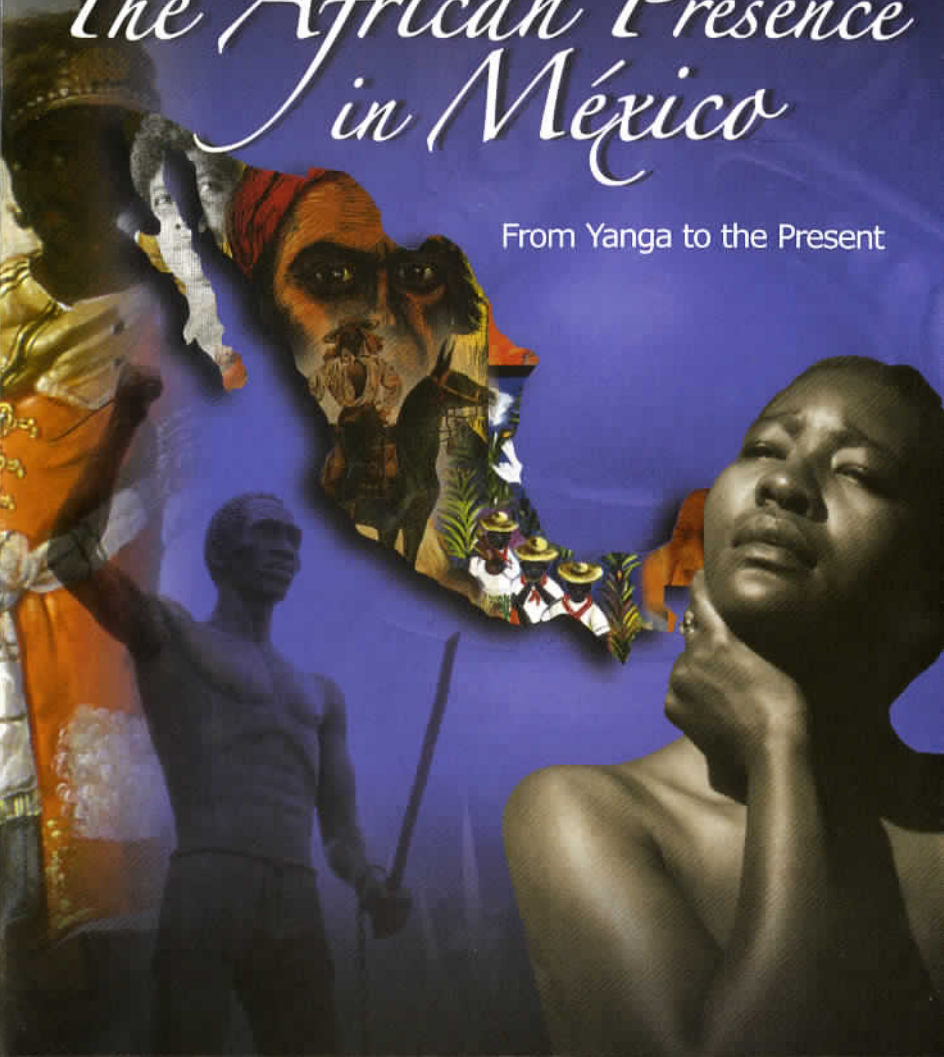


The African Presence in México

From Yanga to the Present



MEXICAN FINE ARTS CENTER MUSEUM

Cordially invites you to the opening day reception of the most comprehensive project ever organized about African contributions to Mexican culture featuring three exhibitions and public programming:

The African Presence in México



From Yanga to the Present

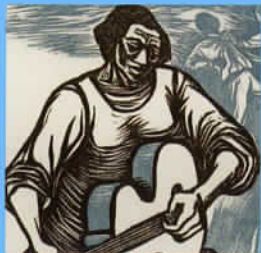


Who Are We Now?
Roots, Resistance, & Recognition

Common Goals,
Common Struggles, Common Ground

Saturday, February 11, 2006 3 – 7 PM
Exhibitions continue through September 3

Who Are We Now?



Roots,
Resistance,
& Recognition

Curated by Elena Gonzales

This exhibition investigates the complex relationship between African-Americans and Mexicans in the U.S. as well as the relationship that African-Americans have with Mexico. *Who Are We Now?* charts a path of collaboration between Mexicans and African-Americans in the U.S. from the domestic slave trade to the present including such milestones as the Underground Railroad to Mexico, the artistic influence of the Mexican School, and the landmark political campaigns of former Mayor Harold Washington of Chicago and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa of Los Angeles.

