

What you can give:

- *Cash donations, which will be disseminated strategically and fairly to any aspect of the project, including scholarships for children
- * Macintosh computer for community archive project
- * Dance costume materials
- * Netbook classroom computers
- * DVD, CD and tape players
- * Blank DVDs for recording oral and ethnomusicological histories
- * Classroom biology laboratory and field supplies
- * Classroom art supplies
- * Funding for Yumbo book written by Ecuadorian anthropologist who is donating book sales—if it can be published—to the *yumbada*;
- * Expertise and advice!

Project Director:

Kathy Fine-Dare, Ph.D.

Phone: 970-426-9126

Email: ksfinedare@msn.com

1833 County Road 228
Durango, CO 81301

[HTTP://FACULTY.FORTLEWIS.EDU/FINE_K/](http://FACULTY.FORTLEWIS.EDU/FINE_K/)



Cotocollao Cultural Recuperation Project

A not-for-profit partnership with urban Ecuadorian grass-roots organizations addressing poverty, social exclusion, and cultural loss through education, cultural performance, and environmental awareness.*

*Application is underway for 501(c)(3) status...

Cotocollao: Recuperation of Cultural Loss



Cotocollao is a historic working class neighborhood located on the northwest side of Quito, Ecuador's capital city.

For centuries Cotocollao was the hub of pan-Andean trade relationships as people moved with goods such as cotton, gourds, obsidian, and seashells over a route that passed through Cotocollao--from the Amazonian tropical forest, across the Andes, and through the cloud forest leading to the Pacific ocean.

Despite this important legacy, the heritage of Cotocollao was suppressed as a result of multiple episodes of colonization, debt peonage, land appropriation, urbanization, poverty, and racism.

This heritage is being recuperated today through a variety of grass-roots efforts:

*Renewal of the *yumbada* dance that depicts shamanic power carried by *yumbo* traders who linked mountain peaks, ocean, and tropical forest economic and spiritual sites;

*Creation of a coalition of residents working to recuperate visual and written history;

*Participation in Kitu-Kara, the indigenous Quito Basin political organization focused on water and other environmental issues;

*Revival of artistic and ethnomedicinal activities centered around the *penko* (agave) plant;

*Creation of a traditional history center behind a repair shop;

*Creation of a cultural center ("Kinde") dedicated to reviving the ancestry of the descendants of former hacienda peons;

*Creation of an alternative elementary school based on environmentally-sound, spiritually balanced, and historically- and culturally-informed education of children in a space free of the domestic violence that plagues households in the area.



THE FUNDRAISING PROJECT

The project director has worked in the area since 1981 and has an ongoing connection to the community. Donations may be made generally, or designated to a specific aspect of the project. Funds will be hand-delivered to Ecuador each year, and a report written and disseminated to donors regarding the status of the various project elements.

Contact information on reverse---