



**STAY CONNECTED!
FREE/GRATIS**

www.lavozdelpaseoboricua.org

May/June 2020



EL BARRIO

Ald. Maldonado/PRCC
Beautify
PASEO BORICUA

page 2

WATCH

**STAY SAFE! STAY HOME!
42nd PUERTO RICAN
PEOPLE'S DAY PARADE**

SAT. JUNE 20, 2020
SEE PARADE INSERT

page 13

OUR COMMUNITY

**Community Rapid
Response to
COVID-19**

page 6



Justice Vigil on Paseo Boricua:

- Fight Racism - Decolonize USA!
- Honors Renowned Black Scholar and Leader Dr. Conrad Worrill



**ABOUT LA VOZ:**

The most recent manifestation of Puerto Rican journalism in Chicago, La Voz del Paseo Boricua proudly continues in the legacy of our community's previous newspapers. Founded in 2004, La Voz del Paseo Boricua, or simply 'La Voz' as it is affectionately called by our readers, is a grassroots bilingual periodical published by the Juan Antonio Corretjer Puerto Rican Cultural Center. We report on stories relevant to our community on a monthly basis, disseminating news about local events, programs, resources, and developments. As an alternative source of media, we seek to acknowledge the achievements of the Puerto Rican community at large and to advocate for the preservation of the heart of our barrio in Humboldt Park - our "pedacito de patria" in Chicago.

SOBRE LA VOZ:
La más reciente manifestación del periodismo puertorriqueño en Chicago, La Voz del Paseo Boricua continúa orgullosamente el legado de nuestros primeros periódicos. Fundado en 2004, La Voz del Paseo Boricua, o 'La Voz' según se le conoce cariñosamente por nuestros lectores, es un periódico de pueblo, publicado de manera bilingüe por El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño Juan Antonio Corretjer. Mensualmente, divulga historias relevantes de nuestra comunidad, diseminando noticias sobre acontecimientos, programas, recursos, y progresos locales. Como fuente alternativa de medios, intentamos reconocer los logros de la comunidad puertorriqueña al igual que abogar por la preservación del corazón de nuestro barrio Humboldt Park – nuestro "pedacito de patria" en Chicago.

MEET OUR PRODUCTION TEAM

Nadya Henríquez
CONTENT EDITOR & WRITER
nadyah@prcc-chgo.org



Roberto Sanabria
EDITOR IN CHIEF
robertos@prcc-chgo.org



Luis Alejandro Molina
SENIOR ADVISOR
alejandrom@prcc-chgo.org



David Trujillo
EDITORIAL DESIGN & WRITER
davidt@prcc-chgo.org

Ald. Maldonado/PRCC Beautify Paseo Boricua



On May 22, 2020, the staff of The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC), community volunteers, and members of Ald. Maldonado's office, carried out a "Clean Up Day" along Paseo Boricua. The participants of El Rescate Transitional Housing Program joined in the activities and helped out by deweeding the areas around the trees, cleaning up in the alleys behind some of PRCC's buildings, as well as cleaning the windows of PRCC's programs.

PRCC staff from Public Health, Business Initiatives, Housing and Human Services, and Community as a Campus were part of the labor force whose objective was the beautification of Paseo Boricua.

Additionally, the coordinators of the agricultural initiative started planting tomatoes, green peppers, cilantro, green onions, and other staples. These vegetables are necessary components that make up the famous organic Puerto Rican sofrito, which is sold at the Farmer's Market every Thursday behind Clemente High School. This farmer's market is scheduled to start soon.

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center appreciates the time and effort of all its staff and volunteers, and Ald. Maldonado's office staff, who selflessly donated their time during the Clean Up Day of Paseo Boricua.

By La Voz del Paseo Boricua

Justice Vigil on Paseo Boricua:

•Fight Racism - Decolonize USA!

•Honors Renowned Black Scholar and Leader Dr. Conrad Worrill



On June 6, 2020, the Puerto Rican Community stood up in solidarity with our African American friends and community partners by holding a vigil in the heart of the Paseo Boricua. The large gathering demanded justice for the police killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and Tony McDade.

More than 500 people attended the vigil held in front of the Adalberto Memorial United Methodist Church (UMC), a landmark of Paseo Boricua that symbolizes the solidarity between the Puerto Rican and Mexican communities. The event was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Conrad Worrill, a visionary leader who was the embodiment of Puerto Rican/Latino and Black solidarity. Conrad was a well-known Black scholar, highly respected by our community leaders. He was a writer, educator, activist, and founding member of the National Black United Front. Dr. Worrill died on June 3, 2020, in the midst of the nationwide civil unrest ignited by the death of George Floyd, on May 25, at the hands of the police.

A multiracial crowd stood peacefully in the areas adjacent to the church. Community leaders including Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García, State Senator Iris Martínez, State Representative for the 5th District Lamont J. Robinson, Jr., 26th Ward Alderman Roberto Maldonado, 1st Ward Alderman Daniel La Spata, Mexican Activist and Founder of Centro Sin Fronteras Emma Lozano, Palestinian-American and former Congressional Candidate of the Illinois 3rd District Rashad "Rush" Darwish, Jessie Fuentes and Cristina Pacione-Zayas co-chairs of the Puerto Rican Agenda, and Adalberto UMC Pastor Jacobita Cortez gave moving speeches highlighting the solidarity that exists between our communities, which must remain steadfast in these times of turmoil.

Jessie Fuentes opened with a quote that set the tone for the vigil, "Your Fight is our Fight; Our Fight is Your Fight" These words underscore the profound and indispensable link between the Black and Brown communities.

Roberto Maldonado proudly stated, "We stand in solidarity with our African American brothers and sisters because we understand.... We know what institutionalized racism is, we know what open racism is because we have lived it!"

Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García, a strong supporter of the Puerto Rican, Latino and Black Community, added "We are here with the Boricua community and all their friends here on Paseo Boricua to demonstrate our solidarity with the Black lives across America. We do it to honor the life of George Floyd and the other Black lives taken by a system that profiles, by a system that criminalizes, and a system that jails people excessively across our country."

Brownsville State Representative Lamont Robinson, also shared his views about the connection between the African American community and the

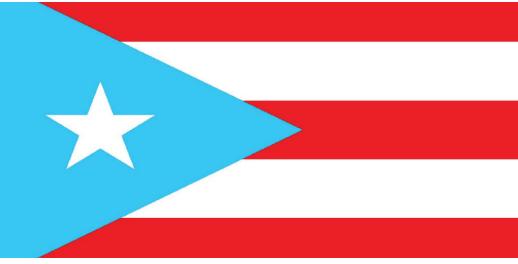


Latino community. "At the Illinois Black Caucus, when we push for laws and money, we do it not only for the Black community, we want it also for the Latino community." He added that citizens needed to talk to their state representatives and senators to exhort our Governor to "get back to work" because too many people are in need of resources. He ended his remarks by sharing "and remember, we are connected" referring to the Latino and African American communities.

Having listened to the stirring messages from our community leaders, participants of the vigil formed a human chain (maintaining social distancing) on both sides of Division Street, stretching from California to Artesian. They stood silently and chanted honoring the memories of the Black lives snuffed out by police who abused their power through profiling and lethal brutality. The vigil ended with a dramatic kneeling for 8 minutes 44 seconds, marking the time that the police choked George Floyd while he begged for his life.

By Nadya Henríquez, La Voz del Paseo Boricua





PRCC/NBHRN:

Calls for Solidarity & Justice Black Lives Matter

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC) and the National Boricua Human Rights Network (NBHRN) join our brothers and sisters in the African American community and across the world in demanding immediate justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery and all Black lives that have been accosted, brutalized, and murdered at the hands of police officers and white supremacist vigilantes. To ensure that these deaths were not in vain, we must assume collective responsibility to confront all manifestations of anti-black racism, which is one of the perverted pillars of the modern era.

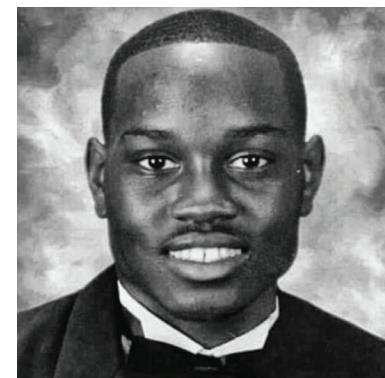
As members of the Puerto Rican community and diaspora, we refuse to be silent in this moment and not express our indignation and solidarity. But we also acknowledge that anti-blackness is not foreign to our community, not here and not in our homeland of Puerto Rico. As with elsewhere, it is a structural and historical reality that subjects Black Puerto Ricans to premature

death. As the targets of decades-long police and FBI surveillance and repression, we denounce all violations of the civil and human rights of protestors. The aggressive and violent tactics that police and the national guard have used across the country is unacceptable and will not succeed. The people will be heard.

We are inspired by the marches and rallies that have taken place all over the globe this past week. In Puerto Rico, rallies led by Afro-Puerto Rican, feminist, and queer organizations and movements have convened thousands in front of the Governor's mansion to demand justice. From our experience in Chicago, we know that resistance against racialized police violence—which we understand as an expression of modern colonialism—can open possibilities for change. In 1966 and 1977, police shootings of Puerto Rican youth led to rebellions that radically changed the political tenor in our community and set into motion the building of decolonial parallel institutions and movements.

As we look to the future, we also want to remember and reignite the histories and relationships of militant solidarity that have existed between African Americans and Puerto Ricans in Chicago and across the United States. Alongside other colonized peoples and persons of conscience, we must continue to build on and deepen these foundations—our co-liberation depends on it.

More than five hundred years after the start of the vile and violent Transatlantic slave trade, which alongside indigenous genocide and dispossession fueled the European colonialization of this hemisphere, it should not be necessary to proclaim that Black Lives Matter. But proclaim it we must, here and everywhere! In that spirit, the PRCC and NBHRN commits itself to undertake actions of solidarity and support for Black life and liberation locally and beyond. Another world is possible!



...As the targets of decades-long police and FBI surveillance and repression, we denounce all violations of the civil and human rights of protestors...

The people will be heard.

PRCC Launches Rapid Community Response to COVID-19

During the past three months of the COVID-19 epidemic in Chicago, the PRCC has continued to provide services to our community. In the following articles we provide highlights of these initiatives

Food Pantry for People living with HIV



Following the COVID-19 lockdown, the PRCC's Office of Public Health Initiatives responded by creating a COVID-19 Food Pantry to provide food for more than 60 families. The reaction for this initiative is best expressed with a message received from a member of the LGBTQ community and a student at Pedro Albizu Campos High School

stating "on behalf of my family we'd like to generously thank you for your time and effort to provide for the local community during these harsh times. It's a good thing you guys could get in touch with schools to ask any struggling students if they need any food. It also helps me keep my stubborn family home from constantly going out for food."

Emergency Childcare through Centro Infantil

The Centro Infantil Consuelo Lee Corretjer Childcare Center (CIC) -- one of only a few childcare centers to remain open in Chicago during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our days now start with preventative measures as recommended by The Centers for Disease Control. Children are screened for fever or other flu-like symptoms. When the children are dropped off in the morning, they have to say goodbye to their parents at the entrance lobby. Our lesson plans have been modified. They now include age-appropriate information about the pandemic, which helps the children adjust to new routines.

with a friend she told me a lot of daycares were closed and I am really grateful that CIC remained open through this pandemic, especially with all the safety/disinfection procedures in place I feel comfortable bringing my daughter." Through this difficult time we remain open to provide childcare assistance to essential workers, including first responders and law enforcement in our community. As a team, we are working together to adhere to all CDC guidelines and other social distancing guidelines. We are taking all necessary precautions to keep our children and staff safe.



Support for Humboldt Park's Merchants hit by COVID-19 through PRCC's New Business

Through the Paseo Boricua Neighborhood Business Development Center (NBDC) and our now officially open Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Puerto Rican Cultural Center Humboldt Park, The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC) continues to support small businesses and entrepreneurs with access to COVID-19 resources from the federal government, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the City of Chicago, as well as private funding and grants as they become available.

Working remotely does pose challenges for some small businesses that are not computer savvy, but in general, we have been able to reach our businesses via email or phone. We have had one-on-one virtual meetings or calls with at least 25 Paseo Boricua business owners and approximately 20 other business owners/entrepreneurs from around the City (mostly Latinx), regarding available resources and webinars for businesses, the self-employed, and contractors. Supporting additional small businesses has also been done via email.

In May, we received additional funding to support the City of Chicago Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) to act as a Small Business Resource Navigator for the City of Chicago, in English & Spanish, which expanded our support to other areas of Chicagoland.

Additionally, thanks to the Cocina Mutua Campaign, the Puerto Rican Agenda (PRA) is supporting Nellie's Restaurant through ordering 46 hot meals daily to provide to the elderly and people with disabilities daily sustenance. This campaign is co-sponsored by PRCC, which provides the volunteers charged with making the food deliveries each day. According to restaurant owner Pablo Espinosa, due to the Cocina Mutua campaign and orders from other organizations that are doing similar community efforts, and in addition to his regular customers, his restaurant has not had to apply for federal loans. "Right now we are doing ok," he said.

Moreover, The Puerto Rican Cultural Center

received a grant to provide meals to residents of the El Rescate shelter. This grant was used to contract the Colombian Restaurant - Curramba, in order to accomplish this. Consequently, Curramba's owner, Helga Weis, was able to open her doors once more after three weeks of being shut down due to COVID-19.



As part of our business initiative to support Paseo Boricua Restaurants, we have distributed 5,000 pluggers, many going house-to-house, to promote the restaurants that are currently open. We are also working on a coupon flyer with discounts from businesses to aid in the process of recovery and sustainability.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to restrict the normal functioning of businesses, we are strategizing to find more creative ways to stimulate the economy of our area. We are planning online webinars on how to turn your businesses to ecommerce, how to ensure the safety of customers as per State and CDC mandates, as well as to use social media to promote your business, among others. If you would like to have more information about our business initiatives or if you would like to be added to our business list, please email me at nadyah@prcc-chgo.org.

By Nadya Henriquez, PRCC Business Initiatives

Free COVID-19 Testing Provided by NAH, PRCC, and El Rincón, Pandemic Hits Latinos Hard: 37% of Cases, 25% of Deaths



After considerable effort and advocacy, we are excited to announce that Norwegian American Hospital, in partnership with The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC) and Rincón Family Services, and The Governor's Office is providing much needed COVID-19 testing to Humboldt Park and the surrounding area. The early detection these tests are discovering is undoubtedly saving the lives of countless people in our community. This is The Puerto Rican Cultural Center mission at its most basic. Everything The PRCC undertakes is designed to promote the dignity and celebrate the culture of the Puerto Rican people. Moving forward, our work now is rooted in the very survival of our community. Never has our work been more crucial. Our undivided efforts are now brought to bear on the saving of lives and preventing family tragedies.

Norwegian American Hospital, the PRCC, El Rincón, and the Governor's office urge everyone in our community to get tested. Testing is a most significant step in combating this pandemic, which is impacting the Latino community at a crisis level. The most recent statistics demonstrate that Latinos experience some of the highest death rates in Chicago due to Coronavirus; they account for 37% of cases and 25% of deaths as referenced in a recent article by Chicago SunTimes, May 6, 2020.

The tests are completely free and are provided Monday through Friday from 2pm to 4pm by appointment only. Call the Hotline at 773-299-8363. All those looking to be tested are required to arrive in cars. At no time will they leave their cars during the testing process, which takes place in the hospital parking lot.

By Juan Calderon

Angie Vargas, nuestra Superheroína Latina



El Estado de Illinois ingresó en su fase de más de 64,000 casos diagnosticados. Actualmente contamos con alrededor de 50 días de aislamiento social.

Angie Vargas, enfermera en Melrose Park y radióloga en el Hospital de la UIC, no se contuvo al entender que el COVID-19 se avecinaba rápidamente. Después de comunicarse con sus pares en las redes sociales, no recibió ninguna donación de Equipo de Protección Personal (EPP). En cambio, le donaron una impresora 3D de \$ 2,000 con una sugerencia para considerar hacer protectores faciales. "Antes de la pandemia, yo no sabía nada de impresoras 3D. Aunque no sabía nada sobre los impresores 3D, tomé el reto de aprender acerca del COVID-19, un virus que se acercaba rápidamente en ese entonces" (refiriéndose a finales de marzo).

