

Acknowledgments

I owe a great debt to Luis Nieves Falcon (in Puerto Rico) and Rex Nettleford (in Jamaica). Like two brothers, they introduced me to their Caribbean worlds, and, in the process, they changed my life. With love, thank you.

Research for this book included visits to the Kennedy, Johnson, and Reagan Presidential Libraries. The libraries are true arsenals of democracy, staffed by archivists who always do everything they can to get scholars all available documents.

Rather than risk missing someone, I would like to say thanks to all the people who helped at the Intercollegiate Conference on Mixed Race Students, at the seventy-fifth anniversary meeting of the Japanese American Citizenship League, at the Unity Conference of Journalists in Washington, D.C., and at the Borderlands Conference in Laredo; to everyone who helped arrange the visit to the Arab American community in Detroit; to our dancer hosts in Jamaica; to the Hartford-based West Indian Foundation; to our many guides in Puerto Rico and Vieques; to our hosts in Mexico, San Diego, and Los Angeles; and to all the folks in Cuba, who, through four trips, extended a warm welcome and a wonderful introduction to Cuba's spectacular culture.

Antonio Garcia Lozada, Martin Espada, Elaine Cartland, and Susan Pease all offered comments about the manuscript in process. Their comments and criticisms were both helpful and necessary. So too the very thorough peer reviews commissioned by the University of

Michigan Press. The last chapter now includes a discussion of the 2005–2006 immigration debates because of a pointed suggestion by one of the reviewers.

At Central Connecticut State University, Paul Altieri, Steve Cox, Debbie Peterson, and Mary Wood also provided much needed assistance.

At the University of Michigan Press, Jim Reische is an editor who became a friend. He copyedited the manuscript with great skill and empathy. Jim is so good that he should serve as a model for anyone editing someone else's work. It was a pleasure to work again with Phil Pochoda, director of the University of Michigan Press. He and his staff operate with an enviable degree of both transparency and professionalism. Sarah Remington was always helpful, kind, and very efficient. Kevin Rennells coordinated the publishing process with great skill and much understanding. Finally, my thanks to Anne Taylor for an excellent copyedit of the manuscript.

Tammy Morton and Adam Fernandez helped me in countless ways, not the least of which was providing the idea for the book. Carrie and Benjamin Fernandez listened to their father's ideas with patience and a smile, even when I was guilty of acting too much like a professor.

This book would not exist without Brenda Harrison. She provided the book's original title. She acted as my partner at the presidential libraries; and she was also my partner on each of the research trips. There is no part of this book that has not benefited from her acute intelligence, curiosity, support, and love. I, of course, am alone responsible for any errors.

The book is dedicated to our grandson, Jacob Morton Fernandez.