

LAURA GREENLEE
For Jardinero Productions, LLC

October 22, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I had the pleasure of working with Toby de la Torre and the Charros Federation USA earlier this year on the feature film, A Better Life. I am one of the producers of the Chris Weitz directed movie about a gardener from East Los Angeles who takes a journey through our diverse city with his son.

One key scene takes our two characters to a traditional Charreada. We knew from the very beginning of our prep process that it was vital that we get this scene right. As with every element of our movie, authenticity was key. While we began the process of searching for a time and place to film this critical scene it was clear that forging a partnership with Mr. de la Torre would put us on the road to our goal of filming a real and authentic Mexican-American Rodeo.

We asked Mr. de la Torre to help us by casting, coordinating and overseeing the horses, Charros and entertainment we needed for our scene. We asked him to work with a variety of departments to insure realism. He worked closely with our wardrobe, casting, art and production departments and he truly exceeded our expectations. The Charreada scene in the movie is very genuine and beautiful. We would not have been able to portray this art form properly without his help and hard work.

Mr. de la Torre was very professional in all areas and worked fantastically with all the different departments. Sometimes a film schedule does not lend to the most logical ways to execute these scenes, yet Mr. de la Torre was able to work with everything “we threw at him” and prepare properly for the shoot days. We were delighted with his passion, care and love for presenting the art of Charrería in our film. He was a vital addition to our movie.

Sincerely,

Laura Greenlee
Line Producer
A Better Life