



PRESS RELEASE

September 17, 2007
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Six Women. Ten Years. One Goal. Equality!

(Chicago....) Voces Primeras LLC, a production company dedicated to preserving the history of Latina feminist and activist women on film released its first documentary, “Las Mujeres de la Caucus Chicana” on September 1, 2007 in the Hoover Leppen Theatre at the Center on Halsted. Over 150 people came out to see an excerpt of the film and take part in a question and answer session with the director, Linda Garcia Merchant. Several women profiled in the film were also in attendance. The entire film will be shown at UIC’s Latino Cultural Center on October 10th at 6pm. The Latino Cultural Center is located at 803 S. Halsted – Lecture Center B2 in Chicago, Illinois.

Emerging from the feminist and Chicano movements of the 60s and 70s is a story of six Latinas who, through a series of “Aha!” moments answered the call to action. Their ideological differences, personal experiences and upbringings brought them to a monumental turning point in their lives – the National Women’s Political Caucus (NWPC) and the 1977 International Women’s Year National Women’s Convention. As chosen delegates from the states of Illinois, California and Texas, these women formed the NWPC Chicana Caucus – that represented Latina sisters across the nation and worked towards liberation.

Says film director Linda Garcia Merchant, “...our history as a part of a collective whole is not being preserved in any way...there is very little historical documentation on the lives of these women activists. Oral storytelling plays a very important role in the Hispanic culture. We must tell our stories. The goal of Voces Primeras LLC is to document the lives of Latina activist women that have played crucial and pivotal roles in our history. This information must be passed down to future generations or it will be lost forever. By creating a catalog of documentary films on Latina pioneers, specifically in the Midwest, it recognizes the importance of oral storytelling through visual media.”

Please contact Gaylon Alcaraz for further information or interview possibilities.

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Because we all have a voice.

www.vocesprimeras.com

SIX WOMEN. TEN YEARS. ONE GOAL. EQUALITY.

Las Mujeres

de la

Caucus Chicana



Film Premier 10.10.07 6-8PM

UIC Rafael Cintron Ortiz Latino Cultural Center

Lecture Center B2 803 S. Halsted M/C 218

Chicago, IL 60607 ph: 312-996-3095

This Event is Co-Sponsored by the
UIC Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Latinos- Latina Network
UIC Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women | UIC Department of Latino and
Latin American Studies | UIC Department of Gender and Women's Studies

A VOCES PRIMERAS, LLC PRODUCTION
Produced and directed by Linda Garcia Merchant
Cinematographer/Editor: Steven Lemieux Jordan
Still Photographer: Kathryn Haviland

Featuring: Margaret Cruz, Andrea Rivera Cano,
Ruth 'Rhea' Mojica Hammer, Martha Cotera,
Pauline Martinez and Lupe Anguiano

Length: 90 minutes

Contact information: Gaylon Alcaraz 312.330.5506