



**New Mexico State Records Center and Archives
New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board
Hispanic Women's Council**



For Immediate Release
For Further Information: (505) 476-7951
Archives Month 2009: Preserving the Past for the Future

Santa Fe, N.M.... A formal observance of Archives Month in New Mexico will be celebrated on Saturday October 17, 2009, at the State Records Center and Archives located at 1209 Camino Carlos Rey. The State Records Center and Archives (SRCA) in partnership with the New Mexico Historical Records Advisory Board and the Hispanic Women's Council (HWC) will host events. Each year, a theme for Archives Month events and observances is designated by the SRCA. *Preserving the Past for the Future* has been selected as this year's theme. Archives Month is a national celebration which allows repositories to highlight their historical treasures and encourages the general public, teachers, students, and researchers to learn more about the historical materials available to them.

Geography as Destiny: New Mexico's Landscape: This workshop is designed to familiarize researchers with New Mexico geography as it pertains to history, literature, and the social sciences in order to facilitate historical and genealogical research. The fee for the workshop is \$40; registration runs from 8:30 to 9:00 am, the workshop begins at 9:00 am, with a break at 12 noon and continues from 1:30 to 4:30 pm, in room 2027. To register or obtain more information please contact Antoinette Solano at 505-476-7902 or antoinettel.solano@state.nm.us. You may also register on-line at www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/training/trainingschedule.asp.

Mujeres Valerosas: A reception, book signing and performance in honor of the Hispanic Women's Council Archives will be held from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm in the lobby of the State Records Center and Archives. The Council's records were recently donated to the SRCA and accepted by the Commission of Public Records. The HWC is a non-profit organization established in 1988 to promote, support, and create opportunities for Hispanic women.

"We are very pleased to partner with the New Mexico State Archives where we can now systematically deposit our historical documents and know that the work of HWC is now a matter of public record for generations to come," says Marisa de Aragon, president of the HWC, adding, "The HWC is one of several prominent community organizations addressing women's issues in New Mexico...it is our hope that with the creation of the HWC archive, other women's organizations will do the same."

A centerpiece of the archive is a collection of video-taped interviews and oral histories of select women featured in *Mujeres Valerosas*, a documentary book published by the HWC and featuring over 70 contemporary women leaders. Several women leaders featured in *Mujeres Valerosas*, will be on hand to autograph the book. Books will be available for purchase. Singer and guitarist, Lenore Armijo, will also perform a medley of "*Rancheras*." This event is free and open to the public. For more information on the HWC, go to www.nmhwc.com.

"These materials are an exceptional resource," said Archives and Historical Services Division Director Melissa Salazar. "When reading or viewing these narratives, one is struck by the powerful influence women have on preserving and shaping our culture and the world around us. The female perspective is often absent from the historical record, and its preservation can only add to our understanding of history. Our most recent acquisitions have focused on women – our effort to recover women's history."