

Distinguished visitors to the Piñero Collection



In the photo, from left to right, Jaime Partsch of the Piñero Collection, Santiago Villar of Cartier, Luisa Vela of the Piñero Library Fundraising Committee and María I. De Guzmán, Assistant Vicechancellor for Institutional Development at UNE.

During the month of May, the Piñero Collection received visits from several distinguished members of the community. On Tuesday the 14th, Mr. Santiago Villar, owner of the Cartier establishment of fine jewelry in the Condado paid a visit to the Piñero Reading Room. Mr. Villar has contributed generously to the construction fund for the new Piñero Library. He was accompanied on this occasion by Mrs. Luisa Vela, an active member of the committee in charge of fundraising for the new library. During this visit, there was an extended conversation that included the life and contributions of Governor Piñero as well as details of the new library that will house his papers and memorabilia.

On Tuesday, May 28th, Mrs. Zoribel Fonalledas in representation of Empresas Fonalledas visited the Collection. She was accompanied by Mrs. Lorraine Vissepó, Communications Director of Empresas Fonalledas.

During this visit, there was an extended conversation about the decade-long process of the development of the Piñero Collection and its relationship to the academic community of the UNE and the communities of northeast Puerto Rico. Representatives of the UNE also gave a detailed explanation of the plans for the future development of the Collection, including the construction of the Piñero Library and the current fundraising efforts.

Recently both Mr. Villar and Mr. Jaime Fonalledas, president of Empresas Fonalledas, were interviewed as part of the "Puerto Rican Enterprises" Series of the Oral History Project of the Piñero Collection. In their respective interviews, each one shared elements of their vast business experience. Within the next few weeks, the transcripts of these interviews will become part of the oral history collection.



From left to right, Prof. Partsch, Mrs. Lorraine Vissepó, Communications Director of Empresas Fonalledas, Mrs. Zoribel Fonalledas of Empresas Fonalledas and Mrs. María I. de Guzmán.

Collaborative Project Continues



Carmen Domínguez narrates for the camera her experiences as a resident of *Barrio La Central* in Canóvanas as part of the work of historical preservation that is taking place in the project “The Geography of Memory”. UNE student Sandra Román and Prof. Jaime Partsch take part in the interview.

Patterns of domestic life, economic structures, political practices, customs and traditions — all of these elements and many more are part of the rich cultural heritage that is being preserved as part of the Project “The Geography of Memory: Canóvanas in the era of *don Jesús*”.

Interviews with Canóvanas residents are preserved in both audio and video format. Indexed transcriptions of the interviews are created and will eventually become part of the Oral History Collection of the Jesús T. Piñero Collection.

Both the Canóvanas Center for the Aging and the Municipal Tourism Office are collaborating with this project by encouraging community participation. Mr. Jorge Canales and Mrs. Jessica Jiménez of the Center for the Aging have encouraged the Center’s participants to become involved in this

project and more than a dozen men and women have expressed interest in being interviewed. The personnel of the Piñero House Museum in Canóvanas are also collaborating with the initiative by facilitating the use of the House for taping the interviews as well as by making the project known to Museum visitors.

Two professors from the Ana G. Méndez University System, José Orland Sued and Ada Alvarez are also participating in this Project.

Se espera que antes de finalizar el año se pueda producir el estreno del documental que incluirá estos testimonios y que documentará una parte de la historia del siglo XX de una zona importante del noreste del país.



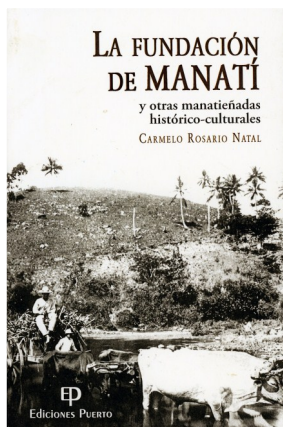
Ángel Correa Felicier shares for the camera his experiences as a young man growing up in Canóvanas.



UNE student Melissa Torres interviews Alipio Trenche, a native of Canóvanas and resident of Bayamón.

