



Opportunity to express the artist in you  
Down To Earth Media,LLC  
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## VIVA LA HISTORIA

**ELDERS' WISDOM LIGHTS THE PATH FOR THE FUTURE!**

**(The vision is to utilize documentaries films to educate future generations about their heritage. )**

### MISSION STATEMENT OF THE *VIVA LA HISTORIA* PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to document the language, traditions and history of the Spanish Speaking people of Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico. Film is the media used for documentation. Oral histories of elders in the communities is an important part of the project. The rationale for this project is to document for future generations a way of life that is rapidly disappearing. It is important because it has formed a foundation for a unique cosmo vision of these peoples and their descendants.

## TO THE COLORADO SOCIETY OF HISPANIC GENEALOGY:

Rick Vigil's project about the Spanish speaking peoples of Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico is extremely important in order to document on film the history, culture, oral language, and stories of the elders in many of the small towns and "placitas".

Rick Vigil is passionate about preserving the history, culture, oral language, and stories of the Spanish speaking elders and he knows that film is the way in which to capture the authenticity of the peoples who still reside in the small towns and "placitas" in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico.

The CSHG is a 501C3 organization with the reputation and membership of many individuals who have their "roots" in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico and such a collaborative project could forever document the many relatives in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico who are elders and who have such authentic oral stories.

Rick Vigil has the experience, expertise, and the commitment to document the rich history of our "Spanish speaking peoples". What Rick would very much appreciate would be the way in which he would be able to launch his project with the support of your 501C3 organization.

As a result, Rick Vigil would be able to follow up with other organizations and foundations for procurement of funding to launch his vision, mission statement, and proposals outlining his plan of action to accomplish his goal.

For years, children, youth, and adults have enjoyed the oral histories and stories of our elders. What a dream come true if our elders were memorialized on film that would also be housed at the CSHG.

Please consider this worthy endeavor. It would mean so much not only to Rick Vigil but also to the many people in Southern Colorado and Northern New Mexico who love and value their elders.

Sincerely,

Dr. Martha M. Urioste  
Denver Public Schools Montessori Principal  
Family Star Co-Founder

Nora Jacquez, Ph.D.

Attorney at Law

Nora Jacquez has a Ph.D in Spanish and was a professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies at Oberlin College in Ohio. At forty seven she decided to go to law school. She graduated from the University of Colorado School of Law and practiced as a partner in the law firms, Jacquez and Arnold and Judd, Jacquez, Arnold and Durfee in Denver for eight years. During that time she practiced Worker's Compensation and Personal Injury Law. She also represented a community in the San Luis Valley against a gold mine. Part of this work was pro bono. She later served as part of a task force with members of the state regulatory agency and the mining industry to revise the hard rock mining laws in Colorado. The revision submitted by the task force was approved unanimously by the Colorado Legislature.

She then decided she wanted to see the world and have experiences she had always dreamed of. She has traveled to over ninety countries, trekking in Nepal, backpacking in Patagonia, hiking in the Alps, the Dolomites and the Tatra Mountains in Poland. She walked across England and did the Camino de Santiago in Spain. She crossed the Karakorum Highway, the highest road in the world, from Islamabad, Pakistan to Kashgar in China. She volunteered in a Community Law Center in Christ Church New Zealand. She taught English as a volunteer to Tibetan Monks and Nuns in

Dharamsala, India. Four years ago she volunteered at a nursing home in Taybeh, Palestine. She has worked with Seniors at a Center in Avignon, France and once even apprenticed to a carpenter in Oaxaca, Mexico where she lives three months of the year. In Denver she volunteers with The Rocky Mountain Immigration Advocacy Network and Project Angel Heart. She speaks French, German and Spanish and has studied in Austria, England, France, Mexico and Spain. She has authored four books and several articles. Her books include THE GREAT TAMALE WAR AND OTHER TALES, and BRAVO, STORIES MEDIUM TRUE, two books of bilingual short stories, All the proceeds are donated to organizations dedicated to social justice and non violence.

In 2008 she was selected to be an Artist in Residence as a story teller at Rocky Mountain National Park. In 2013 she wrote in Spanish and English a dramatic monologue on her ancestral grandmother who lived in five different cultures in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The monologue was a fund raiser for children's programs to a sold out house in Oaxaca, Mexico. She then participated in Oaxaca's International Storytelling Festival. Nora presented this monologue to the Taos Historical Society in Taos where her ancestral grandmother, Maria Rosa Vialpando was born. In June 2013 she presented her monologue at the Museo de las Americas in Denver, Colorado. In October, 2013 she performed the monologue at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado where she currently serves on the Board of Trustees.

Antonio Esquibel, Ph.D.  
Emeritus Professor  
Metropolitan State University of Denver

Manuel D. Salazar  
Archivist & Genealogist  
Colorado Society of Hispanic Genealogy

Rick Vigil  
Film Director & Producer  
Down To Earth Media, LLC

My name is Rick Vigil an independent education and documentarian film producer originally from the San Luis Valley and proprietor of Down To Earth Media, LLC.

I have produced several film documentaries titled “Spirituality and Its People” “El Valle de San Luis” and “A Story to Tell” “The Father Al Muñiz Story” including a variety of original music compositions recorded on CD.

Recently I completed my third documentary titled “A Product of the Chicano Movement” “History of Colorado’s Rural Community Health Centers” Virgilio Licon, MD, packaged with a interactive study guide, eight video modules together with supplemental materials.

Dr. Paula Espinoza at the University of Colorado Denver--Downtown Campus and Dr. Charlene A. Galarneau, at Wellesley College in Wellesley, Massachusetts have both have included these materials as part of their curriculum.

University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, the University of Colorado in Boulder, Denver Office of Children Affair, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Denver Public School, Red Rocks Community College, the University of Colorado Denver-Downtown Campus and Colorado Community Health Centers (CCHN) all have been proud supporters of my work.

Video is a powerful medium and it has the capability to transport the outside world into any classroom environment. It also has the ability to educate and illustrate conceptual ideas in a very short and concise amount of time. Video incites interest and most important provides a visual experience that can help convey a better understanding of the individual topic.

“Exploring new opportunities to collaborate”

Kind Regards. Rick Vigil

A Story To Tell “Father Al Muñiz Story”

<https://youtu.be/jdBOHYVEFHo>

Spirituality and Its People (Penitentes)

[https://youtu.be/5ygr\\_6UCnQ4](https://youtu.be/5ygr_6UCnQ4)

**La Misión de San Miguel:** St. Michael from the Mountain

<https://youtu.be/VyHtzXZeJfU>

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