#### Northeastern Illinois University

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Northeastern Illinois University

Volume 5 No. 3

1975

### EL TALLER

One of QUE ONDEE SOLA's objectives is to publish articles that relate to activities or happenings in our latino communities. In the past two years the city of Chicago has come to know one latino organization in specific. This organization is called EL TALLER. El Taller is a latino group that posseses the fine quality of uniting and bringing together all the latino groups through their cultural activities. Seeing El Taller's work is a stimulating experience that will not be soon forgotten.

El Taller is an artistic organization working within the latino community promoting cultural awareness and identity through the medium of art.

Three years ago, several latino artists began conducting workshops in apartments, in the streets, or wherever the need and interest developed.

El Taller means workshop. A workshop is a place where interested people learn and develope a specific art. El Taller is based on the idea that the artistic talent in our communities must be recognized and developed.

Recently, I had an opportunity to sit in on one of El Taller's membership meetings, and afterwards talking to some of its members. I asked some of them for a history of El Taller.

Many of the members feel that as young latinos growing up in this city their creativity had been surpressed, therefore, they

never had any workshops and latino art was never developed. One of El Taller's goals is to break away from this.

This meant that they needed some sort of organization. For one whole summer some of the members sat down and rolled the whole thing out. One of El Taller's main goals would be to teach the people in the streets-the drop outs.

"There's alot of clubs around here. One of them, the Eagles, has about two or three hundred members. Most of them are in school, but there are alot of drop outs. We work with some of them and they really get into it. They learn alot. They like to hang out in the streets so it's kind of hard to get them into the workshops. That's all part of it though. We're trying to set up some kind of program to reach out to those people. There's plenty of talent and we have to help develope it."

Other goals of El Taller are to make latino art a happening in the latino community, and to develope trades among our people. One of the ways in which El Taller is changing is that they are attracting many students.

"If an organization without money like P.S.P. or the Young Lords ask us to do a slide show, a painting exhibit, or a poetry reading, we usually do it for them. We do the same thing for the church in our community. We've performed in the playground, in the universities-Champaign Urbana, Circle Campus, Northeastern, Michigan State, at

the Y.M.C.A. We do it wherever they ask us. We try to get some money because there is alot of work involved and no one gets paid. We're all volunteers. So, if we get a little money for each show we could do much more."

Presently El Taller is running workshops in Silkscreening, Drawing and Painting, Photography, Poetry, Mural, Theater, and Dance. There's also a workshop in music. The music workshop is in three parts:

1) Cuatro-taught by Alex Porrata.

2) Guitar-taught by Dean Karabotsos.

3) Percussion-taught by Gustavo Pena.

El Taller's audience is the latino community in general. They beleive there should be unity in the latino community.

Gamaliel Ramirez, one of El Taller's artists, and to many of us Chicago's finest latino artist said, "One of my paintings right now is about Puerto Ricans and the importance of unity. We use our art to educate our audience. Art is communication, so we use our art to relate the messages so that the people can pick them out."

"We hope that latino people could eventually afford to support latino art. We have new people coming to El Taller all the time. Some of them come, learn, and then leave to do their own thing. That's good! We're into that. We know they're not going to forget where they first started out. If they get it together they'll turn around and help us. They'll help the kids in the neighborhood-buy them a camera or something. As it is right now they can't even afford to buy paint. We're a poor community."

El Tailer wants people to take the initiative of becomming members, therefore, they have to decide to become active in the workshops and come to their meetings.

El Taller recently held a cocktail party in order to obtain pledges for future support. At this point, El Taller has support from its immediate community. However, they feel the need to grow, and broaden their support. The guests invited to attend were from a variety of positions and backgrounds, to compliment their need for growth.

El Taller was recently granted \$5,000 from the Lutheran Church Foundation. Rev. Julio Loza, local representative of the Church Foundation, presented a check to Ms. Emma Rodriguez, treasurer of El Taller. During that occasion El Taller made a presentation which included music, poetry reading, and a display of the visual arts.

N. Fremont. Anyone interested is urged to drop by or call 348-6305

## **Cultural Night**

On Friday, October 31, 1975 the Spanish club at Northeastern presented "Noche Cultural Hispanoamericano".

The show was a cultural event that proved to be a real tribute to all Latin American countries.

The program consisted of dances from different countries such as Mexico, Puerto Rico, Columbia, and Cuba. Poetry readings by Latin American poets, songs by the chorus under the direction of Mr. Julio Jolly, and soloists, and a ballet by Vivian Bustamante were also part of the evening's fine entertainment.

