

AZTLÁN CENTER

2022 SUMMER INSTITUTE

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

JAY TRASK

JAY TRASK, IS THE HEAD OF ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO. TRASK HAS BEEN HEAD OF ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO SINCE MARCH 2009. HE HAS WORKED IN ARCHIVAL INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT COLORADO, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER, THE COLORADO STATE ARCHIVES AND COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY-PUEBLO. ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING POSITIONS HELD BY TRASK WAS HEAD ARCHIVIST FOR THE COLORADO FUEL & IRON ARCHIVES IN PUEBLO, CO. THIS GRANT-FUNDED PROJECT CONSISTED OF ORGANIZING OVER 20,000 CUBIC FEET OF PAPERS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER MATERIALS LEFT ABANDONED IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OF A MAJOR WESTERN STEEL AND MINING COMPANY. THE BUILDINGS CAME COMPLETE WITH ALMOST EVERY POTENTIAL ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION PROBLEM, INCLUDING A COLONY OF FERAL CATS LIVING IN THE BASEMENT. WITH THE INVALUABLE GUIDANCE FROM A COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP, TRASK HELPED ESTABLISH THE COLORADO CHICANO MOVEMENT ARCHIVES AT CSU-PUEBLO IN 2008.

ERIC CARPIO

ERIC J. CARPIO IS THE CHIEF COMMUNITY MUSEUM OFFICER FOR HISTORY COLORADO AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE FORT GARLAND MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER. AT FORT GARLAND, HE'S LEADING THE MUSEUM TOWARD A RENEWED VISION CENTERED ON CO-CREATING AND ELEVATING DIVERSE VOICES THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION. FORT GARLAND'S MOST RECENT EXHIBIT, UNSILENCED: INDIGENOUS ENSLAVEMENT IN SOUTHERN COLORADO, HAS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE RECOGNITION BY MEDIA OUTLETS SUCH AS THE NEW YORK TIMES, INDIAN COUNTRY TODAY, AND ROCKY MOUNTAIN PBS. IN HIS ROLE, ERIC SERVES AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE BORDERLANDS OF SOUTHERN COLORADO EDUCATOR WORKSHOP, A NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES LANDMARKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT, WHICH EXPLORES THE COMPLEX HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST THROUGH THE INTERSECTION OF RACIAL, ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS, AND GEOGRAPHIC LANDSCAPES. IN 2019, HE WAS SELECTED AS ONE OF TEN SENIOR FELLOWS FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, AND INCLUSION (DEAI) FOR THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS FACING CHANGE INITIATIVE, TO PROVIDE DEAI TRAINING, SUPPORT, AND LEADERSHIP TO MUSEUM BOARDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. ERIC HAS A B.S. FROM COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY AND A M.A. FROM ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY. HE IS AN ALUMNUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER'S LATINO LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (LLI) AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S CENTER FOR SOCIAL IMPACT STRATEGY (CSIS).

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MEGAN FRIEDAL

MEGAN K. FRIEDEL IS INTERIM CO-DIRECTOR OF RARE & DISTINCTIVE COLLECTIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER LIBRARIES, WHERE SHE IS ALSO HEAD OF ARCHIVES. MEGAN RECEIVED BOTH AN MA IN HISTORY AND AN MA IN LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCE FROM SIMMONS COLLEGE AND HAS WORKED PROFESSIONALLY AS AN ARCHIVIST FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS AT BOTH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIC ARCHIVES. SINCE 2014, SHE HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH CHICANX COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN COLORADO ON PROJECTS SUCH AS THE EL MOVIMIENTO EXHIBIT AT HISTORY COLORADO AND, AT CU BOULDER, THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATION, THE LOS SEIS DE BOULDER COMMUNITY SCULPTURE PROJECT, AND OTHER PROJECTS THAT DOCUMENT AND CELEBRATE THE LEGACY OF LOS SEIS.

VIRGINIA SANCHEZ

VIRGINIA SANCHEZ IS AN INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR, HISTORIAN, GENEALOGIST AND AUTHOR. SHE HOLDS A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING AND A MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT DENVER. MOST IMPRESSIVE ARE THE AWARD-WINNING BOOKS SHE HAS PUBLISHED. FORGOTTEN CUCHARENOS OF THE LOWER VALLEY WAS PUBLISHED IN 2010, FOR WHICH SHE RECEIVED THE COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S MILES HISTORY AWARD IN 2011. THIS BOOK DISCUSSES THE HISPANO-INDIO COMMUNITY OF CUCHARAS, ITS ACEQUIA SYSTEMS, AND THE CHANGES THAT RESULTED WHEN THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD MADE ITS WAY THROUGH THIS AREA OF HUERFANO COUNTY, COLORADO.

