

UCR Poet's Latest Book Earns Another Honor

Juan Felipe Herrera's "Half of the World in Light" collection wins the International Latino Book Award.

(June 11, 2009)

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Juan Felipe Herrera, poet and professor of creative writing at the University of California, Riverside, received the International Latino Book Award for Best Poetry in English for his most recent book "Half of the World in Light: New and Selected Poems."

The award ceremony was held during the BookExpo America 2009 in New York City.

"Professor Herrera's winning the International Latino Book Award for poetry really is frosting on the cake since this splendid little volume had already been honored by the National Book Critics Circle award for poetry," said Charles Whitney, professor and chair of the Department of Creative Writing. "UCR and the department are very, very proud of him and for him."

"Half of the World in Light: New and Selected Poems" includes poems from earlier collections as well as previously unpublished work, and was published in July 2008 by the University of Arizona Press. Herrera received the National Book Critics Circle Award in March for the title.

Herrera, who holds the Tomás Rivera Endowed Chair in the Department of Creative Writing, has written 24 books – from children's literature to poetry – produced plays and promoted the literature of other Chicano writers. He has more than 100 articles, poems, reviews and essays in print. Among his award-winning books are "187 Reasons Mexicanos Can't Cross the Border," "Downtown Boy," "Calling the Doves," "Crashboomlove" and "Featherless/Desplumado."

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT

Name: **Bettye Miller**

Tel: (951) 827-7847

E-mail: bettye.miller@ucr.edu



Juan Felipe Herrera

The University of California, Riverside is a doctoral research university, a living laboratory for groundbreaking exploration of issues critical to Inland Southern California, the state and communities around the world. Reflecting California's diverse culture, UCR's enrollment of about 17,000 is expected to grow to 21,000 students by 2020. The campus is planning a medical school and has reached the heart of the Coachella Valley by way of the UCR Palm Desert Graduate Center. The campus has an annual statewide economic impact of more than \$1 billion. To learn more, visit www.ucr.edu or call (951) UCR-NEWS.

General Campus Information

University of California, Riverside
900 University Ave.
Riverside, CA 92521
Tel: (951) 827-1012

[Career Opportunities](#) • [UCR Libraries](#)
[Campus Status](#) • [Directions to UCR](#)

Department Information

Media Relations

900 University Avenue
University Village 204B
Riverside, CA 92521

Tel: (951) 827-6397 (951) UCR-NEWS

Fax: (951) 827-5008