



NEW MEXICO HUMANITIES

Newsletter of the New Mexico Humanities Council

...seeking to understand who we were, who we are and who we hope to be...

Spring/Summer 2011

NMHC receives funding from the Federal/State Partnership of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the NM Department of Cultural Affairs

Smithsonian Exhibit, "Journey Stories," Enlivened by New Mexico's Rich and Unique History



Library of Congress LC-USZ62-130705.

travel accounts is the theme of the Smithsonian Institution's current Museum on Main Street traveling exhibit, *Journey Stories*, which will visit six communities in our state between June 2011 and April 2012.

Accounts of journeys left by the ancestors of today's Native Americans appear in inscriptions found in New Mexico and throughout the Southwest.

The earliest published "journey stories" came from those who traveled with Coronado in 1540 in search of the mythic Seven Cities of Cibola. Oñate's expedition of 1598, along with the opening of El Camino Real, provided accounts about the hardships which settlers faced in this arid and challenging land.

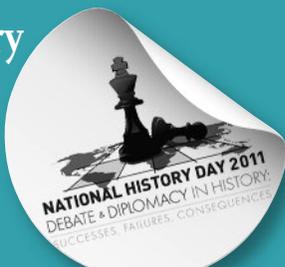
As American and French traders and settlers pushed their boundaries westward,

popular travel accounts, such as those of Josiah Gregg and Susan Shelby Magoffin, added to the growing interest in exploring and, perhaps, settling in the Southwest. Following the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 and the establishment of American forts in New Mexico Territory, accounts by soldiers and their wives, such as Lydia Spencer Lane, brought both male and female perspectives to the Southwestern frontier experience. With trade routes reaching eastward along the Santa Fe Trail and southward into Mexico along the Chihuahua Trail, an interesting mixture of goods and 'journey stories,' both in Spanish and English, circulated throughout the Territory.

In 1849, with the discovery of gold in California, roads westward became filled with those who were seeking new fortunes. However, the next decades proved to be turbulent. Particularly poignant were the journey experiences of Navajos and Apaches forced to walk to Bosque Redondo from their traditional homelands.

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From the Chair

Bring you greetings from the New Mexico Humanities Council's Board of Directors. Our current board members reside in far-flung areas of our state and represent many professional backgrounds – the Board boasts historians, a CPA, authors, business entrepreneurs, an economic development consultant, an archivist, Shakespearean scholars, artists, a curator of museums and galleries, educators, a chamber of commerce CEO, an archeologist/rancher, and a state monument manager. Members also represent various ethnic backgrounds – Native American, Hispanic, African American, Asian Indian, and Anglo. With the recent addition of three new board members – Ray Battaglini from Hobbs, Dennis O'Toole from Monticello and Tomas Jaehn of Santa Fe – a touch of Italian, Irish and German has been added to that mix.

We welcome these new members, and we also thank outgoing board members Randy Forrester of Santa Fe, Jim Harris of Lovington and Stephen Rottler of Albuquerque for their service to NMHC. In addition to fiscal oversight and attendance at meetings, (three times a year in various parts of the state), board members spend many hours working on various committees working with NMHC's major programs.

What a great pleasure to work with and interact with colleagues who bring such varied experiences and talents, and who are committed to supporting the quality of life in New Mexico through their volunteer efforts.

On a recent Sunday at Roswell's Southeastern New Mexico Heritage Museum, I sat with other enthralled audience members as retired UNM Professor Noel Pugach took us back in time to early frontier days with his imperson-

ation of New Mexico's first Territorial Governor, Lew Wallace. As he recounted his experiences—the Lincoln County War, meetings with Billy the Kid, the Santa Fe Ring, work on his novel *Ben Hur*, and chats with Archbishop Lamy—history came alive. His presentation, in full beard and black frock coat, is just one of the more than 100 programs in the Chautauqua Series available to communities, funded by the NMHC and the NM Department of Cultural Affairs. Jessica Billings, coordinator of the Chautauqua program, says that the presentations—some, actors impersonating a historical figure, and others, speakers—reach more than 25,000 people a year, students through seniors in every county in the state. Service clubs, churches, libraries, museums, senior centers, schools and festivals have all utilized these educational presentations since 1988.

Another far-reaching NMHC activity is the Grant program. According to Michelle Quisenberry, Senior Program Officer, more than \$100,000 is awarded each year in grants to non-profits and state entities for programs that positively impact communities in every part of the state. From July 2009 to July 2010, \$167,840 was awarded. In 2011, one of the grant programs is "Riders on the Orphan Train," a multi-media program which features a relatively unknown chapter in New Mexico history. It tells the story of the largest migration of children from the overcrowded East to the developing West—a story of children moving from rejection to assimilation into the American Dream. Grants are funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

A special grant program entitled "What Does It Mean to be a New Mexican?", created in 2006 in anticipation of New Mexico's upcoming Centennial



Dr. LaNelle Witt

commemoration, encourages projects that specifically explore the history and culture of this unique state.

In addition to the Grant program, Ms. Quisenberry coordinates Museum on Main Street (MoMS), the Smithsonian travelling exhibition program which reaches small and remote locations throughout the state. The 2011 Smithsonian exhibition, *Journey Stories*, which recounts stories of immigration and travel throughout history, will kick off in June at the Harvey House Museum in Belen and then will travel to five other locations.

Trevor Carter, coordinator for New Mexico National History Day, recently shared with the Board a four-state study of schools with varying social-economic compositions. Students who participated in National History Day had higher test scores in reading comprehension, writing, mathematics, science, social studies and English. National History Day participation has produced better writers and critical thinkers, inspired an interest in history and prepared students for college and beyond with 21st-Century skills.

