

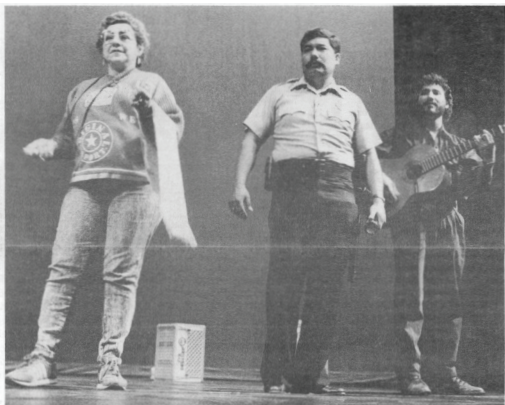


# California AFL-CIO News

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## Immigrant Workers on Stage

New Americans telling their own stories in the TheaterWorkers Project documentary drama 'Fronteras/Borders' are, from left, Lilian Ramos, Juan Carlos Garcia and Martin Bautista. The script is

based upon experiences of the actors themselves, who were recruited from ranks of the AFL-CIO California Immigrant Workers Association in the Los Angeles area. Story, Page 3.

## Worker Play Depicts Lives

"Fronteras/Borders," the new TheaterWorkers Project documentary drama about immigrant workers, is booking performances.

The play had its premiere on June 11 at Los Angeles Theatre Center, drawing favorable reviews from the news media and enthusiastic applause from those attending the event, which was a benefit for the AFL-CIO Labor Immigrant Assistance Project.

It is scheduled to be performed in the next few weeks at a number of churches and union halls in the L.A. area, according to Susan Franklin Tanner, the producer and creative force behind TheaterWorkers Project.

The format is similar to that of the highly successful "Lady Beth," the documentary drama about lives disrupted by the Bethlehem Steel's plant closure which TheaterWorkers Project members took on a nation-



Cast members telling their own stories in 'Fronteras/Borders' are, from left, Gerber Romero, Eulalia Camargo, Argelia Ochoa and David Rustar

wide tour.

"Fronteras/Borders" is based on the stories of the actors themselves, all of whom are members of California Immigrant Workers Association, the AFL-CIO associate member program set up for newcomers

working in unorganized jobs.

The material, collected during a series of workshop and writing sessions, was fashioned into a script by bilingual playwright Bernardo Solano. Jose Luis Valenzuela is the director.

Funding came in part from the National Endowment for the Arts through the California Arts Council, Brody Arts Fund, Liberty Hill Foundation, the National/State/County Partnership, and the City of Los Angeles through the L.A.

Endowment for the Arts.

Information on booking performances of "Fronteras/Borders" can be obtained by phoning Susan Franklin Tanner at TheaterWorkers Project, (213) 221-7672.