Esta exposición de fotografías, impresiones y pinturas del siglo XX y XXI utiliza las artes plásticas para exponer las relaciones complejas entre los afro-americanos y los mexicanos dentro de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica, así como las relaciones entre los afro-americanos con el país de México. Who Are We Now? traza un sendero de colaboración entre los mexicanos y los afro-americanos en los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica, desde el comercio de esclavos domésticos hasta la actualidad, incluyendo acontecimientos como el Underground Railroad a México, la influencia artística de la escuela mexicana, y el hecho memorable de las campañas políticas del ex Alcalde Harold Washington de Chicago y del Alcalde Antonio Villaraigosa de Los Angeles.

Image: Elizabeth Catlett (b.1915) "I Have Given the World My Songs," 1948, Linocut, 13 1/2 x 10, Courtesy of Sragow Gallery

Common Goals, Common Struggles, Common Ground

Curated by the Museum's Kraft Chicago Gallery committee: Jorge Valdivia, Juan Francisco Orozco, Silvia Rivera, Oscar Sánchez, and Gabriel Villa

This interactive exhibition, *Common Goals, Common Struggles, Common Ground*, presents a balanced account of historical issues that are common to both the Mexican and African American communities in Chicago. It will identify struggles shared by both communities such as the ones found within the civil rights movement of the 1960s and the current gentrification of the Maxwell, Bronzeville, and Pilsen neighborhoods. There will also be an interactive component that will allow visitors to respond to the three exhibitions, the discussions of current events, and the overall issue of race in Chicago.

Common Goals, Common Struggle, Common Ground, es una exposición que presenta las situaciones históricas que comparten las comunidades Mexicanas y Afro-Americanas en Chicago. Esta exposición identificará la lucha social que ambas comunidades comparten: el movimiento de derechos civiles de la década de los 1960s y el desplazamiento de las comunidades de los vecindarios de Maxwell, Bronzeville y Pilsen. También habrá un componente interactivo que ofrecerá la oportunidad de reflexionar sobre las tres exhibiciones para discutir los acontecimientos actuales, y los temas raciales en Chicago.

The African Presence in México

From Yanga to the Present

curated by Sagrario Cruz-Carretero & Cesáreo Moreno

For nearly 500 years, the existence and contributions of the African descendants in Mexico have been overlooked. Almost a century after Africans arrived in Mexico in 1519, Yanga, an African leader, founded the first free African township in the Americas (January 6, 1609). Since then, Africans have continued to contribute their cultural, musical, and culinary traditions to Mexican culture through the present day. No exhibition has showcased the history, artistic expressions, and practices of Afro-Mexicans in such a broad scope as this one, which includes a comprehensive range of artwork from 18th Century Colonial Caste Paintings to contemporary artistic expressions.

Por cerca de 500 años, la existencia y contribuciones de los afro-descendientes en México han sido pasadas por alto. Casi un siglo después de que los africanos llegaran a México en 1519, Yanga, un líder africano, fundó el primer pueblo libre en el continente Americano (6 de enero de 1609). Desde entonces, los africanos han enriquecido con sus tradiciones culturales, musicales, y culinarias a la cultura mexicana hasta el presente. Ninguna otra exhibición ha puesto en evidencia la historia, expresiones artísticas, y prácticas de los afro-mexicanos tan ampliamente como ésta exposición, la cual incluye obras de arte desde las pinturas coloniales de Castas del siglo XVIII hasta las expresiones artísticas contemporáneas.

An exhibition of this scope would not have been possible without the assistance of all the museums and institutions across México who helped us piece together this missing chapter in Mexican History. ¡Muchísimas Gracias!

Museo de las Culturas Afromestizas Vicente Guerrero Saldaña

Museo Soumaya

Fundación Cultural Banamex

Museo del Estado de Veracruz

Museo de la Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, Antigua Palacio del Arzobispado

Museo de Antropología de Xalapa

Universidad Veracruzana

Museo Regional de Guanajuato Alhóndiga de Granaditas

Instituto Veracruzano de la Cultura

Archivo General del Estado de Veracruz

Centro de la Imagen

Fundación Cultural Mariana Yampolski, A.C.