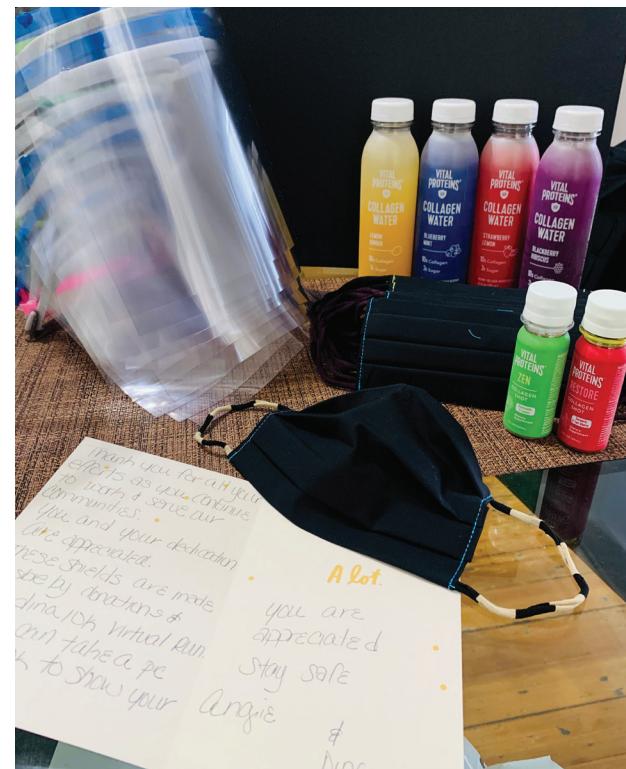
A pesar de largas horas en el trabajo y un nuevo bebé en casa, Angie se apresuró a aprender, pedir donaciones y, en consecuencia, proteger a todos sus compañeros de trabajo, enfermeras y terapeutas respiratorios, e innumerables profesionales de la salud en otras instalaciones como el equipo de combate y cuidado crítico de ambulancia. Vargas ha donado escudos plásticos a los siguientes equipos: UI Health, Salas de Operaciones y Salas de Emergencias en Loyola, Northwestern Hospital, St. Alexis, Christ Hospital, sitios de pruebas COVID-19 en Oakbrook, sitios de pruebas en el área Oeste, Huntley Concentra, Northside

en Atlanta, Palos, Centro de Enfermería de Rehabilitación en Itasca. Su donativo más reciente ha sido para el equipo de Iniciativas de Salud Pública del Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño, organización que se unió recientemente a los esfuerzos de toma de pruebas para detectar COVID-19 que se realizan en Norwegian American Hospital, desde la semana pasada, en sociedad con Rincón Family Services. Norwegian American Hospital se ha convertido en el epicentro de los diagnósticos latinos.

Aunque la producción de escudos plásticos es un proyecto que requiere mucho tiempo, los escudos son un equipo de protección que cubre nuestros ojos, nariz y boca, y el plástico del escudo puede desinfectarse fácilmente con lejía. Muchas personas se han acercado con solicitudes y donaciones para ayudar a Vargas a continuar la línea de montaje de los protectores faciales.

"Vargas indicó que la entrega de máscaras ha sido un honor no solo como empleada dentro del campo médico sino también como mujer Latina que está orgullosa de poder brindar una protección adecuada."

Mientras Vargas asegura que los pasos para crear las protecciones faciales son importantes, es necesario que todos los miembros de nuestra comunidad sigan



quedándose en su hogar. Aunque equipos de protección continúan en desarrollo para cumplir con los estándares requeridos para protegerse, no quedarse en su casa ocasiona que la persona se expongan al riesgo de contagio con el virus. Nuestros profesionales de salud se acercan a más de 60 días luchando permanentemente en esta batalla. Es importante tomar responsabilidad a diario para aligerar la carga de los profesionales de la salud para llevar a cabo con mayor rapidez el proceso de aplanar las cifras de contagios en Chicago y sus comunidades cercanas.

"Vargas tiene actualmente más de 5 órdenes pendientes para distribuir el escudo facial en distintos establecimientos, incluyendo hogares de ancianos".

Envía un mensaje por Facebook a ["Angie Pants"](#) si deseas apoyar esta importante labor.

Por Nathalie Tirado. Trans Health Initiatives Coordinator.



Chicago's Puerto Rican Community Emphasizes Solidarity in COVID-19 Fight

Quinn Myers / May 7, 2020

Originally posted in <https://news.wttw.com/>

The number of COVID-19 cases in Chicago's Latino communities has skyrocketed in recent weeks, according to city data released Wednesday.

The greater Humboldt Park area, the nucleus of Chicago's large Puerto Rican community, has not been excluded. The 60651 zip code that contains the western portion of the neighborhood has seen at least 898 coronavirus cases as of Thursday afternoon.

Cristina Pacione-Zayas, co-chair of the Puerto Rican Agenda of Chicago, says the pandemic has caused a "huge scare" in the neighborhood.

Interactive: More from our series, COVID-19 Across Chicago.

"Particularly for those families that have recently come to

Chicago because of the displacement they've experienced from the hurricane and then the earthquakes, [they are experiencing] multiple layers of trauma," Pacione-Zayas said.

In response, the Puerto Rican Agenda, a nonprofit collective of community leaders, launched a mutual aid campaign in March to provide relief to struggling residents.

Efforts have included partnering with local restaurants to deliver meals to seniors and other vulnerable populations, as well as providing cash assistance to families to help offset some expenses. The group is also helping coordinate meals for residents at El Rescate, a shelter on Division Street for homeless LGBTQ youth.

"People are really in survival mode," Pacione-Zayas said. "A lot of our community members are essential workers. They're working in grocery stores, they might be in the

health care industry, or public transportation, or public safety. So there is an increased risk not only with the underlying health conditions, but the fact that they have increased exposure."

Like other neighborhoods across the city, Pacione-Zayas says Humboldt Park urgently needs expanded testing and more protective equipment. And she says it's vital that community members get involved in drafting the policies being rolled out at the city and state levels to fight COVID-19.

"It's incredibly important to have trusted community leadership at the table, to co-create those plans, and to execute those plans," Pacione-Zayas said. "Sometimes when we're operating at a 30,000-foot level, we think an idea might be great, but if we don't really test it and vet it through those that actually have to live it, then we can have unintended consequences."



Thanks to the "Solidarity Not Charity" Cocina Mutua Campaign of The Puerto Rican Agenda was able to serve **2,898** hot meals to the elderly and people with disabilities in response to COVID-19 crisis. Thank you for the donations and special thanks to the delivery volunteers.



El referéndum del día de las elecciones: ¿puede derrotarse la estadidad?

En días recientes legisladores del Partido Nuevo Progresista en la Cámara de Representantes y en el Senado de Puerto Rico han impartido su visto bueno al P. del S. 1467 presentado por la delegación de este partido el día 9 de enero de 2020. La pieza legislativa, ya firmada por la Gobernadora, se titula “Ley para Definición Final del Estatus Político de Puerto Rico.” La misma persigue se consulte al pueblo puertorriqueño, en el mismo día de las elecciones generales a llevarse a cabo el 3 de noviembre de 2020, si Puerto Rico debe ser “admitido inmediatamente dentro de la Unión como un Estado”. La medida contempla que los electores sólo podrán votar una de dos alternativas impresas en la papeleta: “Sí” o “No”.

Es claro, a pesar del enfoque que se le pretende dar a la consulta, proyectando la misma como una consulta para resolver finalmente el denominado “estatus” político y colonial de Puerto Rico, que una medida de esta naturaleza no debe confundirse con una consulta plebiscitaria como aquellas a las que nos han acostumbrado desde 1967. La consulta es algo distinto, no es un ejercicio plebiscitario, la consulta es un “referéndum”.

Bajo la primera modalidad, como “plebiscito”, el pueblo que concurre a la votación se expresa en torno a una de varias fórmulas de estatus político que le son presentadas para que exprese su preferencia; bajo la segunda modalidad de “referéndum”, se somete al pueblo una consulta específica a partir de una premisa dada, en torno a la cual el elector se expresa indicando si está a favor o en contra de esta. Esta diferencia es lo que convierte la naturaleza de esta consulta del próximo noviembre en un referéndum y no un plebiscito.

Para salvar la situación que señalamos, consciente de la diferencia y sus consecuencias, el Artículo 1.3 (q) de la Ley habilitadora dispone que el término “referéndum” y “plebiscito” tendrán un mismo significado, utilizándose de manera “indistinta”, ello a pesar de que tal premisa sobre los significados de los términos es falsa.

Es engañosa también la afirmación hecha en el Artículo 2.2 (“Proclama”), donde se indica es el primer “plebiscito” de la historia sobre el estatus político de Puerto Rico “promovido por el gobierno de Estados Unidos”. En su elaboración y aprobación legislativa, el gobierno de los Estados Unidos no ha tenido intervención alguna. Lo cierto es que se trata de una ley de cuño puertorriqueña, aprobada por las autoridades competentes del Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico y no por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos.

Las únicas dos legislaciones pendientes de ejecución, aprobadas por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos que mencionan algo relacionado con una consulta de estatus en Puerto Rico, son la Ley Pública 113-76 (2014), donde el Congreso de los Estados Unidos asigna la suma de \$2.5 millones “para realizar otra consulta electoral de estatus político y financiar una campaña de ‘educación objetiva y no partidista a los electores en un plebiscito... sobre alternativas que resolvieran el estatus político futuro.’ En segunda instancia, bajo la Ley PROMESA, se dispone que el establecimiento del proceso de quiebras al que hace referen-

cia la Ley en su Capítulo 3, y las acciones que lleve a cabo la Junta de Supervisión (Control Fiscal en sus determinaciones), no interferirá con el derecho de las autoridades en Puerto Rico de llevar a cabo una consulta plebiscitaria en el marco de las disposiciones aplicables a este tipo de consulta bajo la referidas disposiciones de la Ley Pública 113-76 (2014).

Más allá del aspecto jurídico de la diferencia en los términos “plebiscito” y “referéndum”, lo cierto es que la medida aprobada a partir del P. del S. 1467, relaciona en su “Declaración de Política Pública”, contenida en el Artículo 1.3 (h), que la Ley, “se ajusta a los parámetros” establecidos mediante la legislación aprobada por el Congreso de Estados Unidos en 2014. Sin entrar en la discusión del contenido de las propuestas de estatus futuro reconocidas por el derecho internacional en materia de descolonización, y sin tomar en consideración ni siquiera criterios domésticos dentro del derecho estadounidense aplicable a los territorios, en la consulta que incluyó en el P. del S. 1467, ni se contemplaban alternativas (en plural) de estatus político futuro, ni se contemplaba tal cosa como un proceso de educación objetiva y no partidista sobre tales opciones de estatus tal, como lo exige la Ley Pública 113-76 (2014).

De acuerdo con el informe del Congressional Task Force on Economic Growth in Puerto Rico, de fecha 20 de diciembre de 2016, citando a su vez el Report to the House and Senate, se señala que allí se dispuso que tal asignación de \$2.5 millones no se desembolsaría hasta que el Departamento de Justicia de Estados Unidos notifique a los Comités de Apropiaciones de Cámara y Senado, un “plan” de gastos por parte de la Comisión Estatal de Elecciones de Puerto Rico para la educación a los electores, incluyendo la papeleta, la cual no deberá ser “incompatible con la Constitución, las leyes y las políticas de los Estados Unidos.” Nada de esto se ha hecho al presente, a pesar de que el proyecto de ley que lleva a la aprobación de la medida, ya estaba radicado desde el 9 de enero de 2020, y como cuestión de hecho, en medio de un proceso primarista, la propia Comisión Estatal de Elecciones no cuenta en estos momentos con los recursos para llevar a cabo los eventos de primarias, y luego los eventos de elecciones en noviembre de 2020.

La consecuencia de un voto por el “Sí” en la consulta propuesta para que coincida con el día de las elecciones generales el próximo mes de noviembre, conforme al Artículo Tercero de la medida, supone que de inmediato, se comience un “proceso de transición para la admisión de Puerto Rico como estado de la Unión”. De otro lado, el Artículo contempla que si el resultado fuera la expresión mayoritaria por “No”, entonces “deberá comenzar de inmediato un proceso de transición para el reconocimiento de la soberanía de Puerto Rico separada de Estados Unidos de América con un ‘Tratado de Independencia en Libre Asociación’ o con la ‘Independencia Total’, según lo describe la Ley. El proyecto no nos dice si ante el rechazo a la Estadidad, quedaría la misma descartada como opción por parte de quienes la impulsan hoy en Puerto Rico. Si esto es así, es decir, que para ellos quedaría descartada la opción de la Estadidad, entonces al

día siguiente de la consulta el problema de la relación política entre Puerto Rico y Estados Unidos, así como su discurso en pro de la anexión, seguiría tal cual es hoy día. Si es así, entonces la consulta no va dirigida a resolver nada que no sea utilizar la misma como gancho, ante el propio descrédito del PNP para movilizar sus propios electores en el proceso de votación en las elecciones generales.

Entre otros aspectos engañosos del proceso que lleva a la consulta, se señalaba en el P. del S. 4167, que la campaña de educación a los electores sería “masiva”, “objetiva y no partidista”, presupuestando para ello \$2 millones provenientes de los \$2.5 millones dispuestos mediante la Ley Pública 113-76 (2014). Esto constituye otro engaño, cuando es claro que la Ley que aprobarían, no cumpliría en la descripción de fórmulas de estatus, con lo dispuesto en la ley federal ni con el hecho de que se trate de una consulta plebiscitaria sobre opciones de estatus no compatibles con la Constitución y leyes de Estados Unidos, ni con las políticas de Estados Unidos.

Otro elemento que plantea el carácter engañoso de la propuesta es el cambio en el nombre de la Ley. Se pasa de llamarla “plebiscito para la solución final del estatus político”, a “plebiscito para la definición final de estatus político de Puerto Rico”. Ciertamente hay una gran diferencia entre solucionar y definir el estatus de Puerto Rico.

La Ley dispone, además, de un presupuesto de \$1 millón proveniente de fondos actualmente bajo la custodia de ELA, destinados a la impresión de las papeletas, sin que previo a ello, se haya certificado por parte de la Junta de Control Fiscal el uso de tales fondos por parte del gobierno de Puerto Rico con tal propósito. Contradicторiamente, podría ser mañana precisamente la Junta de Control Fiscal, creada por el Congreso de Estados Unidos a través de la Ley PROMESA, la que eventualmente impida la realización de la consulta. Si la Junta de Control Fiscal no autoriza el uso de tales fondos por el Gobierno de Puerto Rico, no se puede contar con ese dinero, aún cuando se aprobaran los fondos necesarios para efectuar las elecciones de noviembre, para incluir lo relacionado con los gastos en torno al referéndum. No obstante, si la Junta de Control Fiscal se prestara para facilitar esta consulta al PNP, siempre estará la alternativa de parte de nuestro pueblo de derrotar la Estadidad votando “No” en la consulta.

La propuesta de consulta incluye, de prevalecer el voto en favor del “Sí”, la posibilidad de un proceso de transición de Puerto Rico hacia la Estadidad, desde la actual condición de “territorio no incorporado” a “territorio incorporado”. Ante la poca posibilidad que le presenta al PNP la posibilidad del adelanto de la Estadidad en los círculos de gobierno de Estados Unidos, postulan en la medida aprobada que el proceso de transición hacia la estadidad estará a cargo de una “Comisión de Transición”. Este es el nuevo nombre con el cual rebautizan la “Comisión de Igualdad” previamente creada, y que será ésta la que estaría a cargo de representar a Puerto Rico en esa gestión. La medida le asigna también a esta Comisión la responsabilidad de redactar

el “Plan de Transición” hacia la estadidad. Aparentemente, toda vez que el diseño de la consulta ha sido amañado por sus autores para la obtención de un triunfo del “SI”, la medida omite toda referencia a cómo se manejará la otra “transición” que menciona, si el resultado mayoritario de la votación fuera el “No”. En tal caso, indica la medida, la transición, sería hacia una asociación soberana o hacia la independencia.

