the Nationalist Party President Pedro Albizu Campos and other nationalists imprisoned and accused of sedition against the United States government in Puerto Rico. He was committed to activism and political action. In 1946, he founded and became the President of the Puerto Rican Independence Party.

The *Mission* features photographs, correspondence, and other documents from the Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies and the Gilberto Concepción de Gracia family archives. Yesenia López, archivist at the Library's Puerto Rican Community Archives, is complementing these materials with articles and photographs on the history of the Puerto Rican community in New Jersey.

Alma Concepción, Concepción de Gracia's daughter, and Centro Senior Archivist Pedro Juan Hernández are the curators of this exhibition, originally created for the Centro Gallery at Hunter College.

For more information about *The Mission*, please call La Sala Hispanoamericana at 973-733-7772, or e-mail Ingrid Betancourt at ibetancourt@npl.org, or Yesenia López at ylopez@npl.org.



Gallery Events



Donors Events



Website

PUERTO RICAN WRITERS AND MIGRATION: Folklore, Autobiography & History



About the Authors in this Project

A site that introduces three Puerto Rican writers who migrated to New York, the archives they left behind, and how students can learn about the literature and history of U.S. Latino communities using their books and personal archives.



Pura Belpré

Pura Belpré (1901-1982), the first Puerto Rican librarian in New York City, was also an accomplished writer. She collected Puerto Rican folktales, translating and publishing them as children's literature. Her primary motivation in doing so was to bring Puerto Rican culture to the continental United States. In 1931, she authored perhaps the first book published in English in the U.S. by a Puerto Rican author, and certainly the first published by a major publishing house.

[more >>>](#)



Jesus Colón

Jesus Colón (1901-1974) was a migrant who arrived in New York in 1918. He had an extensive career as a labor organizer and journalist writing for both Spanish and English newspapers. His first book, *A Puerto Rican in New York and Other Sketches* was published in 1961. It is a collection of sketches and vignettes about the history and culture of Puerto Rican migrants in New York.

[more >>>](#)

Antonia Pantoja (1922-2002) was an activist and founder of community institutions, most notably ASPIRA, an educational organization for Puerto Rican youth. Her belief in the power of community organizing as an effective tool for change is a constant theme in her writing. This belief was also shared by Colón.

[more >>>](#)



Antonia Pantoja

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<http://www.centropr.org/prwriters/>

Colón, Rufa Concepción Fernández

See also: Theater
SOURCES: Zúñiga, 1998; "La Gran Dama del Teatro," June
http://www.latinia.com/new/magazine/books/98/soezp2.html
accessed July 26, 2002; Newton, Clarke, 1975; *Puerto Rico*:
New York, Dodd, Mead, 1976; <http://www.trove.com.au/online/series/PersonDetail/personid/4710>
accessed November 2, 2003.

Georgia Garcia

COLÓN, RUFÁ CONCEPCIÓN FERNÁNDEZ "CONCHA" (1903-1958)

Rufa Concepción Fernández, known to her family and friends as Concha, was born in 1903 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Her parents were José Fernández and Guadalupe Isern. According to her obituary, she

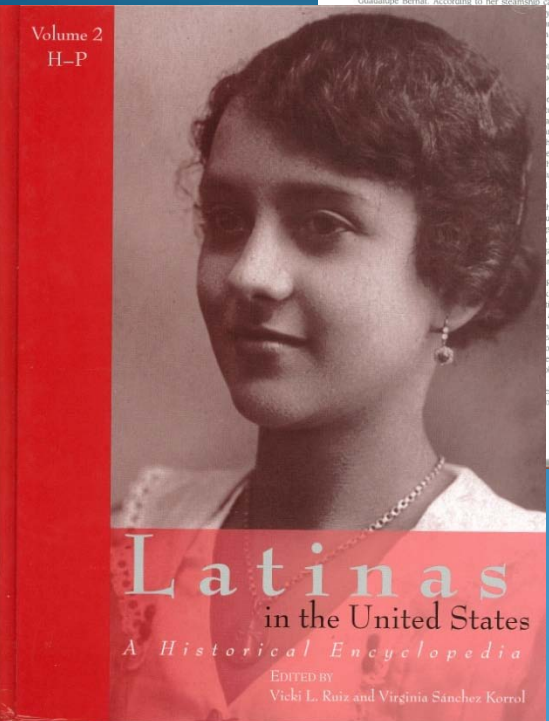
workers' newsletter titled *Oye, Ruvicua*, but it was not published until 1993 in *The Big B* and other writings. In this satirical essay Jesús Colón wrote that when men boast, "My wife doesn't work," what they really mean is "I don't want my wife to work outside the home because other women at the office or the factory can spoil her. (These men always emphasize the term *mujer* as if she was a possession.)" Colón wrote that when men get home from work, a few swears terms of endearment get them their dinner, a can of cold beer, and even their slippers, while women's work was unending, tireless, and unpaid. He added that someday women would earn their own daily allowance and be part of the working class. By all known accounts, Jesús Colón made sure that his wife, Concha, was his equal partner, and together they helped to raise political consciousness on this and many other issues concerning El Barrio.

The world of the Puerto Rican migrant from the 1920s through the 1950s was, in general, characterized by meager wages, inadequate health care, substandard housing conditions, marginal education, and poor sanitation conditions. Yet, at the same time, it was a period of increasing growth in the population of Puerto Ricans seeking better jobs and opportunities. Concha Colón stood alongside her husband and helped develop community leadership through their many organizations and campaigns of unionization. She became the secretary of *La Lij Puertorriqueña e Hispana*, which fostered mutual aid in the collective struggle and solidarity with all 18 panics in New York City. Much like her husband, si



Community organizer Rufa Concepción Fernández "Concha" Colón, 1923. Courtesy of the José Colón Papers, Center Archives, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY.