In 2009, an excellent documentary, *Alice King: Children's Champion*, created by two Moriarty Middle School girls, won the State event and went on to National competition – placing second in the nation. National History Day in New Mexico has been sponsored by the NMHC since 1998.

I invite you to contact the Council office if you have questions about any of these programs or are interested in

bringing a program to your community. Grant applications are available online (at www.nmhum.org) and Ms. Quisenberry works with each applicant to help assure that applicant's success. Finally, a word about the upcoming Centennial of New Mexico Statehood. Under the leadership of NMHC Executive Director Dr. Craig Newbill, who was elected Chair of the New Mexico Centennial of Statehood Committee last year, the Council has played a leading role in planning for the Centennial.

As we plan and look ahead to New Mexico's Centennial of Statehood, the work of the Council and the board will be to draw generations of New Mexicans together, to give the youngest a sense of belonging and timelessness, of being citizens in a state caught up in the great ebb and flow of historical change.

Whether through a wide-angle lens or a close-in focus, NMHC will be sharing countless stories of New Mexico's colorful history and peoples in the Centennial programs planned around the state.

Within the climate of change amongst current state and federal budget determinations, the Council is preparing for possible shifts in funding levels. Nonetheless, the Council resolves to continue to offer high-quality public humanities programming to communities throughout our state.

We appreciate your continued support of all the programs sponsored by our Council.

Dr. LaNelle Witt
Chair,
NMHC Board of Directors

NM Humanities Council Board of Directors

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Mission

The New Mexico Humanities Council supports and conducts innovative and imaginative programs through the State that lead to a greater understanding of, and motivate interest in, the richness of our human experience and heritage.

El Consejo de las Humanidades de Nuevo México dirige y apoya programas novedosos y creativos a través de la provincia que conllevan a la mayor comprensión y motivación de nuestro rico legado cultural humano.

NMHC Seeks Board Members

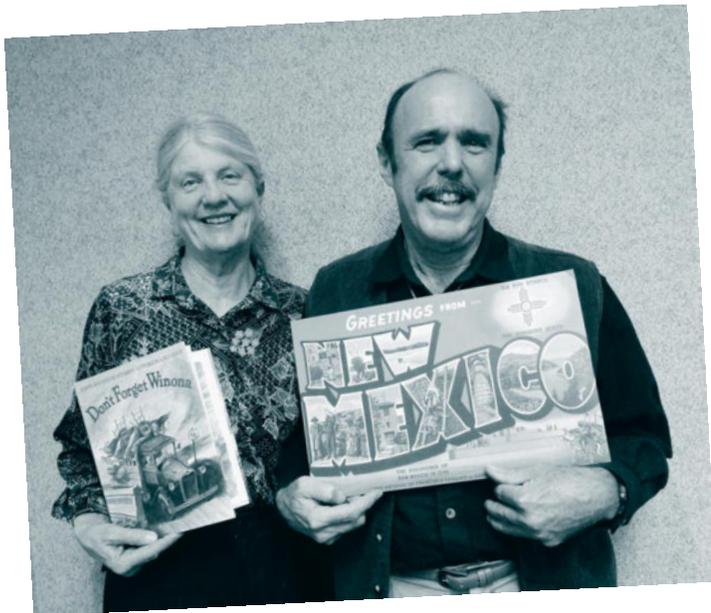
Ohe New Mexico Humanities Council (NMHC) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the humanities to public audiences throughout New Mexico. NMHC has a continuing need for interested and qualified board members. NMHC invites your nominations of both humanities scholars and members of the public for its Board of Directors. NMHC is currently searching for members from a variety of areas throughout New Mexico.

The full board meets three times a year to conduct business. Board members also serve on committees, assist with fundraising and contribute expertise and energy to the activities of NMHC. A 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 nominee indicating willingness to serve and make a commitment to public humanities programming. Board members must live in the state of New Mexico. Please send nominations and supporting documents to:

New Mexico Humanities Council
MSCo6 3570
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET



*Journey
Stories
Scholars*

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Even before the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in 1869, survey parties explored the potential for new railroad routes across the Southwest. As a result, by the 1880s, both the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway connected the American heartland to southern California, bringing merchants, health seekers, and tourists into the territory.

In the decades following the Civil War, American innovation and a growing sense of freedom helped accelerate not only transportation across the Southwest, but the length of time it took to relay messages concerning the satisfactions of travel and also its peril. When noted western photographer William Henry Jackson joined the Detroit Publishing Company, he used his camera to produce high quality postcards for the Fred Harvey Company. These cards enabled railroad travelers to share the exotic landscapes and diverse cultures they encountered during their journeys through territorial New Mexico.

With the coming of statehood in 1912, New Mexicans found a multitude of reasons to travel. Responding to the growing popularity of the private automobile, to the improvement of state road systems, and to the intensive lobbying by the Good Roads Movement, the United States government created a federal highway system in 1926. Characterized by black and white shields, these roads offered a new generation of motorists a place to exercise their growing desire for mobility.

Although Route 66 gained fame as John Steinbeck's "Mother Road," U.S. 60, 70, and 85 also permitted people to cross the length and breadth of New Mexico during the Great Depression as they sought to improve their lives. For those who chose to remain in New Mexico, President Roosevelt's New Deal provided work relief jobs that led to the construction of schools, parks, and court houses that continue to serve our state's communities.