Es evidente que en su diseño de la consulta, el PNP asume la premisa de que prevalecerá el voto por el “SI”. Consideran en su estrategia, que en el PPD se producirá una división interna. Por una parte estarían aquellos que llamarán al retraimiento electoral, como ya se han escuchado algunas de sus voces más conservadoras; otro sector, que tiene muy pocas contradicciones con vivir dentro de un territorio incorporado votarían por el “SI”, bajo la premisa de que de la misma manera que se alejan a corto plazo de la Estadidad, también lo harían de la independencia o de la libre asociación soberana, argumentando así que esa opción territorial les asegura la “unión permanente” con Estados Unidos; y otro sector que podría votar “No”, para viabilizar así el tránsito hacia la libre asociación una vez descartada la Estadidad. Dividido de esa manera el PPD, que es el segundo partido mayoritario, distante por cierto del Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño en votos, está abierto de manera expedita el camino a la Estadidad. Para asegurar que no se pueda producir la deslegitimización del resultado por el número de votos de electores que participen de la consulta, y de que no se plantee la interpretación de que un voto en blanco es otra manera de expresar el rechazo a la Estadidad, la medida contempla que el voto no emitido o el voto en blanco no se contabilizará para influenciar en el resultado de las votaciones.

Bajo la medida, se establece una vez más de manera engañosamente, que certificado el resultado de la consulta, ya sea por el “SI” o “No”, sería una expresión legítima de autodeterminación de los electores. La realidad es que la incorporación como territorio es una prerrogativa del Congreso de Estados Unidos y no de los electores puertorriqueños. En el caso del “No”, indicando que representa otras dos opciones de estatus, tampoco se decide con finalidad nada, dado el hecho de que aún restaría por resolver el diferendo entre independencia y libre asociación. En todo caso el tema de la libre asociación también es un asunto que no depende de que los puertorriqueños la pidan, sino de que el Congreso de Estados Unidos la acuerde. Con relación a la independencia, que es la única de las opciones que se reconoce como derecho inalienable; es decir, irrenunciable, aún así habría multiplicidad de asuntos sobre los cuales habría que sostener discusiones y negociaciones entre las dos partes, Puerto Rico y Estados Unidos.

Precisamente por lo anterior es que hemos insistido que el proceso no se resuelve en una cajetilla de votación con procedimientos amañados, ni con plebiscitos no vinculantes, mucho menos con el mecanismo que ahora pretende establecer el PNP de un referéndum. La mejor alternativa, la única que al presente no se ha intentado, es la convocatoria a una Asamblea Constitucional de Estatus, donde los delegados afinen definiciones de fórmulas no coloniales y no territoriales de relación política soberana con Estados Unidos; donde las mismas sean avaladas

por el pueblo; donde se inicie un proceso de negociación entre las partes; y donde el resultado final de los términos, sobre la base de opciones que Estados Unidos esté dispuesto a contemplar, además del derecho a la independencia, se presenten éstas en forma vinculante para su aprobación o rechazo por parte de nuestro pueblo.

La medida contempla que en el llamado “plebiscito” que no lo es, solo uno de los partidos políticos inscritos o por petición podrán estar certificados para representar una sola de las alternativas. Así por ejemplo, si el PIP asume que representará la opción del “No” y así es certificado, significa que el “No” no podría estar certificado bajo la bandera del PPD, del Movimiento Victoria Ciudadana o Proyecto Dignidad. Esto le permite al PNP como partido ideológico defender la única propuesta claramente establecida en la consulta, que es la Estadidad, dado el hecho de que el “No” representa opciones que no son sinónimos, como es el caso de la libre asociación y la independencia. Si se certifica por el “No” al Partido Independentista Puertorriqueño, surgiría la interrogante en la campaña educativa hacia la consulta, si el discurso del PIP sería por la independencia, por la libre asociación o por ambas modalidades.

La medida también establece un plazo fatal, de caducidad, para informar la reclamación de la certificación, concediendo sólo un plazo de 20 días a partir de la aprobación de la Ley para así solicitarlo con meramente enviar una carta a la Comisión Estatal de Elecciones. El carácter sumario del término limita el proceso deliberativo al interior de las organizaciones para la toma de decisiones, sobre todo cuando se exige una certificación de que la decisión se apruebe con el voto mayoritario de la mayoría de los integrantes del comité directivo central de la organización política.

Una segunda modalidad que contempla la medida es que toda agrupación de ciudadanos o comités de acción política legalmente registrados por personas naturales puedan reclamar la representación de una de las dos alternativas dentro del mismo plazo de 20 días. Señala además, en el caso de que una agrupación de ciudadanos o comités no quede certificado o no lo solicite, pueda formar parte de una “alianza o colación”, aunque limitado a que sea con el ‘partido certificado como representante principal’ del “SI” o del “No”. A pesar de ello, la medida también indica que ninguna alternativa que va a la papeleta tendrá certificado a más de un representante como opción principal.

Esta situación también presenta un obstáculo al proceso dado el hecho de que, por ejemplo, muchas personas u organizaciones desde la sociedad civil podrían rechazar el proceso antidemocrático seguido en la aprobación de la medida; o el uso del “referéndum” para dilucidar lo concerniente a asuntos de estatus; o que entiendan que el vehículo procesal es la Asamblea Constitucional de Estatus; o sencillamente rechacen la Estadidad, pero que no se sientan representados en una alternativa que la representa como partido una estructura política comprometida con una fórmula particular de estatus, como sería la independencia. Correspondrá a todos quienes expresan su rechazo a la Estadidad, superar esta dificultad en aras de derrotar la propuesta que impulsa el PNP, ya sea por consideraciones sustantivas en

cuanto a las opciones presentadas en el referéndum o por consideraciones procesales en torno al método seleccionado.

La medida no asigna fondos públicos para la defensa de las opciones presentadas al elector en el referéndum. Dispone que cada cual, sea partido o agrupación de ciudadanos, pague sus gastos en el proceso. Sin embargo, una vez más recurren a su prepotencia, en este caso económica, indicando que como no habrá fondos públicos de campaña, no aplicarán los límites de gastos establecidos para las campañas electorales, incluyendo los de las primarias, dejando lo relacionado, a la jurisprudencia establecida por los tribunales, donde como sabemos, las corporaciones pueden contribuir económicamente a las campañas de los partidos políticos. Una vez más, un partido corrupto, financiado por grandes intereses económicos o enriquecido a base de contratos y prebendas gubernamentales, pretender asumir el rol definitivo en la política nuestra apostando precisamente a dicho sector.

Si finalmente, como todo apunta ocurrirá, como partido político el PIP asume la representación de la opción del “No”, a lo que como partido político tienen perfecto derecho independientemente alguien pueda señalar que debieron contar con el resto de la sociedad civil; es la misma sociedad civil, la que tiene que presentar sus opciones en el marco de la consulta.

Esta sociedad civil, integrada por personas que forman parte de organizaciones estudiantiles, comunitarias; de organizaciones basadas en plataformas reivindicativas de derechos de los diversos sectores marginados y discriminados en el país; de organizaciones gremiales, sindicales, religiosas y profesionales; de la comunidad LGBTT y organizaciones feministas; y claro está, por organizaciones políticas y por organizaciones político-partidistas emergentes como partidos por petición, entre otras tantas organizaciones, tal como ocurrió cuando el referéndum para la eliminación del derecho constitucional a la fianza, pueden articular un espacio común de rechazo a la consulta votando “No”.

Buscando el denominador común más amplio posible, sí se puede derrotar derrotar la Estadidad votando “No” a la misma vez que expresamos nuestro rechazo al método antidemocrático que se nos ha impuesto con esta consulta. Votando “No”, además, estaremos expresando nuestro rechazo a la manera en que el PNP nos pretende imponer un falso ejercicio de nuestro derecho a la libre determinación.

El momento permite una convocatoria, de la manera más amplia posible, para con el “No” en esta consulta derrotar el mecanismo encubierto diseñado por el PNP ante su fracaso para lograr, como lo propusieron en las pasadas elecciones, conseguir la Estadidad en este cuatrienio. Ante su imposibilidad en alcanzar esta meta, sólo les queda promover la posibilidad de la incorporación de Puerto Rico como territorio, dejando al lado para otro momento el reclamo inmediato de Estadidad. Esto y no otro objetivo, es lo que en definitiva persiguen impulsar con este referéndum pautado para el día de las elecciones generales de noviembre de 2020.

Alejandro Torres Rivera 16 de mayo de 2020
Publicado originalmente en www.redbetances.com/

PRCC Opens Small Business Development Center in Humboldt Park

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC) is thrilled to announce Carlos Bosques-Cardona as the Director of the new Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at The Puerto Rican Cultural Center Humboldt Park, the only one on the West side of Chicago.

The SBDC at The Puerto Rican Cultural Center Humboldt Park has a mission to promote entrepreneurship and small business development in the West side area of Chicago by providing business counsel to current and prospective small business owners and startups. The SBDC Program is designed to deliver up-to-date counseling, training and technical assistance in all aspects of small business management. Some of our services include, but are not limited to, assisting small businesses with finances, marketing, production optimization, organization, engineering and technical problems, and feasibility studies.

In these critical times, the access to accurate up-to-date information about local and federal funding, as well as COVID-19 assistance, is vital for the recovery of businesses along Paseo Boricua and nearby neighborhoods in the City of Chicago. Our SBDC, like the other ones nationwide, have helped small business owners to get through these challenging times by providing special assistance, information, and one-on-one advising. SBDC services are available to anyone interested in establishing a small business for the first time or improving or expanding an existing small business.

"One of our main goals with this new SBDC program is to make sure that mom and



pop businesses learn the skills they are missing to successfully manage their business efficiently by utilizing available online technology and resources", said Nadya Henriquez, Coordinator of Business Initiatives at PRCC. "I will be working with Carlos and supporting him to make sure our community businesses have access to capital, training and advising according to their particular needs."

By La Voz del Paseo Boricua



NOW OPEN FOR SERVICE

SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS

AHORA ABIERTO PARA PROVEER SERVICIOS
APOYANDO A PEQUEÑOS EMPRESARIOS Y EMPRENDEDORES

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center is proud to announce the opening of the first Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in the West Side of Chicago

SBDC at Puerto Rican Cultural Center Humboldt Park
One-on-One Advising Services

- Financial assessment, planning, analysis and guidance
- Marketing plans
- Business entity & organizational set-up
- Assistance with certifications
- Connection to legal, tax and financial resources
- Business licensing and permits



CARLOS BOSQUES-CARDONA
SBDC DIRECTOR

Es un orgullo para El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño anunciar la apertura del primer Centro De Desarrollo para Pequeños Negocios (SBDC por sus siglas en inglés) en el Oeste de la Ciudad de Chicago

SBDC en El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño Humboldt Park
Servicios de Asesoría Individualizada
por nuestro experto de negocios

- Evaluación financiera, planificación, análisis y orientación
- Planes de marketing
- Entidad empresarial y configuración organizacional
- Asistencia con certificaciones
- Conexión a recursos legales, fiscales y financieros.
- Licencias comerciales y permisos



Oficina Director SBDC
2606 W. Division St.
Chicago IL 60622
Tel: 787-390-3849
SBDC@prcc-chgo.org
<https://prccsbdc.org>



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
JB Pritzker, Governor

Ziad Farhan: propietario de La Municipal Una historia de trabajo y superación.



Ziad nació en Ramallah, un pueblo pequeño ubicado a unas 12 millas de Jerusalén. En el año 1970, su padre, quien vivía en Puerto Rico desde hacía unos años atrás, lo llevó a él y al resto de familia a vivir a San Germán, al suroeste de la isla, la segunda población con más antigüedad en Puerto Rico, después de San Juan. Se instalaron allí con el propósito de mejorar su calidad de vida.

Su padre, como muchos árabes, negociaba con telas y joyas. En el año 1976 se trasladaron a la ciudad de Chicago; por ese entonces Ziad tenía 19 años. Comenzó a trabajar en el Departamento de Aguas de Chicago. Su hermano, graduado de la Universidad Interamericana de San Germán, trabajaba por esos días en la Oficina de Migración en el centro de la ciudad. Fue su hermano quién conoció al entonces dueño de la tienda donde funciona actualmente La Municipal. “Recuerdo que era un señor bastante mayor, estaba casado con una agradable señora puertorriqueña, igual que mi hermano. El señor estaba vendiendo la tienda porque se sentía cansado. Así que unimos esfuerzos y compramos la tienda. Yo dejé el trabajo en el Departamento de Aguas y comencé a trabajar solo la tienda, unos meses después, mi hermano también dejó su trabajo para unirse a la tienda y trabajamos juntos por más de 28 años”.

“La tienda ha estado ubicada allí por muchos años. Cuando mi hermano y yo la compramos, era más pequeña, pero la fuimos creciendo con los años, fue de

las primeras tiendas latinas en Chicago. Recuerdo muy bien que teníamos clientes que venían desde Michigan, Indiana y Wisconsin, únicamente para comprar productos puertorriqueños y latinos. Lo que más le gustaba adquirir a nuestros clientes eran dulces, galletas, café, plátanos verdes, maduros, guineos y ñame. Nuestra tienda era muy famosa dentro del Latin-Community y la gente se emocionaba mucho al encontrar cosas típicas de sus pueblos.

Recuerdo aquellas épocas de finales de los años 70s y principios de los 80s. En la zona de Humboldt Park vivían muchos latinos, principalmente puertorriqueños. Debo confesar que mi hermano y yo realmente no sabíamos muy bien donde estábamos ubicados. Después con los meses entendimos que nuestra tienda hacía parte del corazón latino en Chicago. En la zona eran frecuentes los problemas de seguridad y enfrentamientos entre pandillas. Mi hermano y yo muchas veces tuvimos que hablar con los jefes de esas pandillas. Por medio de la comunicación llegamos a acuerdos. Por ejemplo les ayudamos a preparar paredes para desarrollar el fenómeno del graffiti en la calle de Division, lo que dió apertura a los inmensos y bellos murales que tenemos hoy en día en nuestro barrio. Ésa fue una buena oportunidad para entablar conversaciones con los líderes de esas pandillas y abrir el diálogo a los temas de seguridad en nuestra comunidad. Debo decir que mi familia y yo amamos más esta comunidad, que

nuestro lugar de origen. Mi hermano tuvo mucho que ver con el cambio de esta comunidad; era una persona muy visionaria, gracias a él se logró hacer un contrato con la ciudad, y se cambiaron las aceras de la calle Division porque estaban muy dañadas. Se sembraron los árboles que hoy en día embellecen esas calles, y ayudó a gestionar el cambio del alumbrado público.

Comenzamos a trabajar dos personas en la tienda La Municipal, a medida que fue creciendo. También creció el número de empleados. Muchas veces recurrimos a ayudas y préstamos que ofrecía la ciudad. Compramos dos lotes al lado de la tienda y así pudimos crecer. Fueron muchos años de trabajo para lograr tener la tienda que tenemos ahora. Pasamos de dos empleados a doce, principalmente latinos y puertorriqueños. Tenemos personas que trabajan con nosotros desde hace 25 años; somos como una familia.

En el año 2006 vendimos nuestra tienda a unos indios. La verdad es que no trajeron muy bien la tienda. Yo regresé después de siete años. La compré de nuevo; la volví a arreglar; mis hijos trabajaron conmigo allí, y son quienes están encargados de la tienda ahora; y puedo decir con orgullo que hacen muy bien su trabajo.

Hemos superado muchas dificultades; no ha sido fácil. Ahora con el problema del COVID-19 nos hemos adaptado. Nuestra tienda nunca había cerrado ni un solo día en más de 40 años. Incluso cuando hemos estado en construcción, nuestra tienda ha permanecido abierta. Lo

primero que hicimos al desatarse la crisis de salud que enfrentamos actualmente fue dotar a nuestros empleados de máscaras y guantes. Seguimos los protocolos de limpieza y seguridad, limpiamos permanentemente las puertas de las neveras, la cajas registradoras, lo anaqueles, señalizamos el piso con líneas para que nuestros clientes conserven el distanciamiento social mientras hacen sus compras. Hasta ahora y a pesar de las circunstancias todo está saliendo bien."

