The Hispanic Research Collection

Building the Hispanic Research Collection in UH Libraries Special Collections is an important priority for University of Houston, and UH Libraries. Located on campus, in the M.D. Anderson Library, the Hispanic Research Collection is a primary focus of UH Libraries’ strategic plan to build original & unique archival collections embodying the essence of our region, people, and economy.

The Hispanic Research Collection represents a significant priority of the University of Houston, and of UH Libraries, supporting President Renu Khator’s strategic goals of: national competitiveness, community advancement, national and local recognition, resource competitiveness, and student success.

With the growth of Hispanic studies in colleges and universities, UH Libraries is building a strong archival and research collection that will serve students and scholars in the disciplines of Hispanic studies, art, English, history, law, music, sociology, and more. The collection supports UH Libraries’ core value of providing resources that promote and value diversity while reflecting the unique essence of our people and our region.

The Hispanic Research Collection will serve the community to enrich and empower our students, our university, and the world. In a diverse urban city, like Houston, every person’s potential can be elevated, and the economy fueled, by simply having a leading public university library woven into the fabric of the community. Building a significant Hispanic Research Collection will capture the creativity and drive of Hispanic families, businesses, and culture that influences others around the nation and around the world.

Mission

The mission of the Hispanic Research Collection is to document Houston’s Mexican American and Latina/o culture, providing a launching pad for scholarship on immigration, identity, borderlands, artistic expression, language, and human rights.

We do this by building a unique collection of distinction that documents Hispanic people, their community and enterprise in Texas. We build from the rich cultural heritage of the Houston region to encompass national and global impact.
The Hispanic Research Collection will bring national and international scholars to the University of Houston to research and publish within a wide array of subjects, and attract top students, faculty and leaders to Houston. Our mission supports the activities of our community while helping to fulfill UH’s ability to educate leaders with a future vision that is grounded in awareness of the past.

**Vision**
Our vision is to become a leading regional Hispanic archive offering a rich resource for scholarship and learning about the Hispanic community. Such a collection reflective of the Hispanic community in Houston will serve to document and further Houston’s cultural legacy for future generations.

**Initiatives**
In support of this mission and vision, University of Houston Libraries is:

- **Acquiring unique primary sources** that document the activities and contributions of the greater Hispanic community, its leaders, and organizations.
- **Developing presentations, programming, exhibits and digital assets** in partnership with the Hispanic community, area organizations, and campus units, to enrich the academic and intellectual objectives of students, faculty, scholars, and lifelong learners.
- **Preserving materials** that would otherwise be lost.
- **Digitizing collection materials** to make them accessible to students, teachers, scholars, industry, and activists beyond the limits of print and the walls of the library onto the global stage.
- **Creating on-line and on-site exhibits** of collection materials to engage the public with the Hispanic Research Collection.
- **Engaging UH and community students** from different disciplines to be a part of our archival, exhibition, digital scholarship, and research programs, providing unique opportunities to gain experience and understanding of Hispanic history and the Hispanic experience.
- **Empowering students** with greater knowledge of the Hispanic presence and their legacy.
- **Organizing speakers and events** that highlight our collections and programs.
- **Securing and preserving Houston’s cultural legacy** for future scholarship.

UH Libraries Hispanic Research Collection embodies our significant local heritage. It serves to provide an outstanding documentary resource for teaching, learning, research, culture, and enterprise.

**UH LIBRARIES VISION**
A community nurtured by curiosity and creativity that drives lifelong learning and scholarship.

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