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# Art & Entertainment

## LACMA and UCLA Latino Arts Initiative

### UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, Los Angeles County Museum of Art Forge Partnership.

#### EGP News Service

A new collaboration between two of Southern California's premier institutions will promote Chicano arts and Latino culture as part of a new Latino arts initiative unveiled last week.

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) and the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center have entered a five-year agreement that includes development of exhibitions, publications, educational activities, research projects, art collections and community rela-

tions.

"We are taking a comprehensive and collaborative approach," said LACMA president and director Andrea L. Rich.

As the premiere encyclopedic visual arts museum in the Western United States, according to LACMA they are dedicated to presenting outstanding artwork from all time periods and cultures.

"LACMA is an institution that takes very seriously its role in a diverse community," Rich said.

The initiative has been set in motion with the appointment of

Chon Noriega, director of the center, as adjunct curator of Chicano and Latino Art in the Center for the Art of the Americas at LACMA.

"What is most exciting about this initiative," Noriega said, "is that it places Chicano/Latino art in an encyclopedic context of world art."

Founded in 1969, UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center has become one of the leading research centers for Chicano and Latino art and culture. The center, together with the UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, curated the world's first comprehensive museum exhibition on Mexican narrative songs known as "corridos" in June 1998, which in 2002 became the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition "Corridos: Sin Fronteras."

That same year Los Tigres Del Norte Foundation gave the center \$500,000 to establish the largest public collection of Spanish language folk music.

Seven years ago, LACMA announced the acquisition of the Bernard and Edith Lewin Collection of Mexican American Art. Since then, LACMA has worked strategically to develop a program that brings Latin American art to Los Angeles.

The Latin American and Latino arts initiatives include several efforts already underway:

In September 2005, LACMA will present "Lords of Creation: The Origins of Sacred Maya Kingship," which explores the development of divine kings and their roles in the emergence of complex urban society 2,000 years ago in the Maya re-

gion.

In 2008 LACMA and UCLA will present "Remix: Today's Chicano Art" organized by LACMA curators Noriega, González and Howard Fox. "Remix" will comprise work by Chicano artists in all of today's media, including painting, sculpture, installation, conceptual, video and performance art, as well as inter-media works that incorporate film, digital and sound art.

LACMA will continue its efforts with other local institutions that promote Latino and Latin American art. For example, LACMA has committed its resources and expertise to support La Plaza de Cultura y Arte, a Mexican American cultural center in downtown Los Angeles. Under the directorship of Jonathan Yorba, the cultural cen-

ter is expected to open in 2007 and will include performance, gallery and entertainment space.

The museum is open noon-8 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; noon-9 p.m. on Fridays; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays; it is closed on Wednesdays. Call (323) 857-6000 or Visit [www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org) for more information.

Admission to LACMA is \$9 for adults, \$6 for students 18 and over with ID, and \$5 for seniors over 62; LACMA members and children 17 and under are admitted free. Admission (except to specially ticketed exhibitions) is free the second Tuesday of every month, and evenings after 5 p.m.