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Spring 2006

## Enlaces Latinos: Newsletter of the New York Latino Research and Resources Network

New York Latino Research and Resources Network

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# Enlaces Latinos

Newsletter of the New York Latino Research and Resources Network

## NYLARNet's First Year Projects Conference



**NYLARNet's First Year Projects Conference.**  
From left to right: Dr. Edna Acosta-Belén,  
Dr. Carlos Vargas Ramos, Dr. Anthony de  
Jesús, Dr. Francisco Rivera-Batiz, Dr. José E.  
Cruz, and Dr. Christine Bose.

On October 14, 2005, NYLARNet held its First Year Projects Conference at the Lang Recital Hall, Hunter College, City University of New York. NYLARNet researchers presented the findings of their research on education, housing, socioeconomic status, and political participation of Latinos in the 2004 election before an audience that included academics, professionals, students, and community activists. The conference included a preliminary demographic analysis of the Colombian population of New York City as well as an introduction to the New York Latino Research Clearinghouse. The conference was hosted by the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College with support from the office of Assemblyman Peter Rivera (D-76th AD).

## New York Latino Research & Resources Network

The New York Latino Research and Resources Network (NYLARNet) was created to bring together the combined expertise of U.S. Latino Studies scholars and other professionals across three research institutions within New York State in four target areas: Health, Education, Immigration, and Politics. This network is constituted by recognized scholars and other professionals who are engaged in critical thinking, dialogue, and the dissemination of information on U.S. Latino issues. NYLARNet addresses a broad spectrum of concerns related to the four target areas mentioned above, and provides information services to legislators, public agencies, community organizations, and the media on U.S. Latino affairs. NYLARNet also pays special attention to the realities and needs of the largely neglected Latino populations throughout New York State and outside of New York City.

This network partnership includes the Center for Latino, Latin American, and Caribbean Studies (CELAC) at the University at Albany, the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Centro) at Hunter College, and the Institute for Urban and Minority Education (IUME) at Teachers' College, Columbia University. NYLARNet will later be expanded to include other institutions throughout the State of New York with strong faculty resources in U.S. Latino-related studies.

The creation of NYLARNet was made possible by a grant from the New York State Legislature. The project is sponsored by the Hon. Peter Rivera, a member of the



Huichol Yarn Painting by Cresencio Pérez Robeles, 1972

New York State Assembly (76th District) and Chair of the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Legislative Task Force. NYLARNet is envisioned as the beginning of a future "think tank" on U.S. Latino issues that brings together scholars and policy makers from different New York higher education institutions and community organizations to work on research projects that enhance our knowledge and our sources of information on the fastest growing population in U.S. society.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. José E. Cruz  
NYLARNet Director  
Associate Professor Political Science,  
and Latin American, Caribbean, and  
U.S. Latino Studies Departments  
University at Albany  
SS257  
1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222  
PH: (518) 442-3172 ■ FX: (518) 442-4790  
EMAIL: conga@albany.edu / nylarnet@albany.edu

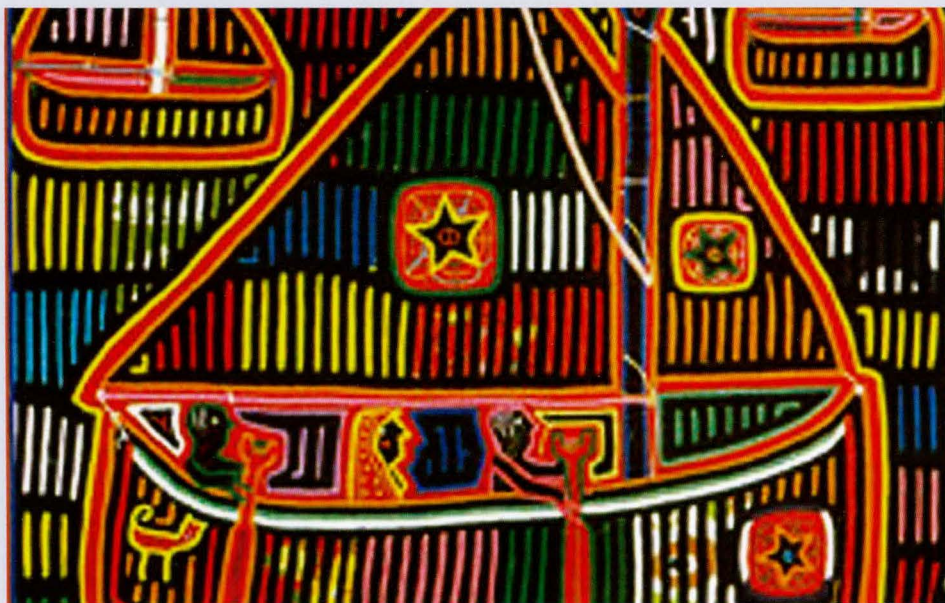
## Somos El Futuro Winter Conference

On November 12, 2005 NYLARNet's director, Dr. José E. Cruz, presented an analysis of the 2005 New York City mayoral election at the Somos el Futuro Winter Conference, held at the El San Juan Hotel in Isla Verde, Puerto Rico. Other presenters included New York State Assembly members Carmen E. Arroyo (D-84th AD) and Herman D. Farrell, Jr. (D-71st AD), Congressman Anthony D. Weiner (D-9th CD), Former New York City Public Advocate Mark Green, and political consultant Roberto Ramírez. The panel was moderated by the Hon. José Rivera (D-78th AD).



Panel on the 2005 New York City Mayoral Election, Somos El Futuro Winter Conference. From left to right Assemblyman José Rivera, Assemblywoman Carmen E. Arroyo, Congressman Anthony D. Weiner, Mark Green, and Dr. José E. Cruz.

