



Guide to the Anthony López Papers



**Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora
Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Anthony López

Title: The Anthony López Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1932-2001

Bulk Dates: 1995-1998

Quantity: 1.5 cubic feet (3 boxes)

Repository: Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños

Abstract: The Anthony López Papers highlight the life and work of a charismatic community leader, with a demonstrated commitment to educational opportunity and leadership development for Latino youth, as evidenced by his years at ASPIRA of New York, Inc., among other organizations. The collection consists of letters, clippings, flyers, memoranda, minutes, reports, photographs, proposals, programs, newsletters and notes.

Administrative Information

Collection Number: 2002-01

Provenance: Donated by Anthony López

Processing History: Processed with a grant from a congressional directed initiative sponsored by Congressman José Serrano and administered by the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Funding was also provided by the Council of the City of New York.

Transfers: None

Copyright: Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY

Restrictions: Open to researchers with some restrictions

Preferred Citation: The Anthony López Papers, Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora. Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY.

Processing Archivist: Melisa Ribas with the assistance of Christopher Medina

Date: September 2007

** Cover photograph depicts Anthony López (back left) with Dr. Antonia Pantoja (center), Wilhemina Perry (left of Dr. Pantoja), and unidentified ASPIRA youth on a visit to Puerto Rico.

Anthony López

Biographical Note:

Anthony López has been a committed advocate and ally of Latino, and specifically Puerto Rican, youth throughout his career. His participation in youth mentoring and leadership development programs as a teenager proved to be a formative experience that not only encouraged him to strive for academic excellence and professional success in his own life, but also compelled him to redirect that energy and those achievements toward work that would ensure that other Puerto Rican youth have access to academic and career opportunities as well.

Born and raised in the South Bronx and the oldest of five children, Anthony López attended City As School High School in 1981. During this time, he also participated in Project Double Discovery, an academic enrichment program at Columbia University that combines academic tutoring and mentoring, college and career counseling and personal development workshops to support low-income youth with a desire to attend college. López credits Project Double Discovery with instilling in him a drive to learn and grow personally, academically and professionally, arming him with the skills necessary to reach these goals and encouraging him to challenge the race, class and gender barriers that youth of color encounter in their daily lives.

He went on to attend Binghamton University, part of the State University of New York, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology in 1986 as well as the New School for Social Research in 1990. In addition, he completed the Institute for Not-for-Profit Management Middle Management Program at Columbia University in 1994.

López launched his professional career as Director of the Career Beginnings Program for the Double Discovery Program at Columbia University between 1986 and 1987. From 1987 to 1990, he was the National Director of Support Services for the “I Have A Dream” Foundation, an organization he then led from 1990 to 1992.

For the next six years, López worked at ASPIRA of New York, Inc., first as Director of Program Operations from 1992 to 1994 and then as Director of Development from 1994 to 1996. From 1996 to 1998, he served as Executive Director of ASPIRA of New York, Inc., where he focused his efforts on building a stronger organization by streamlining fiscal practices in addition to overseeing the implementation of the organization’s programmatic goals.

Scope and Content:

The Anthony López Papers offer insight into the personal and professional life of a vibrant and charismatic leader in the Puerto Rican community, from his collegiate elected official days through his tenure as Executive Director of ASPIRA of New York, Inc. As such, this collection complements the Records of ASPIRA of New York, Inc. and the Antonia Pantoja Papers held by the Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora at the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños.

Although small in volume, the collection features several highlights including documentation of López's early experiences in leadership positions, ASPIRA of New York, Inc. organizational records during a critical fiscal period as well as a sizeable collection of family photographs dating back to the 1930s.

The materials in this collection span from 1932 to 2001, with the bulk of the papers concentrating on the years 1995 to 1998. The collection consists of letters, clippings, flyers, memoranda, minutes, reports, photographs, proposals, programs, newsletters and notes. The folders are arranged alphabetically within each series while documents are arranged chronologically from oldest to most recent. The majority of the documents are in English, however, a few are either fully or partially in Spanish.

The collection has been arranged into the following five series:

- I. Biographical and Personal Information**
- II. Correspondence**
- III. Organizations**
- IV. Photographs**
- V. Artifacts**

Access Points/ Términos clave:

Subject Names/Nombres:

López, Anthony

Pantoja, Antonia

Mark Viverito, Melissa

Subject Organizations/Organizaciones:

ASPIRA Association, Inc.

ASPIRA of New York, Inc.

