

Salute to Cultural Diversity

For those people of vision and spirit who work toward cultural harmony in our community, Nordstrom presented on Saturday, October 19, the "Salute to Cultural Diversity", a benefit for United Way of the Columbia-Willamette for designated member agencies whose primary mission focuses on minority programs.

Lynne Bangsund, Kids on the Block Awareness Program--The Kids on the Block Awareness Program (KOBAP) owes its existence and success primarily to Lynne Bangsund. A non-profit, educational organization, KOBAP uses child-size puppets to help children learn to accept and understand differences in one another and to protect themselves in difficult situations. The program helps to build bridges between people by encouraging acceptance and open communication regardless of physical, social or cultural differences.

Jose Lagunes, Cultural Committee of Nuevo Amanecer--In 1985, Mr. Lagunes and his family moved to the United States from Veracruz, Mexico. Today, Mr. Lagunes is an active participant on the Cultural and Recreational Events Committee for Nuevo Amanecer and as a volunteer for the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation. He develops and teaches programs that educate the community about Hispanic family values, traditions and customs. Mr. Lagunes strives to instill self-determination among the many families in the farming community and is recognized as a role model.

Morgan Aquino Mackles, Student Volunteer, the Family Room of Boise-Eliot Elementary School--As a mentor to many children, Mr. Mackles encourages cooperation, respect and caring in the classroom.



Ruby Haughton

He communicates with children through journals and visits, and participates in classroom activities. Through a grant, Mr. Mackles began working on a project in which students could learn more about their cultural histories. Mr. Mackles strives to promote self-esteem and an awareness of similarities and differences in our multi-cultural society.

Dr. Mariam Baradar, Multicultural Specialists, Portland Public Schools--Dr. Baradar, a native of Iran, is a strong force behind the implementation of the Baseline Studies Program in Portland Public Schools. The curriculum, designed and written by scholars from different cultures, will be used to teach students about culture, history and the contributions of different ethnic heritages. Dr. Baradar also serves as a liaison to immigrant families who have recently moved to the area.

Donalda Dodson, Manager of Health Promotion & Disease Prevention, Marion County Health Department--Donalda Dodson has dedicated the past 31 years to health advocacy for women and children through leadership roles in many organizations, including the Migrant



Jose Lagunes

Head-Start Oregon Child Development Coalition and the Multicultural AIDS/HIV Alliance of Oregon. Ms. Dodson is currently the President of the YWCA Board of Directors in Salem and has been fundamental in creating anti-racism materials and promoting anti-racism training for all Pacific Northwest YWCAs. Their Cultural Diversity Plan was also developed under her guidance, and has been replicated in other YWCAs throughout the country.

Ruby Haughton, Vice-President of Government Relations, U.S. Bancorp--Ruby Haughton is a passionate advocate of diabetes education and treatment for people of color. She has served at the national and local levels of the American Diabetes Association and currently chairs the Association's Cultural Diversity Committee in Oregon. Ms. Haughton has planned and implemented a diabetes awareness program for African-Americans and Hispanic-Americans where volunteers share life-saving information using culturally appropriate materials, conversation and nutrition to reduce the risk of diabetes in these very high-risk populations.

Latino leaders join Nordstrom for empowerment

The results of nearly 250 opinion surveys gathered from participants of the Latina Empowerment Series was presented to Latina leaders from across the country this September at the Willard Inter-Continental in Washington D.C.

The luncheon marked the culmination of a nine-city forum sponsored by Nordstrom and designed to explore the challenges and accomplishments of professional Hispanic-American women.

"Latinas represent an important segment of our customer base that is rapidly growing," said Pete Nord-

strom, co-president. "Nordstrom developed the Latina Empowerment Series because we value the Latina customer and support the concerns and needs of their community."

Nordstrom hosted the Latina Empowerment Series in Chicago, White Plains, NY; Seattle, San Diego, Palo Alto, Calif.; Costa Mesa, Calif.; Los Angeles and McLean, VA.

