

Finding Aid for Gilberto Cárdenas Papers

MS.2000.1

Finding aid prepared by Chiayi Tsui and Tracy Grimm

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies
230 McKenna Hall
Notre Dame , Midwest, 46556
574-631-7391
ilslib@nd.edu

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Summary Information

Repository	Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies
Title	Gilberto Cárdenas Papers
Date [inclusive]	1967-2000
Extent	150.0 Linear feet
Language	Multiple languages

Language of Materials note Materials are mostly in English, some in Spanish.

Abstract The Gilberto Cardenas Papers reflect Cardenas' long career as a Chicano civil rights activist beginning in the late 1960s in California, his scholarship as a sociologist and immigration expert at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Notre Dame, a board member of organizations such as the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF) and the Smithsonian Latino Center, as well as a Latino art collector and advocate.

Preferred Citation note

Researchers wishing to cite materials from this collection may use the following acknowledgement: [title of item], Gilberto Cárdenas Papers, Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies, University of Notre Dame.

Biographical/Historical note

Gilberto Cárdenas is a professor of sociology and Latino art collector who has been engaged in advocating rights for Latinos since the 1960s. He is the editor and co-author of several books including "La Causa: Civil Rights and the Quest for Equality in the Midwest" (2004), "Health and Social Services Among International Labor Migrants: A Comparative Perspective" (1997) and "Chicana Voices: Intersections of Class, Race, and Gender" (1986). He has engaged in advocating civil rights for Latinos since the 1960s. He received his BA from California State University, Los Angeles and his PhD from the University of Notre Dame in 1977, conducting research on topics that touch upon multiple facets of Chicano studies, from racial and ethnic relations to visual sociology. Cárdenas's interest in visual language has long intersected with his passion for the socio-political issues. This is discernible through his large personal art collection and his involvement with promotion of Latino arts and culture: he is the former owner of Galeria Sin Fronteras, an art gallery based in Austin, Texas and the founding producer of NPR's "Latino USA", the only national, English-language radio program produced from a Latino perspective. Named by Hispanic Business Magazine as one of the 100 most influential Latinos in the United States, he is internationally recognized as an authority on migration and border issues, specifically those concerning Latino communities in the United States. Following a tenure at the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Cárdenas held the Julian Samora Chair in Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame where he became the first director of the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame 1999 -2012. He has also served as the executive director of the Inter-University Program for Latino Research since 1996, He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) and a member of the Smithsonian National Board for Latino Initiatives.

Scope and Contents note

This collection reflects Professor Gilberto Cardenas' long career as a Chicano civil rights activist, sociologist, immigration expert, and art collector. Papers reflect his community involvement as a teenager in Los Angeles during the late 1960s and his activism as a college student late 1960s to early 1970s. Includes meeting minutes related to a Los Angeles Catholic youth organization "The Latin Escorts (1967) of which he was a member, papers related to his community activism as an undergraduate student at California State University including work with La Casa Community Center, the Animal Tribe and the Battle of Earle Street (1968) incident, and the formative years of student group, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MeChA). Also included is an extensive newspaper collection and some pamphlets that document Chicano activism on campuses and in communities across the nation from the late 1960s through the 1970s. Includes extensive files and publications of Centro de Estudios Chicanos e Investigaciones Sociales - an Midwest research center Cardenas was active in as a University of Notre Dame graduate student. Includes Cardenas' vertical research files on topics ranging from migrant labor

to ethnic relations to visual sociology that includes bibliographies, journal articles, miscellaneous papers. These academic files are accompanied by items collected from his later service on numerous boards and commissions including the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF), Smithsonian Institution, AVANCE, The National Museum of Mexican Art (Chicago), and include annual reports, publications, correspondence, as well as conferences and seminar programs. During the 1980s and 1990s Cardenas was the co-owner of a private art gallery, Galeria Sin Fronteras (GSF), and the collection includes GSF administrative, publicity, and extensive artists files including exhibit announcements and agreements, slides and photographs, and clippings. Audio recordings include those of a University of Notre Dame Chicano Studies lecture series organized by Prof. Julian Samora in the 1970s and master tapes of the radio program "Latino USA", produced by Cardenas at the University of Texas at Austin.

Arrangement note

The collection is arranged in two series: Professional Activity and Personal Activity. The Professional series is divided into six sub-series: Teaching, Research and Writing, Collected Printed Material, Audio Visual Material, Professional Engagement and Service, and Newsclippings. The Personal series is divided into four sub-series: Coursework, Activism, Service, and Galeria Sin Fronteras.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Julian Samora Library at the Institute for Latino Studies

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

For administrative files, publications and correspondence related to the Centro de Estudios Chicanos e Investigaciones Sociales, the Archives of the University of Notre Dame holds approximately eight folders worth of materials within the Midwest Council of La Raza record group. The web site of the Notre Dame Archives can be accessed at <http://archives.nd.edu/>

Separated Materials note

An oral history interview with Gilberto Cardenas (OH 2009.3) is held by the Julian Samora Library.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- California State University Los Angeles. Equal Opportunity Program.
- Catholic Youth Organization. (San Gabriel Mission, California)
- Centro de Estudios Chicanos e Investigaciones Sociales.
- Galería Sin Fronteras. (Austin, Texas)
- Inter-University Program for Latino Research.
- Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán. (University of Notre Dame)
- Self-Help Graphics and Art, Inc.. (Los Angeles, Calif.)
- United Mexican American Students. (California State University, Los Angeles)

Genre(s)

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

Personal Name(s)

- Cárdenas, Gilberto

Subject(s)

- Chicano Moratorium Movement
- Chicano movement
- Civil rights movements--California--East Los Angeles
- East L.A. Blowouts
- Emigration and immigration--Social aspects
- Ethnic relations

- Hispanic American Art
- Hispanic American art--20th century
- Immigrants--Government policy--United States
- MECHA (University of Notre Dame)
- Migrant labor--United States
- Student Movements
- Visual sociology
- Youth movements

Professional Activity

Collection Inventory

Professional Activity
Teaching
Research and Writing
Collected Printed Materials
Audio Visual Materials
Professional Engagement and Service
Newsclippings
Personal Activity
Coursework
Activism

Service

Service

Galeria Sin Fronteras