Ziad recuerda con mucho cariño y nostalgia los años que vivió en Puerto Rico. Los llama -Los años más felices de su vida; "Allí pasé parte de mi juventud, allí abrí los ojos y aprendí a ver la vida de una manera distinta. En el día trabajaba con padre vendiendo telas, colchas, y oro. En las noches estudiaba. Recuerdo con mucho afecto mi época de adolescente en Puerto Rico. Cada vez que puedo, viajo allí con amigos y personas cercanas. Les muestro la isla porque la conozco muy bien. Siempre he vivido muy agradecido con el pueblo puertorriqueño porque nos recibieron y nos trataron muy bien a mi familia y a mí durante esos años que vivimos allí. Nos dieron la posibilidad de construir una vida hermosa. De mi padre aprendí a negociar, también aprendí cosas básicas del comercio, nuestro padre siempre nos enseñó a nuestros hermanos y a mí, a trabajar por nosotros mismos, a no depender de un jefe. No es fácil; se trabajan más horas y más fuerte, pero es muy satisfactorio sacar un proyecto adelante. Lo que me enseñó mi padre yo también se lo enseñé a mis hijos."

Las palabras de Ziad me hacen recordar los valores que promueve El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño, autodeterminación, autogestión y autodependencia de la comunidad. Resaltamos el trabajo incansable de Ziad y sobre todo su compromiso con la comunidad de Humboldt Park. Él se ha convertido en un ícono que acompaña las luchas por la construcción del bienestar, la convivencia y el futuro de nuestra colectividad.

Recientemente El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño abrió El Centro de Desarrollo para Pequeños Negocios (SBDC por sus siglas en inglés) en el Oeste de la Ciudad de Chicago, ofreciendo servicios de asesorías individuales en temas como: Evaluación financiera, planificación, análisis y orientación, Planes de marketing, entidad empresarial y configuración organizacional, asistencia con certificaciones, conexión a recursos legales, fiscales y financieros, licencias comerciales y permisos.

Para más información comuníquese con al número: 787-390-3849, escriba un correo a

SBDC@prcc-chgo.org o visite nuestra página de internet <https://prccsbdc.org>



STAY SAFE! STAY HOME!



Puerto Rican People's Day Parade ON PASEO BORICUA



VIRTUALLY

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2020

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 21 (cable)

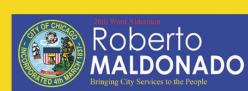
i WEPA!
community POP UP

Support our Businesses!

**¡WEPA! MARKET DAY & COMMUNITY POP UP
ON PASEO BORICUA**

Sat. June 20, 2020 11am - 6pm

A CALL TO ACTION
GET COUNTED!
CENSUS 2020
www.2020census.gov



Educación y Entretenimiento

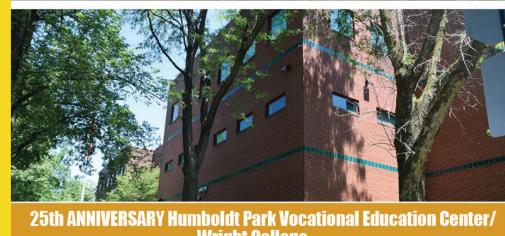
HONORING:



25th ANNIVERSARY Puerto Rican Flags of Steel



20th ANNIVERSARY
National Museum of Puerto Rican Art & Culture



25th ANNIVERSARY Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center/
Wright College



20th ANNIVERSARY Humboldt Park Public Library on Troy



15th ANNIVERSARY UrbanTheater Company



15th ANNIVERSARY Muévete

Welcome to 42nd Puerto Rican People's Day Virtual Parade On Paseo Boricua

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC) will celebrate its 42nd annual Puerto Rican People's Day Parade on the Paseo Boricua. This year's parade will start at 2:00 PM on Saturday, June 20, 2020.

Nonetheless, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are moved to act responsibly in order to guarantee

the safety of our community and of our neighbors. To this end, we will roll out a unique Virtual Parade. This creative response in the middle of a lethal pandemic will make space for our community to enjoy its most cherished cultural celebration of the year while ensuring its wellbeing. The parade will be transmitted on cable through HITN as well as simultaneously on the PRCC webpage. Because

we are following federal, state, and city guidelines for social distancing and PPE requirements, the transmission will include live as well as pre-recorded clips from businesses and cultural entities on Division St., Paseo Boricua, where historically the Parade takes place – through a culturally rich and iconic corridor extending from Western to Sacramento.

As the virtual parade kicks off, it will be narrated bilingually (Spanish-English), by Jessie Fuentes, Dean of Students of Pedro Albizu Campos High School and co-chair of the Puerto Rican Agenda, as well as by Dr. Jesús Hernández Burgos, Director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center's Public Health Initiatives.

The 42nd Puerto Rican People's Day Parade will provide a space to celebrate the following historical milestones of our community:

- The 25th Anniversary of the Puerto Rican Flags of Steel
- The 20th Anniversary of the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture
 - The 25th Anniversary of the Humboldt Park Vocational Education Center
- The 20th Anniversary of the Humboldt Park Public Library on Troy
 - The 15th Anniversary of Muévete
 - The 15th Anniversary of UrbanTheater Company

All celebrations will follow safety guidelines set forth by the federal, state, and city health agencies. We will provide PPE as needed to ensure compliance.

Additionally, all participants will make a call to action to join the efforts for the community to participate and be counted for the 2020 Census. The Parade will serve as one more venue for The Puerto Rican Cultural Center to get everyone in the Humboldt Park and surrounding communities to engage in this most crucial, once every decade event.

We encourage our entire community to organize watch parties in the safety and comfort of their homes alongside those with whom they are sheltering in place to watch the Virtual Parade on TV through Comcast 647, DirecTV 461, Dish 880 and U-Verse 3055, and enjoy and celebrate this momentous occasion. The well-being of our community has always been a priority. We are called to celebrate and show our pride by tuning in and viewing from home.

During the past four decades, the Parade has grown into one of the largest cultural celebrations in this community, and it proudly showcases our rich cultural heritage. Traditionally, the parade includes floats, marching bands, vejigantes, and dancing/musical performances. Every year it brings together area businesses, political figures, religious institutions, cultural centers, schools, and community groups.

In recognition of our community's rich diversity, our Cacica/Queen is always a transgender woman. Following the parade, thousands of participants join the Annual Fiestas Patronales Puertorriqueñas in Humboldt Park.

Although this year the Parade will look different, it will maintain the same joyful spirit that characterizes our people. The Puerto Rican people have always endured hardship through profound creativity. In that spirit and that tradition, we ask you to join us this year as we celebrate our beautiful people, culture, and our collective successes.

Leony Calderón
Puerto Rican People's Day Parade Coordinator

PROGRAM/PROGRAMA

► WELCOME/BIENVENIDA:

- Jessie Fuentes, Co-chair of the Puerto Rican Agenda
- Dr. Jesús Hernández Burgos, Director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center's Public Health Initiatives.
- Alderman Roberto Maldonado

► Himno Nacional "La Borinqueña" cantado por Casandra Figueroa

► Special Messages/Mensajes Especiales

- State Sen. Omar Aquino
- State Rep. Delia Ramírez

► Homage/Homenaje al 42do Desfile del Pueblo Puertorriqueño

- Cantado por Yendrys Cespedes de YCC Production

► Roberto Clemente Community Academy

► Nellie's Restaurant

► West Town Bikes/Ciclo Urbano

► Papa's Cache Sabroso

- Performance by Saxophonist Isaac Nieves

► Esmaralda Lounge

► AfriCaribe

- Baile de Bomba y Plena

► Supermercado Municipal

► Barbería Luquillo

► ComEd

► Ivelisse "Bombera de Corazón" Díaz

► Centro Infantil Consuelo Lee Corretjer

► SBDC at PRCC Humboldt Park

► La Casita de Don Pedro Albizu Campos

- Bomba y Plena performance by Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center

► La Plena Restaurant

► Urban Theater Company

- Performance by La Vuelta

► Humboldt Park Youth Employment Program

► Café Colao

► Pre-recorded Segment of Miss Gay Puerto Rico

► Vida/SIDA

- Performance by Valeria Méndez - Miss Universo Latina Plus 2019

► Curramba Colombian Restaurant

► El Rescate

► Jayuya Barber Shop

► La Bruquena

► Cristian Roldán, Muralist

► Yauco Liquor Store

► PRCC Health Services

- Performance by Ginger Valdéz

► Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School

► Muévete

► Trans Chicago

- Performance by Andrea Magia Méndez

► Humboldt Park Vocational Educational Center/Wright College

► Latin American Motorcycle Association

- Mensaje Especial por Mario Nieves, Pres. International LAMA

► Norwegian American Hospital

- Mensaje Especial por José Sánchez, CEO

► Flags of Steel Documentary (Segment)

► National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture

- Exhibit Samuel Lind

► Closing Remarks by Billy Ocasio, Exec. Director

Photo Overview

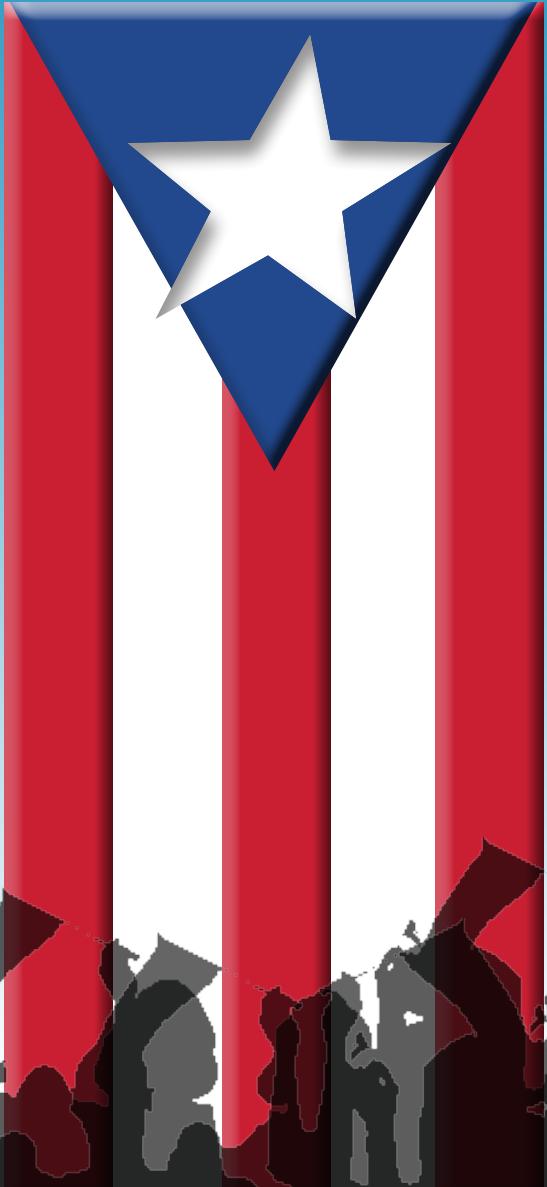
2019 Puerto Rican People's Day Parade on Paseo Boricua



Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation & Cermak Produce

are happy
to continue
our proud
tradition in
sponsoring

the 42nd
Annual
Puerto Rican
People's
Parade.



For additional information regarding Bickerdike or to become a member please visit www.bickerdike.org or call 773-278-5669



2701 W. North Ave., Chicago, IL 60647
Tel: 773.278.4447 Fax: 773.278.5354

Frank Mondane

West Town Law Office

**End Police Brutality!
End White Supremacy!
End Mass Incarceration!
End colonialism!**

Melinda Power, Licenciada

- Criminal Defense
- Civil Rights
- Domestic Violence



2502 West Division St. ~ Chicago IL 60622 ~ p.773-278-6706 ~ f. 773-278-0635

melindapower1@gmail.com ~ www.melindapower.net

Re-Enroll to Earn Your High School Diploma TODAY!



Info Sessions every Tuesday and Thursday at 9am

Visit us at www.facebook.com/pedroalbizucamposhighschool

Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School

2739 W. Division St. / Chicago, IL 60622

773-342-8022

info@pachs-chicago.org

www.pachs-chicago.org



**ComEd is proud to
support the Puerto
Rican People's Parade.**

Best wishes for a wonderful day!

ComEd[®]

An Exelon Company

ALL ARE
WELCOME HERE



EL RESCATE

Transitional Living Program

SAFETY * LOVE * FOOD * HOPE * FAMILY

WHO

18-24-year-old

LBGTQIA+

Latino and African-American
youth

WHERE



2703 W. Division St.

**CELEBRATING THE 42ND ANNUAL
PUERTO RICAN PEOPLES DAY PARADE**

INNOVATIVE TRANSITION TO
BRIDGE PROGRAM
2020

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
THAT CAN ASSIST YOU WITH:

JOB APPLICATIONS
FINDING FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT
RESUME BUILDING
INTERVIEW SKILLS
TRAINING PARTNERSHIPS

AND/OR

EXPANDING ACADEMIC CAREER
COLLEGE APPLICATIONS
FASFA APPLICATIONS
SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE



CELEBRATING THE 42ND
PUERTO RICAN PEOPLES
DAY PARADE



UNITED
WE SHALL OVERCOME

COME SEE US AT
2636 W. DIVISION ST.
10:00AM - 6:30PM

HUMBOLDT PARK
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAM

CELEBRATING THE 42ND ANNUAL PUERTO RICAN
PEOPLES PARADE

A 12-WEEK PROGRAM THAT
PROVIDES PAID WORK
EXPERIENCE

COME MEET US AT 2636 W. DIVISION ST. CHICAGO IL 60622

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!

THIS PROGRAM DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE SEX, GENDER, RACE,
SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS, RELIGION, EXPECTANT MOTHERS, ETC.
REQUIREMENT: MUST BE 16-24 YEARS OLD AND MUST HAVE A
VALID ID

PEOPLE'S LAW OFFICE, REPRESENTING VICTIMS OF POLICE BRUTALITY AND GOVERNMENTAL ABUSE, JOINS IN CELEBRATING THE 42ND PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE'S PARADE

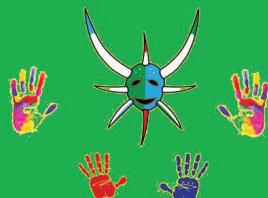


- DEFUND POLICE
- INVEST IN BLACK & BROWN COMMUNITIES
- DECOLONIZE PUERTO RICO

WE VALUE OUR DECADES
IN SOLIDARITY WITH
CHICAGO'S
PUERTO RICAN
COMMUNITY

1180 N. MILWAUKEE | CHICAGO, IL 60642
773/235-0070 | PLO@PEOPLESLOAWOFFICE.COM
WWW.PEOPLESLOAWOFFICE.COM

Centro Infantil
Consuelo Lee Corretjer
Childcare Center



*Felicitando a la Comunidad en su
42^o Desfile Del Pueblo Puertorriqueño*



Head Start & Child Care Program

Open registration for Day Care:

- Infant, Early Head Start, Head Start
- Quality Program for Children 6 weeks to 5 years old
- Monday through Friday 6:00am-6:00pm



1345 N. Rockwell St. Chicago IL 60622 P. 773-342-8866 F. 773- 360-7560



Roberto Clemente Community Academy

an International Baccalaureate World School



WWW.RCCACHICAGO.ORG

Clemente

CONGRATS CLASS OF 2020

ADAMS, D.	DIAZ, K.	LOPEZ, L.	PEREZ MEJIA, S.	SOCK, J.
ALVAREZ, A.	DILWORTH, A.	LUSTERIO AGUIRRE, E.	PEREZ, A.	SORIA, P.
ALVERIO, A.	DONELSON, N.	MAISONET, N.	PRESS, D.	SOROUR, X.
ANDERSON, M.	DOUBRAVA, V.	MARRE, A.	PRUETT, S.	SOTO, A.
ANTONIO, D.	ELLIS, H.	MARRERO, Z.	QUITO, E.	SOUCHEK, K.
BAKER, J.	ESPINOSA, A.	MARTINEZ, E.	REDMOND, M.	TANNA, A.
BAKER, S.	FLEMING, A.	MARTINEZ, J.	REED, L.	TEASLEY, E.
BASKERVILLE, M.	FLORES, A.	MCDONALD, J.	REYES, E.	THOMPSON, T.
BROWN, D.	GARNER, E.	MCDUFFORD, S.	REYES, J.	TOLENTINO, V.
CAGUANA HUERTA, J.	GILES, Z.	MCMAHON, L.	RODRIGUEZ, A.	TORRES, H.
CANTERO, A.	GOMEZ, D.	MCNEIL, D.	RODRIGUEZ, R.	TORRES, J.
CARRASQUILLO, J.	GONZALEZ, A.	MELENDEZ, N.	ROMAN, A.	TORRES, J.
CARRION, D.	GREER, S.	MERCADO, J.	ROMAN, Y.	TORRES, R.
CARTER, J.	HADEN, N.	MERCADO, M.	ROMANIZ, G.	TORRES, V.
CASTRO, B.	HALL, Z.	MHOON, D.	ROSARIO, A.	TUCKER, Z.
CERVANTES, A.	HARRIS, B.	MICKEY, A.	ROSARIO, S.	URCINO, N.
CHAPMAN, K.	HENDERSON, J.	MIMS, J.	ROSARIO, T.	VALENTIN, X.
CLARK, D.	HERNANDEZ, V.	MONGE, E.	RUSSO, E.	VAZQUEZ, J.
COLON, J.	HOWERY, D.	MONTALVO, J.	SALAZAR, I.	VAZQUEZ, J.
CORDOVA, A.	INGRAM, D.	MONTES, N.	SALGADO, A.	WASHINGTON, M.
CORONA, G.	JOHNSON, A.	MORALES, A.	SALGADO, H.	
CORRAL, L.	JONES, J.	MORALES, F.	SALGADO, K.	
CRAIG, F.	JONES, J.	MORENO, G.	SALLEY, D.	
CRUZ, X.	JONES, M.	NARVAEZ- MIRANDA, J.	SANCHEZ, G.	
DAWSON, P.	KING, L.	NEVELS, D.	SANTIAGO TORRES, E.	
DE OLEO, B.	LASANTA-ORTIZ, A.	NIEVES, A.	SANTIAGO, A.	
DEGOLLADO, O.	LAZARO, M.	ORTIZ, J.	SANTIAGO, A.	
DELGADO, A.	LEFLORE, D.	OWENS, D.	SANTIAGO, D.	
DELGADO, E.	LEON, E.	PAULIN, N.	SANTIAGO, M.	
DIAZ-BURGOS, J.	LOPEZ, D.	PEARSON, L.	SINGLETON, I.	