## NYLARNet's Second Year Projects - 2005/2006



Mola Made by Kuna Indigenous Women of the San Blás Archipelago, Panama.

### IUME sponsored projects

#### LATINOS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**PROJECT** - This project aims at analyzing the role played by community colleges in increasing the educational attainment of Latinos. It will examine the extent to which community college enrollment results in

transfer to 4-year institutions, the contribution community colleges make to college completion, and the role they play on the education of English Language Learners.

#### COLOMBIAN NEW YORKERS: A DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC

**PROFILE** - The 2000 Census suggests that

Colombians are the third largest Latino population in New York City. Yet, there is virtually no study of the demographics and socioeconomic status of this population. This research will fill an important gap in the knowledge about Latinos in New York.

### CELAC sponsored projects

#### THE 2005 NEW YORK CITY MAYORAL

**RACE** - This paper examines the 2005 mayoral race in the city of New York from a historical perspective. It focuses on attempts by Latinos, essentially Puerto Ricans, to win the nomination and race from 1969 to 2005. The paper documents the conditions and terms according to which participants sought political incorporation at the highest level of office in the city. It also looks critically at the role of money and at the issue of runoff elections. A detailed analysis of registration and voting patterns is included.

#### VOCES DEL PUEBLO POLL MONITORING

**PROJECT** - This project involves a collaboration between NYLARNet

## Housing Conference

On February 14, 2006, the New York State Assembly Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force in collaboration with Centro Cívico Hispanoamericano from Albany, New York, hosted a mini-conference at the Albany Institute of History and Art on the state of housing for Hispanics in the Albany capital district. The capital district includes the cities of Albany, Schenectady, and Troy. In 2000 the Latino residents of these cities numbered 5,349, in Albany, 3,632 in Schenectady, and 2,131 in Troy. Latinos are 6, 6, and 4 percent of the total population in these cities respectively. The findings of NYLARNet's report on housing titled "The State of Housing for Hispanics in the United States" were presented by Dr.



Housing Conference, Albany Institute of History and Art. From left to right Dr. Carlos Vargas Ramos, David Irizarry, Darren Scott, Dr. Blanca Ramos, and Julio Viera

Carlos Vargas Ramos, from NYLARNet's partner, the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, City University of New York. Dr. Blanca Ramos, an Associate

Professor of Social Work at the University at Albany, State University of New York and a member of NYLARNet's Advisory Board at Albany, was also a featured panelist.



"Where Bodies of Doubt Sleep" by Cuban artist Jacqueline Brito, 2001.

researchers, members of NYLARNet's research network, and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO). The project seeks to uncover and document key barriers to voter participation amongst limited English proficiency voters in New York City by targeting key polling sites and assigning trained poll watchers to monitor the electoral process and survey voters.

## Centro sponsored projects

### A REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF INCIDENCE, MORTALITY, AND INTERVENTION STRATEGIES RELATED TO ASTHMA AMONG PUERTO RICANS AND LATINOS IN NEW YORK -

This review will focus on the following dimensions of the asthma problem within the Puerto Rican and Latino community: Demographic and geographic trends of asthma prevalence and mortality; a comparison of different approaches at research, intervention, education and prevention; and identification of areas that need further research.

**THE STATE OF LATINO HEALTH IN NEW YORK** - Researchers from Centro and Fordham University will produce an analysis of health and mental health indicators for Latino New Yorkers.

**SMALL BUSINESSES PROJECT** - This analysis examines self-employment and small business entrepreneurship among Latinos in New York.



Amate Painting by Emilio de la Rosa, Mexico, C, 1970.

## Somos El Futuro Legislative Conference, Spring 2006

NYLARNet will present the findings of its second year (2005-2006) projects at the Somos El Futuro 19th Annual Legislative Conference of the New York State Assembly Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force to be held April 28-30, 2006 at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, New York.

FOR INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES GO TO [WWW.SOMOSELFUTURO.ORG](http://WWW.SOMOSELFUTURO.ORG) OR CALL MELVYN ROMERO AT (718) 239-8800.

## The New York Latino Research Clearinghouse

The New York Latino Research Clearinghouse gathers and organizes the most recent research reports, books, academic papers, and policy news relating to the Latino populations of the United States. The Clearinghouse is one of NYLARNet's projects co-sponsored by the Institute for Urban Minority Education (IUME) at Teachers College, Columbia University.

TO VISIT THE CLEARINGHOUSE GO TO: [WWW.TC.EDU/LATINORESEARCH/](http://WWW.TC.EDU/LATINORESEARCH/)

## U.S. Latino Studies at UAlbany

For more than three decades the Department of Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latino Studies (LACS) has promoted interdisciplinary research and teaching in area and ethnic studies. LACS is particularly proud of its pioneering role in offering instruction and training in Puerto Rican studies and more recently in the broader field of U.S. Latino Studies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO [WWW.ALBANY.EDU/LACS](http://WWW.ALBANY.EDU/LACS)

## NYLARNet Reports Online

Christine E. Bose, *The Socioeconomic Status of Latinos in New York State.*

José E. Cruz, Cecilia Ferradino, and Sally Friedman, *Latinos and the 2004 Election in New York State.*

Anthony De Jesús and Daniel W. Vasquez, *Exploring the Education Profile and Pipeline for Latinos in New York State.*

Felipe Pimentel, *The Decline of Puerto Rican Full-Time Faculty at the City University of New York (CUNY) from 1981-2002.*

Carlos Vargas Ramos, *The State of Housing for Hispanics in the United States.*

TO ACCESS NYLARNET'S REPORTS GO TO [WWW.NYLARNET.ORG](http://WWW.NYLARNET.ORG)



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State University of New York

NYLARNet  
SS 257  
1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12222-0001

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