

Universidad del Este

Jesús T. Piñero Collection

“A window on the past to understand the present”

Carta Informativa

March 2013

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Collaborative Project for Cultural Enrichment



**Multi Purpose Center for the Elderly,
City of Canóvanas**

Recently a coordinated initiative that will enrich the cultural life of the northeast región of Puerto Rico was begun with the collaboration of the Piñero Collection of the *Universidad del Este*, the Piñero House Museum of the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture and the Municipality of Canóvanas through the Tourism Office and the Multi Purpose Center for the Aging. The Project is known as “The Geography of Memory”.



**Piñero House Museum
Canóvanas
Institute of Puerto Rican Culture**

This initiative will utilize oral history as a method for

gathering the memories and experiences of residents of the Canóvanas area in order to enrich the cultural activities that are held at both the Piñero House Museum and the Piñero Collection. The Multi Purpose Center for the Aging in Canóvanas will facilitate the participation of area residents in this project.

The Canóvanas Municipal Tourism Office, under the direction of Mr. Ramón Meléndez, is cooperating with the promotion of this project and has helped in the identification of valuable photographic material that will be used in the works that will be created.

Two students from the *Universidad del Este*, Sandra Román Romero and Melissa Torres Mateo, will be interviewing area residents. They will be gathering memories of daily life in the region during the era of the 1930s, 40s and 50s. Prior to the interviews, the students will participate in a series of four workshops dedicated to different aspects of oral history including its development, theory and practice, as well as topics related to the history of Canóvanas and the life of Governor Piñero. The workshops will be celebrated in the Piñero Reading Room at UNE and at the Piñero House Museum. Each of the students will interview between six and ten persons.



**Canóvanas Town Square
(ca. 1955)**

The taped interviews will serve as material for the creation of a documentary film on daily life in Canóvanas during the life of Piñero as well as the process of the restoration of Piñero House and its place in the life and memories of local residents. The tapes and their transcriptions will also become a part of the Oral History Collection of the Piñero Collection.



Professor Jaime Partsch with UNE students Sandra Román (left) and Melissa Torres, who will be interviewing Canóvanas residents.

Film Festival at Piñero House Museum



Jennifer Lyman converses with the public about the situation of stray dogs in Puerto Rico after the presentation of "100,000".



Karen Rossi, director and editor of "Isla chatarra", shares with the public.



Héctor Hernández (left) and Javier Viqueira shares details of the creative process that led to the creation of the documentary "Ej-kei" which narrates forty years of skateboarding in Puerto Rico.

During the past years a growing number of creative, hard-working young people in Puerto Rico have dedicated themselves to the task of giving a critical look at life on our Island, our social, economic, political and cultural reality, and have brought their discoveries and reflections to the film screen. Sometimes their creations can disturb us, enlighten us or challenge us but they never leave us indifferent. During the past month of February, the Piñero House Museum was host to its Fourth Film Festival which had as its theme the presentation of film documentaries created in Puerto Rico. Three excellent works were presented: "100,000", "Isla chatarra" and "Ej-kei". Each one offers a critical view of a particular aspect of our daily life. We invite our friends who have as yet not seen these productions to find a copy of each (They are available in the Piñero Collection.) and learn more about important aspects of life in 21st-century Puerto Rico. Our sincere thanks to the directors and producers of these films for their collaboration and for their contributions to our culture.



III International Conference for World Equilibrium

From the 28th through the 30th of January 2013, the Third International Conference for World Equilibrium was held in Havana, Cuba, under the auspices of the UNESCO. The activity was also part of the commemoration of the 160th anniversary of one of the greatest intellectuals that Latin America has produced, José Martí.

A delegation of 46 people from Puerto Rico participated in the event. Five members of the delegation were from the *Universidad del Este*.

At the conclusion of the conference, the World Conference for the José Martí Solidarity Project published a declaration. The following is the text of this declaration.



Declaration of the World Council of the José Martí Project for International Solidarity

At this time, technological and scientific development has reached an absolutely incredible level. In theory, human beings have never been so close to achieving wellbeing. But three huge dangers put the survival of humanity at risk:

- 1) Nuclear war which, like the Sword of Damocles, continues threatening to pulverize the planet and destroy all ways of life;*
- 2) Climate change which is causing an exponential increase in “natural disasters” and is affecting the lives of millions of human beings;*
- 3) Social crisis which is a product of the worsening of inequalities as a result of the dominant economic model.*

A crisis of civilization

All this culminates in a crisis of civilization that extends over many spheres of society, including politics and the functioning of democracy, which is questioned by thousands of young people in different countries of the world who are rebelling against the status quo.

Along with this critical diagnosis, we appreciate the existence of increasing sectors of public opinion that declare themselves in favor of peace and bringing about changes to assure the survival of the human race and make the aspirations for social justice a reality.

Jose Marti's thought

In this context, José Martí's thought, with his deep ethical sense of urgency, is proving to be more and more relevant, and has become a necessary reference in the face of the new challenges of the 21st Century.

