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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS ANNOUNCES GRANT TO EL TALLER LATINO AMERICANO

to support Los Archivos Del Taller – The Taller Files

May 17, 2011—New York, NY—Rocco Landesman, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, today announced that El Taller Latino Americano has been recommended for a grant to support the dissemination of over 32 years of El Taller’s cultural history. El Taller is one of 1,145 not-for-profit national, regional, state, and local organizations recommended for a grant as part of the federal agency’s second round of fiscal year 2011 grants. In total, the Arts Endowment will distribute more than \$88 million to support projects nationwide.

An independent agency of the federal government, the National Endowment for the Arts advances artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman said, “NEA research shows that three out of four Americans participate in the arts. The diverse, innovative, and exceptional projects funded in this round will ensure that Americans around the country continue to have the opportunity to experience and participate in the arts.”

In El Taller’s thirty-two year history, the organization has accumulated a collection of rare and significant recordings that includes LP’s, live recordings, studio recordings and video. El Taller Latino Americano will create access to this archive over the next year along with the narrative history (including interviews, articles from magazines and newspapers) of the music and the people who made it in order to make it accessible to all who are interested in this shared creative history via a blog, website and podcasts. “Since the beginning, we’ve been so fortunate to be a refuge and a meeting place for so many virtuosos in the arts, Latinos and North Americans alike” says Founder and Artistic Director Bernardo Palombo. “And though we’ve always worked to support musicians and artists, with the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, we will be able to really focus on sharing that history with the world.”

El Taller Latino Americano (The Latin American Workshop) is a 501(c) (3) community-based non-profit arts and education institution founded in New York City in 1979 to bridge the gap between Latin Americans and North Americans through the language of art, dance, music and film. El Taller is located in a land-marked loft space on Broadway and W. 104th St. and offers its community a varied menu of Spanish and English language classes, arts programming and music that seek not only to educate, but to engage and gather diverse groups together culturally and linguistically on the common ground of creativity. Over 500 people each month meet to share ideas, participate in the classes and to find creative inspiration and a refuge in the middle of New York City.

The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector. To join the discussion on how art works, visit the NEA at arts.gov.