

Project Description

As a Lewis Hine Fellow, I will be working with *Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción* (IBA), a nonprofit in the South End of Boston whose name loosely translates as *Puerto Rican Tenants in Action*. In 1968, a group of primarily Puerto Rican community activists faced displacement as the Boston Redevelopment Administration sought to raze large sections of the neighborhood in its efforts to create a "New Boston". With the rally cry "No nos mudaremos" ("We will not be moved"), residents campaigned for and won the right to develop their own affordable housing community, Villa Victoria. Designed under the direction of its future residents, Villa Victoria currently houses more than 3,000 residents, and is considered one of the most successful public housing projects in U.S. history. Now over 40 years later, IBA continues to encourage economic development, arts and technology in order to build safe, vibrant and culturally diverse affordable housing communities.

Throughout my year as a Hine Fellow, I will be teaching photography and audio documentary to youth within the community, while creating a collaborative multi-media documentary project that examines and celebrates the past, present and the future of this dynamic community.