

11-22-93

Dear ASLA/REFORMA Member:

This year's ASLA Services to the Spanish Speaking Roundtable annual program is entitled, "Library Services to Latinos in Arizona: A Diversity of Perspectives".

My goal in putting this program together is to take a good, critical look at the status of library services to Latinos in Arizona, from a variety of perspectives and levels of service. I have asked two professionals in the field of education, Pernela Jones, Tucson Unified School District Bilingual Education Specialist, and Lupe Castillo, Chicano Studies instructor at Pima Community College, to join two librarians, Liz Rodriguez Miller, Director of the Tucson-Pima Library System, and Christine Marin, Chicano Studies Librarian at Arizona State University, in discussing and assessing the various issues that challenge us as we work to serve and educate the Latino population in Arizona.

The format for the program, slated to occur at 9am on Friday, December 3, will be as follows: each participant will give a brief, 7 minute presentation on her perspective of the status of library services to Latinos in Arizona with a focus on her particular areas of expertise, so that a mosaic of issues and viewpoints is presented. Following these, questions and comments will be shared with the audience. What will emerge, hopefully, will be a better understanding of what needs to be done, as well as an understanding of the common issues librarians and educators face as we look to improve the work we do.

While there will indeed be many exciting programs going on at this year's conference, I urge you to attend this one. The success of our program will depend a great deal on your attendance and participation.

Another event I urge you to attend is the annual business meeting of the ASLA Services to the Spanish Speaking Roundtable. It will take place on Thursday, December 2, from 4pm to 5pm. (see the conference program for location). In recent years, the Roundtable

and the Arizona Chapter of REFORMA have been, in theory, one and the same. In practice, however, this has not worked out as well as it should have. I would like to take this time to discuss revitalizing the Arizona Chapter of REFORMA as a separate entity apart from the SSS Roundtable. Your input is needed. If you cannot attend the conference and/or this meeting, but would like to comment on this issue, feel free to contact me with your feedback.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Sincerely,

Bob Diaz
ASLA '93-94 SSS Chair