



Fall 2006 Newsletter

This year is quickly coming to a close and before it does we wanted to send out a brief newsletter to bring people up to date with our activities during the past year.

In April of 2006 we had our first fundraising event, a concert of Indian Music, performed by Ramchandra Pandit-ji & Rabindra Narayan Goswami-ji, two of the leading contemporary musical masters of Benares, India. The musicians played free of charge in support of our foundation. The purpose of the benefit was to raise money to build the Spanish language version of the Wixarika website and finish work on the search engine. Space was limited to 50 people but we found room to squeeze in a few more. The music was extraordinary and we served a buffet after the performance. We thank everyone who helped us with the preparations and setup! After we covered expenses, the foundation made \$2,000. The total cost of upgrading the website to make it bilingual and so it has a functioning search engine is \$5,000.

At the writing of this newsletter the college semester in Mexico is just ending and we have not yet received the students' grades. Those of you who supported the students will receive a personal report as soon as it is ready, and we will post an update in our next newsletter. There are still a few hard and soft cover issues of *Artes de Mexico* available, and all proceeds from their sale will continue to go towards giving financial assistance to Huichol undergraduates. For details, please go to our gift page and see [publications](#).

In the past year we did extensive work organizing the archives, donated to the foundation by ADESMO and Juan Negrín, so that they can be scanned and posted on our website. We now have the ability to use a larger flat bed scanner capable of handling newspaper archives and other large format documents. A graduate student has volunteered to do the scanning, and although her time will be limited we hope to make steady progress so we can begin posting these archives soon. Since most of these documents are in Spanish they will need corresponding English abstracts.

Juan Negrín spent two months in Mexico this year and has written an informative [report](#) on his activities. Juan also revised and expanded his articles which summarize the early, post-Hispanic and recent history of the Huichol, and the [new texts](#) have been posted. These three articles, which have also been translated into Spanish as a single document entitled *Apuntes sobre la historia de los huicholes*, will soon be posted on the history page along with the English articles until the Spanish language website is launched. We are also working on translations of other pages and documents and are looking into how we might improve the Wixarika website by adding a blog and making it more user friendly to those of us who post new materials. At this point we expect that the bilingual version of the website and the search engine will come online at the same time, which we expect to be in late spring or early summer of 2007.

Before closing we would like to thank those who made our work possible this year, and we send everyone our wishes for a healthy and peaceful New Year.