Partnership

BY LETISIA MÁRQUEZ

A s part of its ongoing efforts to study, document and promote Chicano art, UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) have joined forces to launch a Latino arts initiative.

The organizations will work together on exhibitions, coordinate community relations efforts, particularly with Latino arts organizations, and collaborate on acquisitions to LACMA's permanent collection and other programs.

LACMA also has appointed Chon Noriega, director of UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center, as adjunct curator of Chicano and Latino Art in LACMA's Center for Art of the Americas.

"What is most exciting about this initiative is that it places Chicano-Latino arts in an encyclopedic context of world art," said Noriega. "LACMA's Center for Art of the Americas provides a natural starting point to explore Chicano-Latino art within a hemispheric context that includes U.S. and Latin American art."

The agreement also provides an important training ground for UCLA students studying Chicano/Latino art. Already, LACMA has hired Rita González, a UCLA Ph.D. student in the Department of Film, Television and Digital Media, as an assistant curator.

In 2008, LACMA and the UCLA center will co-produce "Remix: Today's Chicano Art." "Remix" will showcase work by Chicano artists in all of today's media, including painting; sculpture; installation; conceptual, video and performance art; and works that incorporate film, digital art and sound.

Also, actor and collector Cheech Marin, working with LACMA curators, will lend highlights from his personal collection of Chicano art to a unique exhibition that will be part of a series of exhibitions of Chicano art at LACMA.

The agreement is the latest in a series of arts-related projects at the UCLA center dealing with Chicano/Latino art preservation, research, publication and community partnerships.

For instance, the center has launched "A Ver: Revisioning Art History," a new book series on Latino artists. And it recently received a J. Paul Getty grant to conduct an in-depth survey of Latino arts and related materials in Los Angeles.