

**Chicano Oral History Project
Chicano Library Resource Center
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
San Jose State University**

History

The Chicano Oral History Project at SJSU began in the late 1980's as a collaborative effort between the Mexican American Studies Department and the Chicano Library Research Center. Funding for the program was provided from library, campus and CSU Affirmative Action & Faculty Development Funds and CSU Research and Lottery Funds.

The principal investigators included Dr. Jose Carrasco, the late Dr. Mauro Chavez (Evergreen Valley College) and Jeff Paul.

Students were trained in oral history research methods in a Mexican American Studies course, MAS 285. Coursework, training and interviews were conducted in 1988, 1989 and 1990. Approximately thirty community leaders and activists were interviewed.

The focus of research is on the Chicano Movement in San Jose/Santa Clara County. Key activities investigated include: the **Fiesta de las Rosas** and the emergence of community organizations including the **Community Alert Patrol**, the **Confederacion de la Raza Unida**, the **Mexican American Studies Department**, **United People Arriba**, the **Mexican American Graduate Studies Department**, the **Mexican American Educational Opportunities Program**, the **Mexican American Community Services Agency**, the **Brown Berets for Justice** and the **Mexican American Student Confederacion**.

Other activities investigated include: the **Educational Pilgrimage to Sacramento**, **SJS Students at National Moratorium in Los Angeles in 1970**, the **Alma Chicana Symposia**, **Semana Chicana**, the **Walkouts at Roosevelt Jr. High School**, **San Jose United Grape Workers Boycott**, the **"Rockin for the Farmworkers" Concert**, the **1970 San Jose Grape Boycott Committee**, **Chicano Commencement** and the **Quinto Festival del Teatro**.

A community wide three day research forum and celebration titled, **Alma Chicana Revisited** concluded the project. The collection includes audio tapes, video tapes, transcriptions of the recordings, news clippings and related memorabilia and related artifacts from the 1960's and 1970s in San Jose. The Chicano Oral History Project is housed in the Cultural Heritage Center/Chicano Library Resource Center. Original documents in the Oral History Collection are also housed in the Special Collections and Archives Department.

Transcripts and indices of the interviews are available from the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library Electronic Reserves Module. Go to the Library Homepage (www.sjlibrary.org) Select SJSU Students &

Faculty or Academic Gateway, click on Course Reserves (<http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/reserves/index.htm>) and search for Chicano Oral History Project or instructor name Paul. Access to the collection is restricted to SJSU students, faculty & staff.

Interviews

1988-1990 Jose Carrasco (partial), Lela Chavez, Rudolfo Coronado, Ernestina Garcia, Humberto Garza, Sal Gascon, Jess Jaques, Randal Jimenez, Charley Laustanau, Sofia Mendoza, Pete Michel, Frances Palacios, Linda Peralta Conway, Vicente Perez, Gabe Reyes, Leo Rivera, Bea Robinson, Luis Valdez (partial interview from PBS performance and campus visit – *In Loco Parentis*), Adrian Vargas, Jose Villa

2003 interviews (not yet transcribed: Simon Dominguez, Gabe Reyes, Consuelo Rodriguez).

2005 interviews (not yet transcribed: Ramon Martinez).

For further information contact

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Chicano Oral History Collection

Cultural Heritage Center

List of Interviews

CARRASCO , Jose Interviewed by Richard A. Harrison

(Tapes)

Birthdata:

Lenght of Transcript:

Year of Interview: 1991

Interview contents: Biographical data

Organizational Affiliations:

Terms of use: restricted

CHAVEZ , Lela Interviewed by Eleonore Sosa

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: San Jose, California

Lenght of Transcript: 6 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biographical data; Education; MAYO (Mexican American Youth Organization); MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan); Student Movements; Chicano Movement ; Identity

Organizational Affiliations: MECHA, SHIP (Society of Hispanic Engineers)

Terms of use: unrestricted

CORONADO , Rudolf Interviewed by Arturo Villarreal

Rudy Coronado

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: Del Rio, Texas

Lenght of Transcript: 28 pages

Year of Interview: 1988

Interview contents: Biographical data; Cannery Workers; Confederacion de la Raza Unida; Cursillos de Cristiandad; Fiesta de las Rosas; Government Surveillance; MACSA; Religious Education

Organizational Affiliations: MACSA, MASC, Fiesta de las Rosas, EOC program (Santa Clara); Confederacion de la Raza Unida, Model Cities

Terms of use: unrestricted

GARCIA , Ernestina Interviewed by Patricia I Villegas

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: Arizona

Lenght of Transcript: 11 pages

Year of Interview: 1988

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Confederacion de la Raza Unida; Demonstrations; Discrimination; Farm Workers; Fiesta de las Rosas ; Model Cities; School Walkouts

