

## ***Five Decades of Chicane Muralism***

### **Digital Exhibition Lesson Plan**

"From East LA to East Harlem: Mujeres in Murals" By Itzél Delgado-Gonzalez

#### **Pre-Visit Lesson Activity**

Theme: Public Art (Murals)

Grades K-12

#### Goals:

##### **Enhance awareness of art in their environment -**

Students will see murals located in their neighborhood or in East Harlem (a suggested tour is below).

**Think critically** - Students will discuss why they believe the mural is in their neighborhood and what themes and/or historical messages the mural represents.

**Learning as we go** - Students will learn about three historical figures, events, and/or themes raised in the murals visited.

#### Guiding Questions:

What figures, colors, and/or themes do you see, and why do you think these are present in the mural?

Do you feel a connection to any of the murals in your neighborhoods?

Why is it important to have this mural in the neighborhood?

What event or experience would you like to see represented in a new mural, and where in the neighborhood would it be placed?

#### Class Activity:

This lesson plan involves going on a tour of murals in East Harlem. Prior to the day of the trip, split the class into three groups. Group A will learn about Julia de Burgos, Group B will learn about Frida Kahlo, and Group C will learn about Nicholasa

Mohr. For younger classrooms, please see the suggested readings below.

While at the murals suggested, hold mini discussions. Each group will present what they know and learn about the person in the mural. Educators can refer to the guiding questions to elaborate on each mural and encourage student participation. The tour should last about an hour (with discussion time included).

#### Suggested Readings:

##### **Grades K-3**

- *A Mural for Mamita* by Alesia Alexander Greene (2002)
- *Hey, Wall: A Story of Art and Community* by Susan Verde (2018)
- *The Song of El Coqui and Other Tales of Puerto Rico* by Nicholasa Mohr (1995)

##### **Grades 4-7**

- *Murals: Walls that Sing* by George Ancona (2003)
- *Julia de Burgos* by Georgina Lázaro (2013)
- *Frida Kahlo: The Revolutionary Painter (Show Me History)* by James Buckley Jr. (2021)
- *All for the Better: A Story of El Barrio* by Nicholasa Mohr (1993)

##### **Grades 8-12**

- *Nilda* by Nicholasa Mohr (2011)
- *Paint the Revolution: Mexican Modernism, 1910-1950* by Matthew Affron (2016)
- *Through the Eyes of Rebel Women: The Young Lords 1969-1976* by Iris Morales (2016)
- *¡Chicana Power!: Contested Histories of Feminism in the Chicano Movement* by Maylei Blackwell (2011)

## A Mini-Tour: Women & East Harlem Murals

From North to South



### *El Regalo Mágico*

Location: 111<sup>th</sup> Street and Lexington Avenue

Pictured Here: Nicholasa Mohr

Read more here:

<http://mac-arte.blogspot.com/2016/02/el-regalo-magico-new-mural-in-nyc-with.html>



### *Remembering Julia de Burgos*

Location: 106<sup>th</sup> and Lexington Avenue

Pictured here: Julia De Burgos

Learn more here: [Film] *The Life and Poetry of Julia de Burgos* by Garcia Torres (26 mins)

<https://archive.org/details/thelifeandpoetryofjuliadeburgos>



### *Soldaderas*

Location: Inside the Modesto Flores Community Garden between 104<sup>th</sup> and 105<sup>th</sup> on Lexington Avenue

Pictured Here: Frida Kahlo & Julia de Burgos

Read more here:

<https://www.yasminhernandezart.com/soldaderas>



## Post-Visit Lesson Activity

Theme: Mujeres in the United States

Grades K-12

### Goals

**Highlight the connections between murals in East Los Angeles and East Harlem - *Homenaje a las Mujeres de Aztlán* (1976)** by Judithe Hernández may be miles away, but how does the content of this mural connect to those apparent in East Harlem murals?

**Appreciating and acknowledging the contributions of women in the Chicano and Young Lords Movements -** Students will learn about these two movements and the women who made change possible.

**Art, Literature, and History beyond the classroom setting -** Students will reflect on their communities as sites of knowledge.

### Guiding Questions

What connections do you see between the women in the East Harlem murals and those in *Homenaje a las Mujeres de Aztlán*?

How are East Harlem and East Los Angeles connected through struggle?

What role are murals playing in remembering the history of Latinas and Chicanas in these neighborhoods?

### Class Activity

Students will watch the following short videos found on YouTube:

- 1) "1968 - Puerto Rican Female Advocate Speaks Out"
- 2) "How the Young Lords revived community activism at The People's Church"
- 3) "Chicanas in the Chicano Movement by Marycarmen M."
- 4) "How the Chicano Moratorium changed L.A."

Host a discussion centered on the connections and differences between these two historical neighborhoods on the West and East coasts. Consider posing the guiding questions and/or following up on the pre-visit lesson activity guiding question #4. Offer students art materials to give them the opportunity to think about and create a mural idea of their own.

### Additional Resources:

To learn about Aztlán, please see Image 1 below or here:

<https://icaa.mfah.org/s/en/item/803398#?c=&m=&s=&cv=-1&xywh=-1673%2C0%2C5895%2C3299>.