OPENING LECTURE

Afro-México Sagrario Cruz-Carrerto

Saturday, February 11 12 noon

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum FREE, Bilingual

sábado 11 de febrero a las 12 PM

Entrada GRATUITA, Bilingüe

Sagrario Cruz-Carretero, the co-curator of the Main Gallery exhibition from the University of Veracruz, is Mexico's leading expert in the investigation of African history in Mexico. Ms. Cruz studied under Gonzalo Aguirre Beltrán, whose groundbreaking research in the 1940s led to the phrase "The Third Root." The phrase officially recognized, for the first time, the presence of Mexico's African descendants and their longtime contributions to Mexican culture beginning in 1610. Ms. Cruz's lecture will provide an overview of the exhibition and her own research in everything from politics and culture to sickle cell studies documenting the presence of Mexico's African roots. Key members of the Afro-Mexicano community in Costa Chica, Veracruz will join her.

Antropóloga Sagrario Cruz-Carretero de la Universidad Veracruzana, es una líder experta en investigación de historia africana en México. La profesora estudió con Gonzalo Aguirre Beltrán, de quien su reveladora investigación se le reconoció oficialmente la presencia de los descendientes africanos de México. La conferencia de la Sra. Cruz brindará su investigación que abarca la política y cultura afro-mexicana. También estarán presentes representantes de las comunidades de Costa Chica, Veracruz.

Public Tours *Visitas guiadas*

Free and Open to the public *Gratis y abierto al público*

Saturdays *Sábados*

February 18, March 18, April 22, May 20, June 17, July 15

Bilingual exhibition catalogs available

Catálogos bilingües disponibles

Kraft Family Sundays

Domingos familiares Kraft

FREE *Gratis*

Bilingual *Bilingüe*

Begin your family day with a focused gallery talk and join us in the Art Studio for a fun art project.

Comienza tu día familiar con una plática en la galería y después pasa al estudio a trabajar en un proyecto artístico y divertido.

Sunday, February 26 2 - 4 pm

The Music and Instruments of Costa Chica

La música e instrumentos de Costa Chica

Sunday, March 26 2 - 4 pm

Sculpture: Capturing the Moment

La escultura: capturando el momento

Sunday, May 21 2 - 4 pm

Elizabeth Catlett and the Printmaking Process

Elizabeth Catlett y el proceso del grabado

Reservations/Reservaciones:

312.738.1503, ext.150

Preparing for the
Carnaval: Mojiganga Workshop II

Preparandose para el carnaval:
Taller Mojiganga II

Saturdays 11 am – 3 pm
February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, & April 1

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum

\$175 non-members / \$150 members Bilingüe



Learn the tricks and techniques to create your own *mojiganga* (large-scale paper maché figure) that is typically used during many Mexican festivals, carnivals and parades. No previous experience required. Materials included. For more information and reservations, please call 312.738.1503, ext. 138.

Aprende los trucos y técnicas para crear una típica mojiganga de papel maché como las utilizadas en festivales o carnavales en México. No experiencia previa necesaria. Para más información y reservaciones, llamar al 312.738.1503, ext. 138.

CARNAVAL

Friday, February 24 6:30 pm

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum

\$30 General / Members \$25

Carnaval is one of the most important events in the city of Yanga. It is a celebration of the founding of "the first free town in America." The citizens of Yanga mark the event as a celebration dedicated to black African culture. The celebration attracts people from other communities and the MFACM is hosting our own Carnaval celebration here in Chicago. Guests will enjoy food, drinks, and music of Veracruz and the Caribbean countries.

Aydee Rodríguez López, Danza del Toro de Petate, 2005, Oil on canvas



Photography:**The Art of Documenting Culture** FREE, English**Thursday, March 2 6 pm****Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College
600 S. Michigan Ave.**

Photographers, art enthusiasts, and anyone interested in questions of race and identity should attend this discussion with artists from the exhibitions. Tony Gleaton and Manuel Gonzalez de la Parra from this exhibition will speak about their personal experiences examining Blackness, identity, and documenting Afro-Mexican communities. For more information call 312.738.1503 or the Museum of Contemporary Photography at 312.663.5554.



Tony Gleaton,
La boda de
Maurillo y
Teresa, El
Ciruelo, OAX
1987, gelatin
silver print,
MFACM
Permanent
Collection,
2005.120

**Integrating The African Presence in
Mexico Into Your Classroom****Saturday, March 11 11 am – 3 pm****Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum**

\$30 General / \$20 Members

Learn about the rich history and the contributions of African culture in Mexico. Earn CPDU's while learning new interdisciplinary ways to introduce your students to the exhibition's themes and works of art. Teachers will receive a comprehensive curriculum guide (recommended grades 6-12) with a set of lesson plans aligned to the Illinois learning standards and CD ROMS filled with visual and audio aides. Space is limited. For reservations, please call 312.738.1503, ext. 150.