Organizational Affiliations: Confederacion de la Raza Unida, MAPA, MAYO, Model Cities

Terms of use: unrestricted

GARZA , Humberto Interviewed by Alfredo Rodriguez

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: Eaglepass, Texas

Lenght of Transcript: 19 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biographical Data; Education; Family Background; Education; Eaglepass, Texas; Identity; Chicano Research Institute; Student Organizations; EOP (Santa Clara Conty)

Organizational Affiliations: Los Amigos Club (San Jose City College), SAMA, MASC, CMAA, MASC, EOC (Santa Clara County), MACSA, EOP; MAGS

Terms of use: unrestricted

[View interview](#)

GASCON , Salvador Interviewed by Juan Guerrero
Sal Gascon

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: December 13, 1930 in Strawberry Country, Mexico

Lenght of Transcript: 117 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background, Education, Bilingual Bicultural Education; Chicano Studies; Frito Bandito; Loans (Student); Financial Aid; Educational Services; Chicano Identity; Meaning of Chicano; MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan); MASC (Mexican-American Student Confederation); LEAP Program

Organizational Affiliations: Confederacion de la Raza Unida, MAPA, MAYO, Los Amigos Club (San Jose City College)

Terms of use: unrestricted

JAQUES , Jess Interviewed by

(Tape and transcript)

Birthdata: 1944 in San Angel, Texas

Lenght of Transcript: 15 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Education; Roosevelt Jr. High School Walkout; Fiesta de las Rosas; MECHA; MASC

Organizational Affiliations: Chicano Student Movement (San Jose State University), MASC (Mexican American Student Confederation)

Terms of use: unrestricted

[View interview](#)

JIMENEZ , Randal Interviewed by

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: 1943 in San Francisco, California

Length of Transcript: 128 pages

Year of Interview: 1990

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Education; Affirmative Action Programs; Chicano Studies; Discrimination; Discrimination in Education; Chicano Identity; Fiesta de las Rosas; Ethnic Studies; Model Cities; MAGS (Mexican American Graduate Studies)

Organizational Affiliations: MACO, UPA, Model Cities, Community Alert Patrol, MASC, MECA, MAPA, MACSA, EOP (Santa Clara County)

Terms of use: unrestricted

LAUSTANAU , Charley Leon Interviewed by

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: April 11, 1942 in Bakersfield, California

Length of Transcript: 80 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biographical data; Education; Family background; College Commitment Program (CCP); Cesar Chavez; Chicano Movement; Chicanos In Vietnam War; College Commitment Program (San Jose); EOP Program (SJSU); Government Surveillance; MACSA; MAGS (Mexican American Graduate Studies); Military; Model Cities; Newspapers; School Of Social Work; Student Organizations; Teachers Organizations; San Jose City College Walkout; Roosevelt Jr. High Walkout

Organizational Affiliations: MASC, MACSA, MECHA, College Commitment Program (San Jose); Model Cities, School of Social Work

Terms of use: unrestricted

MENDOZA , Sofia Magdaleno Interviewed by Norma Huichapan

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: December 22, 1934 in Fillmore, California

Length of Transcript: 73 pages

Year of Interview: 1988

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Education; Roosevelt Jr. High Walkout; United people Arriba; Police; Identity; English Only Movement; Ethnic Groups; Dropouts; Discrimination; Demonstrations; Chicanos in American Films; Bilingual-Bicultural Education; Police Brutality; East valley Health Center; Public Health; Pachucos; Urban Communities in San Jose; Student Movements; Community Organizations; Model Cities

Organizational Affiliations: Community Alert Patrol, UPA, EOC, Model Cities, CMAA, Roosevelt Jr. High Walkout

Terms of use: unrestricted

[View interview](#)

MICHEL , Pete Interviewed by

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: August 1942 in San Jose, California

Length of Transcript: 96 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents:

Organizational Affiliations:

Terms of use: unrestricted

PALACIOS , Frances Interviewed by Catherine N. Villarreal
Pancha Palacios

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: San Jose, California

Length of Transcript: 28 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biography, Family Background; Chicanas, Fiesta de las Rosas; Police Brutality, United people Arriba (UPA); San Jose City College; MASC; Confederacion de la Raza Unida; MAPA; Impact of religious education

Organizational Affiliations: Fiesta de las Rosas, UPA, MASC (Mexican-American Student Confederation), Confederacion de la Raza Unida, MECHA, ESO (Equal Services Organization), SJCC Student Movement; San Jose City College Walkout