Chicago City Treasurer Miriam Santos presented the keynote speech at the luncheon. Ms. Santos is the first woman, first Hispanic and youngest person ever elected to the Treasurer's post, which she has held

since 1989. As treasurer, she manages an annual cash flow of over \$60 million.

"Professional Latinas are one of the fastest growing segments of the Hispanic population yet little attention has been focused on their needs and challenges," said Elisa Maria Sanchez, president of MANA, a national Latina organization. "Nordstrom has given the Latina community an invaluable service by creating this opportunity to come together and share our common goals, challenges and accomplishments with one another."

Claree, age 4 (4 años)

With a dimple per cheek and a cheerful smile, Claree easily engages admirers. This affectionate Caucasian/Hispanic youngster invites attention and interest. Whether its running or dancing to a lively tune, Claree has more than enough energy to spare! Despite his significant development delays, with each milestone he achieves, he inspires those around him to share in the excitement and joy!



Con hoyuelos en cada mejilla y una sonrisa muy alegre, Claree fácilmente gana la admiración de todos. Este afectuoso Hispano-Americano invita a darle atención e interés. Aunque corra o baile al ritmo de la música alegre, a Claree no le hace falta energía. A pesar de su significativo atraso en el desarrollo, con cada uno de sus logros, él inspira a todos a su alrededor a compartir en la emoción y la alegría.

To adopt contact The Boys And Girls Aid Society Of Oregon, 018 S.W. Boundary Ct., Portland, OR 97201-3985; or call (503) 222-9661.

Happy Birthday



Feliz Cumpleaños, Latina
**Natalia Marisa
Paloma Cruz**
18 años de edad
Tu papa te ama mucho

OBSERVANDO

"Su Voto es su Voz" now a permanent American phrase

BY SEAN CRUZ
EDITOR, PORTLAND OBSERVADOR

The Presidential election this November 5th may prove to be a watershed event in the history of Hispanic political participation.

Motivated by decades of discrimination (50 decades to be exact), recent anti-immigrant sentiments targeting people with brown skin, and the English-only movement aimed primarily at Spanish-speaking people regardless of immigration status; encouraged by our visibly expanding numbers and the rise of new, effective voter registration drives, Latino voters are expected to turn out on Election Day in record numbers.

The expected voting increase will be far greater than an incremental reflection of population growth. This time, Hispanic people have an unprecedented determination to have a voice in government.

Su voto es su voz, "your vote is

your voice," is the rallying cry for organizers who have been working since the beginning of the year to register a million-plus new Hispanic voters.

The voter registration drives began as a result of many years of frustration in Southwest communities where there were no Hispanic elected or appointed officials despite populations that were as much as 80% Hispanic.

It is ironic that a significant motivating factor for the registration efforts lies not at the local level, but in the fact that this is the first election where the Hispanic vote could--theoretically--prove decisive in the Presidential race.

"85% of Hispanic Americans live in nine states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York and Texas) that have 202 of the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House," Roger Hernandez, a nationally-syndi-

cated columnist recently noted.

The majority of Hispanics are projected to vote Democratic. Even the once solidly-Republican Cuban-American community in Florida--offended by the "official English" position of the Republicans--is expected to swing towards President Clinton, bringing Florida's electoral votes with them.

Oregonians--Your vote is your voice

This election is important to all of us. Do not be discouraged by the number and complexity of the ballot measures. There are 15 Constitutional issues to be decided this time, and each one of them will effect your life and the future of your children on the most fundamental basis. Most of those measures have no place at all in the Constitution, and should be defeated for that reason alone.

Do not let others vote in your place by sitting this one out.

Mexican Pre-Columbian Art



Above/Left: Guerrero Solid Standing Female Figure. Guerrero State, Mexico; Late Preclassic, circa 350 B.C. to 250 A.D. Characteristic of Olmec figures.

