

BOLETÍN

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF LATINO FACULTY AND STAFF

FALL 2019 | VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

SET IN STONE

Viewpoint By Edwin Roman, Academic and Transfer Resources Coordinator, Office of Transfer Services

If I had to venture a guess, I would say that most students enter campus via University Avenue. And that is a good thing because I think every student should see the monument dedicated to the over 300 Dominican men and women who served in World War II.

Four years ago, around the time talks for finally erecting the monument progressed, I read a story in *The New York Times* about a Texas high school student and his mother calling attention to a line in a textbook that described the Atlantic slave trade as bringing “millions of workers” to plantations in the South. Workers? Not Slaves? The article also noted that five years earlier, the Texas Board of Education approved a social-studies curriculum that put a contemporary conservative spin on history textbooks. Unfortunately, what happens in Texas doesn’t stay in Texas regarding textbooks. Because the state is such a big market, they are very influential and publishers tend to angle books toward whatever they want. Reading about Texas got me to thinking about the things I didn’t learn in school. While I thankfully had quite a few progressive teachers (one noted how African Americans and Puerto Ricans were put on the front lines during the Vietnam conflict), I also had those who clung to and conveyed imperialistic viewpoints (another described Native Americans as awestruck by Europeans because, “their hair was the color of gold.”) Noteworthy people of color were generally not part of my education growing up.

Media literacy, which is the applying of critical thinking to media messages, has been on my mind a lot lately, most notably with regards to how people of color are portrayed. Ever since Ronald Reagan fostered the image of the welfare queen, the narrative has been that people of color are takers, living off the largesse of taxpayers, not making noteworthy contributions to American society. This thinking has most re-

cently been imposed on to the asylum seekers at the southern border states via the tired trope that they automatically get welfare and Medicare the moment they cross the border. Undocumented immigrants actually contribute to the system via taxes and social security, but can never benefit from them until they become citizens. The Chief Actuary of the Social Security Administration wrote a report in 2013 that estimated undocumented immigrants contributed \$12 billion into Social Security. Speaking of significant contributions, let’s talk about soldiers of color.



Military service to the country has always been considered a metric for outstanding citizenship. However, I didn’t learn about the Tuskegee Airmen, the Windtalkers, the Borinqueneers or the World War II Dominican Veterans until I was an adult and it was outside of the classroom. This is why the monument on the BCC campus dedicated to World War II Dominican Veterans is important:

our students may not have learned about this prior to attending BCC. Even by just reading the dedication of the monument, this is history everyone should know. For some, seeing that monument may spark curiosity and encourage further research. For others, it may inspire pride. Best of all, it may spark a student to be of service to his/her community.

I have noticed that the community around BCC is slowly changing via gentrification. The recent rezoning of Jerome Avenue bears this out. Regardless of who may be attending BCC in the decades to come, everyone will know that Dominicans valiantly served our country in war. Like Pyramids in Egypt, this monument is set in stone. If monuments can be erected to Confederate soldiers, who were traitors to the Union, then everyone should learn about all the soldiers who served the country with valor.

THE 2019 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH THEME:

“HISPANIC AMERICANS: A HISTORY OF SERVING OUR NATION.”

The theme invites us to reflect on Hispanic American’s service and contributions to the history of our Nation.

CULTURA [CULTURE]

THE CUZCO SCHOOL [ESCUELA CUZQUEÑA]

Cuzco is a Peruvian city that was once the capital of the Inca Empire. Spanish colonial monuments were erected on the base of partially dismantled Inca buildings. Today, the city is characterized by Mestizo culture and monolithic architecture. Cuzco was designated a UNESCO world heritage site in 1983. Cuzco has always been the artistic hub of the Andes and it was here that the Cuzco School of Painting emerged during colonial times.

Cuzco is considered the first artistic center in the Americas that taught European artistic techniques. The rise of the Cuzco School was concurrent with the construction of the Cathedral of Cuzco. The art of the Cuzco School relates to a style of Peruvian art that was prevalent after the conquest by the Spaniards. Many Cuzco School artists are unknown and their work was painted predominantly for private use and/or to have their works displayed in churches and cathedrals.



The Holy Family
by Diego Quispe Tito

One notable painter was Native American Diego Quispe Tito, born near Cuzco, in 1611. It is the work of Tito that embodied many of the characteristics of Cuzqueña painting with regards to perspective, landscape and the abundance of birds in leafy trees. The depiction of the birds is interpreted by some researchers as a reference to Inca nobility.

Two Cuzco School paintings can be seen here in New York City: *Our Lady of Guápulo* is on display at The Met and *Our Lady of Cocharcas Under the Baldachin* is on display in the Brooklyn Museum. The Hispanic Society of America also has quite a few paintings from the colonial period.

