

LATINO AMERICANS

500 YEARS OF HISTORY

St. Thomas University Library & John C. Favalora Archive and Museum

Lesson Plans and Learning Activities: General Introduction

As part of our grant from the American Library Association and National Endowment for the Humanities to promote *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History*, the University Library and John C. Favalora Archive and Museum has developed three new, powerful exhibits that explore the impact and influence of Latinos / Hispanics in our metropolitan region of Miami. Librarians have developed the following lesson plans and educational activities to support local teachers who want to take advantage of these amazing learning opportunities.

The nationwide education initiative for the series *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* has also developed a number of lesson plans for students in grades 7 through 12 and maybe adapted for upper elementary students. These resources are available at <http://www.pbs.org/latino-americans/en/education/lesson-plans/>.

New Exhibits at the John C. Favalora Archive and Museum:

Grand Opening: September 8, 2015, at 1:15 pm

Exhibits Open: September 8, 2015, until May 15, 2016

For Guided Tours: Contact Jonathan Roach at jroach@stu.edu or 305-628-6627

- *La Virgen de la Caridad: Images from the Diaspora*

This exhibit explores the religious practices and traditions surrounding the devotion to *La Virgen de la Caridad* in Miami. *La Virgen de la Caridad*'s Miami story began in 1961, when a replica of the original image venerated in El Cobre, Cuba, was smuggled out of Havana and taken to a baseball stadium in Miami on her feast day, September 8th, to be reunited with the Cuban Diaspora. Drawing from the photographic archives of the Archdiocese of Miami, *The Voice*, and *La Voz Catolica*, this exhibit traces her Miami story from 1961 through the building of the La Ermita, 1967-1971, and into the 1990s.

- *Latino Americans: Cuban Experiences in Miami*

The Revolution of 1959 and the subsequent establishment of a socialist regime in Cuba prompted the exodus of hundreds of thousands of Cubans searching for freedom. Our exhibit chronicles the first decade of Cubans seeking political asylum, the establishment of the Cuban Refugee Assistance Program, the Camarioca boatlift, the Freedom Flights, and the establishment of a community that made Miami its new home and changed its face forever.

- *Miami: A Multicultural Hispanic Community*

The Metropolitan region contains many different Hispanic / Latino ethnic and racial groups, and each of these communities have their own unique experience in Miami. Using the photographic archives of the Archdiocese of Miami, *The Voice*, and *La Voz Catolica*, this exhibit illustrates some of cultural traditions, religious practices, and daily life experiences of some of these important pillars of the multicultural Hispanic Community that built Miami into the City it is today.

E-Access to Exhibits:

For classes that cannot visit these powerful exhibits in person, the University Library is publishing e-versions of the photographs with background information. After September 30, 2015, these e-exhibits can be found at <https://stuarchives.omeka.net/>.

For More Information or Resources:

Teachers who want to access additional education resources or a copy of the DVD, *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History*, may contact Dr. Jonathan Roach at jroach@stu.edu or 305-628-6627 or Isabel Medina at imedina@stu.edu or 305-628-6769.

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