Symposium Scholars Present
**Latest Research on
Afro-Mexican History, Culture & Relations**

This day-long event featuring panel discussions, lectures and film will highlight cutting edge scholarship on Afro-Mexican history and contemporary studies of Brown-Black relations in the U.S. Noted scholars will discuss the themes highlighted in *The African Presence in México* exhibition, offering participants an opportunity to gain a deeper knowledge of these important issues.

Saturday, April 1 10 am – 5 pm English
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum
\$10 General Members and Students are Free

Invited speakers will include nationally known scholars; this symposium is being organized in conjunction with the Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture, and the Friedrich Katz Center for Mexican Studies at the University of Chicago. Call 773.702.8063 to register.

"Encuentro de Pueblos Negros/The Meeting of Black People" Mario Guzmán Oliveres
xilografía, 40 " x 20 " 2004

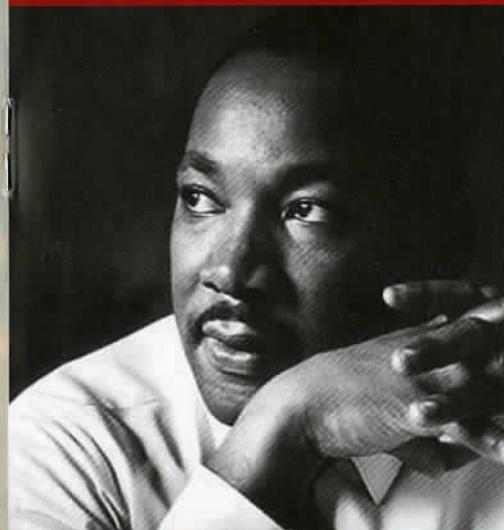


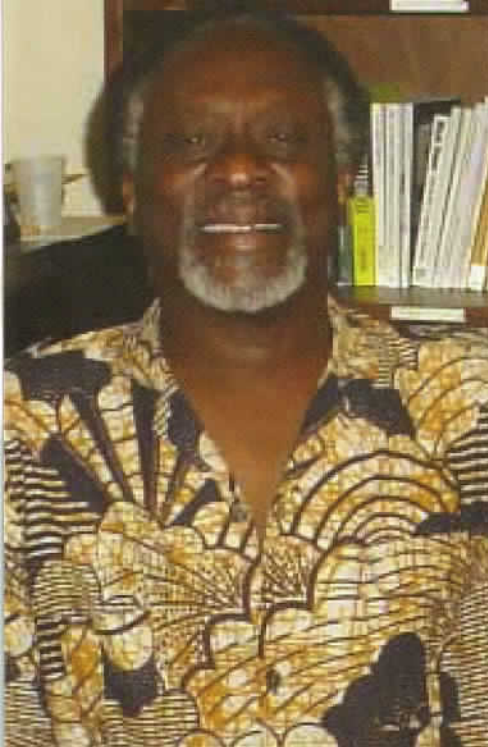
**1st Annual
Martin Luther King/Cesar
Chavez Luncheon**

Friday, April 7 12 noon

**Chicago Hilton Towers,
720 S. Michigan Ave.
\$125**

There is no better ongoing way to establish a high public profile and to insure the involvement of leaders from the African American and Mexican communities than to have an annual event that consistently focuses on ideas of collaboration. The Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum and the DuSable Museum are co-sponsoring this special annual event. The luncheon's lead corporate sponsor is JP Morgan Chase and will include youth performances, facilitated discussions at each table, and an address by a major public figure. For reservations call the Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum at 312.738.1503, ext. 109.





**Neither Enemies
Nor Friends:
Latinos, Blacks,
Afro-Latinos**

FREE, English
Thursday, May 11
6 pm

Mexican Fine Arts
Center Museum

Suzanne Oboler and Anani Dzidzienyo are the editors of *Neither Enemies Nor Friends*, a collection of essays published in 2005, this publication has quickly become a leading work in the discussion of Blackness in Latin America. The essays in the book range widely from research by scholars such as Bobby Vaughn and John Betancur to the personal experiences of a community elder, Nelson Peery. The editors will join us for a discussion of their book. Ms. Oboler is the editor of *Latino Studies* at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Mr. Dzidzienyo is a professor at Brown University in the Department of Africana Studies. For more information call 312.738.1503, ext. 165.



**Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago
& La Negra Graciana**

Double-concert with the
World Premiere of 'Yanga'

Thursday, May 18 7 pm

Harris Theater for Music and Dance
200 E. Randolph, Millennium Park

Tickets: \$45, \$35, \$25 / Members \$5 off

Do not miss this first time performance! This double-concert features Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago and Mexico's most famous performer of Afro-Mexican music, La Negra Graciana. Muntu Dance Theatre performs authentic and progressive interpretations of contemporary and ancient African and African-American dance, music, and folklore. On this night, the company will present the World Premiere of *Yanga*. This World Premiere will tell the story of Yanga, an enslaved African in Mexico who became the founder of the first town of free slaves in the Americas. La Negra Graciana's music, in the style of Mexican *son jarocho*, has captivated audiences across the Americas and Europe. Graciana's interpretations of traditional songs have a strong African heritage. For tickets and information call 312.738.1503, or the Harris Theater box office at 312.334.7777.

Photos: Mark C. Monaghan



La Negra Graciana

Doble-concierto con el estreno mundial de 'Yanga'

La presentación más destacada de la programación que acompañará la exposición, The African Presence in México, es este doble-concierto con Muntu Dance Theater y la intérprete de música Afro-Mexicana más famosa de México, La Negra Graciana. Muntu Dance Theater realiza interpretaciones auténticas y progresivas de bailes, música, y folklore africano y afro-americano tanto antiguos como contemporáneos. Esta noche, la compañía presentará Yanga en un estreno mundial en el Harris Theater for Music and Dance en Chicago. El baile contará la historia de Yanga, un africano esclavizado en México cerca de Veracruz, quien se convirtió en el fundador del primer municipio libre africano en las Américas. La música de La Negra Graciana ha cautivado audiencias alrededor de las Américas y de Europa, y es especialmente atractiva y única por realizar su actuación en el antiguo estilo del son jarocho. Sus interpretaciones de canciones tradicionales son refrescantes y verídicas, y su música tiene una fuerte influencia del patrimonio africano. Para boletos e información llame a la taquilla del Harris Theater al 312.334.7777 o al Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum al 312.738.1503.



Current Affairs: Chicago Edition

Wednesday, May 24 6:30 pm

Harold Washington Library

Cindy Pritzker Auditorium

400 S. State St. FREE, English

Mexican and African Americans working together can have a major impact, as the public saw in the election of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in Los Angeles. This frank "Chicago style" discussion of city neighborhoods, political power, whether it is reflected in election results or the quality of services to a community, and the future of Chicago will be timely and thought provoking. The panelists will include Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, a former elected official, ambassador Carol Moseley Braun and political activist, Dr. Carol Adams, as well as other special guests from politics and the media who will retrace the "lost" mayoral years of Harold Washington, look at the current scenario and give the audience some insightful commentary concerning the future of Chicago. The panel moderator is Jacqueline Triche Atkins, Executive Director of Chicago's Museums in the Park. This event is co-sponsored by the Chicago Public Library. For more information call 312.738.1503, ext. 144.

Photo: Antonio Dickey, Untitled (Rudy Lozano and Harold Washington), 1983



In Common

Friday, June 23 7 pm FREE, English
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum

What's on the minds of African-American and Mexican-American youth? Through the power of word, music, and dance youth find common ground in the Hip Hop culture. This will be a spoken word, hip-hop celebration that describes and defines where the real cultural boundaries are. Presented by the Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum's youth radio station Radio Arte 90.5 FM.



Cultural Memories: Crossover Foods
Memorias culturales: Cruce de comidas

Saturday, August 19 12 pm
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum

\$15 General / \$10 Members Bilingual, Bilingüe

Join Doris Careaga Gutierrez, a Mexican chef specializing in the Afro-Mexican cuisine of Veracruz, for a cooking demonstration and tasting at the Museum. Ms. Careaga's husband, Finnie Coleman, is a music scholar who is studying the musical crossover between African-American and Mexican cultures. He is expanding his research to include Afro-Mexican musical traditions for this afternoon. For more information, please call 312.738.1503.

Acompañe a Doris Careaga Gutiérrez, una chef mexicana especializada en la cocina afro-mexicana de Veracruz, en una demostración de cocina y pruebas en el museo. Los invitados probarán platillos del suntuoso repertorio de Careaga. El esposo de la Sra. Careaga, Finnie Coleman, es un académico de la música quien está estudiando los cruzamientos musicales de las culturas afro-americana y mexicana. El está expandiendo su investigación para incluir las tradiciones musicales afro-mexicanas. Juntos, Careaga y Coleman sumergirán a los entusiastas en música y comida en una tarde "a lo afro-mexicano." Para más información o para comprar entradas, contacte al MFACM al 312.738.1503.