WWW.RCCACHICAGO.ORG/APPLY



Congratulations Roberto Clemente Community Academy Graduates Class of 2020!

Adams, Daeshaun Demond - Work
Alvarez, Anais Mariah - Northeastern Illinois University
Alverio, Alex - Rock Valley
Anderson, Marquile Anthony - Malcolm X College
Antonio, Dennise A - East-West University
Baker, Jasmine Gisselle - Malcolm X College
Baker, Sherriyah Leeshay - Truman College
Baskerville, Mariah Lisa - Malcolm X College
Brown, Davion D - Northern Illinois University
Caguana Huerta, Juan Manuel - Dominican University
Cantero, Andrew - Work
Carrasquillo, Jazalynn - Malcolm X College
Carrion, Dejah Lexsi - Dominican University
Carter, Jaden A - Work
Castro, Bianca - Wilbur Wright College
Cervantes, Alexis O - DePaul University
Chapman, Kimani Jade - Chicago State Univ
Clark, Delvin K - Triton College
Colon, Jose Manuel - Truman College
Cordova, Alyssa - Dominican University
Corona, Gabriel - Rockford College
Corral, Luis Fernando - CCC
Craig, Faith M - Northern Illinois University
Cruz, Xavier Luis
Dawson, Phillissa - University of Illinois- Chicago
De Oleo, Bryan Emmanuel - (UTI)
Degollado, Osiel Rey - Work
Delgado, Adam - Malcolm X College
Delgado, Eric Enrique
Diaz-Burgos, Jose Joel - Army National Guard
Diaz, Keila - National Louis University
Dilworth, Ashanti Nicole - Truman College
Donelson, Nakryra Dasia - Western Illinois University
Doubrava, Vanessa - Work
Ellis, Hana Luma - Roosevelt University
Espinosa, Alexander - DePaul University
Fleming, Aaliyah - Northeastern Illinois University
Flores, Angel Luis
Garner, Emonie - East-West University
Giles, Zitlaly - Loyola University Chicago
Gomez, Diana Areli - Malcolm X College
Gonzalez, Arismari Nicole - Agnes Scott College
Greer, Shangerald Keshan East-West University
Haden, Naomi Chawahvon - Wilbur Wright College
Hall, Zaria - East-West University
Harris, Batavia - Malcolm X College
Henderson, Jocquin M - Truman College

Hernandez, Victor Martin - Malcolm X College
Howery, Donnell Antonio Reign - Malcolm X College
Ingram, Devonte - Malcolm X College
Johnson, Aureanna Tamiyah - East-West University
Jones, Jamia Mykale - Truman College
Jones, Javari - Northeastern Illinois University
Jones, Monterrian M - Malcolm X College
King, Larshana Ariel - Oakton Community College
LaSanta-Ortiz, Andrea - St Augustine College
Lazaro, Melissa - Malcolm X College
Leflore, Damaiah Caroline - Malcolm X College
Leon, Eleni Ariana - Work
Lopez, Diego Genesis - Oakton Community College
Lopez, Leslie - East-West University
Lusterio Aguirre, Ethan Isaeh - Dominican University
Maisonet, Nelson Mundo - Atlanta Metropolitan State
Marre, Aleksandar - Lawrence University
Marrero, Zariah Nydia - Truman College
Martinez, Esmeralda - Columbia College Chicago
Martinez, John Nathan - Malcolm X College
McDonald, Jhamont'e M - Loras College
McDufford, Sara A - DePaul University
McMahon, Lakaya - Kennedy-King College
McNeil, Damario - Work
Melendez, Noah - Work
Mercado, Julian Orlando - Truman College
Mercado, Marcanthony - Bridges to Work
Mhoon, Derrick - Wilbur Wright College
Mickey, Armonie - U.S. Army
Mims, Jenae - Columbia College Chicago
Monge, Elijah A - Military
Montalvo, Jazmine Isabel - Aveda Institute
Montes, Nichole - Malcolm X College
Morales, Aaron - Robert Morris University
Morales, Frankie - Benedictine University
Moreno, Gustabo - Work
Narvaez- Miranda, Jairam Louis - East West University
Nevels, Devon - Northeastern Illinois University
Nieves, Antonio Luis - Work
Ortiz, Jailene Luz - Clark Atlanta University
Owens, Delatorian - His & Hers Barber School
Paulin, Noemi - Work
Pearson, Lilly - Malcolm X College
Perez Mejia, Smerlyn Manuel - Truman College
Perez, Alexandra Alcira - Malcolm X College
Press, Deshonti Monay - East-West University
Pruett, Shatara Marie - East-West University

Quito, Erica - Malcolm X College
Redmond, Marcala Jeanetta - East West University
Reed, Lazell - Work
Reyes, Elijah Anthony - East West University
Reyes, Joshua - Malcolm X College
Rodriguez, Angelina Isabella - Columbia College
Rodriguez, Ruben
Roman, Alejandro - Robert Morris University
Roman, Yariana - Dominican University
Romaniz, Giselle - Northeastern Illinois University
Rosario, Adelmaris Michelle - Wilbur Wright College
Rosario, Stacey Harold - Washington College
Rosario, Trinity Jade - Joliet Junior College
Russo, Eynh Nathaniel - Malcolm X College
Salazar, Isabella - University of Illinois- Chicago
Salgado, Axel - National Guard and Northern Illinois
Salgado, Helena - Northeastern Illinois University
Salgado, Karina - National Louis University
Salley, Dion R - Malcolm X College
Sanchez, Giovannie - St Leo University
Santiago Torres, Edwin Onix - Truman College
Santiago, Andrew - Elgin Community College
Santiago, Ayanna - Saint Marys University of MN
Santiago, David - Work
Santiago, Matthew David - Northeastern Illinois University
Singleton, Imani - Robert Morris University
Sock, Johmel - Harold Washington College
Soria, Pedro - Bridges to Work
Sorour, Xavier - Malcolm X College
Soto, Amani Lynette - Columbia College Chicago
Souchet, Kyanna Lynn - Malcolm X College
Tanna, Ashley - East West University
Teasley, Elijah Kewaun - East-West University
Thompson, Taja K - Oakton Community College
Tolentino, Vladimir - Malcolm X College
Torres, Hector - Kennedy-King College
Torres, James Carmen - Work
Torres, Jasmin - University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point
Torres, Robert Brandon - Dominican University
Torres, Victoria - Malcolm X College
Torres, Yesenia - Universidad Ana G Mendez
Tucker, Zynnasia - Truman College
Urcino, Nathan - Northern Illinois University
Valentin, Xiomara - Wilbur Wright College
Vazquez, Jeremiah - Triton College
Vazquez, Jonathon Christopher - Work
Washington, Madeline Marie - Roosevelt University

Announcing Roberto Clemente Community Academy Graduate Class 2020



Congratulations to our special graduates!" Class of 2020



Mía Colón
“Don’t live someone else’s dream, find your own”



Alex Espinosa
“Don’t let anyone or anything hold you back from achieving your dreams, if you have something to accomplish persevere”



Adrian Bowman
“This was a challenging year. We’ve endured, persevered, and now accomplished!”



Antonio Beltran Ocasio
“I’m grateful to God for my family, friends and community who support and believe in me. The best is yet to come!”



Karina González
“You don’t move forward in life just by succeeding but by learning as well”

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center congratulates the 2020 graduates of Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School

Acevedo, Maribella
Acevedo, Miabella
Aguilar, David
Aguilera, Christina
Aguirre, Nayome
Anderson, Jonathan
Arce, Briana
Arzuaga, Isabel
Atkins, Raequan
Banda, Beatriz
Barrera, Richard
Benitez, Ulises
Bohanon, Keevon
Burgess, Christopher
Bustamante, Sergio
Cabrera, Yolari
Camacho, Cristian
Carman, Jerome
Carreon, Israel
Castaneda, Kelly
Cebrero, Danny
Chacon, Beonce
Chambers, Elijah
Claudio, Wilfredo

Colon, Andy
Colon, Kayla
Concepcion, Hector L
Consuelo, Roberto
Cortes, Rachell
Davis, Jelani
Diaz, Francisco
Diaz, Josue
Duncan, Marcus J
Dunum, La’Azia
Edmonds, Montre
Esquivel, Vanemy
Estrada, Ashley
Flores, Roberto
Garay, Jalina
Garcia, Eddie
Garcia, Elijah
Garcia, Joelin Yamileht
Godfrey, Rayquan
Gonzalez, Antonio
Gonzalez-Benavides, Carlos

Grumbir, Dante Jesus Gutierrez, Alexis Gutierrez, Jonathan Hemphill, Karmari Hemphill, Karmile Henderson, Derrick Hernandez, Myriam Johnson, Marquis D Johnson, Teyajour King, Makalia Lopez, Caylah Lowery, Dazmyn Lugo, Zeyda Mata, Felipe McMath, Levance Melendez, Caitla Murdock, Bobby Navarrete, Roberto Payne, Martel Perez, Mary Carmen Pruitt, Sabrina Quezada, Mariana Rivera, Juliannie Rodriguez, Christian





Public Health Initiatives



SERVICES

Call to make an appointment

- HIV and STI'S screening
- Housing Information
- PrEP Referrals/PEP Linkage
- Behavioral Mental Health Services
- MPowerment Intervention
- PROMISE Intervention
- TWIST Intervention

- Insurance Navigation
- Gas and Electricity Support
- Food Bank
- Hormone Replacement Therapy Referral
- Linkage to substance abuse/use counseling
- Medical Case Management
- Muévete

Appointments
10:30am - 7:00pm

"Live and Help to Live"

For more information contact via email: Anthony Guerrero
Anthonyg@prcc-chgo.org (773) 342-0855



CICLO URBANO  **HUMBOLDT PARK'S BIKE SHOP ON PASEO BORICUA**
2459 W DIVISION ST 773-772-4870
WEST TOWNBIKES.ORG 



Gracias a la comunidad por apoyar a nuestros negocios locales

Thank you to our community for supporting our local business

Muévete
Movement for Life!

Orgullosamente celebra con el
42o Desfile del Pueblo Puertorriqueño 2020



Post COVID-19 physical activity schedule will be available after July 1, 2020 (phase 4). Call or email for additional information.

15añera

Muevete@prcc-chgo.org

773.236-2698

Muévete with the collaboration of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, the Chicago Park District and the fabulous Physical Activity Volunteer Instructors, has provided 15 years of free physical activities to the communities of Humboldt Park, West Town, Logan Square and Avondale.





Advancing cancer health equity through meaningful scientific discovery, education, training, and community engagement
www.chicagochec.org



The Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative is proud to celebrate the Puerto Rican People's Parade & Chicago's Puerto Rican community.

The Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative (ChicagoCHEC) is a National Cancer Institute comprehensive cancer partnership led by the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, Northeastern Illinois University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Funding support for ChicagoCHEC is provided by the National Cancer Institute (grants U54CA20295, U54CA20297, and U54CA20300). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.



MAKE YOUR FAMILY COUNT

on the 2020 Census

Your friends on Sesame Street know that the 2020 Census helps fund the neighborhood schools and hospitals that kids depend on. That's why it's important to count babies, infants, and kids of all ages living in your home—even if they're not related to you or are living with you temporarily!

It only takes 10 minutes to support kids for the next 10 years!
Call, return your form by mail, or go online to
www.2020Census.gov



SESAME WORKSHOP

United States®
Census
2020

SESAME WORKSHOP

United States®
Census
2020

TM and © 2020 Sesame Workshop.

TM and © 2020 Sesame Workshop.





Get Counted!

¡Hazte Contar!

#StayHome #SaveLives
#QuédateEnCasa
#SalvaVidas



HUMBOLDT PARK

For more information visit:
www.prcc-chgo.org
www.2020census.gov

@PRCC.chicago @prcc_chgo
 jessicawg@prcc-chgo.org (312) 451-5408



Everyone Counts

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country on April 1, regardless of their nationality or sexual orientation. On the 2020 Census, you'll have the option to identify a relationship as same-sex on your response.

Your Responses Benefit The LGBTQ+ Community

A complete count will ensure the accuracy of your state's representation in the U.S. House of Representatives and inform the distribution of over \$675 billion annually in federal funding for community programs across the nation. That includes programs like:

Community Development Block Grants
HIV Emergency Relief Project Grants
Housing assistance
Adoption assistance

Career and technical education grants
Child and Adult Care Food Program
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness



Your Responses are a Valuable Resource

SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS



3334 W. Armitage Ave, Chicago



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK @ArmitageProduce



15th Anniversary of UrbanTheater Company: Artists as Longtime First Responders



By Field Foundation May 17, 2020

Originally posted in <https://fieldfoundation.org>

When Field Fellow Tatiana Cortes and I met with Field Foundation grantee-partner UrbanTheater Company in early March, we spent only a short time talking about theater. As we stood in the middle of its empty storefront space in the heart of Humboldt Park, surrounded by remnants from its last production, directors Ivan Vega and Miranda Gonzalez shared recent successes like the world premiere of *Back in the Day*, an homage to Chicago House music. Vega and Gonzalez spoke about the transformative experience of coming to the end of a grant that was paired with one year of expert consulting through the Arts Work Fund to strengthen its operations. They shared details about the Quinceañera fundraiser they were organizing to celebrate the company's 15th anniversary.

But also, without prompting, the conversation often lingered on the theater-adjacent work they were doing.

They spoke about the way their lobby turns into a sliding-scale mental health facility in the months between productions, helping neighborhood mental health professionals build their practices without office overhead while remaining financially accessible. They talked about how their space is often donated to community members



and officials for meetings and gatherings. They pointed

out the voter ballot box tucked in the corner because they were serving as a polling site.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic shut down Chicago, community-based arts organizations like UrbanTheater Company were already familiar with what it looked like to expand their work to respond to urgent needs. They have been responding to crises for quite some time. Addressing these needs while being cultural anchors was their pre-pandemic agenda, and although it's not easy under current circumstances, they are pulling from those experiences and tools as this crisis unfolds and will continue to do so as Chicago's communities continue to weather the storm.

