



The Hispanic Arts Initiative is working to make these exciting activities happen. However, the support of the community is needed for them to succeed. To find out more or to assist with your time or money, please contact us at:

Hispanic Arts Initiative  
 Arts Council of Winston-Salem Forsyth County  
 Sawtooth Center for Visual Arts  
 226 N. Marshall St.  
 Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
 (336) 995-4351  
 hisparts@yahoo.com

The Hispanic League of the Piedmont Triad is an all volunteer association that seeks "to facilitate the inclusion, education, health and well-being of Hispanics / Latinos, . . . while promoting mutual cultural understanding, dignity, and respect." It sponsors an annual Fiesta, educational scholarships, Hispanic Heritage Week and many other projects and programs.

#### THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

- North Carolina Arts Council
- Hispanic League of the Piedmont Triad
- Arts Council of Winston-Salem Forsyth County
- Centenary United Methodist Church
- Qué Pasa, Latino Communications
- Wake Forest University Museum of Anthropology
- First Community Bank
- Hall Woodward Elementary School
- Konnoak Elementary School
- Las Estrellas Mexican Restaurant



HISPANIC  
**ARTS**  
 INITIATIVE

Enriching the cultural life  
 of our community





## CULTURAL ISOLATION

The majority of Hispanic residents in the North Carolina piedmont feel culturally adrift as they struggle to survive...They feel a great loss being cut off from their homeland and heritage. The problem of cultural isolation is worst for children and youth, whose desperate need to fit in leads often to a sense of inferiority and personal failure. With a lack of supervision in the afternoons, they are tempted to fill their time and needs with gangs, drugs or alcohol.

## HOPE, INSPIRATION AND PRIDE

The Hispanic Arts Initiative, begun in 2003 under the auspices of the Hispanic League of the Piedmont Triad, offers hope, inspiration, pride and direction to Hispanic children and adults, while also creating a bridge to the wider population. Drawing on the rich variety of Spanish speaking cultures represented by our local residents and utilizing professional artists already living here, HAI presents a wide variety of performances, workshops, classes and other activities with multiple benefits to enrich the life of our community.

## PAST & PRESENT ACTIVITIES

- **Saturday classes** in visual arts, music, dance, crafts and puppetry at Centenary United Methodist Church.
- **After school classes** in Latin dance, visual arts and puppetry at Hall Woodward & Konnoak Elementary Schools.
- **Teatro del Sol**, under Colombian puppeteer and theatre director, Fernando Cruz, producing works that entertain, touch and challenge the Hispanic community.

## FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- **Public performances** of theatre, puppetry, music and dance representing varied Latin American countries and cultures in affordable, family friendly settings.
- **A young adult folk dance troupe**, to be trained by Mexican dance teacher Guadalupe Riess, and a **Spanish language children's choir**, to be led by Venezuelan conductor Ariel Perez.
- **Murals addressing social concerns** such as AIDS and domestic violence to be organized by graphic artist Raul Montero working with local youth.

- **Seasonal and cultural celebrations** such as the Day of the Dead and Christmas posadas and pastorelas.
- **A Spanish language radio show** of dramatized stories, songs, and cultural information.

## GOALS

Drawing on the transformational power of the arts, the Hispanic Arts Initiative will:

- Increase pride among Hispanic residents in their heritage and in themselves.
- Encourage a mentally and physically healthy lifestyle as an alternative to alcohol, drugs, and gangs.
- Develop avenues of discipline and achievement that will positively impact students' academic performance and life accomplishments.
- Awaken the imagination and expand the sensitivity of participants to the arts and to the world around them.
- Stimulate thought about critical social and health issues.
- Build bridges among diverse Latino cultures and with the greater community.