

In 2012, roughly half of the Hispanic-American population (nearly 26.5 million people) tuned in regularly to Spanish-speaking television. However, even today, in a country that has since added two million Hispanics, the history and cultural impact of Spanish-speaking TV remains mostly unexamined. Thankfully, the country today has UCR graduate student Steven Moreno-Terrill to address that issue.

Over the summer, Moreno-Terrill worked as one of only a dozen fellows selected from around the nation by the National Museum of Natural History, otherwise known as the Smithsonian, by participating in a prestigious six-week internship. The project, which was created by the Smithsonian Latino Studies Museum Program and is funded by a division of NBCUniversal Hispanic Studies called Telemundo, had Moreno-Terrill and others working with Smithsonian curators to help document the history of Spanish-language TV in the United States between the 1950's and 1980's.

According to Cathy Gudis, the director of UCR's Public History Program, Moreno-Terrill's selection is no small feat. "A very select group of students is chosen to participate...Working alongside curators at the National Museum of American History was an incredible opportunity [for Moreno-Terrill]."

At the museum, under the tutelage of Kathleen Franz, curator of the Division of Work and Industry at the Smithsonian, Moreno-Terrill says that he was able to add to the "understudied history of Spanish-language television in the US." He also says that he is "grateful and excited to have been able to work on this important project that honors the rich legacy of *nuestra gente* (our people) in the US television industry."

However, despite his success working on Spanish-television studies, Moreno-Terrill feels that he ultimately wants to expose the world to a different aspect of Hispanic culture; education.

Expecting to complete his master's degree in Public History in June, Moreno-Terrill says that he would like to eventually "create an interactive exhibit at [his] local museums that coordinates with school curriculum and community events," particularly an exhibit that focuses on the "emergence of segregated schooling in Riverside, the implementation of Americanization programs, and the various ways that Mexican Americans asserted their cultural citizenship through activism and community life."

As a third-generation Chicano, Moreno-Terrill says that it was his own K-12 schooling experience that motivated him to "learn about [his] own [educational] history and culture" and eventually become a scholar in the field. A field, he says, that has been extremely rewarding. During the internship, Moreno-Terrill and the other fellows were able to view objects in the Smithsonian collections related to Latino history such as a jacket that belonged to Tejano music legend Selena Quintanilla-Pérez, high-heeled shoes worn by singer Celia Cruz, and baseball star Robert Clemente's helmet.

Moreno-Terrill says that seeing the artifacts up close "gave a layer of meaning that was extremely impactful. It made the history real and tangible" and that the "museum studies

training [he] received through the fellowship empowered [him] to promote public awareness of Latino history and cultivate educational justice through culturally relevant curriculum and museum practices.”