How can we forget Miss Bruno's and Miss Lopez's interpretation of Chanita y la Tuntantun? How can the audience forget the lit candles, the costumes, and the gleam of the machetes in la "Cumbia Sampuesana"? How about the expert timing and the beauty of the Flamenco Dances?

The whole production was a perfect example of much of the talent here at Northeastern. The joint effort of all the students and proffesors who participated, or helped coordinate the program I'm sure was greatly appreciated by the entire audience.

# CIENTOS de BORICUAS-E.U. al 2do. CONGRESO PSP

Bajo la consigna "Una Sóla Nación, Un Sólo Partido", expresión más alta del puertorriqueño que reside en Estados Unidos, cientos de puertorriqueños representando organizaciones comunales, estudiantiles, gremios y a su Partido partirán para San Juan este próximo 5 de diciembre en calidad de representantes a participar en la sesión de clausura del Segundo Congreso del Partido Socialista Puertorriqueño (PSP).

Este evento tiene repercusiones de alta trascendencia para el pueblo puertorriqueno compuesto de unos 5 millones de nacionales. Nosotros, los boricuas que nos hemos visto forzados a venir a este país por
la condición colonial que está sujeto nuestro país, somos parte integral de esos 5
millones.

Es el Segundo Congreso del PSP la suma del esfuerzo colectivo de cientos de millares de puertorriqueños que luchamos por la independencia nacional y por el cambio radical en las estructuras económicas tanto en Puerto Rico como en los Estados Unidos.

En Estados Unidos somos víctimas diarias del racismo, el contínuo ataque de las fuerzas represivas, la mala educación dada a nuestros hijos, la constante amenaza del casero a tirarnos a las calles, la mala vivienda... somos los últimos en ser empleados y los primeros en ser despedidos y aún más. Nos vemos atacados por el mismo enemigo que explota al pueblo trabajador en el suelo nacional. Es por ello, que nosotros desde las mismas entrañas nos unimos a la lucha sin fronteras de nuestros hermanos en Puerto Rico.

Estamos seguros que la representación de esos cientos de boricuas al Congreso de nuestro Partido tendrá un impacto en la vida de cada puertorriqueño. En este congreso sentaremos las bases programáticas por las cuales nos regiremos durante los próximos años, entendiendo la necesidad de elevar la lucha a los niveles necesarios para alcanzar la plena soberanía de nuestra patria y construir una nueva sociedad sin explotadores

ni explotados.
En Chicago se organizarán actividades
en donde los diferentes participantes
informarán e intercambiarán con nosotros

informarán e intercambiarán con nosotros la experiencia histórica de la cuál serán partícipes.

UNA SOLA NACION, UNA MISMA LUCHA!
UNA SOLA NACION, UN SOLO PARTIDO!

Por Rosa M. Alvarez Secretaria de Información y Propaganda PSP, Zona Chicago























# CLASES.

C.L.A.S.E.S. (Center for Latin American Studies), formerly Aqui Estoy, was found in March, 1969, by two active people in the the Westtown community, Rosa Hernandez (now Ramirez), and Rose Brendsl, a faculty member at N.I.U., who saw the needs for an education center and felt that N.I.U., being an Urban University would meet their needs. Their goals were to reach the young and adult who wanted to have a higher education and improve themselves in oral English.

Rosa Hernandez and Rose Brendsl felt that the participation of students at Northeastern was needed. They went to students and approached them to get involved. Some students went into the program and helped set up some goals for it. In less than a year the program died down, because these two members had to leave to go on to further education.

It was at this time that Silvia Rodriguez and Elba Rivera, students at Northeastern, felt that the program should still stay because of its needs. This was when former and alumni members of the Union for Puerto Rican Students set up a committee to search for a Director for the Program. Through their interest and the help of the administration they were able to hire Miguel Velasquez, former Director of C.L.A.S.E.S. Miguel felt that the name of Aqui Estoy should be changed to a name that had more meaning to the community. He was the person who named it C.L.A.S.E.S. His work did not show much progress, because of all the time it needed. was a short amount of participation between students and Director. He searched for a place in the Westtown area that would be the right setting. He wrote the proposal for the budgeting and because his job was not functioning and the committee composed of members and former members of U.P.R.S. (Union for Puerto Rican Students) felt that his presence would no longer be of any use to C.L.A.S.E.S.

In July of 1975, President Mullen asked the U.P.R.S. and other active people in the Westtown community to set up a list of names that could serve in an Advisory Council to C.L.A.S.E.S.

After receiving a list from the Westtown Community, a list from the Latino faculty at Northeastern and a list from the U.P.R.S. from that same University, he sought out to invite some people to the council.