Taking into account these realities, the members of the World Council of the José Martí Project who participated in the III International Conference “For World Equilibrium”, have committed ourselves to promote the famous slogan of Martí: “With all and for the well-being of all.” We will continue fighting to unite forces, in an ecumenical spirit, without sectarianism or exclusionary criteria, in order to open a channel to the world of peace and wellbeing which human beings hope for.

A message of strength and solidarity to all who are suffering from the crisis

Our message of strength and solidarity goes out to all who suffer the devastating consequences of these crises. To them we extend our embrace of love and unity. Although there is still hope, tomorrow may be too late. That is why, the priority continues to be, as José Martí urges us, to generate collective actions to save humanity.

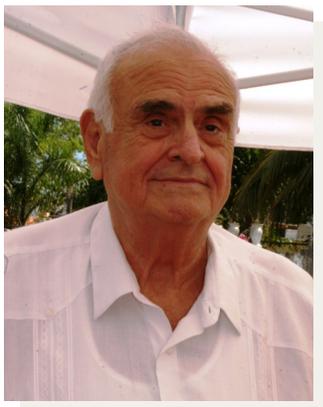
In Puerto Rico, participants in this Conference continue to meet in order to give follow-up to these conclusions.

Visit to the Piñero Reading Room



During the month of January, the Piñero Reading Room received the visit of Mr. David Traina, Vice President for Global Market Talent Acquisition for Marriott International. In the photo: Iván Puig (Dean of the International School of Tourism UNE), David Traina (Marriott Corp.), Margarita Méndez (Associate Vice President for Development and Alumni, SUAGM) and María I. de Guzmán (Assistant Vicechancellor for Development, UNE).

Speedy Recovery



During the month of February, the friend and supporter of the Piñero Collection, José E. "Sonny" Piñero Bou, underwent surgery at the Cardiovascular Center in San Juan. He is hospitalized at the center and is recovering from the intervention. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to our good friend and collaborator.

Caribbean Conferences

The Institute for Caribbean Studies of the University of Puerto Rico in Río Piedras announces the continuation of the cycle of Caribbean Conferences. The activities scheduled for the month of March are:

Dr. Sally Price

Professor Emerita, College of William and Mary
Laundering Culture: Power and the Production of Museum Exhibits
Tuesday, March 5, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Dr. Richard Price

Anthropology, History, and Human Rights: Saramaka People v. The State of Suriname
Thursday, March 7, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Dra. Julia Sagebien

School of Business Administration, Dalhousie, University of Canada
Prof. Rafael Betancourt
Colegio Universitario San Gerónimo de La Habana, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba
El rol del sector no estatal en el establecimiento de una economía solidaria y social en Cuba
Thursday, March 14, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Dr. Francisco Scarano

Director, The Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Program, University of Wisconsin
Conversation with authors of chapters in the book edited by Dr. Francisco Scarano and Dr. Stephan Palmié,
THE CARIBBEAN: A HISTORY OF THE REGION AND ITS PEOPLES (Univ. of Chicago Press, 2011):
Dr. Pedro San Miguel, Dr. Jalil Sued Badillo,
Dr. Humberto García Muñiz
Wednesday, March 20, 10:00 – 12:00 pm

Dr. Stuart Schwartz

George Burton Adams Professor of History, Yale University
"Cursed be Your Isles and Cursed your Institutions": Revolutions, Slavery, and the Politics of Disaster in the Last Early Modern Hurricane"
Thursday, March 21, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Conferences will be held at the Manuel Maldonado Denis Amphitheater (CRA 108), School of Social Sciences, UPR-RP.

Transmitted live on UStream, <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/cc71>

Activities at Piñero House Museum

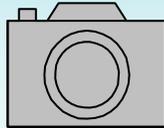
March 2013

Home Gardens Workshop,
March 6—8,
9:00 a.m.



Creative Writing Workshops,
March 9 & 16,
9:00 a.m.

Digital Photography Workshop
March 16,
9:00 a.m.



Piñero House Museum



Visits:
Tuesday thru Saturday
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Highway #3, Km. 15.4
Canóvanas
787-876-0562

Books

Below are the titles of publications that have recently entered the Piñero Collection:

Arroyo Muñoz, José C. *Rebeldes al poder: los grupos y la lucha ideológica, 1959—2000*. San Juan: Editorial Isla Negra, 2002.

Calderón Rivera, José A. *La pluma como arma: La construcción de la identidad nacional de Luis Muñoz Rivera*. Santurce: Análisis, 2010.

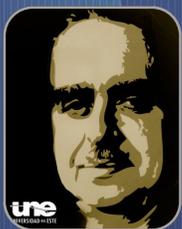
Colón Moreira, Javier e Idsa Alegría. *Puerto Rico y los derechos humanos, una intersección plural*. San Juan: Ediciones Callejón, 2012.

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.

Tel. 787-257-7373 ext. 3025



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Google play

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or iPod and Android



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