They're also demonstrating how art isn't just essential to how recovery happens and how we collectively heal, but is essential to how communities survive today, two months, and two years from now.

(Continue on the next page)

Many artists, arts organizations, collectives, and artist-run businesses do expansive work that spills into and pulls from so many other sectors and issue areas. We are fortunate to live in a city with a cultural sector that knows how multifaceted our cultural institutions are, but there is still a lot of work within and outside of the sector that must be done to have this hybridized way of working understood more widely. As we settle into the relief and recovery period of the pandemic, the call for an expanded view that has community and racial equity at its core has hit a fever pitch. Many are searching for a path forward that interrogates, deconstructs, and rethinks the systems and policies within and surrounding the cultural sector and the common causes that impact everyone, including cultural workers. What the pandemic and relief efforts have made clear is that artists and cultural workers are very much in need of basic relief of all kinds in order to support their families, health, creative practices, businesses, community spaces, organizations, and staff.

At the same time, cultural workers aren't just in need of relief, they are also powerful providers of relief. They are creating mutual aid support systems, artist-to-artist and artist-centered emergency grants, relief funds for cultural producers, and artist stimulus packages. Cultural workers are establishing youth-elder check-in networks, art-infused peace circles, and mental health support networks for black communities. They have launched no-contact food distribution networks, food pantries for black and brown transgender South Siders, food and PPE distribution hubs, and senior safety kits in some of the hardest-hit areas of Chicago. Artists are mobilizing around

calls for decarceration at Cook County Jail and advocating for the safety of temp workers who are working in risky environments. They are making shifts in their fashion production work and employing refugees, immigrants, and working-class women to mass-produce PPE.

There's a unique kind of relief that only artists can provide that arguably everyone in Chicago and the country have been benefiting from. It's a relief that has been key to helping us get through each day: the albums, films, web series, books, recipes, poems, and musician battles via Instagram that have provided a soundtrack to this quarantine experience. All of these things are brought to you by artists, the arts, and culture—whether or not we define it or identify it as such.



Echoing the recent message of the Arts for Illinois Relief Fund (AIRF), take a moment to imagine your life without art—during a pandemic or otherwise. With that in mind,

remember that artists and cultural workers are standing alongside all of us who are hurting and working to find and provide relief and healing. Artists and the venues, museums, libraries, and cultural hubs that care for and present their work are essential to our city's infrastructure and are part of the DNA of what makes Chicago, and our entire state, great. Our artists and cultural institutions absolutely must be a part of whatever future is ahead of us.



Whether you're donating to the Arts for Illinois Relief Fund while spending time with Illinois artists, showing support for Chicago's theater community, dreaming up more equitable visions for the cultural sector's future, or simply making culture part of your daily routine, know this: an investment in the arts is an investment in your own well-being and that of everyone around you. Without the arts, we lose the glue that ultimately holds us all together and paves the path to healing.



“Muévete” Program commemorates Quinceañera by sharing The Benefits of Practicing Yoga

Since June 21, 2015 the International Day of Yoga has been celebrated all over the planet. But why did yoga become so popular and what is yoga actually? Most people think yoga is a form of fitness, however, it is much more than that. The word yoga can be translated from Sanskrit – an ancient Indian language, as yoke, or union. It is the union of mind and body. “Yoga is an art, a science, and a philosophy. It touches the life of man at every level -- physical, mental, and spiritual.” Quote from BKS Iyengar. The yoga we recognize the most started after BKS Iyengar came over from India to the United States in the 60s, to teach yoga to westerners. Originally yoga was mostly meditation with breath work. A few yoga poses came later to help a student of yoga sit easier in mediation.

How can you start practicing yoga? The simplest act is

to become aware of your breath. Controlling your breath can help energize you when you are feeling tired or calm you if you are feeling stressed. Calm and steady breathing creates a quiet mind. Close your eyes (not while walking or driving) inhale and exhale. As you become aware of your breath start mentally counting while you inhale and then begin the count again, while you exhale. Try to balance your count while you inhale and you exhale. Example 4 count inhale to 4 count exhale ratio 4:4. This will help quiet your mind and reduce anxiety. When tired, increase your inhale count while shortening your exhale ratio 6:4. When trying to go to sleep shorten inhales while lengthening your exhales ratio 4:6.

Another way to practice yoga is to meditate. Usually when you attend a yoga class, there will be a short media-

tion at the beginning or end of class. You can also try meditation on your own. Start with 2 to 3 minutes, increase time when it becomes easier. I have a mind that is super active. To help me meditate, I've downloaded the free app, Headspace. The app offers short, recorded meditations that usually include breathing exercises. Other resources are YouTube, the public library, or type “meditation” into your search engine, and you will find recordings that will help you start meditating.

Finally, some in-home tips for practicing yoga poses that will help you with breath awareness, meditation, and will boost your natural defenses.

*By Vivian Prapuolenis
in collaboration with Kira Fomenko.
Volunteers of the Muévete program*



Tadasana – Mountain pose: Stand with feet hip width apart. Feet facing forward. Kneecaps relaxed. Put most of your weight back over heels, activate foot under ball mound big toe and little toe. Lift arch of foot. Lower your ribs. Line ears up with shoulders. Imagine a straight line from your ears, shoulders, hip, knee and ankle. Feel the support of your column and feel your breath.



Sukhasana – Cross-legged position: Try sitting on the floor. While sitting on the floor, if you feel you are falling backwards, sit on a cushion/pillow. Try several different leg positions. Sitting on the floor helps use muscles you don't use when sitting in a chair. Also, having to get up and down from the floor is a wonderful way of keeping your independence.



Kitchen Sink exercises.

Adho Mukha Svanasana – Modified down dog: Place your hands, shoulder width apart on edge of kitchen sink. Step feet back, hip-width apart. With straight arms, start to hang back and straighten your legs until your bottom is back past your heels. Lower your shoulders away from your ears and align your head between your arms, look down.



Bharadvajasana - Twists: Sit on a dining chair, with the back of the chair to your side and a wide (3"-5") book held between your knees. Twist to place both hands on the sides of the chair back. Repeat on the other side.



Balance -Stand, put all your weight on your right leg, left your left leg off the ground, keeping it straight. Hold while balancing on your right leg, then switch and balance on your left leg. Try to build up to a minute on each leg. A perfect time to practice this is while brushing your teeth or standing in a line.



Utkatasana - Chair: Now step your feet in under your chest, bend your knees over your ankles, and squat as if you are sitting on a chair with your front ribs resting on your thighs.



Malasana - Squat. Step your feet in toward the sink a bit more and lower down into a squat. Lengthen your spine from your bottom to the top of your head. Try to get your heels on the floor, widen your legs to help.



Savasana - Relaxation pose: Lie on the ground or your bed. Close your eyes. Relax all your muscles starting at your feet, working up to your head. Keep your body still to bring silence to your mind. Relax into the floor or bed. Allow your breath to fall into its natural rhythm. Do whenever you need to create some calm.

8 Junio Día Mundial de los Océanos

Las Playas y la Responsabilidad Social

Brenda Torres Barreto | 19 de mayo, 2020

Originalmente publicado en:
www.elnuevodia.com

Como suele ocurrir luego de lloviznas en áreas propensas a inundaciones, las playas cristalinas de Condado recibieron este fin de semana una fuerte descarga pluvial. Su color marrón oscuro, en contraste con el azul turquesa que apenas nos acostumbrábamos a ver como resultado de la cuarentena, estremeció a todos.

Las dudas inmediatas que nos surgen sobre la naturaleza, pureza y peligro se sustentan. Estas aguas provienen de cada esquina de nuestras ciudades. Son el resultado de las actividades que llevamos a cabo y de la operación de la infraestructura del agua, su alcantarillado y la tubería sanitaria. Si las actividades que nosotros llevamos a cabo son irresponsables, den por seguro que la descarga será una cuestionable y, quizás, no apta para bañistas. Por otro lado, si la infraestructura del agua no está operando en óptimas condiciones y no ha sido reconstruida luego de impactos severos por desastres naturales, lo más seguro es mantenerse lejos de estas descargas.

Para solucionar este dilema es imperativo que los

municipios pongan su empeño en lograr un manejo de desperdicios sólidos inteligente; uno que eduque y desarrolle protocolos para que sus residentes reduzcan, reúsen, reciclen y depositen el material descartado en donde sea correcto. Una educación que establezca tajantemente claro cómo todo tiene una consecuencia y que las cunetas, aceras, estacionamientos y la arena de playa no son extensión del basurero. En otras palabras, una política pública equipada con presupuesto e incentivos hacia un plan de educación para todas las edades, un recogido y transporte de desperdicios sólidos predecible y equipo residencial y comercial que sirva para la segregación de materiales.

El plumaje de descarga citadina de este fin de semana ha sido visto en varias ocasiones por los pasados años. Sin embargo, esta vez, mientras a nadie se le permite entrar a las playas por órdenes dirigidas a evitar el contagio por el COVID-19, mientras las playas se regeneran por la ausencia de actividades nocivas a los ecosistemas costeros, y mientras estos espacios sirven de hábitat crítico para especies en peligro de extinción como es el tinglar, no nos queda de otra que retomar el reclamo de exigir un manejo responsable de nuestras ciudades y su infraestructura.

Esto es posible a través de la inversión en proyectos que respondan al colapso de la infraestructura del agua por los huracanes Irma y María en el 2017. Estos proyectos tienen fondos asignados y están identificados por los planificadores e ingenieros de cada municipio y agencias del gobierno central. Estos profesionales de la infraestructura deben alinear y liderar esfuerzos desde adentro para lograr el comienzo de las mejoras y reconstrucción. Toda acción en pro de estos proyectos de infraestructura del agua debe considerarse como un servicio esencial para Puerto Rico.

Durante el tiempo de cuarentena los ciudadanos debemos asumir nuestra responsabilidad de evitar el contagio a través del distanciamiento y las mascarillas. Debemos disponer de manera adecuada de los guantes, aceites de cocinar y otros desperdicios. De manera paralela y segura, municipios y gobierno central deben acelerar la agenda de reconstrucción y corregir las negligencias ya señaladas por demandas federales, como son las descargas en la playa del Condado y las ineficiencias en el manejo de la infraestructura del agua, particularmente en esta zona.

Una Narración vivida que comprueba lema de El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño: “Vivir y Ayudar a Vivir”



Mi nombre es Kamil, y estoy con El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño y su programa Public Helat Initiatives. Mi área de trabajo desde el año 2017 enfoca en la abogacía de servicios informativos de vivienda.

Quisiera contar una experiencia que viví hace unos días y me conmovió mucho.

Hace un par de semanas iba caminando por la calle cuando por casualidad me encontré con

una persona que pidió mi ayuda. Me identifiqué inmediatamente con este caso porque unos años atrás viví una situación similar. Esa persona me contó con muchos detalles las dificultades que estaba atravesando.

Moverse de ciudad, estado, incluyendo la nación no es un asunto fácil. Las personas que hemos vivido esta experiencia podemos dar testimonio de que no es asunto fácil y no todas las personas corren con la misma suerte. Cada historia es diferente, cada historia está llena de fuerza de valor.

Me sorprendió mucho su historia. Llena de detalles, mostré empatía con él. Uno sabe cuando le están diciendo la verdad. Me contó que estaba perdido en la ciudad, sin

dinero, sin personas que lo apoyaran y casi cinco días sin comer, enfermo y no había tomado sus medicinas por dos semanas.

Casi no pude controlar mis emociones, al escuchar el relato. Esta persona definitivamente necesitaba ayuda. Quería ayudarle y quería hacerlo de mejor manera. Sola no podría solucionarlo todo. Teníamos que actuar en equipo, pero sabía que podía confiar en la ayuda de mis compañeros y mis jefes para poder ayudarle a esta persona. Afortunadamente todo se resolvió en pocos días, gracias al trabajo y las acciones de varias personas que me acompañaron en este proceso. Ahora esta persona se encuentra muy bien y logramos que se reuniera con sus familiares nuevamente.

Quise compartir este relato porque me dejó enseñanzas muy importante. También quisiera recomendarle a todas las personas que por alguna razón deciden dejar sus casas o sus lugares de origen que se aseguren primero de tener información de como solucionar aspectos fundamentales como la comida y un lugar donde dormir. Cuento con la fortuna de trabajar para El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño. Desde el principio me enseñaron la importancia de trabajar por la comunidad. Es un compromiso permanente que adquirimos las personas que trabajamos allí. No perdamos la sensibilidad. Es fácil ayudar a los demás. Siempre recuerdo una frase que leí en los folletos del Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño “Live and help to live.”

Entre la Espada y la Pared

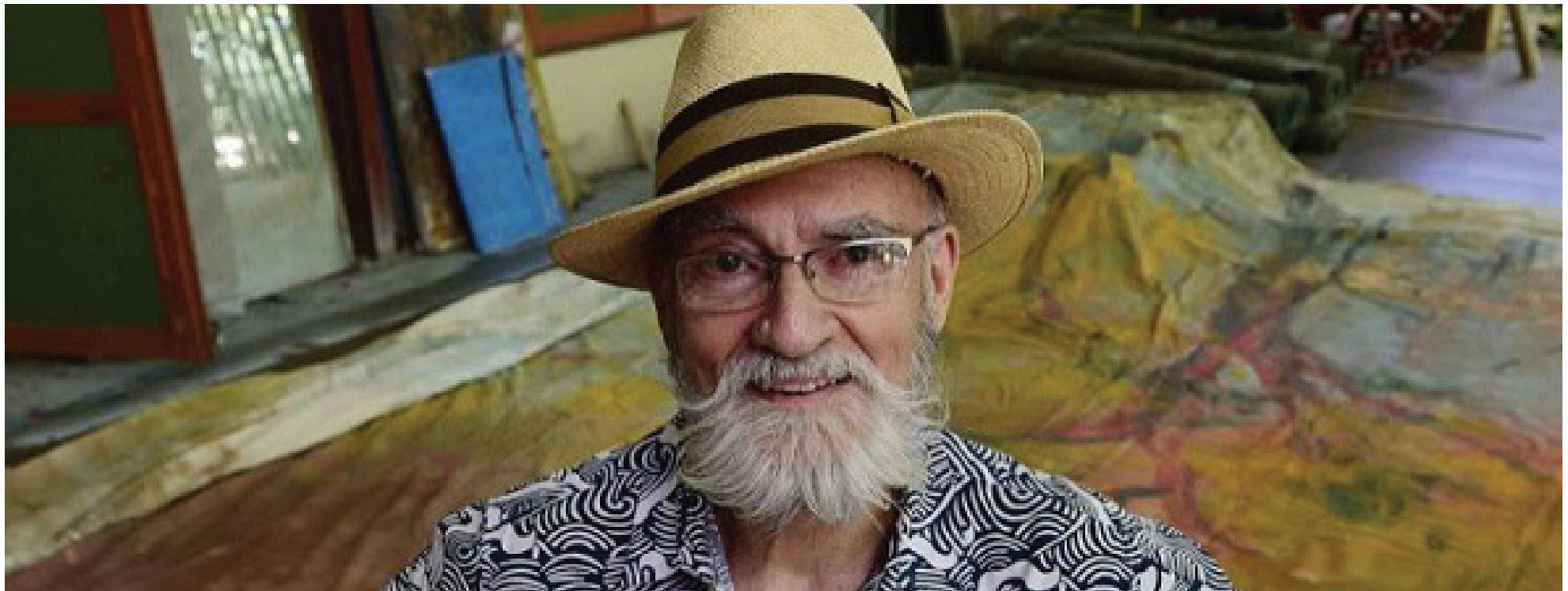


Foto Repeatingislands.com

La primera imagen después de la nieve era la del indio americano y la última de las dos banderas al son de los dos himnos, todo en blanco y negro. Acudían los vecinos porque en la calle donde vivíamos, el nuestro era el único televisor que un día aterrizó en la sala comedor con sus antenas coronándolo -- un luminoso insecto metálico que nos miraba y mirábamos. Recuerdo como nos teñía de una luz azulada como de luna, de pie algunos otros sentados, y los más cercanos recostados sobre el linóleo florido hipnotizados frente aquel cine pequeño y doméstico que prendíamos y apagábamos a voluntad.