- EDWIN ROMAN

RECIPES [RECETAS]

Dominican Stew: Sancocho

Sancocho (Dominican Hearty Stew) is, without doubt, a most cherished dish by Dominicans. Sancocho is usually made for special occasions, but enjoy it any and every day!

Ingredients

- 1 lb beef for stews flank, chuck, or round [0.45 kg]
 - 1 lb goat meat [0.45 kg]
 - 1 lb pork sausage longaniza [0.45 kg]
 - 1 lb pork for stews belly, or chump end [0.45 kg]
 - 1 lb chicken [0.45 kg]
 - 1 lb pork ribs [0.45 kg]
 - 1 lb bones from a smoked ham [0.45 kg]
 - Juice of two limes
 - 1 tsp cilantro or parsley chopped
 - 1/2 tsp oregano powdered
 - 1 tsp garlic mashed
 - 1 1/2 tsp salt
 - 4 tbsp oil corn, peanut, or canola
 - 2.5 quart water [2.5 lt]
 - 1/2 lb yam ñame cut into 1-inch pieces [0.23 kg]
 - 1/2 lb West Indies pumpkin auyama cut into 1-inch pieces [0.23 kg]
 - 1/2 lb taro yautia cut into 1-inch pieces [0.23 kg]
 - 3 unripe plantains 2 cut into 1-inch pieces
 - 1/2 lb cassava cut into 1-inch pieces [0.23 kg]
 - 2 corn cobs cut into 1/2-inch slices, optional
- Cut all the meat into small pieces. Coat the meat with the lime juice (except the pork sausage).
 - Place the beef in a large bowl and add the cilantro, oregano, garlic, and half a teaspoon of salt. Rub meat to cover with the spices. Marinate for at least half an hour.
 - In a large pot heat the oil over medium heat, add the beef and stir (be careful with hot oil splattering). Cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Add a few tablespoons of water if it looks like it might burn.
 - Add the pork and simmer for 15 minutes, adjust water when necessary. Add the rest of the meat to the pot (except for the chicken) and simmer for another 15 minutes, adding tablespoons of water as needed to prevent it from burning.
 - Add the remaining meat and simmer for another 5 minutes, adding tablespoons of water as needed to prevent it from burning.
 - Add 2 quarts of water to the pot and bring to a boil. Add the ñame, auyama, yautía and the two plantains that you had previously cut. Simmer covered for 15 minutes.
 - Grate, or scrape with the knife the remaining plantain to make it into a pulp, add to the pot. Add all remaining ingredients (minus the salt) and add water as it becomes necessary to maintain the same level. Stir regularly to avoid excessive sticking.
 - Simmer until the last ingredients you added are cooked through.
 - Season with salt to taste. Serve hot with white rice, slices of avocado and garnish with hot sauce or agrio de naranja (sour orange)

QUOTABLE [CITABLE]

"A book does not discriminate against any reader. All are welcome at the table of literature."

- Julia Alvarez, author of *In the Time of the Butterflies*

"Mine is not an obedient writing. I think that literature as any art has to be irreverent."

- Reinaldo Arenas, author of *Before Night Falls*

"How can you know what you're capable of if you don't embrace the unknown?"

- Esmeralda Santiago, *Conquistadora*

NOTICIAS [NEWS] ORLANDO LOPEZ IN PUERTO RICO



The CUNY Service Corps partnered with Governor Andrew Cuomo to offer students a rewarding service learning opportunity. Students worked with non-profit organizations aiding in the reconstruction of communities across Puerto Rico damaged by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. During the summer of 2018, winter break of 2019, and summer of 2019, over 450 CUNY students completed 2-weeks of service and participated in various cultural activities, and meeting with professors and students from Puerto Rico.

In addition to CUNY students, CUNY staff accompanied the students and served as chaperones. One of these chaperones was Orlando Lopez, Director of Community Outreach for Workforce Development who served in summer 2018, winter 2019 and summer 2019. Mr. Lopez was proud to represent BCC and the Association of Latino Faculty and Staff noting, "It is truly a rewarding and transformative experience for our students, faculty and staff. Helping Puerto Rico recover, seeing our students in action, and seeing the joy and gratitude that the people of Puerto Rico have when they see us there helping is undeniably satisfying. I hope that we can continue to help when needed."



MEMBERSHIP AFILIACIÓN

The membership application for the 2019-2020 year is available. It may be downloaded at:

<https://bit.ly/2KHeGCT>

Yearly dues are as follows:

\$35 full-time employee

\$15 part-time employee

Dues can be paid by check or money order only.