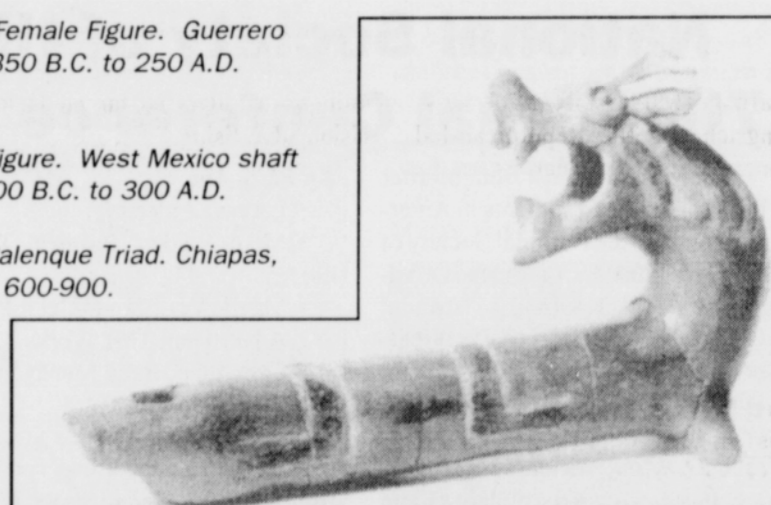


Above/Center: Colima Seated Male Figure. West Mexico shaft tomb culture; Late Preclassic, circa 200 B.C. to 300 A.D.



Above/Right: Head of God III of the Palenque Triad. Chiapas, Mexico; Mayan; Late Classic, ca. A.D. 600-900.

Right: Aztec Polychrome Figure--Valley of Mexico; Late Postclassic, ca. A.D. 1200-1521. A large polychrome ceramic flute in the form of a feathered serpent.



BY RUDI MILPACHER

The term "Pre-Columbian Art" usually refers to the art and artifacts of precontact Latin America. Thus any of the cultures that existed in Central or South America prior to the arrival of the Spanish explorers are Pre-Columbian cultures. The Pre-Columbian area is further divided into a Mesoamerican area, an Andean area, and an Intermediate area which lies between the two extremes. "Mesoamerica" refers to most of present day Mexico and adjacent areas to the south.

Early nomadic big game hunters were present in Mesoamerica well before 10,000 B.C. They were supplanted by semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers about 7,000 B.C. The earliest domestication of plants occurred sometime around 5,000 B.C., ushering in a settlement-patterned economy and the presence of domestic plants. Avocado, bottle gourds, beans, squash, and wild maize appeared for the first time in Early American cultures. At Tlapcoya, in the Valley of Mexico, circular house sites have been identified that date from 2300 B.C.

The early preclassic period starts about 1800 B.C. and from then on we have a continuous record of native ceramic cultures that only ceased with the arrival of the Spanish in 1521 A.D.

The Classic period (ca. 150 B.C.-A.D. 900) may be considered the golden age of Mesoamerica during which seeds planted in the Preclassic grew to maturity and produced civilizations that could be compared with those existing on the rest of the globe. One of the most complex and fascinating of these cultures was that of the Maya.

Mayan iconography contains a bewildering array of Gods who could alter their appearance and functions and whose dualistic roles produced a vast spectrum of images.

The Mayan area includes the Yucatan Peninsula, parts of the Mexican states of Chiapas and Tabasco, all of Guatemala and Belize, and the western portions of Honduras and El Salvador. Here the transition from village cultures to a culture incorporating elaborate calendar systems, temple-pyramids and palaces, polychrome pottery, and pictographic writing occurred during the Late Preclassic period (300 B.C.-A.D. 250) and it is here, today, that the ruins of new Mayan cities are still being discovered each year.

PRECLASSIC MEXICO

Small solid clay figures appear in archeological levels of the Tehuacan Valley south of Puebla at about 1500 B.C. Over the next few centuries they have spread to Vera Cruz, the Valley of Mexico, Oaxaca, Guerrero, Chiapas, and the Pacific Coast of Guatemala.