Comedias y shows de variedades, telenovelas y noticieros, el pronóstico del tiempo en un español con marcado acento gringo establecían el soñoliento acontecer cotidiano de un Santurce esperanzado y promisorio. La televisión entonces, y ahora, interrumpía su programación dejando en suspenso la solución del crimen o la culminación del romance para anunciarnos que Ace lo hace mejor y que Rheingold es la más rubia de las cervezas.

Y un buen día, la pantalla se iluminó con la señal del canal 6, la telemisora del pueblo de Puerto Rico, de nosotros, sí, o por lo menos eso decía y todavía dice el letrero y la engolada voz del locutor que presenta la cartelera cultural libre de anuncios comerciales, aunque

no de promesas.

Escuchar, pero también ver los dedos del maestro Pablo Casals moverse arriba y abajo al pulsar las cuerdas del violonchelo y deslizar el arco en ocasiones con ternura, otras con vigor; observar el conjunto de la orquesta en su sinfonía visual de trajes negros, pecheras y puños blancos alternando con las rojizas maderas y los dorados metales al regalarnos el oído. Asistir en primera fila a doctas tertulias, confrontaciones intelectuales moderadas, a la vez que provocadas, por la licenciada Nilita Vientós Gastón exponiendo puntos de vista siempre cuestionadores. Visitar sin movernos del hogar, los pueblos de nuestra isla para conocerla mejor acompañados por la voz tan sabia como cálida de José Antonio Torres-Martinó.

Estos fueron placeres del conocimiento que nos brindó en mi juventud las emisoras del pueblo de Puerto Rico. También asistí en una ocasión a los estudios en Baldrich a participar en un foro de estudiantes de escuela superior y allí tuve mi primera experiencia frente a las cámaras.

Retorné a ellas cuatro décadas después conduciendo entrevistas en el galardonado programa En la punta de la lengua durante diez deliciosos años disfrutando el privilegio de entrar a los hogares boricuas a compartir el quehacer cultural de nuestros compatriotas y

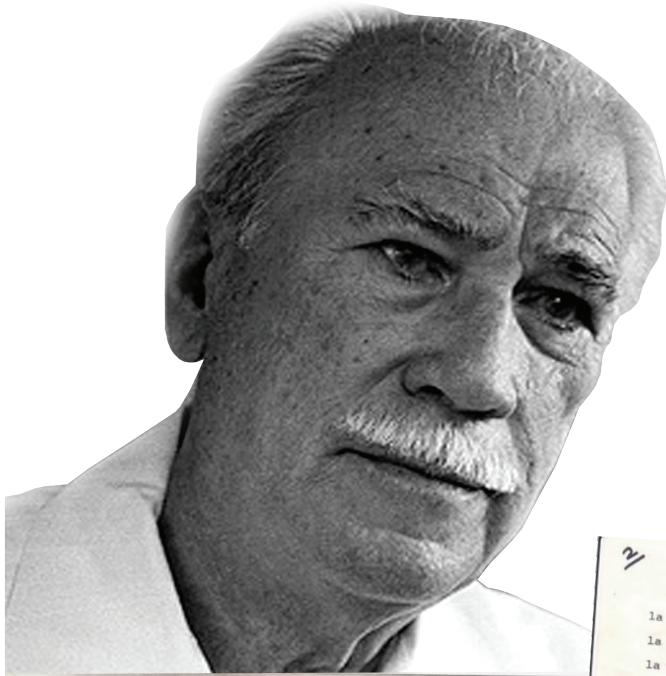
distinguidos visitantes. Le debo a la televisión gran parte de mi popularidad como artista, el poder romper el ámbito limitado de museos y galerías, el expandir el diálogo entre artista, obra y público.

De tal modo que mi deuda de agradecimiento con WIPR es considerable y genuina. También lo es mi reacción a su talante fiscalizador y amordazante cuando intenta acallar voces disidentes. Si me manifiesto en defensa de la televisión del pueblo de Puerto Rico, es porque es preciso restituirle ese carácter perdido presa del abuso del poder cuando se convierte en botín electoral y propaganda partidista.

El canal 6 se proclamó desde su inicio como del pueblo de Puerto Rico, no del partido en el poder. El intento expreso de privatizarlo nos atrapa en la disyuntiva de defenderlo tanto de la privatización como de su actual servilismo al silenciar información pertinente, crítica inteligente y libertad de expresión. Entre la espada y la pared la opción no es fácil, pero urgente. Desarmemos el brazo que empuña la espada.

*Antonio Martorell, Taller La Playa de Ponce
14 de mayo de 2020*

The Last Poem by Juan Antonio Correjter



A UN CAPITAN de DIOS

Con nombre guerrillero,
apellido de pájaro boricua,
lengua de ruiseñor,
los condenados de esta tierra
te saludamos,
Ernesto, Capitán de Dios.
Fue tu iglesia la nuestra mas,
no nos dio paso. Seguí adelante yo,
discípulo de la pobreza,
alumno de la Revolución.
Mojada al hombro la mochila pesa.
El viento al rostro, el fango a la rodilla.
En los ojos insomnes, el ardor.
Las plantas purulentas.
Las ropas en hilachas; el horror
del pensamiento roto,
la casa abandonada, la emoción
dejada atrás, el torbellino
en orden de la guerra:
ese es el inventario
que día a día levanta el corazón.
Pero no duele, Cardenal, no duele,
eso bien tú lo sabes, Pensador.
Mas el destino ineludible,
que impone como afrenta el invasor
y nos vuelve mandato la pelea
porque resuelve en odio, nuestro mundo interior.
Porque amamos el silbo nemoroso,
el enramado trino, el riachuelo cantor,
la hamaca casi aérea

Pr Juan Antonio Correjter

la hamaca casi aérea
la prima que convérsele al bordón;
la palabra de la que todo viene
y no para hasta darnos la canción;
La mujer de astrales ojos,
el niño que hasta hace poco la habitó,
el musculoso hombre de trabajo
que su sangre con ella compartió
y la estancada sangre de la luna
en ser humano transformó.
Porque respetuosamente es a la Vida
lo que a la lucha nos llamó
y la huesuda mano de la Muerte
fuego y plomo a la puerta nos prohibió;
he aquí que en las alertas de tu alma
davídicamente arde tu dolor,
lanzados a la guerra viendo tantos
hombres de paz movidos por Amor.
Mas allá de la pólvora, al lado otro
de la metralla, el numen antevió
bajo la antorcha de otra luz, al hombre,
que es sendero de luz, ya caminó.
De Quebrada de Yuro las sangrientas
espumas, las heridas bravas de Sierra Falcón,
de Guatemala la tragedia en vuelco,
De Puerto Rico la esperanza, el fulgor
de Albizu, el coraje Machetero,
de Sandino el triunfo, de el Salvador
el maelstrom de la Muerte... Capitán,

del tormentoso Pico de Jayuya
a Momotombo onomatopéyico y feroz
contrauya la Palabra ~~el~~ puente
con que llegue a tu Patria la Pasión
de mi Patria que pongo yo en tus manos,
esta noche, Ernesto, Capitán de Dios.

Juan Antonio Correjter

Juan Antonio Correjter, Guaynabo
A 3 de julio de 1984

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center is proud to present what is believed to be the last unpublished poem written by Juan Antonio Correjter. It was gifted to Oscar López Rivera upon his release.

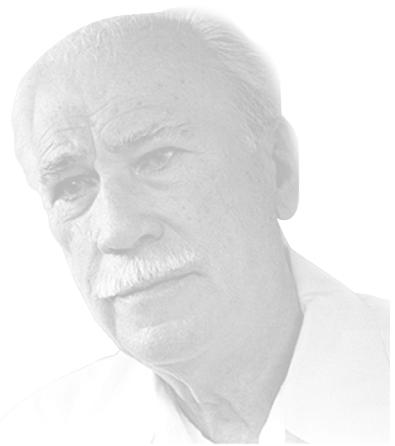
UN CAPITAN de DIOS

Con nombre guerrillero,
apellido de pájaro boricua,
lengua de ruiseñor,
los condenados de esta tierra
te saludamos,
Ernesto, Capitán de Dios.
Fue tu iglesia la nuestra mas,
no nos dio paso. Seguí adelante yo,
discípulo de la pobreza,
alumno de la Revolución.
Mojada al hombro la mochila pesa.
El viento al rostro, el fango a la rodilla.
En los ojos insomnes, el ardor.
Las plantas purulentas.
Las ropas en hilachas; el horror
del pensamiento roto,
la casa abandonada, la emoción
dejando atrás, el torbellino
en orden de la guerra:
es el inventario
que día a día levanta el corazón.
Pero no duele, Cardenal, no duele,
eso bien tú lo sabes, Pensador.
Mas el destino ineludible,
que impone como afrenta el invasor
y nos vuelve mandato la pelea
porque resuelve en odio, nuestro mun-
do interior.

Porque amamos el silbo nemoroso,
el enramado trino, el riachuelo cantor,
la hamaca casi aérea
la prima que convérsele al bordón;
la palabra de la que todo viene
y no para hasta darnos la canción;
La mujer de astrales ojos,
el niño que hasta hace poco la habitó,
el musculoso hombre de trabajo

que su sangre con ella compartió
y la estancada sangre de la luna
en ser humano se transformó.
Porque respetuosamente es la Vida
lo que a la lucha nos llamó
y la huesuda mano de la Muerte
fuego y plomo a la puerta nos prohibió:
he aquí que en las alertas de tu alma
davídicamente arde tu dolor;
lanzados a la guerra viendo tantos
hombres de paz movidos por Amor.
Mas allá de la pólvora, al lado otro
de la metralla, el numen antevió
bajo la antorcha de otra luz, al hombre,
que sendero de luz, ya caminó.
De Quebrada de Yuro las sangrientas
espumas, las heridas bravas de Sierra Falcón,
de Guatemala la tragedia en vuelco,
De Puerto Rico la esperanza, el fulgor
de Albizu, el coraje Machetero,
de Sandino el triunfo, de el Salvador
el maelstrom de la Muerte... Capitán,
del tormentoso Pico de Jayuya
a Momotombo onomatopéyico y feroz
contrauya la Palabra ~~el~~ puente
con que llegue a tu Patria la Pasión
de mi Patria que pongo yo en tus
manos,
esta noche, Ernesto, Capitán de Dios.

Juan Antonio Correjter, Guaynabo
A 3 de julio de 1984



Celebrating the Life of Our Puerto Rican Pioneers -RIP-

Nancy Surén

Julio 12 del 1966 - 18 de Mayo del 2020



El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño expresa su más profundo sentido de pésame a Susana Surén y Glenda Guzmán, en la pérdida física de Nancy Surén. Nancy era hermana de Susana y tía de Glenda y nació el 12 de Julio de 1966, en Nueva York, siendo su familia oriunda de Salinas. Nancy era conocida por su personalidad alegre, su deliciosa comida puertorriqueña que vendía a través de su empresa de “catering”, su rico flancocho que tantas veces lo vendió durante los eventos y festivales de Paseo Boricua. Nancy también participaba en los eventos de ¡WEPA! Community Pop Up y el Waffle/Pancake Breakfast tradicionalmente llevado a cabo en diciembre. Su coquito era especial. Su más notable regalo, que siempre brindaba a los demás, era su sonrisa, la cual contagia a todos.

La sobreviven sus hijos, Amanda y Jerry, y sus nietos Jerry, Suheilee, Jexiel, Amarilee y Jeryelis, y así como también, sus hermanas Elizabeth, Susana, Zoraida, María y Cayita, y sus hermanos Angelo, Julio, Angel y Sammy.

El siguiente poema fue escrito por Nadya Henriquez en honor a Nancy Suren, va dedicado a su familia en este momento tan difícil.

Alegría color Verde Mar

Su cabello brillante como un cielo dorado enaltecen sus ojos verde mar
 Nancy Surén la llamaban y era puertorriqueña llena de patria y libertad
 Nacida Nuyorican con raíces en Salinas
 “La Cuna del Mojito Isleño” llaman al pueblo los de por allá.
 Nancy siempre rebosante de alegría sonría al andar
 Era bien alcahueta con su familia
 ¿Qué decir con sus nietos y nietas que consentía sin parar?
 Sus hijos Amanda y Jerry
 Y sus nietos, Suheilee, Jexiel, Amarilee, Jerry Jr. y Jeryelis
 Eran no menos que sus tesoros sacados del fondo del mar.
 Siempre les preparaba arroz con gandules y tostones
 Para sus raíces nunca olvidar
 Con su vitrina ella vendía su comida calientita
 Con sabor a sofrito, adobo y cariño de verdad
 La cocina era de las cosas que amaba en su vida
 De eso se mantenía por más de 30 años en Humboldt Park
 Nancy era dulce como el flancocho
 El cual vendía como pan caliente en las ferias de Navidad
 Su coquito era famoso y todos lo comprábamos en diciembre
 Para estar listos para Parrandear
 Nancy deja un vacío en nuestras vidas
 Mas sin embargo su alegría permanece
 Como El Morro en el Viejo San Juan
 Será recordada siempre,
 Por su fortaleza y su flan que sabía a gloria y libertad
 Sin duda, es para recordar!
 Al igual que el cariño hacia su familia que era inmenso
 Como la añoranza a Puerto Rico que no se va nunca si vives
 al otro lado de su mar
 Siempre estarás en nuestros corazones
 ya que nos amaste de verdad
 Mantendremos tu sonrisa bella como símbolo de felicidad.
 Y tus recetas las pasaremos de generación en generación
 Para tus nietos disfrutar
 Las delicias que salían de tus manos y de tu corazón con
 tanta facilidad
 Hoy tu corazón dejó de sonar
 Las melodías bonitas que tu sonrisa dejaba al pasar
 Dejándonos solos sin tu respirar
 Le damos gracias a Dios por habernos regalado tu ser
 angelical
 Y esperamos encontrarte después en el Reino de los Cielos
 Para juntos poder estar
 Nancy, descansa en paz

Felicia Feliciano

December 19, 1935 - April 15, 2020



The Puerto Rican Cultural Center and its entire staff join the family of Marilyn Morales to grieve the physical loss of her beloved mother Felicia Feliciano (Lita). Marilyn Morales is the Park Operations Manager, Central Region – Humboldt Park at Chicago Park District, as well as one of the most important voices in the defense of our community. Marilyn's physical loss of her mother is truly a loss for us all. But, Marilyn's compassion, empathy and solidarity, virtues which she inherited from her dear mother, will keep her memory alive. Felicia Feliciano, 84 passed away on April 15, 2020, after a long hard struggle with Parkinsons. She passed in comfort surrounded by her family. Lita, as she was fondly known as by her grandchildren, was born on December 19, 1935 in Cidra, Puerto Rico and grew up in Rio Piedras. She married Luis Anibal Morales and moved to Chicago in the 1950s. She worked for the City of Chicago for 18 years before retiring to care for her mother, Norberta Vasquez Santos. Lita was a devoted mother and grandmother who was loved for her generous spirit with which she lived and loved passionately. She had a fondness for gardening, cooking wonderful Puerto Rican food, and never taking no for an answer. She adored her grandchildren, and is survived by her four children, Grisselle, Lilly, Marilyn, Luis Albert, countless nieces and nephews, and her remaining sister, Francisca Rodriguez, and brother, Roberto Santos.

José E. López,

Executive Director, The Puerto Rican Cultural

Manuel de Jesús Vázquez

February 19, 1939 – May 5, 2020



As a young man, Manuel entered the US Army in 1956. He had become a paratrooper and was sent to Vietnam. Two years later, he returned to the United States and spent some time in Chicago, where he fell in love with the city and envisioned himself settling here once he earned his honorable discharge from the Army. Shortly after his discharge, he and his wife Francisca did move to Chicago permanently. It was early 1964, and they made their home in Westown, 814 N Milwaukee Ave. Shortly after the birth of his daughter Judy, the next year the family moved to Humboldt Park, 2515 W Division, where they settled. In the next six years, four more children were born into the family.