To learn about the Young Lords Party and their goals, please see Image 2 below or here:

<https://icaa.mfah.org/s/en/item/841843#?c=&m=&s=&cv=&xywh=-1073%2C28%2C3845%2C2152>



Image 1. Gonzales, Rodolfo and Alberto Urista. "El plan espiritual de Aztlan." *El grito del Norte* (Albuquerque, New Mexico), vol. II, no. 9 (July 6, 1969): 5.

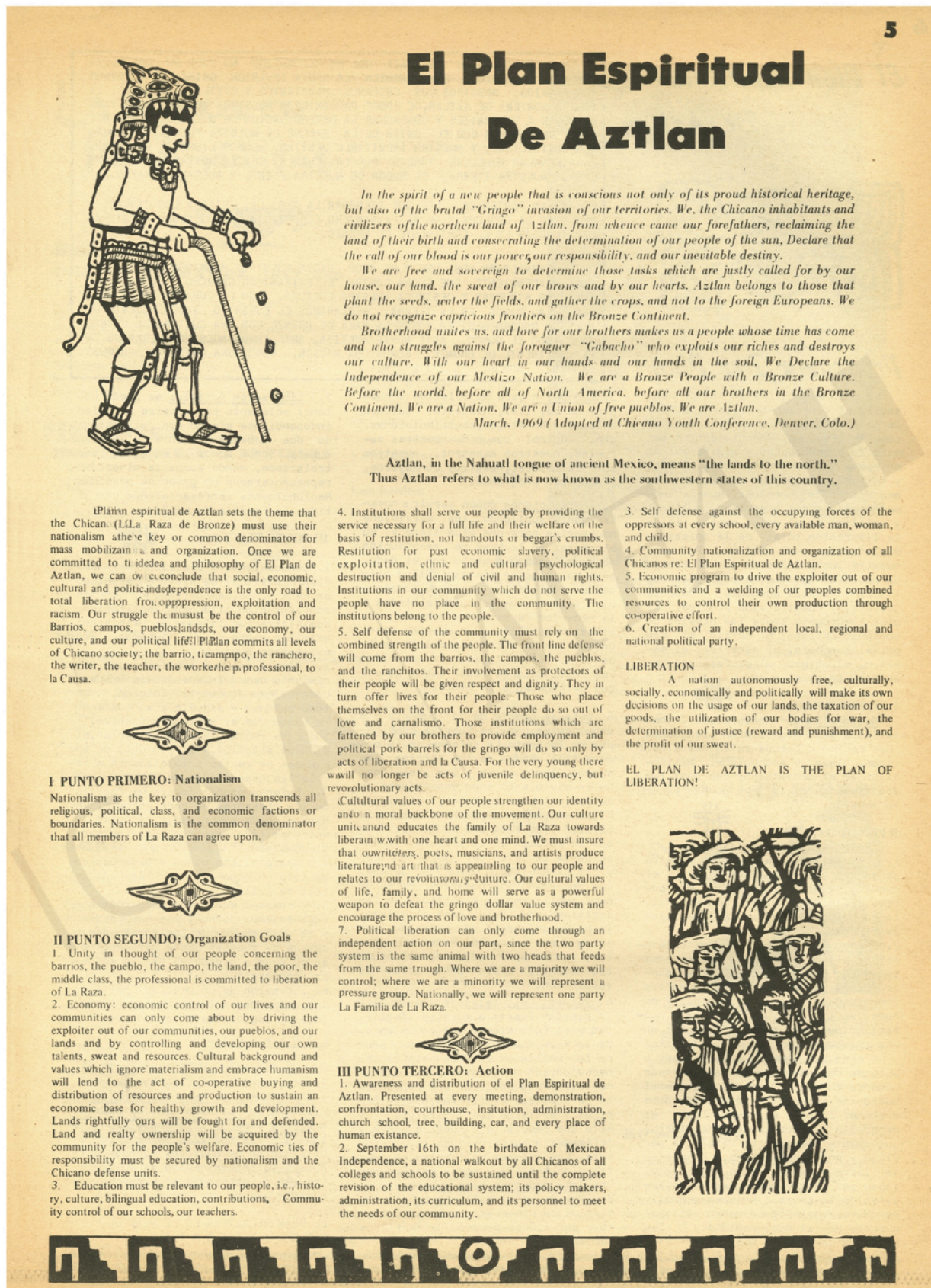




Image 2. Young Lords Party. "13 Points Program and Platform"

# YOUNG LORDS PARTY

## 13 POINTS PROGRAM AND PLATFORM



THE YOUNG LORDS PARTY IS A REVOLUTIONARY  
POLITICAL PARTY FIGHTING FOR THE LIBERATION OF ALL  
OPPRESSED PEOPLE

### 1. WE WANT SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PUERTO RICANS, LIBERATION ON THE ISLAND AND INSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

For 500 years, first Spain and then the United States have colonized our country. Billions of dollars in profits leave our country for the United States every year. In every way we are slaves of the gringo. We want liberation and the Power in the hands of the People, not Puerto Rican exploiters. QUE VIVA PUERTO RICO LIBRE!

