Kennesaw State University (KSU) Year of Peru Conference
Understanding Peru through Visual, Culinary, Performance, and Literary Culture
February 24-25, 2012

Background: Established in 1963, KSU is located in the City of Kennesaw, Georgia, which is part of the larger metropolitan Atlanta area. We are the third largest university in Georgia with over 24,000 students. For 28 years, our annual country study program has helped enhance cross-cultural understanding among KSU students, faculty, and staff along with our local and global communities. It annually results in new research projects, new courses and curriculum, new education abroad programs, and new global partners.

Overview: This is the first conference on Peru offered at our campus; it aims at examining Peruvian society, culture, aesthetics, and identity as portrayed in its films, foods, performances, arts, and literary genres.

Special Speakers:
24 Opening Address by the Honorable Mr. Harold W. Forsyth, Ambassador of Peru
Welcoming Remarks by KSU President Daniel S. Papp
25 Closing Remarks, Francisco Rivarola, Consul General of Peru in Atlanta

Demonstrations, Posters, & Exhibits:
24 “The Heart and Soul of Peruvian Cuisine: Cooking Demonstration and Food-Tasting,” Gary Coltek and Guest Peruvian Chef-in-Residence
24-25 Art Exhibits - “Engaging History: Continuities of Textile Traditions in the Andes,” Sturgis Gallery; & Contemporary Paintings of Pedro Fuertes, IGI Gallery. Meet in lobby area prior to each session.
24-25 “Mathematical Reflective Symmetry in Peruvian Art” (Professor Kadian Callahan) & “Peruvian Symbols & Textile Designs” (Professor Lin Hightower). Student poster presentations.
24-25 “TruPeru” (http://truperu.com/). Exhibit booth.

Performance, Roundtable, & Film:
24-25 Cuatrotablas performance of Los ríos profundos, by José María Arguedas, Stillwell Theater
25 Soy Andina (Film and Performance), directed by Mitchell Teplitsky; 2007; 70 minutes; Peru/USA
"Roundtable Discussion on Performance and Culture in Peru," with the participation of Mario Delgado, Luis Ramos-Garcia, Cynthia Paniagua, Karen Robinson, and Oswaldo Gavidia

Presentations:
24 “The Inti Raymi Festival: Teaching Intangible Cultural Heritage to Middle School Students,” Sandra Bird and Jeanette Wachtman
“Streets in the Sky: The Balconies of Lima and the Road to Intercultural Competence,” Sabine Smith and Miriam Bley
“Andean Peru: Inspiring Writers and Storytellers,” Hemil Garcia Linares
“The Complex Career and Literary Themes of Mario Vargas Llosa,” Ernesto Silva
“Blurring the Lines: Popular (mis)Representations of the Nasca Culture,” Meghan Tierney
“Colonial Painting in Peru: The Mestizo and Inca Influences in Andean Baroque Painting,” Roberta Griffin
"The Unwanted Chalice: Teaching the Collectivist Perspective of Cesar Vallejo's Poetry of the Spanish Civil War," Robert Simon
25 “Flexibility or Brutality?: A Case Study of Chimu-Inka Stirrup Spout Vessels,” Jennifer E. Siegler
"Mujeres Unidas: Community based responses to poverty," Sabrina Karim