Later, during World War II, these same roads served another purpose, carrying troops and supplies both

Journey Stories NM Tour Dates

**Belen Harvey
House Museum, Belen**
Jun 25 – Aug. 5, 2011
505-864-2565

Aztec Museum, Aztec
Aug 13 – Sept 23, 2011
505-334-9829

The Raton Museum, Raton
Oct 1 – Nov 11, 2011
575-445-8979

**Carlsbad Museum
and Art Center, Carlsbad**
Nov 19 – Dec 30, 2011
575-887-0276

**Bosque Redondo
Monument at Fort Sumner
State Monument,
Fort Sumner**
Jan 7 – Feb 17, 2012
575-355-2572

**Branigan Cultural
Center, Las Cruces**
Feb 25 – Apr 7, 2012
575-541-2156



east and west to support the war effort. The conclusion of the war, marked by millions of young service men and women introduced to travel and duty far from their homes, unleashed an even greater desire for mobility and the freedom of the open road. Veterans piled new families into cars and set out to see a country that they had merely glimpsed while in uniform. Many families shared these journey stories with loved ones through slides, postcards, and travel diaries.

Even as air travel has increased markedly over the last few decades, extending horizons beyond the constraints and hardships known by earlier generations, the ability to travel and to share these journeys with others remains central to the American experience. As new immigrants arrive, new stories join those passed down over time. Although the voices

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Crossing Paths

On September 27, 1928 a traveler with child and gun in hand reached Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was an algonite casting of a statue called *The Madonna of the Trail*. Sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to mark the New Mexico section of the National Old Trails Road—where the new Highway 66 crossed the old Camino Real—she represented those women who came to New Mexico in a journey which took months to cross from Missouri to Santa Fe.

The National Old Trails Road concept—a road running from Baltimore to San Francisco—was created in 1912, the year of New Mexico statehood. The road, in part, promoted the new fangled invention known as the automobile.

In the mid 1920s, the DAR chose *The Madonna of the Trail*, created by German immigrant August Leimbach, to memorialize the pioneers and the trails they followed. Twelve copies were to be placed between 1928 and 1929, including one in New Mexico. The main contenders for that honor were Santa Fe and Albuquerque, and the contest became contentious.

The people who were influential in selecting the *Madonna's* placement had their own journeys to New Mexico. Each was concerned with promoting the unique history of our state, and each saw that history through his or her own lens. Here, briefly, is the tale.

Mary Beardsley Prince, a wealthy New Yorker came to Santa Fe—one of the first travelers to come by rail—and in 1889 found herself the wife of territorial governor. She was a founder of the New Mexico Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) which began a program of marking



Mayor Clyde Tingley and crowd at unveiling, 1928
Photograph by Brooks Studio. Brooks Collection
The Albuquerque Museum Photo Archives, 1978.152.54

the Santa Fe Trail and historic events. She established the DAR as a force in New Mexico culture as the territory struggled into statehood.

Mary Hunter Austin, a naturalist from California and author of *Land of Little Rain*, was a suffragist who settled in New Mexico and had different views of what was better for the state than those of the Chamber of Commerce. She helped found the Old Santa Fe Association and the Spanish Colonial Arts Society, and collected art work for the new Laboratory of Anthropology. In 1927 she led the battle against the DAR over the placement of the *Madonna* in Santa Fe, and, in a meeting with the DAR, she went on to argue that “the statue was inappropriate for New Mexico, that New Mexico’s pioneer mothers were not those of the DAR—they were Hispanic.” Her allies in the battle included Frank Applegate, an artist who, speaking for the artist community, said that the statue was bad art which none of the artists wanted.

Witter Bynner, a well-established poet, came to Santa Fe from San Francisco

in 1922. A newcomer to New Mexico and major figure in the arts community, he shared the views of Austin and Applegate and questioned the business-oriented perspective of how the unique history and culture of Santa Fe were to be used for economic reasons. In their reasoning, they wanted to retain the romanticized visual image of Spanish and Indian Santa Fe/New Mexico as the artists thought it had been.

After acrimonious debate before the DAR selection committee in 1927, with neither side being especially civil, the committee chose Albuquerque to be the *Madonna's* home. In sharp contrast to Santa Fe, Mayor Clyde Tingley was eager to have the *Madonna* for Albuquerque as he promoted Albuquerque as the crossroads of New Mexico and was a strong advocate for roads, city development, tourism and transportation.

The president of the National Old Trails Association (NOTA) was Judge Harry S. Truman of Independence,

Crossing Paths, continued on page 6



Journey Stories, continued from page 4

and languages may differ, the richness of this new dialogue is a reflection of the diversity of people coming to our shores.

The Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street *Journey Stories* exhibit tours Belen, Aztec, Raton, Carlsbad, Fort Sumner, and Las Cruces, between June 2011 and April 2012. As it does so it will bring a special opportunity for New Mexicans to share stories about who we are and the diverse experiences that define us as New Mexicans. Coming to our state as we prepare to celebrate our Centennial, the exhibit becomes even more compelling because much of what we discover and choose to share about ourselves and our personal experiences will complement our statehood celebration. It will also invite further discussions about what it means to be a New Mexican.

By David Kammer and Jeanne Whitehouse

David Kammer and Jeanne Whitehouse are the designated scholars for the Smithsonian traveling exhibition *Journey Stories*. They will assist each hosting community in creating companion public programs.

Crossing Paths, continued from page 5

Missouri. NOTA believed that history was a major selling point for tourism based on the automobile and good roads, so it partnered with the DAR in placing the twelve *Madonna* statues along the Coast to Coast Highway. Truman did have a pleasant visit to New Mexico at least once before the big brouhaha broke out. When it did, being very politic, he tried not to take sides, though he implied that he understood the DAR conflict with the Bohemian socialist progressives. When the statue was dedicated in 1928, Truman was on the program but was unable to attend. He sent a message praising the spirit of the pioneer mothers.

