

June 21, 2006

Teleconference with Steve Velasquez (associate curator, Smithsonian)

Project goals

- Δ Collect oral histories
- Δ Create website of virtual archives
- Δ Expand the notion of Mexican American History
- Δ Oral history questions were developed by UTexas. Contact name: Christine Navarro, Director of Oral History Project/Created a toolkit

Project timeline: 2008 to have exhibit/website

Exhibit will consist of:

- Δ Oral histories displayed
- Δ Listening stations
- Δ Pictures

Create an informal consortium of museums, universities and cultural institutions

Role of collaborators

- Δ Host a collection day/town hall meeting
- Δ Incorporate collection into their institution/or regionally
- Δ Set up times for oral histories
- Δ Do the work on the ground in the community
- Δ Contact Bracero organization to get the word out

Students could:

- Δ Plan town hall meetings
- Δ Conduct follow-up interview
- Δ Research local history to add to the exhibit
- Δ Identify meeting place

Possibilities

Distance learning in collaboration with:

- Δ Brown
- Δ Yale
- Δ Stanford

On a specific aspect of the Bracero program such as, public history, implications on women and children, oral history training.

Students would need to be bilingual

Project is also looking to speak with the farmers, growers, shippers. Non-bilingual would be OK.

