



January 26, 2010

To Whom It May Concern

The Center for Colorado and the West at the Auraria Library is a new organization which aims to support student success through preserving history and creating knowledge of diverse peoples. One of our current projects is to select and identify 500 photos that best depict Latino history throughout the state of Colorado. The photos will form the “Colorado’s Latino Community Past and Present” photo collection. The final collection will be digitized and accessible online through the Denver Public Library (DPL) American West collection.

“Memorable images really are worth a thousand words. Images let us peer into the past, not simply read about it” (Professor Deborah Faulkner, Metropolitan State College, Denver).

Research has shown that photographs represent one of the richest sources of documenting history. The “Colorado’s Latino Community Past and Present” collection will be a resource that provides a method for Auraria students and professors as well as those at other educational institutions and the general public to *peer into the past of Colorado’s Latino history*. Therefore, to enhance and broaden the understanding of Latino history in the state of Colorado, we are requesting from the wider Latino community photo contributions that depict family, regional and local history.

We appreciate your consideration and help in identifying photos for this collection. Copyright for photos that are selected will remain with the owner, however, they will be requested to sign and return a photo permission form. Because original photographs are precious and valuable, a quality reproduction of the original photo is acceptable. Photocopies however, are not. When requested, submitted photos will be returned to the owner.

Thank you for your generosity and help in developing a Latino photo collection that opens a window to allow students, educators, and your children and grandchildren to *peer into the past of Colorado’s Latino history*.

If you would like additional information, please contact me at 303.661.0686.

Regards,
Dana EchoHawk
Project Manager