The *Madonna* still stands to this day in Albuquerque on the southwest corner of Marble Ave and 4th Street.

Article by Kermit Hill Jr.

*Member of the Historical Society of New Mexico and
volunteer for National History Day.*



Highlighting an NHD Teacher

Claudie Thompson from Silver High School in Silver City, NM, is our featured National History Day teacher this spring.

He teaches New Mexico history, World history and is the baseball coach at Silver HS. He received the "Best NMHC National History Day Teacher" award for 2010.

Claudie started his participation in NHD when he attended a teacher workshop at the Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces one autumn. The next spring he had students entered in the Las Cruces regional contest.

After doing the NHD curriculum with his students for five years, this past year he instituted a for-credit NHD class at Silver High. Having the class helps him recruit freshman students for NHD and allows him to really get to know students. The class also saves him from having to work so many weekends and lunch hours.

Some of his students attended the National Contest last year, and he went along as a chaperone. He was able to see what it takes to complete a great project. He realized that he wanted students to spend more time on their research and wanted more school time to guide them in the process.

The one-hour class has 25 students and as the facilitator he helps kids with their topics ranging from the historical debate over capital punishment to the debate over the Amistad trials. Students mainly work on their own and Claudie's primary responsibility is to be a facilitator and help them stay



organized. The students love the class and want it again next year.

Claudie believes that being involved in the NHD curriculum has made him a better teacher. He says his students are “a lot better at research and that the NHD curriculum integrates into other classes and helps them become better readers and writers”.

“Students who have completed NHD projects go into more detail in projects for other classes. This causes other teachers to expect more from all their non-NHD students.” Test scores reflect the fact that with NHD you get it all, writing skills, learning how to complete a project, communication skills, group interaction skills and more.

He really enjoys NHD because the numerous topics the kids choose give him more in-depth information on history which adds to “knowledge when I teach history topics in my regular history classes”.

He heard from his first group of NHD kids, who are now in college. They thanked him and told him college was much easier for them because they were the only students who already knew how to do long term projects and annotated bibliographies.

The administration at Silver High has been supportive of NHD. The athletic director is impressed with how much his son, who is part of the



Claudie assisting students with research.

“I love doing NHD and I want to get better at helping students with their projects.”

—Claudie Thompson

class, talks about history and his NHD class at home.

“I love doing NHD and I want to get better at helping students with their projects. I also love the learning that I get with NHD topics,” Claudie said. He wants to thank the two teachers who have helped him the most in his journey through teaching NHD curriculum: Noel Nuñez from Deming HS and Amy Page from Moriarty.

New Mexico National History Day Contest Dates

The State finals contest was held Friday, April 29, at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque.

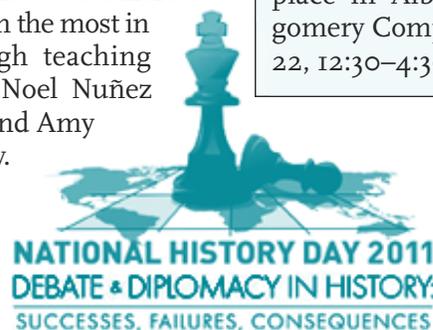
The national contest will be held June 12–16 at the University of Maryland in College Park

Regional contests were held March 2 in Las Cruces at the Farm and Ranch Museum (Southeast Regional); March 9 at Menaul School in Albuquerque (Central Regional); and March 16 at San Juan College in Farmington (Northwest Regional). Students compete at the local level, then the regional and state levels, with the winners going on to the National Finals.

Upcoming Events

Select New Mexico National History Day student projects will be showcased at the Historical Society of NM 2011 Annual Meeting during their conference in Ruidoso Friday, May 6. The projects will also be showcased the next day at the conference’s teacher workshops in Lincoln.

A first this year, a workshop will be held for all our state students who will be attending the National contest in June. Teachers and student peers will give feedback to help improve student projects, as well reworking process papers and improving bibliographies. They will be able to meet and get to know other contestants before the trip in June. This one day event will take place in Albuquerque at Montgomery Complex on Sunday, May 22, 12:30–4:30 p.m.



Nasario Garcia Says Good-Bye to Chautauqua

Nasario Garcia, a member of the Chautauqua for the past 20 years, has resigned from the program to pursue other projects. Before joining the Chautauqua, he was a member of the NMHC Board of Directors for more than two terms: 1988-1993; and 1994-1997.

His programs—including *Hispanic Fiestas of Yesteryear*, *From Food and Fun to Fisticuffs* and *Would You Like to Meet the Devil, Bogeyman, or La Llorona?*—combined his deep knowledge of New Mexico and its Hispanic heritage with scholarship and humor.

In his letter of resignation, he wrote, “From Farmington to Roswell, Ratón to Silver City – and cities and towns in between – I was invited to community agencies, libraries, senior citizen centers and educational outlets. Each one in its own genuine way provided the perfect venue for sharing the richness of our New Mexican culture with audiences of all ages: adults, teenagers and children.”

He added: “At this stage of my life, however, it is now time to turn over a new leaf, as it were, and to devote more time to projects dear to my heart that have been on the back burner for quite some time.”

A native New Mexican, Nasario was born in Bernalillo, but grew up in Ojo del Padre (Guadalupe) in the Río Puerco valley southeast of Chaco Canyon. He began his education in a one-room schoolhouse in Rincón del Cochino before his family moved to Albuquerque where he attended public schools.



