

Craig Miller—

Craig Miller developed a love for recreational folk dance beginning as a student while attending Florida State University where he earned his BA in 1974, and his MS in 1979. In 1985 he earned his MFA, Arts Administration, from the University of Utah.

Specializing in studies of cultural diversity in the American West, Craig Miller has worked closely with arts groups and ethnic communities to produce festivals, concerts, and publications that help make diverse cultures accessible to the general public. Until his retirement, he worked as the Folk Arts Coordinator for the Utah Arts Council, researching and documenting traditional culture. He administered three grant programs to encourage the perpetuation and education of folk art expressions: the Folk Arts Apprenticeship Project, Master Class/Workshop Grants, and Folk Arts Project Grants. Other projects at the Council have included programming the past 33 years of the annual Living Traditions Festival—A Celebration of Salt Lake's Folk and Ethnic Art; hosting weekly Utah Traditions radio shows on station KRCL; recording a series of CDs featuring ethnic music from Utah; and producing a book and CD on Social Dance in the Mormon West. He has lectured statewide for the Utah Humanities Council Speakers Bureau and has served on grant advisory panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, and state arts councils across the West.

Craig has authored 10 publications and recordings, some of them in Spanish. As a private consultant, he has researched cultural traditions and presented artists for a wide range of organizations, including Alliance for California Traditional Artists, the San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering, the Miami International Film Festival, and the Abu Dhabi International Film Festival. He has received several awards for his community service, multi-cultural projects and for founding the Utah Stonewall Center/ Utah Pride Center.