

THE ORAL HISTORY MA PROGRAM AND THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ETHNICITY AND RACE PRESENT
with Support from the Paul F. Lazarsfeld Lecture Series

Uncovering Hidden Histories: The Making of “Antonia Pantoja ¡Presente!”

THURSDAY, MARCH 14 FROM 6 TO 8 PM
LOCATION: 509 KNOX HALL

A Workshop with Lillian Jiménez

This workshop will discuss the context surrounding the creation of “Antonia Pantoja: ¡Presente!” a documentary on the work of Puerto Rican educator and visionary leader, Antonia Pantoja. Utilizing the extensive seventeen hour oral history Lillian Jiménez conducted with Dr. Pantoja and countless other oral histories of her collaborators, the documentary was fashioned after her death in 2002. Jiménez will present the methodologies utilized in conducting the oral histories of Pantoja’s collaborators as well as adversaries. Using documentary excerpts, the hidden history of Puerto Ricans and the paradigm shift from stereotypical victim to agent of action will be explored through Dr. Pantoja’s work.

For over thirty years, Lillian Jiménez has worked as a media arts center manager, independent producer, media activist, exhibitor, funder and educator. She founded and directed “Seeing Through AIDS” a pioneering media literacy project that trained thousands of health care workers in NYC. She produced “What Could You Do With A Nickel?,” that won a local Emmy for editing; short documentaries including “Steppin’ It Up” on Richie Perez, former Young Lords and anti police brutality activist and “SisterSong” about the work of women of color in reproductive rights. She is the Producer/Director of “Antonia Pantoja, ¡Presente!,” an hour-long documentary on visionary leader Dr. Antonia Pantoja who advocated for language and education rights. She was the founding chair of the National Association of Independent Latino Producers (NALIP), a membership organization for Latino producers. She is currently working on a new documentary about the Puerto Rican Left in New York City, the creation of a public art project in East Harlem, NY.