Nasario with his wife Janice, photo courtesy of Diana Molina.

Following a two-year stint in the U. S. Army, he enrolled at the University of New Mexico. After earning a BA in Spanish and an MA in Portuguese, plus attending the University of Wisconsin at Madison on a Portuguese summer fellowship where he met his wife, he did a year of doctoral work at the University of Granada, Spain. In 1972 he was awarded his Ph.D. in 19th century Spanish literature from the University of Pittsburgh.

He is the author of numerous books, the most recent of which include: *Bolitas de oro: Poems of My Marble-Playing Days*; *Fe y tragedias: Faith and Tragedies in Hispanic Villages of New Mexico*; *The Naked Rainbow and Other Stories: El arco iris y otros cuentos*; *Rattling Chains and Other Stories for Children: Ruido de cadenas y otros cuentos para niños*; and *Brujerías: Stories of Witchcraft and the Supernatural in the American Southwest and Beyond*.

Nasario currently resides in Santa Fe with his wife Janice Marie Smith-García.

For more about Nasario, visit his website, <http://nasariogarciaphd.com>.

More Chautauqua programs added

Since the last edition of this newsletter, four additional programs have been added to the NMHC Chautauqua. Following is a brief list; for more information, visit www.nmhum.org and search for the presenter’s name.

- *Music from the Ranch and Open Range* by Steve Cormier. A ‘cowboy with a PhD’ Steve has worked on ranches and farms in the Flint Hills of Kansas and around Santa Rosa and Fort Sumner. His music derives from that experience.

Three programs by Diana Molina, a professional photographer and writer whose sociological portrayals have appeared regionally and nationally:

- *Raramuri: The Foot Runners of the Sierra Madre*. The Raramuri, Uto-Aztecan for Tarahumara, are among the world’s best runners, their lives spent traversing the canyon walls and plateaus of the Sierra Madre Occidental in northern Mexico.
- *Morena Moderna, Contemporary Visions of Our Lady of Guadalupe*. As a modern symbol of empowerment, La Virgen de Guadalupe inspires an impassioned and universal fervor.
- *Seven String Barb Wire Fence: The Many Faces of Latino Immigration in the U.S.* The program provides a balanced, informative account of the often emotionally-charged issue of Latino immigration.

In 2010, Ron Dans and Laia Obregon-Dans, of *Puppet’s Revenge*, joined the Chautauqua with two puppet-plays, *The Conquistador Conquered: the Epic Journey of Estevanico and Cabeza de Vaca*; and *Lady Blue’s Dreams*. Puppets are a new departure for the Chautauqua, although they are traditional forms of theatre in many parts of the world.

The Many Faces of Puppetry

By Ron Dans and Laia Obregon-Dans

Puppetry is among the oldest forms of ritual and theatre, tracing its origins thousands of years BCE. It has persisted for millennia for many reasons:

- Puppetry is one of the most powerful tools which contains the possibility to entertain and educate people at the same time.
- Puppetry can engage audiences of all ages.
- Puppets have been used throughout history for recording, enriching and transmitting culture.
- Puppet stories tell History in a way that helps communities know who they are, where they came from, and where they want to go.

Last year we—Puppet’s Revenge—went to Senegal and Mali in West Africa. We brought a puppet play about an Indian boy in the Southwest going to a school of whites, which we performed in schools, villages, festivals. Many of the kids had never seen puppetry in our western style, nor did they know much about the American Southwest.

Their type of puppetry is very different from the story we offered. Theirs is an ancient tradition used in initiation and other social ceremonies to provide a safe container for commenting about local events. They use parody in puppets as a way to legitimize and praise, or to subvert and challenge common behaviour. The comic nature of the material allows the community to laugh at itself. We offered an image of the myths and stories of the Southwest and we saw how puppets in Mali played a similar role as the Pueblo clowns, who join the sacred and the profane, giving voice to the tensions and disturbances inside the community.

Our studies of the history of puppets have shown that they brought healing and new ways of communicating both inside and between communities.

This past February, we travelled to Southern Mexico. We have been there many times but never with puppets. This time we brought two stories from Catalan folk tales mixed with classical Mexican characters like the feathered snake. We used the Italian style of puppet acting, characterized by rapid movements, short stories, strong rhythm and repetition in the phrasing.

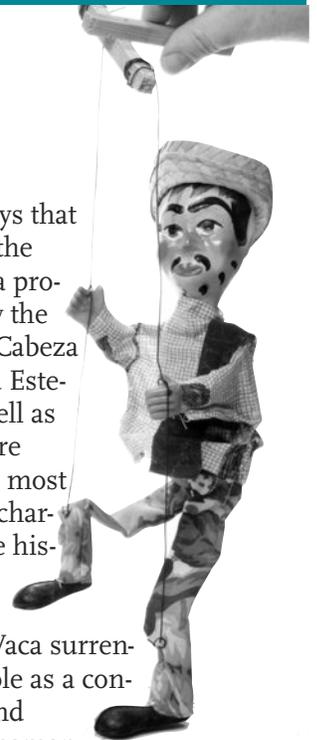
The characters appeared in a “walking puppet theatre” called “teatre de sac”. Its origins are in China and has been very popular since medieval times in Italy, France, Catalonia and England. It’s a theatre that the puppeteer wears, walking around. The puppeteer becomes the storyteller at the same time as the “building.” We performed in schools, orphanages, hospitals for children with cancer, zocalos, and plazas. Children had not seen a walking theatre before nor, in many cases, a regular theatre. When we asked them what this “artefact” could be, they responded: A window.