Checks and applications may be submitted in person at Nicholas Hall, Room 420 or dropped off at Nicholas Hall, Room 118 addressed to Jasmine Caccavelli-Garcia Martinez

If you have any questions please connect with Ms. Caccavelli-Garcia Martinez at X5298.

SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER!

Current members are encouraged to sponsor a part-time faculty or staff member with membership.

When paying for your own dues, add an additional \$15 to support one new member or an additional \$30. to sponsor two new members

Checks and applications may be submitted in person at Nicholas Hall, Room 420 or dropped off at Nicholas Hall, Room 118 addressed to Jasmine Caccavelli-Garcia Martinez

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EVENTOS [EVENTS]

- SEPTEMBER -

9/19 - Thurs, 12-2pm. Salsa Under The Sun Music by: The Arora & Zon del Barrio feat. Fania All-Star, Nicky Marrero. Location: North Quad by the North Hall Library

9/21-9/22 - Latinx Fest @Children's Museum of Manhattan <http://cmom.org/event/latinx-fest/>

9/19 - Thurs, 5:30-8pm. Gallery Show, RESPECT: Exploration of Black & Afro-Latinx Female Identity. Location: Casita Maria Gallery

9/20 - Fri, 1-3pm. Before Night Falls. The Rainbow Alliance celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with a showing of *Before Night Falls*, the film based on the autobiography of Cuban poet and novelist, Reinaldo Arenas. Popcorn will be served. Location: Meister Hall 226

9/26 - Fri, 6-8:30pm. 50 YEARS OF LA COLECCIÓN. In celebration of El Museo del Barrio's 50th anniversary. Location: El Museo del Barrio

9/27- Fri, 3-4:15pm. The Future of Media is Latinx: A Conversation on Race, Ethnicity and Global... by The Latinx Project. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-future-of-media-is-latinx-a-conversation-on-race-ethnicity-and-global-media-tickets-63437146212?aff=e-bapi>

9/25 - Sun, 12-4pm. Ballet Hispánico Hispanic Heritage Month: A La Calle Block Party 2019 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ballet-hispanico-hispanic-heritage-month-a-la-cal-le-block-party-2019-registration-65959090415>

- OCTOBER -

10/2-12-11- 6-9pm. New York Latin American Art Triennial. Triennial explores the "Progressive Transition," the action and the effect of moving from one state to another. Location: The Longwood Art Gallery @Hostos Community College

10/15 - Tues, 2-4pm. Latina Outsiders Remaking Latina Identity, edited by BCC's Dr. Grisel Y. Acosta, The Association of Latino Faculty and Staff sponsored event celebrating the publication of the Routledge anthology. Light refreshments will be served. Location: Roscoe Brown 211

10/19 - Sat, 12-5pm. Dia de Muertos Celebration. Location: El Museo del Barrio

10/22 - Tues, 6-8pm. Dominicana, with Author Angie Cruz Co-sponsors: Creative Writing Club, Womxn Up! & Association of Latino Faculty & Staff Location: Roscoe Brown 311A

10/25 - Fri, 2pm. Poets and Writers sponsored Latinx Reading Series, curated by Prof. Vincent Toro, featuring Willie Perdomo, author of *Where a Nickle Costs a Dime*, *Shorty Bon Bon* and *The Crazy Bunch* Location: North Hall & Library 109

10/27 - Sun, 11-4pm. Hub City Sounds: 5th Annual Corazon Latino Festival. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hub-city-sounds-5th-annual-corazon-latino-festival-tickets-63129619391?aff=aff0eventful>

- NOVEMBER -

11/1 - Puerto Rican History Month - Comité Noviembre <https://www.comitenoviembre.org/>

11/12 - Tues, 6-8pm. Daughters of the Stone, with Author Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa Co-Sponsors: with Creative Writing Club, Womxn up! & Association of Latino Faculty & Staff Location: North Hall & Library 109

11/13 - Wed, 6-8pm. Being Brown: Sonia Sotomayor and the Latinx Question <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/being-brown-sonia-sotomayor-and-the-latinx-question-tickets-63437036885?invite=&err=29&referrer=&discount=&affiliate=&eventpassword=>

- DECEMBER -

Annual ALFS Toy Drive. Donate a wrapped toy for a child in BCC's Child Development Center. List of children names will be distributed at a later date. We will help Santa deliver the presents to the adopted classroom in early December. More information will follow.

- JANUARY -

1/6 - Mon, 8-2pm. 44th Annual Three Kings Day. Location: El Museo del Barrio

1/31 - Fri 11pm. AZUCAR! A Latinx and Hispanic Show.

<https://donyc.com/events/2020/1/31/azucar-a-latinx-and-hispanic-show>