Digitization Projects



Latinas in History
an interactive project

<http://depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/latinashistory/latinashistory.html>

The Electronic Schoolhouse
ENGLISH - INGLÉS

La Escuela Electrónica
SPANISH - ESPAÑOL

LATINOS
in New York State / en Estado de Nueva York

<http://www.archives.nysed.gov/projects/escuela/index.shtml>



El uso de fuentes primarias en el salón de clases

Video: 3:49 minutos (Video in Windows Media format, 20 MB)* (Video in Flash format, 15 MB)

Dr. Kristi Fragnoli demuestra formas creativas de utilizar documentos primarios en el salón de clases. Ver los [documentos](#) y [libros](#) utilizados en este video.



¿Qué es un archivo histórico?

Video: 2:40 minutos (Video in Windows Media format, 11 MB)* (Video in Flash format, 8 MB)

El Sr. Pedro Juan Hernández del Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, describe el objeto de un archivo histórico.

NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES

Ventana al Pasado

Window on the Past

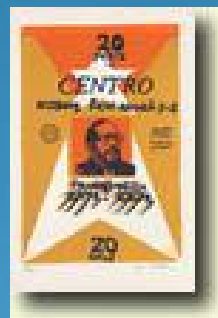
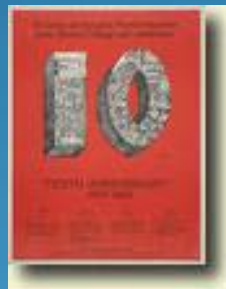
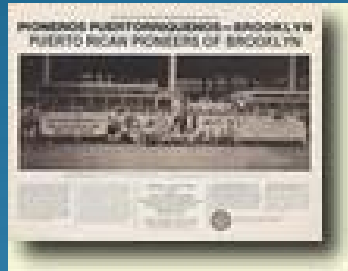
New York State Archives, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños,
Cornell University, Dominican Studies Institute, Hofstra University,
Hostos Community College, New York City Department for Records and
Information, Onondaga Historical Society, Rochester Museum and Science Center

<http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/research/ventana/>

The Digital Collections

a Gateway to Materials held by the New York State Archives, New York State Museum & New York State Library

[Digital Collections](#) > [Photo Gallery](#) > Search



<http://iarchives.nysed.gov/PubImageWeb/searchServlet>



Title: Photo - Jose A. Pacheco in a Rumbero outfit, 1947

Brief Description: Jose "Cheo" Pacheco in rumbero outfit playing a conga drum, New York, NY, 1947.

Date Original: 1947-11-18

Identifier: CEN_RC_B1F3_699

Source: Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños. Rudy Castilla Photographic Collection. Box 1, Folder 3.

Publisher: New York State Archives

Contributor: Creator: Castilla, Rudy.

Language: English

Description:

Jose "Cheo" Pacheco in rumbero outfit playing a conga drum, New York, NY, 1947. Rumbero-style music by Puerto Rican and Cuban bands became popular with mainstream audiences in the 1940s.

Relation: IsFormatOf: Digital representation of an 8 x 10" black and white photograph.

Rights: This image is provided for education and research purposes. Rights may be reserved. Responsibility for securing permissions to distribute, publish, reproduce or other use rest with the user. For additional information see our [Copyright and Use Statement here](#).

Location: New York (N.Y.)

New York County (N.Y.)

Time Period: 1940s

Collections: [Artes y Cultura](#)

[Colección de Fotografías de Rudy Castilla](#)

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The Centro is a research center dedicated to the study and interpretation of the Puerto Rican experience in the United States.

Information

Location:
 Hunter College, CUNY 695 Park Avenue East 14th Floor
 New York, NY, 10021

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Photos

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Center for Puerto Rican Studies- Centro Events

Wall Info Photos Boxes Events

Center for Puerto Rican Studies- Centro Events + Others
 Center for Puerto Rican Studies- Centro Events Just Others

Center for Puerto Rican Studies- Centro Events
<http://eepurl.com/IsT3>
 eepurl.com
 Mon, July 26, 6-8 p.m. Centro Library East Building, 3rd floor Hunter College, 68th & Lexington Ave. New York, NY Directions: 6 Train to 68th Street R.S.V.P.: Rosalie Roman or call 212.772.5714 PROJECTING ART PROYECTANDO ARTE SIN FRONTERAS El arte es un proceso caótico, tiene poderes transformativo...
 July 14 at 11:00am · Comment · Like

Center for Puerto Rican Studies- Centro Events Centro Events- Projecting Art!
<http://eepurl.com/IsT3>
 July 14 at 10:59am · Comment · Like

Center for Puerto Rican Studies- "Puerto Rican Florida"
<http://eepurl.com/BYTV>
 June 9 at 11:31am · Comment · Like
 Nelson Sierra and Meli Velazquez like this

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 The Center for Puerto Rican Studies is hiring interviewers for a 2010. The selected candidates will be responsible for conducting interviews with potential donors and volunteers.
 May 18 at 8:00am · Comment · Like



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1:39 PM Jul 14th via MailChimp

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Nélida Pérez, Two Reading Rooms and the Librarian's Office: The Evolution of the Centro Library and Archives. **Centro Journal of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies**, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY, volume XXI, number 2, Fall 2009.



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