In our case, the definition of puppetry as a hybrid, multi-disciplinary, fusion, mix, bridge is really true. We love to build bridges between countries and continents and carry culture from one part of the world to another, as well as travelling around the State of New Mexico with stories that come from old Spain.

The two plays that we offer in the Chautauqua program follow the same idea. Cabeza de Vaca and Estevanico as well as Lady Blue are some of the most interesting characters in the history of the Southwest.

Cabeza de Vaca surrendered his role as a conquistador and became a shaman, a healer and protector of Native rights. Estevanico went from being a slave in Morocco to be Coronado’s scout to Hawiku, becoming the first non-native in New Mexico. Lady Blue brought the energy of the feminine, the humanistic writer and the mystic.

All of them presented another face to counteract the black legend of la Conquista. These characters are real history imbued with stories and myths that unite the past with the present, bridging the old world with the new.



New Mexico Humanities Council Awards Over \$106,000 in Grants



Four times a year, NMHC accepts grant applications for local projects. The NMHC Board of Directors has provided partial funding for the following projects in the October, November, and February cycles. In addition, NMHC has funded several projects commemorating the New Mexico Centennial of Statehood.

To learn more about these grant funded projects, please contact Senior Program Officer, Michelle Quisenberry, at 505/277-4151.

October 2010:

\$10,296 to the Julian Samora Legacy Project

for *Narrativas de Nuevo Mexico*.

Carmen Samora, Director of the Julian Samora Legacy Project, 505/243-6403.



\$5,750 to Voices from the American Land for *Rio del Corazon: A Festival of the Rio Grande*.

Summer Wood, Member of Voices from the American Land, 575/758-5355.



\$13,355 to the Center for International Studies for *Terrorism Update: Ten Years Later*.

Marina Oborotova, President of the Albuquerque International Association and Center for International Studies, 505/856-7277.

\$5,840 to the Institute for Medieval Studies for *Medieval Encounters: Cultures in Contact, Convergence, and Conflict*.

Timothy Graham, Director of the Institute for Medieval Studies, 505/277-1183.

\$2,900 to Teatro Nuevo México for *Night Over Taos: A Theatrical and Historical Journey from the Taos Revolt to Statehood*.

Linda Lopez McAlister, President of Camino Real Productions, 505/247-1909.



\$7,102 to the Historical Society of New Mexico for *Riders on the Orphan Train Public Program for Museums and Libraries*.

Alison Moore, Director of Riders on the Orphan Train, 512/393-9457.



\$8,730 to the UNM Art Museum for *Making New Mexico Modern: Tradition and Transformation in the 20th Century*.

Robert Ware, Curator of Raymond Jonson Gallery, 505/277-7315.



November 2010:

\$2,000 to the Abiquiú Cultural Center for *The Genizaro Experience: A Living Legacy*.

Cynthia Jeannette Gomez, Filmmaker/Producer, Pipestone Productions, 505/554-3030. WTP logo.



February 2011:

\$10,000 to the New Mexico History Museum for *Illuminating the Word: Lecture Series*.

Mary Anne Redding, Curator of Photography, 505/476-5026.

\$8,000 to 516 Arts for *Across the Great Divide & Worlds Outside This One*.

Suzanne Sbarge, Executive Director, 505/235-7580.

\$2,190 to Albuquerque Theatre Guild for *Tennessee Williams Today: The Changing Legacy of a Great American Playwright*.

Linda Lopez McAlister, Member of the Tennessee Williams Festival Planning Committee, 505/247-1909.

\$2,405 to the Belen Art League for *Journey Stories-Belen Harvey House Museum*.

Maurine McMillan, Director of the Belen Harvey House Museum, 505/861-0581.



\$5,000 to West End Press for *Cultural Survival in Difficult Times: Albuquerque Cultural Conference 2011*.

Leslie Fishburn Clark, West End Press, lfishbur@unm.edu.

\$10,500 to Southwest Research and Information Center for *Enduring Legacies: Food and Culture in Southern New Mexico Since 1912*.

Kent Paterson, Editor of Frontera NorteSur, 505/277-3779.

\$12,000 to El Rancho de las Golondrinas for *Six Living Interpretive Weekends Programs*.

Michael King, Director of Education, 505/471-2261.





NMHC Grant Deadlines

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

Regular Grants (more than \$2000)

Consultation Deadlines

January 10
September 10

Application Deadlines

February 1
October 1

Mini Grants (up to \$2000)

Consultation Deadlines

May 10
October 10

Application Deadlines

June 1
November 1

Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation

Due to generous support from the New Mexico Humanities Council, the exhibit *Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation* has been able to reach diverse audiences across the state and will continue to do so through 2012. The exhibit explores the cultural, traditional, and competitive aspects that inform contemporary Indian rodeo and was created by Devyn Dennison, a graduate of the Media Arts Program at New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU).

During the summer of 2009, Devyn Dennison starting working on the exhibit through an internship with the Crownpoint Historical and Cultural Heritage Council (CHCHC), under the direction of President Leonard Perry and NMHU faculty mentor Assistant Professor Megan Jacobs. During her internship, Devyn investigated the rich history of rodeo in Crownpoint and surrounding areas in New Mexico.

Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation focuses on the following themes: The Sacred Horse: A Navajo Perspective;

Ranching: Navajo Cowboys & Cowgirls; and the Three Generations of Contemporary Indian Rodeo as a competitive sport. The Diné way of life has always involved livestock and animals, and by extension, the sport of Indian rodeo plays an enormous role in the culture of the Navajo People. The exhibit includes a range of information and materials such as: photographs, an interactive touchscreen and three documentary films comprised of interviews with former and contemporary Navajo rodeo athletes. In her moving documentary films, Devyn skillfully and compassionately interviews fellow cowgirls and cowboys, who candidly discuss their love of rodeo, what it means to be an Indian cowgirl or cowboy, and the sacred connection to their horses.