Feeling that he had made the best choice, he met with the U.P.R.S., who were working with him and gave them a list which he had picked. The list was composed of seven students, three parents, who were familiar with C.L.A.S.E.S., four Faculty members, and three active members of Latino Agencies in the Westtown community. The Union for Puerto Rican Students was not satisfied with this, being that they felt that a consensus was not met by the President, but it was them who had sent the President a list from which, he cpicked seven students and the three Latino Agencies community leaders. Disagreements made four of these students not accept the council.

The Council was then set up because the other members felt that the program was needed and differences shouldn't stop its function. After the third meeting a Chairman and a Co-Chairman (This being a Community member and a student from Northeastern), were chosen and it was then when the roles for a Director was taken. Within the Advisory Council a volunteering committee was set up. This committee was composed of two students, two faculty, and one comunity member. Ads for the Director position were printed in the press and announced.

By September 20, 1975, the council had met several times, because of the need of advise. The final decision was to interview three candidates. Each were given time for their interviews and a set up questions that had a great amount of preparing. The council met after the interviews and sent their advise to the Vice-President of Academic, who was in charge of the hiring. It was soon known that, because of this Advisory Council and being present for the interviews, Dr. Smith, Acting V.P. of Acedemic Affairs, hired Mr. Jose Acevedo.

On October 14, 1975, Dr. Ann Smith invited two representatives of each Latino Organization of Northeastern, to attend a meeting at her office. It was then when she announced to these people

the hiring of Mr. Acevedo. It was their responsability to take it to their Organization.

Now that you have a brief history on how the C.L.A.S.E.S. Advisory Council is functioning, let's see an interview of Mr. Jose Acevedo, Director of C.L.A.S.E.S

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: After migrating from Puerto Rico at the age of eleven, I grew up in Chicago's

West Town Community.

Q: Where was most of your education?
A: I attended grammar schools in West
Town and graduated from Holy Trinity High
School. My college education was completed at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary
while studying for the Roman Catholic
Priesthood of the Archdiocese of Chicago.
After ordination, I took graduate courses
in Spanish Literature at the University
of Illinois, Chicago Circle Campus. I
received a Masters of Science Degree
from Boston University in Counseling.

Q: When did you learn about the Director position for C.L.A.S.E.S.?

A: In August of this year, I found out the position was open and I submitted a resume.

resume. Q: Have you ever been a Director prior to now?

A: Yes, I was Social Services Director of a community agency in Boston and also Director of the Leadership Training Component of the Latino Institute in Chicago. As a priest, I also held several positions in Chicago's West Town Community.

Q: Are you familiar with the area where C.L.A.S.E.S. is located?
A: The Center is located at 2434 West North Avenue and is known as the Educational Resource Center, Northeastern Illinois University. Very familiar.

Q: Are you familiar with Agencies in that Community?

A: Yes. I am familiar with Agencies, Organizations, and Institutions, and I have worked with some of them and I have been a board member of some.

Q: Are you acquainted with Northeastern's Campus?

A: For the past weeks I have been meeting on campus with faculty members, students; and administrators.

Q: When were you appointed Director?

A: On October 13, 1975.

Q: Have you been informed that you have to set up the goals?

A: Yes, with the help and cooperation of the Advisory Council and the University Administration the programs to be developed will meet the educational needs of the Community.

Q: What are these goals?

A: They are the development and implementation of programs that respond in a significant way to the educational needs, both academic and non-academic, of the people in the Community.

Q: How many people make-up the Advisory Council?

A: The Advisory Council is made up of twelve people who are representatives of faculty, students, and of members of the Latino Community at large.

Q: What type of programs will the Center have?

A: We are in the process of designing courses for credit, seminars, and workshops for the people in the community.

Q: Which people in the Community? A: People who would be interested and who will commit themselves to further their education.

Q: During what hours will the Center be open?

A: During the week, on mornings, afternoons, and evenings and possibly on Saturdays.

Q: How do you feel about your position?
A: I feel strong and confident and I welcome this challenge to serve people in a very significant and important way.
People in the Community have shown enthusiasm and support and have expressed their cooperation personally to me and in letters to President Mullen.

Q: When will the Center open?

A: Tentatively in December.

(cont. on pg. 10...)

(cont.from pg. 8...)

This article was the opinion of the author and not the opinion of the staff.

Proceedings are now under way to investigate the selection of the present C.L.A.S.E.S. committee and its newly selected director. These investigations are being conducted by the Northeastern Student Senate, Que Ondee Sola, and the coalition on C.L.A.S.E.S.