In the 1960s after Manuel settled in Humboldt Park, his family also began to arrive. In 1966 his mom Carmen, his brothers Moises and Luis moved to Humboldt Park. He helped them settle in and find jobs. At this time, he was employed as a truck driver while training to be a welder at Schwinn Bicycle. Manuel spent his life helping others. At home dad always said, "Where one person eats, 10 will eat". Mom cooked everyday, and it was customary to cook extra because dad always had a select list of people who either served in the military with him or just didn't have any family in the states and were homeless and hungry. Manolín, as he was called in the barrio, was a humanitarian in his own way. As Puerto Ricans were migrating in waves

to Humboldt Park, Manolín was always there to welcome them, as well as other Latinos with open arms.

On hot summer nights, I recall Manolín loading up his station wagon with his boys and a few guys, and heading out to places like Aurora, Yorkville, Plano, and Sugar Grove, which at the time were still very rural areas. We would go fishing and purchase meat, eggs, and other foods in bulk. My best childhood memories were of these trips.

Manolín was a people person. He developed relationships with many in these towns, including public servants, police, and farmers. I remember dad going to the frutería before going out to the country. He always picked up tropical fruits like mangos and pineapples to bring them to his new friends. My father was a fisherman and brought his tools from Puerto Rico (ta tarralla), which was considered trapping here in Illinois and illegal, but we used it to fish in the Fox River. The sheriff was a good friend, and allowed dad to do so because he knew the fish would be consumed and not wasted because it was a sport. This was our routine every weekend throughout the summer. I remember on one of our trips, dad pulled over because he spotted a plant rich in iron that Puerto Ricans would eat. It was called berro, or in English -- watercress. After that, these stops became part of our routine whenever we were out in the country.

The coolest part of our weekend trips was when we would return on a hot saturday night to the 2500 and 2600 blocks of Division St. Everyone waited for that black, 1968 Ford Ltd. station wagon to pull up in front of 2515 because everyone knew there were treats for all. You would see families coming down from their apartments with bags to grab some fresh fish, berro, and at times corn, meat, and other consumables. Manolín never asked even for gas money, and since he had a passion for his tarralla he always felt it was going to good use. It was an era in our community that everyone was family. It took a village; everyone looked out for each other and their kids. When Manolín recently passed, I received phone calls from the kids of some of his friends reminding me all of the good my dad did for so many. One told me his forever memory was of a time when his father was unemployed. They were very poor and it was his 7th birthday, but Manolín gifted him his first Big Wheel. Another called to tell me that on his 9th birthday, Manolín bought him his first bicycle. Stories like this have helped me cope with the loss of my father. I'm constantly reminded of the humanitarian he was; how respected and loved he was; and where I

inherited my best traits from. Manuel Dejesús leaves behind seven children as well as two generations of grand and great grandchildren.

I am proud to be his son. On May 5th 2020, the Puerto Rican community in Chicago lost a true icon and pioneer who fought alongside many others to establish the identity we now see in Humboldt Park. His legacy will endure through the generations as the Vázquez family remain and ensure it.

By Miguel Vázquez

Jorge Ocasio

May 20, 2020



It is with our deepest emotions that we extend our heartfelt condolences to Brunilda Ocasio on the physical loss of her beloved father Jorge Ocasio. Brunilda Ocasio, a life-long teacher in the Chicago Public Schools, was deeply involved in the activities of The Puerto Rican Cultural Center for many years. Her commitment to social justice and equality were inspired by her family, but particularly by her father. We, as a community, are indebted to Jorge Ocasio for teaching her those deep values which inform her sense of social responsibility.

Sylvia Herrera López



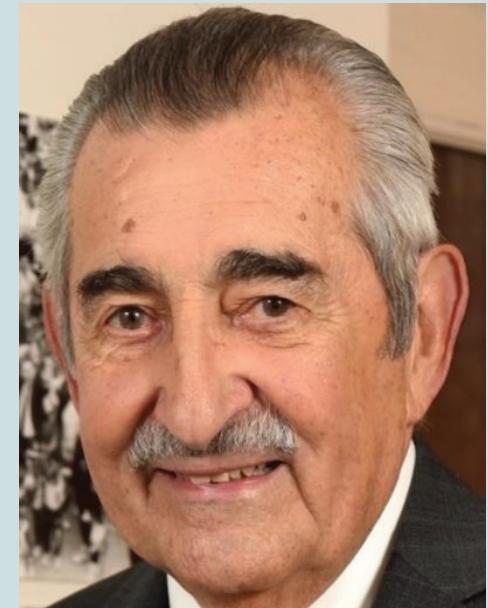
The Puerto Rican Cultural Center joins the family of Sylvia Herrera López in mourning her physical loss. Her presence and persistence will forever be felt in the work and achievements of ASPIRA of Illinois.

On April 22, 2020 Silvia Herrera López passed away peacefully at the age of 87 in Prescott Valley, Arizona. Silvia was born in Aguadilla Puerto Rico to Wenceslao Herrera and Carmen Lopez. She obtained her law degree from the University of Puerto Rico and later attended Harvard University School of Law. She was an attorney and a judge in Puerto Rico. She later moved to Chicago, where she was a trailblazer and a highly respected leader. She was deeply passionate about the power of education and was a fierce activist and advocate for youth. She was instrumental in the founding of ASPIRA and was its Executive Director for ten years. There she created opportunities to meet the social and educational needs of underprivileged youth in the Chicago Puerto Rican community. She helped countless youth who had been left behind by the system to go to college and become successful. ASPIRA lives on carrying this same mission today. Continuing her educational leadership accomplishments she became the Assistant Vice President for Hispanic Affairs at DePaul University. Silvia also attained the prestigious position of Commissioner of Park Services for the city of Chicago. Silvia lived a rich life that

most of us could only aspire to. She was not only accomplished professionally, she blazed her own trail in life, living it fiercely, independently, and uniquely. Silvia traveled all over the world appreciating cultures beyond her own. She was an old soul full of wisdom and spirituality. She had a brilliant wit and great sense of humor. Her joyful laugh will never be forgotten. Silvia settled in Prescott in 2009 to be near her two sons. Having lived all over the country, she found her home here close to family. In true Silvia fashion she took classes at Yavapai College well into her 80s. Silvia touched the lives of many that she helped along the way. She was an example of living life fully and in your own way. She left her mark on this world in her accomplishments and more importantly in intangible ways. She will be deeply missed and loved forever. She was preceded in death by her father Wenceslao, mother Carmen, and brothers Ralphie, Gustavo and Rene. Silvia is survived by her son, Alexander Fox Herrera and daughter-in-law Dorothy of Prescott; her son, Joaquin Fox Herrera of Cottonwood; grandchildren, Derek Fox and Elise Fox, and great grandsons, Nathan and Tyson. The family would like to thank the North Star Adult Care Home for their loving care of Silvia over the past year.

Information provided by survivors.

Juan Manuel Méndez: 1946-2020



Juan M. Méndez passed away peacefully on Friday, May 15, 2020 from heart complications at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL with his loving wife and daughters at his side. He was born on September 19, 1946 in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico. He is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Gladys, his daughters, Tanuya (Kamran) and Laura (Edgar), grandchildren Jordan, Angelina, Ryan and Mila; sisters Luz and Esther; nieces and nephews, Eliza, Eddie, Tina-Maria and Jimmy. He was a cousin and friend to many. Juan was an attorney and businessman. He was a graduate of Wells High School, Wright Jr. College, Northeastern Illinois University and DePaul Law School. He served in the US Army from 1969-1971. He was very active in his community serving many years as President of the Board of Director of the Puerto Rican Arts Alliance. He will be missed by many, particularly, those who he served as mentor and teacher. His unwavering commitment to service will be the hallmark of his life.



i WEPA!

community pop up

**SUPPORT OUR BUSINESSES!
iWEPA! MARKET DAY
& COMMUNITY POP UP
ON PASEO BORICUA**

SAT. JUNE 20, 2020 11 AM - 6PM



*Eat in our Restaurants
& Buy our Products!*

Sponsored by PRCC's Business Initiatives

Chicago Loses Two Iconic Figures in the Struggle for Social Justice and Equality

Conrad Worrill, Prominent Black Scholar and Activist and Friend of the Puerto Rican Community passes



We in the Puerto Rican community are saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Conrad Worrill – a Chicago legend and a champion for justice and reparations for the Black community. He determinedly advanced the cause for African independence and self-determination in the United States and internationally.

Dr. Worrill played a critical role in the election of Chicago's first Black mayor, Harold Washington, and he co-founded the task force for Black Political Empowerment. He was a key organizer of the Million Man March and the National Black United Front.

He served 40 years teaching then directing the Northeastern Illinois University's Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies.

Dr. Worrill also leaves a legacy of solidarity with the Puerto Rican and Latino communities, supporting the



freedom of political prisoners and immigrant rights. In the mid 1980s, when the Puerto Rican and Mexican students organized to create what would become known today as the Latina/o and Latin American Studies Program at Northeastern Illinois University, Dr. Worrill supported its creation by housing the new program under the Center for Inner Studies while the administration refused to support it.

There are many leaders in the Puerto Rican community who have been influenced by his scholarship and his activism. All are eternally grateful for Dr. Worrill's tenacity and his friendship. Our condolences to his family and community as we honor the life and contributions of this transformative and remarkable man.

Maria Whelan:

Voice and Advocate for Children and Family Equity
June 10, 2020



The Puerto Rican Cultural Center and the Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School were deeply saddened to learn that Maria Whelan, died suddenly on June 10, 2020, of a heart attack. Maria Whelan was indeed a voice advocating for justice and equity for children and families. She served as Illinois Action for Children's President and CEO since 2001. There she promoted strong families and vibrant communities where children matter most. An authority in the early childcare and education field, Maria served 30 years in human services. Prior to joining Illinois Action for Children, she served as the founding Executive Director of the Carole Robertson Center for Learning on Chicago's West Side.

Her leadership has been recognized through special awards and fellowships, including the Community Service Fellowship from the Chicago Community Trust, and Leadership Greater Chicago. She served on several boards, including the Illinois Early Learning Council, Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, Early Childhood Advisory Committee – Chicago Public Schools and Illinois Child Care Advisory Council – Illinois Department of Human Services.

Maria held a Master's degree in Social Services from The University of Chicago, and a Bachelor's degree in History from Clarke College. She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Jack Wuest, her three daughters, Catherine Mary, Ellen Rose and Maeve Margaret.



The Puerto Rican Agenda & The Puerto Rican Cultural Center Cafecito y Conversatorio

“Fight Racism: Decolonize USA”

JESÚS CHUY GARCÍA



Illinois 4th Congressional District

LAMONT ROBINSON



5th District State Representative

DELIA RAMIREZ



4th District State Representative

OMAR AQUINO



2nd District State Senator
& Co-Chair IL Latino
Legislative Caucus

CELINA VILLANUEVA



11th District State Senator

LA SHAWN K. FORD



8th District State Representative

CAMILLE Y. LILLY



78th District State Representative
& Co-Chair IL African American
Legislative Caucus

Cafecito y Conversatorio: A Black Brown legislative Dialogue

Fight Racism: Decolonize U.S.

In our community there is no better way to engage in transformative discussions than with a little Cafecito y Conversatorio. Last week The Puerto Rican Cultural Center and The Puerto Rican Agenda joined forces to host a virtual conversation with members of both the Legislative Black Caucus and the Legislative Latino Caucus in a Zoom exchange titled "Fight Racism: Decolonize USA." We were honored to have a panel of elected officials from various levels of government to begin a conversation with the aim of generating action and deeper commitments in our drive to eradicate racism. The conversatorio was moderated by The Puerto Rican Agenda's co-chair Christina Pacione-Zayas, who passionately lead the dialogue on how our local leaders in both Chicago's Black and Latino communities are pushing back against the political status-quo and aligning with one another to create legislation that speaks to Justice.

In the wake of the police killing of George Floyd on May 25th, 2020 and in response to other brutal murders at the

hands of police, Congressman Jesus "Chuy" Garcia (IL-4) joined us for our discussion. He simply but powerfully stated that we are living in times where as a nation we are "asking ourselves, who are we? And who do we want to be?" Congressman García began the conversation by unreservedly affirming that "Black Lives Matter. Our community can and will build unity. We will build a collaborative relationship that through self-determination and collaboration we will empower and transform our city, our neighborhoods, our state, the country and the world, because the world is watching our country and what we do." Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García was joined by State Representatives Delia C. Ramírez (IL-4), La Shawn K. Ford (IL-8), Lamont Robinson (IL-5), Camille Y. Lilly (IL-78) and State Senators Omar Aquino (IL-2) and Celina Villanueva (IL-11) who all vowed to continue to push the Illinois state legislative agenda and disrupt the regular order that allows white supremacy to creep in and invade Black and Brown communities.

Our Cafecito y Conversatorio was only the beginning. Now is the time to get to work. That was the message that permeated the discourse, often reaffirmed by the community leaders. Our communities were encouraged to disrupt "business as usual" by continuing to promote critical dialogue with our neighbors, our friends, and most importantly, specifically in Latino communities, talk to the generations that have come before us, because we have internalized racism. The whitewashing of our culture needs to end. We are called to speak-up, especially to our own. We must speak up and against that which made those before us fall silent. Sometimes un poquito de Cafecito y Conversatorio, a little bit of coffee and conversation, can create a chain reaction. That is something we can proudly pass on to those who come after us.

Power 4 Puerto Rico Statement on George Floyd, Police Impunity

WASHINGTON DC -- "The Power 4 Puerto Rico Coalition stands in solidarity with our African American sisters and brothers in the national uprising against police violence and white supremacist policies oppressing black, brown, Native, and other communities.

"Black people should not be forced to fight for their right to breathe. That the lawless police killing of black lives on and off camera continues to be the status quo, that violence like this is given a pass by the state via qualified immunity shows that dehumanization rooted in white supremacy remains as American as apple pie. Racism must be dismantled, policing de-militarized and accountability must be the order, not the exception.

"George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Eric Garner...We say their names because #BlackLivesMatter. We raise

our voices because we are committed to justice. We are front and present because this racist destruction and impunity is familiar in Puerto Rican communities from Philadelphia to New York and Chicago, and beyond. A long list of Puerto Ricans beaten by white gangs, put into fatal chokeholds or "mistakenly" shot and killed by officers of the law are recorded, with no justice delivered.

"As a people with African roots, we are aware that in the architecture of white supremacy, our existence is rejected. We also recognize, and have taken inspiration from, the dedication and leadership of African Americans that has benefited our communities. And we know, as our ancestors did, that transformation of centuries-old systems must come through mutual support and solidarity towards concrete change. Change not only means enforcing the law against rogue police officers,

it also means real criminal justice reform, restoring the Voting Rights Act, and dismantling systemic oppression of people of color in all its forms.

"The Puerto Rican Diaspora will continue to stand with our African American brethren. We are all one diaspora, one people, one humanity, and, together, we shall overcome systemic oppression against all communities."

Originally post: www.power4puertorico.com

PERMANECE SEGURO! QUÉDATE EN CASA!



Desfile del Pueblo Puertorriqueño EN PASEO BORICUA



TRANSMISION
EN VIVO

www.hitn.tv/parade
www.prcc-chgo.org

HITNtv
PRCC.Chicago
 hitntv
prcc-chgo

VIRTUAL

SÁBADO 20 DE JUNIO, 2020

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

DOMINGO 21 DE JUNIO
(CABLE)

i WEPA!
community POP UP

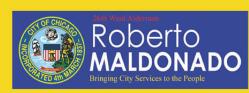
¡Apoye a Nuestros Negocios!

¡WEPA! DÍA DE MERCADO Y POP UP DE LA

COMUNIDAD

Sábado, 20 de junio de 2020 | 11am - 6pm

¡HAZTE CONTAR!
CENSO 2020
www.2020census.gov



HONRANDO



25º ANIVERSARIO de las Banderas de Acero Puertorriqueñas



20th ANIVERSARIO
Museo Nacional Puertorriqueño de Arte y Cultura



25º ANIVERSARIO
Centro de Educación Vocacional Humboldt Park



20th ANIVERSARIO Biblioteca Pública de Humboldt Park en Troy



15th ANIVERSARIO de la Compañía UrbanTheater



15th ANIVERSARIO Muévete