In September 2010, the Pete V. Dominic Library at the Navajo Technical College in Crownpoint exhibited *Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation*. The exhibit honored Crownpoint's cen-



ennial anniversary and its important contributions to Indian Rodeo. Thanks to funding from the New Mexico Humanities Council, the exhibit was able to include a computer that housed the interactive touchscreen, *Anatomy of a Horse*. Diné people believe that certain parts of the horse are linked with materials found in nature and this interactive touchscreen seeks to inform visitors about these connections. For example, in Navajo culture sandstone is believed to make up a horse's hooves, lightning is linked to the horse's legs, and the stars are said to comprise a horse's eyes. As the participant touches certain sections of the horse

(*Indian Rodeo*, continued on page 12)



(Indian Rodeo, continued from page 11)

illustration, these connections with nature become evident. The Diné word for various parts of the horse's body appears as the participant touches the screen. This portion of the exhibit is a favorite for children. It seeks to educate participants about Navajo culture and language as it applies to the sacredness of the horse.

Devyn Dennison represented her exhibit *Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation* at the 2010 Museums and the Web conference and as part of the 2010 New Mexico Museum Association's (NMAM) annual conference. Devyn lectured about the process of creating the exhibit as part of an interactive media panel and collaborating with Tribal Communities during the NMAM conference.

In July 2011, the Los Alamos County Mesa Public Library will present an exhibit on aspects of Navajo culture. The exhibit will incorporate the three exhibition components of *Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation*: the *Anatomy of a Horse* interactive touchscreen, documentary videos and photographs; the exhibit *100 Years of Navajo History: Celebrating Crownpoint*; and the exhibit *The Navajo Weaving Story*, from Diné Be' Iiná, Inc. Devyn Dennison's video on the Navajo Churro sheep, created during an internship with Diné Be' Iiná, Inc., will be part of the exhibit as well.

In March 2012, the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture (MIAC) will include the *Anatomy of a Horse* interactive touchscreen in its presentation of the exhibit *Navajo Saddle Blankets*. A public program and presentation of the documentary films in *Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation* will be part of the free public programming planned during the presentation of the exhibit.

For more information on *Indian Rodeo on the Navajo Nation*, please visit:

<http://cct.newmexicoculture.org/navajorodeo>
and <http://vimeo.com/10780353>



Attendees at the New Mexico Centennial of Statehood Reception

Commemorating New Mexico's statehood

More than a hundred people crowded the reception area at the beautiful New Mexico Museum of Art in Santa Fe for a reception highlighting the upcoming New Mexico Centennial of Statehood. The reception was sponsored by NMHC and the Museum. Those attending included leaders of the Centennial Committee, lawmakers and legislative staff, and representatives from the arts and culture community as well as NMHC board members and staff. Jodi Delany, Director of Statewide Initiatives, and Craig Newbill, NMHC Executive Director, gave opening remarks, highlighting current successes in Centennial pro-

gramming and expressing enthusiasm for further commemorations. Dr. Newbill serves as chair of the NM Centennial Steering Committee.

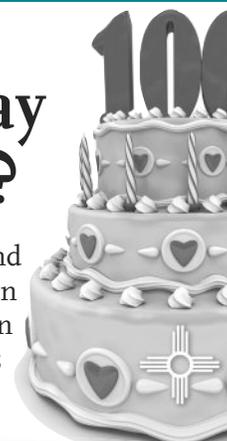
Several costumed members of the Chautauqua program added color, and Chautauquan Steve Cormier enhanced the atmosphere with his program, *Music From the Ranch and Open Range*.

NMHC has taken a leadership role in commemorating New Mexico's statehood, sponsoring local discussions of the Centennial, funding local activities and creating projects such as the *Online Atlas of Historic New Mexico Maps*.



This issue's question:

What has been New Mexico's best birthday present to America over the past Century?



In each issue we feature responses to a specific humanities-based question that is timely and valuable to our readers. If you are interested in being featured or would like to see a question of your own answered, send an email to nmhc@nmhum.org with "Humanities Corner" in the subject line. If answering the question posed, please write a response of three to five sentences and include your full name, occupation, etc. We look forward to hearing from you!

“New Mexico's best gift to the United States over the last century is chile. Red, green, dried, fresh, it doesn't matter. It is the taste that fuels our food in the Land of Enchantment and increasingly, the cuisine of the nation. Salsa has surpassed ketchup as the most popular condiment, and Nuevo Mejicano dishes are served everywhere from Key West, Florida to Westport, Washington. Indeed, chile from New Mexico can be found on grocery store shelves around the world.”



—Jon Hunner
Department of History
New Mexico State University

“The last century has witnessed an immense dedication to the preservation of New Mexico's history and culture. From the humble works of New Mexicans during the WPA campaigns to on-going, extensive research by historians, archeologists, and folklorists. The tradition of preservation continues even today. These efforts are evident in the treasures held within our museums and the sacred grounds of our state's National Parks and monuments. Preservation is all around us and it continually contributes to making



New Mexico one of the most intriguing and enchanting states in our nation.”

—Claudia Gallardo de Campbell
State-wide Instructional Coordinator
New Mexico State Monuments,
Department of Cultural Affairs

“Because nuevomexicano acequia culture evolved in the desert, tradition dictates that people must never deny water to another living being. In New Mexico to share water with other living entities, which includes animals and plants, is considered a limosna piadosa, (pious charity). Water cannot be separated from the land. There are three words that define the acequia culture democracy of New Mexico: repartimiento, convite, and cooperación. These three words are the best birthday present that New Mexico has given to America in the past century.”