Maria Rodriguez

### translation

Entrevista con el nuevo Director, Sr. José Acevedo.

- P: ¿Donde te criaste? C: Despues de emigrar de Puerto Rico a la edad de once años, me crié en la comunidad de West Town, en Chicago.
- P: Donde estudiastes? Estudie en escuelas elementales en West Town, y me gradue de la escuela secundaria, Holy Trinity. Terminé mis estudios Universitarios en el seminario, St. Mary of the Lake, donde estudie para sacerdote, de católico de la Arquidiócesis de Chicago. Despues de mi ordenación, tomé cursos graduados en literatura Española en la Universidad de Illinois, Chicago Circle Campus. Recibí una Maestría en Ciencia de la Universidad de Boston en Consejería.
- P: ¿Cuando supistes sobre la posición de Director de C.L.A.S.E.S. C: En agosto de este mismo año, supe que la posición estaba abierta y sometí un resúmen.
- P: Has tenido experiencia como Director?
  C: Si, fuí Director de Servicios Sociales de una agencia de la comunidad en Boston, y también Director del componente de adiestramiénto en Liderato en el Instituto Latino en Chicago. Como sacerdote, también asumí varias posiciones en la comunidad de

West Town de Chicago.

- P: ¿Conoces la area donde C.L.A.-S.E.S. esta localizado? C: Este centro esta localizado en el 2434 West North Avenue y se conoce come el Centro de Recursos Educativo, Universidad Northeastern Illinois. Conozco el area muy bien.
- P: ¿ Estás familiarizado con las agencias en esa Comunidad?
  C: Sí, conozco las agencias, las organizaciones, y las instituciónes, y he trabajado en algunas de ellas y he sido miembro de las juntas.
  - P: C Te has familiarizado con el campus de Northeastern?
    C: He pasado las tres ultimas semanas reuniendome en el campus con miembros de la facultad, estudiantes, y administradores.
  - P: ¿ Cuando te nombraron Director?? C: el 13 de octubre de 1975
  - P: Se te ha informado que Ud. tiene que establecer las metas?
    C: Si, con la ayuda y la co-operación de la junta de consejos y la Administración de la Universidad los programs que se van a desarrollar lograran las necesidades educativas de la comunidad.
- P: ¿Cuales son las metas?
  C: Ellas son el desarrollo y la inplementación de programas que respondan en una manera significante a esas necesidades educaciónales, académicas, y no académicas de la gente de la Comúnidad.
- P: ¿Cuantos miembros tienen en la junta de consejeros?
  C: La junta de consejo esta compuesta de doce personas que son representativos de la facultad, estudiantes, y miembros de la Comúnidad Latina.
- P: ¿Que tipo de programa se ofre-

ceran en el centro?
C: Estamos en el proceso de diseñar cursos para credito, seminarios, y talleres, para la gente
en la Comúnidad.

P: ¿Cuales gente en la Comunidad? C: Personas que esten interezados y que se comprometan a continuar sus estudios.

P: cA que horas estara el centro abierto?

C: Durante la semana, en la manana, por las tardes, en la noche, y posiblemente sabados.

P: ¿Como te sientes en esta posición?

C: Tengo la fortaleza y la confianza, y he aceptado esta posición de servirle a la Comunidad
en una manera muy significante e
importante. La gente en la
Comunidad me han demostrado entuciazmo y apollo y han esprezado
su cooperación a mi personalmente
y en cartas que le han escrito al
Presidente de la Universidad,
Dr. James H. Mullen.

P: Cuando se abrira el Centro?

C: Tentativamente en diciembre.

La opinion expresada en este articulo fue lo del autor y no la de la junta directiva de este periodico.

Actualmente, se estan llevando acabo investigaciones sobre la seleccion del comite consejero de C.L.A.S.E.S. y, consequentemente, la seleccion de su nuevo director. Estas investigaciones estan dirigidas por: el senado estudiantil, Que Ondee Sola, y la colicion sobre C.L.A.S.E.S..

#### WINTER CONCERTS

C.C.A.B. (Commuter Center Activities Board) would like to book a Latino group for the Winter Trimester of 1976 on the Northeastern campus. Please number the following according to your preference or add names to the list. Your name and I.D. number must be on the survey to make it valid.

	MONGO SANTAMARIA  EL CHICANO  THE LEBRON BROTHERS  EDDIE PALMIERI
	Others
	Would your guest be willing to pay \$2.00 to attend with you?
	YES NO
leas OLA	se return your surveys to QUE ONDEE (E-210) by December 10, 1975
lame	I.D.#

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