

## Digital archives NHE Ventana Project

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Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Ventana al Pasado: Building a Latino/Hispanic Virtual Research Collection is a joint project between the New York State Archives and the Centro Library and Archives intent on developing a Web-based virtual research collection that will link the Latino-related holdings of nine state and local government, academic, and community-based repositories in New York State. The project will create MARC records and finding aids for unprocessed collections, enhance existing descriptions and encode repository finding aids using Encoded Archival Description (EAD) standards. It will also help digitize 3,000 images for direct online access and link the finding aids and images through a bilingual state-of-the-art Internet gateway.

Besides the Centro Library and Archives and the New York State Archives, other institutions involved in this timely endeavor include Hostos Community College, the Dominican Studies Institute, Hofstra University, the New York City Department of Records and Information Services, Cornell University, the Rochester Museum and Science Center and the Onondaga Historical Association. Work on the project began in June 2006 with the hiring of a New York City based Project Archivist, Nadya Rodríguez, and will end in June 2008 with the official launch of the virtual collection online.

The New York State Archives and the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños/Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College (the Centro) received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities to create a Web-based virtual research collection. This precedent-setting virtual research collection will link the Latino-related holdings of nine state and local government, academic, and community-based repositories in New York State and make them accessible to potential users world-wide.

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