—Michael Miller, Writer and Poet from La Puebla, New Mexico.

Next issue's question...

Starting June 25, 2011 the Council will bring the traveling Smithsonian exhibit *Journey Stories* to six towns in New Mexico. The exhibit explores our country's history of movement, historic trails, great migrations, and innovation in transportation among other themes. As the exhibit tours New Mexico, we would like to know from you, our readers... if you have a unique journey story to share with us? Whether it is a personal journey of how you or your family came here, or a journey topic that you find important to share, let us know!

Email nmhc@nmhum.org
or call 505-277-3705.



NMHC Welcomes Three New Board Members

Tomas Jaehn

Tomas said, “As an archivist, librarian, and historian at the New Mexico History Museum’s History Library I am presented daily with New Mexico culture and history. I admire NMHC’s commitment to cultural programs and programming such as History Day and Centennial Projects and its efforts to bring these programs to New Mexican audiences. As one who has greatly benefited from NMHC as an attendee of programs and as a grant recipient, I am pleased that I can now give back and be part of the organization. It is only appropriate to give back and serve on the NMHC. With New Mexico Statehood celebrations coming up in 2012, it will be an exciting time.” Tomas has been Curator of Library Collections for the Fray Angélico Chávez History Library, New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe since 1999. He also serves as editor for H-New Mexico, an online discussion list sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and also as book review editor for that site. Tomas is editor and translator of a forthcoming book, *Father Peter Küpper’s Memoirs*, to be published by Sunstone Press in Santa Fe. He is author of *The History of Germans in the Southwest, 1850-1920* and of *Jewish Pioneers of New Mexico*. He has a long list of published articles and editorial projects to his credit.



Ray Battaglini

Ray is currently Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Western Heritage Museum at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs. He works closely with the staff and board to maintain a quality museum with public support. He recently retired as President and CEO of the Hobbs Chamber of Commerce, an organization with a membership of more than 800. Before that, he worked as executive manager of the American Heart Association in California, Nevada and New Mexico. He has lived in Hobbs for 12 years. Ray has served, with leadership and enthusiasm, on the boards of directors for several community agencies and organizations, for both the state of New Mexico and the city of Hobbs. “It was an honor to be invited to join the Board of Directors of the Humanities Council,” he said. “As the primary not for profit agency in promoting the history and cultural affairs of New Mexico, the Council plays an important role in sharing the richness of our human experience and heritage with the citizens of the state. My involvement as a Board Member will be to help guide the Council in achieving those goals. The rich history of our ‘Land of Enchantment’ and our human diversity makes our challenge an important mission to protect, preserve, and promote the humanities and their relevancy to the history of our great state”.



Dennis Allen O’Toole

Dennis brings to the Council a wide range of experience. He was coordinator, Seminar for Historical Administration, in Williamsburg, VA, and Indianapolis, IN, from 2001–2009. During the same period, he was Principal Investigator for the Earthwatch Institute Expedition “Pre-historic Pueblos of the American Southwest.” Since 1999, he has been chairman of the board for Martha-Ellen Tye Foundation in Iowa; and he is President and Co-Founder of the Cañada Alamosa Institute at Monticello, NM. Dennis previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He has held numerous positions with the Council of the American Association for State and Local History, and has served on grant application review panels for the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Virginia State Commission for the Arts. He has published numerous articles, both in journals and on-line. “My career has been devoted to making national, state, local, and personal history engaging and meaningful for audiences of every kind. In joining the board of the New Mexico Humanities Council, I know that I will be serving with others who have a similar commitment not only to history but to the other quests that make up the humanities and to helping them further enrich the lives of New Mexicans,” he said.



NMHC Seeks Board Members • see page 3

Governor's Veto Threatens NMHC Programs

Commemoration of New Mexico's centennial of statehood, with the anniversary date less than a year away, is going unfunded by the State of New Mexico.

75 Chautauqua programs scheduled in schools, libraries, museums and other organizations in 30 communities around the state have been canceled.

History Day in New Mexico is in danger of being canceled for 2012. This would make New Mexico the only state in which students could not compete.

These program losses are the result of actions continuing from the last state administration into the current one. Funding for these programs through the New Mexico Humanities Council was canceled at the end of Governor Richardson's term. An amendment for History Day has been vetoed for fiscal year 2012 (beginning July 1) by Governor Martinez after being passed by the legislature. The Governor's action also lessens the possibility of resuming the Chautauqua program, with state funding for that program already having been significantly reduced.

The Council's Board of Directors will meet July 15 and 16 in Silver City to discuss this funding crisis and how it will affect public outreach.

"The veto came as a shock to the Council and to those in communities, both large and small, around the state that depend on its support to bring learning and culture to their citizens. The Council's programs foster an interest in and connection to New Mexico's history and culture, discussion about important issues and in general encourage participants to think about the concerns that form the world in which we live. This is a critical undertaking, even in a time of severe fiscal restraint. It speaks to the quality of our lives and the significance of our actions," Executive Director Craig Newbill said.

If you would like to express your concerns about this issue, please contact:

Governor Susana Martinez at 505/476-2200 and

Department of Cultural Affairs Secretary
Veronica Gonzales at 505/827-6364 or
VeronicaN.Gonzales@state.nm.us.

The New Mexico Humanities Council thanks the generous donors who make NMHC programs possible. With your support, NMHC enriches the lives of New Mexicans in every part of the state.

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