Sometime after 1400 B.C. hollow clay figures begin to appear, allowing larger pieces to be fashioned. The Olmecs were probably the earliest culture to produce hollow figures on a large scale.

SHAFT TOMB CULTURES

The shaft tomb cultures of West Mexico were only recently gained attention from scholars and collectors. Because this area was outside the zone of large stone sculpture and monumental architecture, very little interest in the West Mexico cultures occurred until the mid-1930s.

The shaft tomb culture of Nayarit, Jalisco, and Colima produced a great variety of hollow figurines, smaller solid figures, and effigy vessels. Although they produced no monumental art, these people expressed their cultural aesthetic statements in an exciting fine fashion through the media of clay.

Large hollow figures seem to have been made exclusively to accompany the dead as grave gods possibly somewhat similarly to the Egyptian

practice of filling royal tombs with images that might be required by the deceased in the afterlife.

THE MAYA

God III of the Palenque Triad was the "Jaguar God of the Underworld" and "The Sun at Night". God III is one of the offspring of the first mother who existed before the present creation, and is a manifestation of the second born of The Hero Twins whose name was "Yax-Balam" or "First Jaguar". In this identity he is thought to be a patron deity of warfare since he is the most common device found on the shields in cylinder case paintings. As The Sun at Night, he exhibits a solar aspect associated with the voyage made by the sun between sunset and sunrise.

THE AZTECS

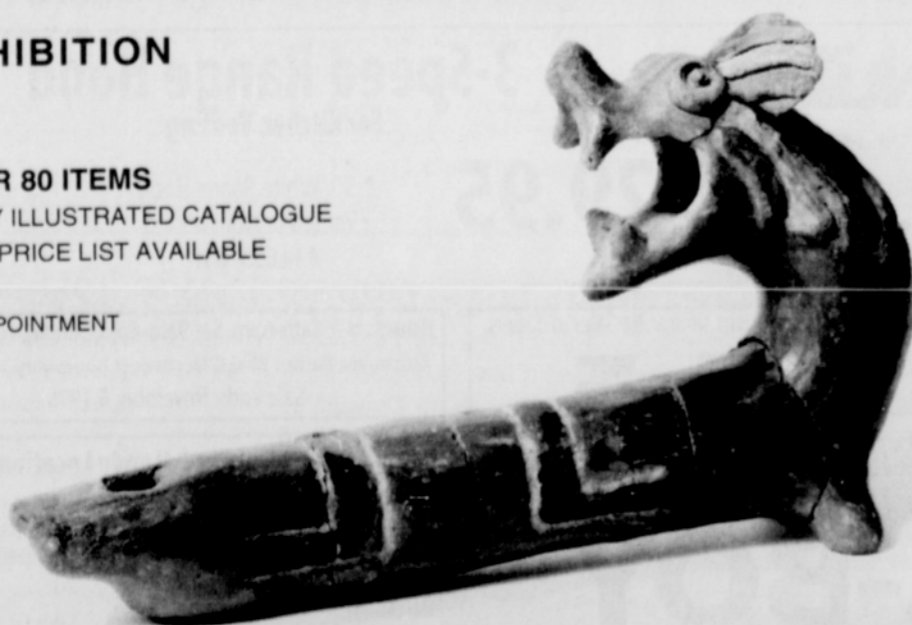
Quetzalcoatl (the plumed serpent) is one of the great Gods of Mexico. The earliest record of Quetzalcoatl in Central Mexico occurs at Teotihuacan associated with rain and standing water symbols. Modern Pueblo people of the southwest United States still identify a plumed serpent with water. In late Postclassic Central Mexico, Quetzalcoatl appears as the life supporting aspect of the wind God (Ehecatl). This late manifestation played a pivotal role in Central Mexican creation myths and was one of the patron deities of the ruling Aztec ruling class.

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