Student Matinee: *Yanga*

Thursday, May 18 11 am
Harris Theater for Music
and Dance 200 E. Randolph,
Millennium Park
\$6 per student

Bring your students to the wonderful performance and double-concert by the acclaimed Muntu Dance Theater of Chicago and the internationally known singer, La Negra Graciana. This world premiere will depict the story of Yanga, an enslaved African in Mexico who became the founder of the first town of freed slaves in the Americas. For reservations, please call 312-738-1503, ext. 150.

Guided Tours

Monday through Friday, 10 am – 3 pm
every hour on the hour \$50 per group
(Groups should be larger than 10 and less than 45)

Take advantage of a great field trip opportunity that will expose students to the rich history of the African Presence in Mexico. Students will view and interact with the works of art that tell an important story that is often overlooked in textbooks. Use this museum program to extend the learning experience from the classroom to the galleries. In addition, teachers will receive grade-appropriate and standards-based activities to prepare students for the visit. For reservations, please call 312.738.1503, ext. 142.

Aydee Rodríguez López, Danza del Toro de Petate, 2005, Oil on canvas



Tour+Activity

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10 am & 12 pm

Enhance your students' visit to the Museum by participating in our popular **Tour+Activity** hands-on workshops centered on special themes in the exhibition. For reservations & prices, call 312.738.1503, ext. 138.

Grades 3-12

- iCarnaval!
- My Treasure, My Personal Sketchbook
- Elizabeth Catlett and the Beauty of the Human Form

Grades 9-12

- Elizabeth Catlett and the Creative Process
- Casta Paintings

Elizabeth Catlett, Bread, 1968, Linocut, 12/35, Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum Permanent Collection, 1993.49, Museum Purchase Fund.

**Arte Ambulante (Art on the Go)**

During this special exhibition, the Museum's Education Department is taking an additional set of hands-on workshops and educational lectures on the road. Teachers and students may select from the following programs that are tailored to all grades and content areas. For more information & scheduling, call 312.738.1503, ext. 139.

Hands-on workshops:

- Afro-Mexican Art: *Printmaking*
- Forming Identity: *Sculpture*
- Nuestro Ritmo (Our Rhythm)

Lecture/Discussion Presentation:
(Recommended for grades 6-12)

- Casta Paintings
- Afro-Latino Rhythms

Elizabeth Catlett, Playing, 1983, Linocut, Courtesy of Hampton University Museum

SAVE THE DATE! Chicago Día del Niño Family Festival
Saturday, April 8 11 am – 4 pm
UIC Pavilion 525 S. Racine FREE, Gratis



Join the

MEXICAN FINE ARTS CENTER MUSEUM

and receive all the benefits that membership has to offer!

Enjoy special member prices as you learn about and experience the missing chapter in history of the African contributions to Mexican culture.

Your membership entitles you to the following benefits for one full year:

- Placement on our priority mailing list, including our new monthly E-Newsletter
- 15% discount at our gift shop, Tienda Tzintzuntzan
- Invitations to special events including exhibition openings, educational programs and our annual Cinco de Mayo Gala
- Discounted admission to performing arts events including performances at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance
- Reciprocal membership to the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum in Chicago

During *The African Presence in México*, receive special exhibition programming discounts for the following performances, lectures, and special events at the MFACM and the Harris Theater for Music and Dance:

- Adult & Educator Workshops and Classes (February - May)
- Carnival, our annual social event (February 24)
- Afro-Mexicano Studies Symposium (April 1)
- Muntu Dance Theater of Chicago & La Negra Graciana (May 18)
- Cultural Memories - Crossover Foods (August 19)

To learn more about membership, or to sign up, visit our website at www.mfacmchicago.org or call (312) 738-1503 ext. 116.

Thank you once again for your support.

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Illinois Arts Council

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Travel provided by



Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum

1852 W. 19th Street Chicago, IL 60608-2706

312.738.1503 www.mfacmchicago.org

The African Presence in México From Yanga to the Present

Page 1 top image : Agustín V. Casasola, Retrato de una soldadera de Michoacan, 1910, sepia-toned enlarged print from original photo negative, 48 15/16" x 35 11/16" (visible image size), Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum Permanent Collection, 1991.148, Gift of Pilsen Neighbors, photo credit: Michael Tropea

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