Binghamton University, State University of New York (SUNY)

I Have A Dream Foundation

National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights

Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund

Subject Topics/Temas:

Community development – New York (State) – New York

Community organization – New York (State) – New York

Discrimination in education -- Law and legislation -- New York (State) -- New York

Education, Bilingual -- New York (State) -- New York

Education, Bilingual -- Law and legislation -- New York (State) -- New York

Hispanic American students -- New York (State) -- New York

Hispanic American youth – New York (State) – New York. -- Social conditions

Hispanic Americans -- Education -- New York (State) -- New York

Hispanics -- New York (State) -- New York

Hispanics in New York (City)

Leadership development

Minority youth -- Education -- United States

Multicultural education -- New York (State) -- New York

Puerto Ricans -- Education -- New York (State) -- New York

Puerto Ricans -- Education -- United States

Puerto Ricans -- New York (State) -- New York

Puerto Ricans -- Social conditions – New York (State) – New York

Puerto Ricans in New York (City)

Document Types/Tipos de documentos:

Correspondence/Correspondencia

Clippings/Recortes de periódicos

Flyers/Volantes

Minutes/Actas

Notes/Notas

Photographs/Fotografías

Proposals/Propuestas

Publications/Publicaciones

Reports/Reportes

Series I: Biographical and Personal Information (1958-2001)

This series consists of a small array of papers including certificates of appreciation from various organizations, newspaper clippings featuring López's collegiate leadership activities, brochures and reports profiling various stages in his career, issues of a family newsletter titled *Las Brisas del Salinas* and a resume from the early to mid-1990s. Of sentimental value is a certificate and campaign flyer belonging to Rose Lanausse, López's grandmother and Jesús Colón's cousin, which document her union and political activities.

Box	Folder	
Caja	Cartapacio	
1	1	Certificates, undated, 1993-1995
	2	Clippings, undated, 1983-1988
	3	<i>Las Brisas del Salinas</i> Family Newsletter, 1991 2001
	4	General, undated, 1958-1998

Series II: Correspondence (1995-1998)

This series represents the bulk of materials in the collection and spans the years during which Anthony López served as Director of Development and Executive Director of ASPIRA of New York, Inc. Some correspondence created by or addressed to the Deputy Director of the organization at the time, Melissa Mark Viverito, has also been incorporated in this series. In addition to offering a glimpse into the daily operations and programs of the organization, these letters and memoranda also spotlight López's efforts to make its fiscal operations more consistent and efficient as well as to improve its precarious financial situation.

1	5	1995
	6-8	1996
	9-11	1997
2	1-2	1998
	3	Personnel Matters, 1996-1998 (restricted)

Series III: Organizations (1974-2001)

Contained in this series are documents pertaining to the various Puerto Rican organizations that López was affiliated with during the late 1980s through the mid 1990s. The financial records dating to López's leadership of ASPIRA of New York, Inc. lend insight into a troubled fiscal period for the organization while general documents detail various organizational activities, events and programs. Also included are organizational records from the National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights (NCPRR) Education Fund, whose Board of Directors López served on from 1988-1992, as well as materials related to joint initiatives undertaken by ASPIRA of New York, Inc. and the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund (PRLDEF).

- 4 ASPIRA Association, Inc., 1974-1996
- ASPIRA of New York, Inc.**
- 5 Financial, undated, 1994-1997
- 6 General, undated, 1987-2001
- 7 Newsletters, 1994-1995
- 8 National Congress for Puerto Rican Rights
(NCPRR), undated, 1987-1992
- 9 Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund
(PRLDEF), undated, 1996-1998

Series IV: Photographs (1932- ca. 1950s)

This series includes photographs chronicling López’s student government and extracurricular activities at Binghamton University, State University of New York (SUNY), his tenure at ASPIRA of New York, Inc. and family photographs dating back to the 1930s. Most notable are photographs of López’s grandmother, Rose Lanausse, whose union and political activism appears to have served as an inspiration for López and a group portrait from the 1997 Presidential Medal of Freedom ceremony featuring López with Dr. Antonia Pantoja and President William J. Clinton, among others.

- 3
 - 1 Binghamton University, State University of New York (SUNY), undated, 1983
 - 2 Aspirantes Visiting Dr. Pantoja at Plaza Taína (Puerto Rico), 1996
 - 3 Family Photographs, undated, 1932 – ca. 1950s
 - 4 General, undated, 1997

Series V: Artifacts (1965-1998)

This series consists of four artifacts. The first two are campaign memorabilia from the SUNY Binghamton Student Association, the third is a commemorative button and pin from the Patron Saint Festival of Salinas, Puerto Rico and the fourth is an inscription plate from a plaque awarded to López by the Ft. Myer Military Community.

- 5 Vote López Paper and Felt Tie, Recuerdo Fiestas Patronales de Salinas, Plaque Inscription Plate, 1965-1998