

Dr. Jorge A. Huerta receives award from National Chicano Council on Higher Education Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program

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Dr. Jorge A. Huerta, assistant professor of drama at the University of California, San Diego, is one of 16 faculty members at colleges and universities in the United States who have received awards from the National Chicano Council on Higher Education (NCCHE) Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program.

Huerta was awarded \$10,000 which he will use to complete a book on "teatro Chicano," a subject on which he has lectured throughout the United States. He has been a member of the Department of Drama faculty at UC San Dieqo since 1975. Before that he was an associate and a lecturer in the Departments of Chicano Studies and Dramatic Arts at UC Santa Barbara, where he was instrumental in the founding of El Teatro de la Esperanza, a university/community theater group which has performed throughout California, Mexico and abroad.

He has served as technical director of the Department of Communications at Pasadena City College, visiting professor of dramatic arts at CSU-Los Angeles and director of drama at Rubidoux High School, Riverside, Calif.

Huerta, 35, has been active in both professional and educational theatrical productions since the age of 12 when he appeared on television's Ford Theater in "Manic Formula." He has directed and designed productions throughout the Southwest and Mexico and was a founding director of El Teatro Nacional de Aztlan (National Theater of Aztlan).

He participated in the Department of State's American Specialist Program in November 1977, traveling to Panama City, Mexico City and Caracas to conduct a series of seminars with other theater directors and groups interested in the development of ethnic theater.

At UC San Diego Huerta has directed original productions of "El Garden" by Carlos Morton and his own Chicano adaptation of Arthur Miller's "A View From the Bridge." His publications include "A Bibliography of Chicano and Mexican Dance, Drama and Music" (1971) and "El Teatro de la Esperanza: An Anthology of Chicano Drama" (1973). He has written articles for Theatre Quarterly Revista de la Universidad de Mexico, TEXTUAL (Lima, Peru), Aztlan, Latin American Theatre Review, The Oxford Companion to the Theatre, La Luz and Revista Chicano Riquena.

The National Chicano Council on Higher Education, in addition to its 1978-79 grant to Huerta, has recommended awards of approximately \$110,000 to 15 Chicano faculty members at colleges and universities in the United States. The NCCHE's Post-Doctoral Felloswhip Program is supported by the Ford Foundation and is sponsored by the Educational Testing Service. It is designed to increase the number of Chicano faculty members holding tenured positions in American institutions of higher learning.

According to NCCHE, a survey conducted shortly after the council was founded in 1975 indicated that there were only about 50 tenured Chicano faculty members in colleges and universities in Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah and Washington -- states of major Chicano population concentration.

For information contact: Public Information Office 452-3120

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