La fundación de Manatí y otras manatieñadas histórico-culturales

Carmelo Rosario Natal



The search for the origins of things, be it our own existence or the beginnings of the universe holds a certain fascination for many people. We believe that if we can just find out how our surrounding circumstances began we can discover a sure way of understanding our world. From “Genesis” to the intricacies of psychoanalysis, the search for beginnings has been an essential part of human inquiry.

Asking why and how is an essential element of the historian’s work and historian Carmelo Rosario Natal has gathered in this book a series of essays that address the question of how one particular town in Puerto Rico, Manatí, was founded. The work includes a series of articles by Manatí residents who have studied a variety of topics related to the town’s history from pre Colombian native settlements to 20th-century examples of everyday life in the town.

In the book’s initial essay, Rosario studies the first appearance of European settlers in the zone during the Spanish conquest. He examines documents related to the brief presence in the region of Juan Ponce de León. He also looks at the slow process in which economic, political and religious institutions were established. He rightly emphasizes that although we know the name of the first “Teniente a guerra” in charge of the town, this founding is a process that cannot be reduced to the actions of one solitary person no matter how important an office they might have held. In terms of the founding of Manatí as well as other towns, he states that: “History cannot be reduced to simply looking for ‘the *founder* of such and such a town’.” and that “ultimately all the settlers who lived in the area at that time are in reality *founders*.”

Piñero Collection participates In International Survey: “Internet Use in Museums and Special Collections”

Recently the Piñero Collection participated in an international survey. The principal objective of the survey was to measure the participation of museums and special collections in social media and other internet platforms. In this event institutions from several countries participated, among them: the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Israel and New Zealand. Participating institutions included Indiana University, Queens College Library Oxford and the National Library of New Zealand.

The results of the survey, which was organized by Primary Research Group, are highly interesting. They indicate, for example, that the participating institutions find very useful platforms such as: Google Search, Facebook and Amazon. Among the “least useful” platforms are: Google Buzz, Linked In and My Space. 68% of those surveyed indicated that they use Facebook in their professional activities. A copy of the survey results are available in the Piñero Collection.

The work includes contributions by Carlos Ayes Suárez on the indigenous art of the región, an anecdotal essay by Héctor del Valle and José Morales Ramos on daily life in Manatí in the last century, biographical notes on Manatí resident Eduardo Giorgetti, an essay by Raúl Iturrino on the Golondrinas Cave at Mar Chiquito beach and a brief note on Manatí poet Manuel Joglar Cacho.

In reality, Dr. Rosario presents this work as part of a wider process, a creative communitarian effort, and expresses his hope “that this work will be periodically revised, widened and strengthened in its content and variety by additional work”.

Books



The following are a few of the titles of publications that recently entered the Piñero Collection:

Acevedo Vilá, Aníbal. *El blog de Aníbal: Crónica de un desastre anunciado*. Río Piedras: Publicaciones por Puerto Rico, 2011.

Círculo Maestro Rafael Cordero. *Vida y obra del Maestro Rafael, apóstol de la educación*. San Juan: CMRC, 2010.

Collins, Susan M. et. Al. *Restablecer el crecimiento en Puerto Rico: Panorama y alternativas*. San Juan: Centro para la Nueva Economía, 2008.

Duprey, Marlene. *Bioislas: Ensayos sobre biopolítica y gubernamentalidad en Puerto Rico*. San Juan: Ediciones Callejón, 2010.

Piñero House Museum



Visits:

Tuesday thru Saturday

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

787-876-0562

Happy Birthday!

Our sincere best wishes to José "Sonny" Piñero who recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

Thank you for your generous spirit and continuous support.



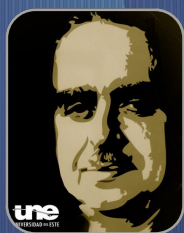
The **Carta Informativa** is the work of:
Leticia Delgado, Norayma Celpa and Jaime Partsch



Piñero Reading Room

Monday thru Friday
7:00 am to 5:00 p.m.

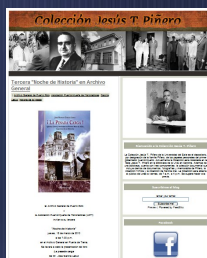
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