

**Finding Aid for Casa de Unidad  
Newsletters, Chapbooks, and Flyers  
MS.2007.1**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

July 02, 2012

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## Summary Information

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**Repository** Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

**Title** Casa de Unidad Newsletters, Chapbooks and Flyers

**Date [inclusive]** 1981-2004

**Extent** 0.5 Linear feet

**Language** Multiple languages

**Language of Materials note** Materials in English and in Spanish.

**Abstract** This collection consist almost exclusively of Casa de Unidad publications, from monographs to it serial publications "El Barrio" and its newsletter-type accompaniments "Notas del Barrio", "Herencia del Barrio", and "Calendario del Barrio". Also includes poetry chapbooks like the Coffee House Series all dated from the early 1980s to the 1990s. Other items include flyers and announcements for cultural events to cultivate and promote interests in Latino cultural heritage in the Detroit area. Materials reflect an at times broad scope of the organization to include other non-Latino Detroit culture in its publications and events (snippets of Arabic surface, for example). Includes the monograph "Tradiciones del Pueblo: Traditions of Three Mexican Feast Days in Southwest Detroit".

### Preferred Citation note

Researchers wishing to cite materials from this collection may use the following acknowledgement: [title of item], Casa de Unidad Newsletters, Chapbooks and Flyers, Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame.

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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Founded in 1980 as Casa de Unidad Cultural Arts and Media Center, Casa de Unidad was devoted to developing and promoting the Hispanic/Latino cultural heritage of Detroit and surrounding communities. Among the organization's activities were educational workshops aimed at cultivating interest in the arts, gallery space for artists to exhibit their work, and sponsorship of an annual two-day festival, Unity in the Community. One significant contribution took the form of a published monograph, "Tradiciones del Pueblo: Traditions of Three Mexican Feast Days in Southwest Detroit", which resulted from a project undertaken to document the cultural history of the local community through interviews about observance of traditions such as Posadas and Día de los Muertos.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

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This collection consists primarily of Casa de Unidad publications related to its activities and support of the arts in Detroit. Includes copies of Casa's bimonthly publication, El Barrio which was dedicated to the celebration of different topics related to Latino culture heritage; Notas de El Barrio, Herencia del Barrio and Calendario del Barrio, newsletters that announce upcoming and ongoing events in the community; a few other Casa de Unidad publications such as copies of "The Sounds of Poetry" and books like "Tradiciones del Pueblo: Traditions of Three Mexican Feast Days in Southwest Detroit" introducing Mexican traditions, and a handful of flyers advertising the visual, performing, and literary art events. Also included is a copy of Casa de Unidad's articles of incorporation.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

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## **Related Materials**

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## **Related Archival Materials note**

The Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan holds a more comprehensive collection of materials related to Casa de Unidad. The Library web site can be accessed at: <http://bentley.umich.edu/>

## **Separated Materials note**

Other items that relate to Casa de Unidad's activities in Michigan can be found in the Ana Cardona Papers (MS.2006.2), as Ana Cardona was an active member and regular contributor to the publication El Barrio.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Artes Unidas: A Latino Arts Forum. (2001: Lansing, MI)
- Casa de Unidad. (Detroit, Mich.)
- Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.
- Michigan Humanities Council.
- Seven Days in Chiapas. (1999: Detroit, MI)

### **Genre(s)**

- Newsletters
- Printed ephemera--Periodicals
- Printed ephemera--United States--Pictorial works

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Detroit (Mich.)

### **Subject(s)**

- All Souls' Day
- American poetry--20th century
- Art and literature

- Christmas--Mexico
- Cinco de Mayo (Mexican holiday)
- Detroit (Mich.)--Religious life and customs--20th century
- Hispanic American families
- Michigan--History--20th century--Anecdotes
- Michigan--History--Archival resources--Directories
- Poets, Latin American