### 2. WE WANT SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ALL LATINOS.

Our Latin Brothers and Sisters, inside and outside the United States, are oppressed by American business. The Chicano people built the Southwest, and we support their right to control their lives and their land. The people of Santo Domingo continue to fight against gringo domination and its puppet generals. The armed liberation struggles in Latin America are part of the war of Latinos against imperialism. QUE VIVA LA RAZA!

### 3. WE WANT LIBERATION OF ALL THIRD WORLD PEOPLE.

Just as Latinos first slaved under Spain and the Yankis, Black people, Indians, and Asians slaved to build the wealth of this country. For 400 years they have fought for freedom and dignity against racist Babylon. Third World people have led the fight for freedom. All the colored and oppressed peoples of the world are one nation under oppression. NO PUERTO RICAN IS FREE UNTIL ALL PEOPLE ARE FREE!

### 4. WE ARE REVOLUTIONARY NATIONALISTS AND OPPOSE RACISM

The Latin, Black, Indian and Asian people inside the U.S. are colonies fighting for liberation. We know that Washington, Wall Street, and City Hall will try to make our nationalism into racism; but Puerto Ricans are of all colors and we resist racism. Millions of poor white people are rising up to demand freedom and we support them. These are the ones in the U.S. that are stepped on by the rulers and the government. We each organize our people, but our fights are the same against oppression and we will defeat it together. POWER TO ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE!

### 5. WE WANT EQUALITY FOR WOMEN. DOWN WITH MACHISMO AND MALE CHAUVANISM.

Under capitalism, women have been oppressed by both society and our men. The doctrine of machismo has been used by men to take out their frustrations on wives, sisters, mothers, and children. Men must fight along with sisters in the struggle for economic and social equality and must recognize that sisters make up over half of the revolutionary army; sisters and brothers are equals fighting for our people. FORWARD SISTERS IN THE STRUGGLE!

### 6. WE WANT COMMUNITY CONTROL OF OUR INSTITUTIONS AND LAND.

We want control of our communities by our people and programs to guarantee that all institutions serve the needs of our people. People's control of police, health services, churches, schools, housing, transportation and welfare are needed. We want an end to attacks on our land by urban renewal, highway destruction, and university corporations. LAND BELONGS TO ALL THE PEOPLE!

### 7. WE WANT A TRUE EDUCATION OF OUR AFRO-INDIO CULTURE AND SPANISH LANGUAGE.

We must learn our long history of fighting against cultural, as well as economic genocide by the spagiards and now the Yankis. Revolutionary culture, culture of our people, is the only true teaching. JIBARO SI, YANQUI NO!

### 8. WE OPPOSE CAPITALISTS AND ALLIANCES WITH TRAITORS.

Puerto Rican rulers, or puppets of the oppressor, do not help our people. They are paid by the system to lead our people down blind alleys, just like the thousands of poverty pimps who keep our communities peaceful for business, or the street workers who keep gangs divided and blowing each other away. We want a society where the people socialistically control their labor. VENCEREMOS!

### 9. WE OPPOSE THE AMERIKKAN MILITARY.

We demand immediate withdrawal of all U.S. military forces and bases from Puerto Rico, Vietnam, and all oppressed communities inside and outside the U.S. No Puerto Rican should serve in the U.S. army against his Brothers and Sisters, for the only true army of oppressed people is the People's Liberation Army to fight all rulers. U.S. OUT OF VIETNAM, FREE PUERTO RICO NOW!

### 10. WE WANT FREEDOM FOR ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR.

No Puerto Rican should be in jail or prison, first because we are a nation, and American has no claims on us; second, because we have not been tried by our own people (peers). We also want all freedom fighters out of jail, since they are prisoners of the war for liberation. FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR!

### 11. WE ARE INTERNATIONALISTS.

Our people are brainwashed by television, radio, newspapers, schools and books to oppose people in other countries fighting for their freedom. No longer will we believe these lies, because we have learned who the real enemy is and who our real friends are. We will defend our sisters and brothers around the world who fight for justice and are against the rulers of this country. QUE VIVA CHE GUEVARA!

### 12. WE BELIEVE ARMED SELF-DEFENSE AND ARMED STRUGGLE ARE THE ONLY MEANS TO LIBERATION

We oppose violence - the violence of hungry children, illiterate adults, diseased old people, and the violence of poverty and profit. We have asked, petitioned, gone to courts, demonstrated peacefully, and voted for politicians full of empty promises. But we still ain't free. The time has come to defend the lives of our people against repression and for revolutionary war against the businessmen, politicians, and police. When a government oppresses the people, we have the right to abolish it and create a new one. ARM OURSELVES TO DEFEND OURSELVES!

### 13. WE WANT A SOCIALIST SOCIETY.

We want liberation, clothing, free food, education, health care, transportation, full employment and peace. We want a society where the needs of the people come first, and where we give solidarity and aid to the people of the world, not oppression and racism. HASTA LA VICTORIA SIEMPRE!