FURTHER RESEARCH LED HER TO THE NUMEROUS ENSLAVED INDIGENOUS PERSONS, WHOSE NAMES AND EXPERIENCES NOW APPEAR IN A CHAPTER OF NACION GENIZARA: ETHNOGENESIS, PLACE AND IDENTITY, PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO PRESS IN 2019. AN ARTICLE SHE CO-AUTHORED WITH UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO PROFESSOR, PHILLIP GONZALES,

"DISPLACED IN PLACE: NUEVOMEXICANOS ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE COLORADO-NEW MEXICO BORDER, 1850-1875, WON THE GILBERTO ESPINOSA PRIZE FOR THE BEST ARTICLE APPEARING THE NEW MEXICO HISTORICAL REVIEW IN 2018. HER NEWEST BOOK, PLEAS AND PETITIONS: HISPANO CULTURE AND LEGISLATIVE CONFLICT IN TERRITORIAL COLORADO, PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO PRESS IN 2020, DISCUSSES THE CULTURAL IMPACT ON THE 7,000 HISPANOS DISPLACED WHEN THE U. S. CONGRESS CREATED COLORADO TERRITORY.

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LUCHA MARTINEZ

LUCHA MARTINEZ IS AN ARCHAEOLOGIST SPECIALIZING IN MESOAMERICA AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHAEOLOGY. SHE HAS WORKED ON NUMEROUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS IN THE SOUTHWEST, AMERICAN WEST, AND CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN MEXICO. SHE SERVES AS ASSOCIATE CURATOR OF LATINO HERITAGE AT HISTORY COLORADO AND IS A PH.D. STUDENT AT THE COTSEN INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES. SHE HAS WORKED AS A CURATORIAL ASSISTANT AT THE DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE, MUSEO DE LAS AMERICAS, THE REGIONAL MUSEUM OF GUADALAJARA, AND AS THE DIVISION DIRECTOR FOR THE STATE COUNCIL OF CULTURE AND ARTS IN CHIAPAS, MEXICO. MARTÍNEZ DE LUNA IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE LA PROVIDENCIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT AND A VISITING PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS IN CHIAPAS. SHE DIRECTS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL AT THE ZOQUE SITE OF O'NA TÖK, A PRECLASSIC TO POSTCLASSIC REGIONAL CENTER IN WESTERN CHIAPAS. SHE CONSIDERS HERSELF FORTUNATE TO GROW UP SURROUNDED BY CHICANO/A/X ART AND MURALISM THROUGHOUT HER LIFE. UPON WITNESSING THE DESTRUCTION OF CHICANO MURALS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, SHE BEGAN ARCHIVING THEIR STORIES AND THE STORIES OF THE MURALISTS. SHE IS DIRECTOR OF THE CHICANO/A/X MURALS OF COLORADO PROJECT, A GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION THAT ADVOCATES FOR PROTECTING HISTORIC COMMUNITY MURALS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. THE PROJECT COLLABORATES WITH COMMUNITIES, ARTISTS, SCHOLARS, AND CULTURAL AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS TO DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL AND PRESERVATION PROGRAMS TO CELEBRATE THE VISUAL HERITAGE OF COLORADO.

NICKI GONZALES

BORN AND RAISED IN DENVER, NICKI GONZALES HAS DEEP ROOTS IN THE COAL MINING AND AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES OF NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN COLORADO AND NORTHERN NEW MEXICO. LIKE SO MANY MEXICAN AMERICANS IN THIS REGION, HER GRANDPARENTS MOVED TO DENVER DURING WWII FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES.

NICKI IS A GRADUATE OF YALE UNIVERSITY, WITH A BA IN ENGLISH LITERATURE, AND CU-BOULDER, WITH A PHD IN AMERICAN HISTORY. CURRENTLY, SHE SERVES AS COLORADO STATE HISTORIAN, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND VICE PROVOST FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT REGIS UNIVERSITY. SHE SPECIALIZES IN THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN WEST, SPECIFICALLY THE HISTORY OF MEXICAN LAND GRANTS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN COLORADO, AS WELL AS CHICANO HISTORY. HER MOST RECENT PROJECTS INCLUDE A HISTORIC CONTEXT PROJECT, WHICH WILL INFORM THE CITY'S PRESERVATION DECISIONS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CITY OF DENVER AND AN ORAL HISTORY OF CHICANO VIETNAM VETERANS. SHE CURRENTLY SERVES AS COLORADO STATE HISTORIAN. SHE IS THE MOM OF TWO BOYS—DANNY AND TEDDY.

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