Terms of use: unrestricted

PERALTA-CONWAY , Linda Interviewed by Yolanda Villarreal

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: October 20, 1960 in Durango, Drgo., Mexico

Length of Transcript: 27 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Education; Employment; Chicano Movement; Identity; MAPA; Black Berets; Confederacion de la Raza Unida; United

Farm Workers Union; Fiesta de las Rosas; Chicana rights; Sex Stereotypes; Government Surveillance; Impact of Movement on Family; Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Organizational Affiliations: MAPA, Confederacion de la Raza Unida, United People Arriba, MACSA, Grape Boycott, Fiesta de las Rosas, Women Who Care (Chicana Organization)

Terms of use: unrestricted

PEREZ , Vicente Interviewed by Maritza Tristan

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: 1929 in Eden, Texas

Lenght of Transcript: 30 pages

Year of Interview: 1990

Interview contents: Biographical data; Childhood; Family background; Black Berets; Confederacion de la Raza Unida; ; Del Rio, Texas; Discrimination; Fiesta de las Rosas; Immigration Regulation and Control; Living conditiong in the rancho; Model Cities; Police Brutality; United Farm Workers; Urban Development; Urban Renewal program

Organizational Affiliations: United farm Workers, Model Cities

Terms of use: unrestricted

REYES , Gabriel Allan Interviewed by Jonathan P. Pharazyn

Gabe Reyes

(Tapes and Transcript)

Birthdata: 1944 in Los Angeles, California

Lenght of Transcript: 35 pages

Year of Interview: 1988

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family background; Education; Childhood; Canneries; Farm Workers; Military career; School clubs; Chicano Movement; MECHA; Police Brutality; EOP Program; March to Sacramento; Model Cities; MAGS Program; Newspapers

Organizational Affiliations: MECHA, Model Cities, Community Alert Patrol, United People Arriba, Confederacion de La Raza Unida

Terms of use: unrestricted

RIVERA , Eliodoro Interviewed by Rodrigo Martinez Flores

Leo Rivera

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: September 1929 in Victoria, Texas

Lenght of Transcript: 83 pages

Year of Interview: 1988

Interview contents: Biographical data; Childhood; Education; Chicano Identity; Discrimination; Military career; MAPA; MACO; MACSA; Model Cities; Fiesta de las Rosas; MAYO; Chicanos in Vietnam War; Government Surveillance; UPA; Chicano Movement; Teachers Associations; Educational programs; EOP

Organizational Affiliations: Confederacion de la Raza Unida , MACSA, MAPA, Sociedad Progresista Mejicana, Model Cities, Farm Workers Movement, EOP

Terms of use: unrestricted

ROBINSON , Bea Vasquez Interviewed by Diane J. Alvarez

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: Ventura, California

Lenght of Transcript: 19 pages

Year of Interview: 1989

Interview contents: Biography, biographical data; Family background; Education; Childhood; Fiesta de las Rosas; Farm Workers Demonstrations; Santa Cara Universty Walkout; MECHA; MACSA; Cop Committee; Cicano Employment Committee

Organizational Affiliations: Cops Committee, Chicano Employment Committee, Fiestas de las Rosas,

Terms of use: unrestricted

VALDEZ , Luis Interviewed by

(Tapes)

Birthdata:

Lenght of Transcript:

Year of Interview:

Interview contents:

Organizational Affiliations:

Terms of use: unrestricted

VARGAS , Adrian Interviewed by George A. Chacon, II

(Tapes and transcript)

Birthdata: February 22, 1951 in El Paso, Texas

Lenght of Transcript: 56 pages

Year of Interview:

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Childhood; Chicano Movement in San Jose; Chicano Studies; Chicano Theater companies; Community Alert Patrol (CAP); Discrimination; Farm Workers Movement; Folk Drama; Frito Bandido; Government Surveillance; Identity; MAGS; MAYO; MECHA; Newspapers; Performing arts; Police brutality; Semana Chicana; Teatro; Teatro de la Gente

Organizational Affiliations: MECHA, MAPA, MACSA, MASC, Farm Workers Movement, UPA; Teatro de la Gente

Terms of use: unrestricted

Birthdata: May 29, 1931 in Clovis, New Mexico

Length of Transcript: 216 pages

Year of Interview:

Interview contents: Biographical data; Family Background; Chicano Movement Chicano Student Organizations; Community Organization; Manpower Programs; EOP programs; OEC programs; Farm Workers Movement; Government Surveillance; Identity; Discrimination; MACSA; MAGS; MAPA, MAYO; Model Cities; Police Brutality; School of Social Work; Values

Organizational Affiliations: MAPA, MAGS, School of Social Work, California Teachers Association, MECHA, MACSA

Terms of use: unrestricted
