

HHC QUARTERLY

Email Publication Spring 2021

Volume 1 Edition 1



**HISPANIC
HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
of Western New York, Inc.

WELCOME / BIENVENIDOS

The Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that exists to foster and inspire awareness, understanding, and appreciation of past, present, and future contributions of the Hispanic Community in Western New York.

BOARD MEMBERS

As part of the our first newsletter issue we introduce our leaders. They are dedicated community volunteers who chair all the HHC programming throughout the year

- Esmeralda Sierra, MPA \ President | Funding & Grants chair
- Maritza Vega \ Vice-President | Board Development chair
- Elda Pichardo \ Secretary | Program Development chair
- Felipe De Jesús Martínez, fsp \ Treasurer | Financial chair
- Casimiro Rodríguez, Sr. \ President Emeritus | Founder
- Michele Agosto MA \ Director
- Tamara Alsace PhD \ Director
- Ricardo Saeb, DMA \ Director
- John Sanabria \ Director

DIA DE LOS NIÑOS DAY OF THE CHILD

Video Readathon on April 30, 2021

A virtual twist on a popular Mexican tradition!
Join us for our annual event reading to the children of our community by sharing your favorite children's book virtually. We are currently collecting videos. Everyone can participate! We encourage reading in any language.

Please send your videos no later than April 25 to:

Maritza@HispanicHeritageWNY.org

You can use YouTube, Dropbox, or Google.

Need tips? Have questions?

Call Maritza Vega at 716-703-8342. Thank you!

Video-ReadAthon
A virtual twist on a popular Mexican tradition focused in Literacy, Education, Character

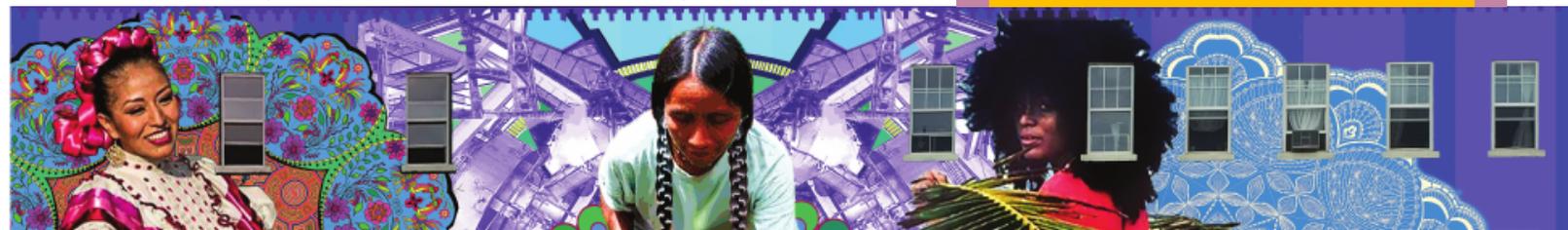
**Día de los Niños
Day of the Child**

April 30, 2021

Literacy
Health
Wellness
Character

Join us read and share a book reading
For the children of our community
When: Now—Please send video by April 25
Who: Anyone can send a video reading a book
Birth to 12 years, Elementary grades Any Language

Please send Videos to Maritza@hispanicheritagewny.org by using Youtube, Dropbox, Google drive call Maritza at 7167038342 if you have questions? Need tips? Reading is essential for growth! We appreciate you participation, Thank you!



HISPANIC HERITAGE CULTURAL INSTITUTE



HEALTH | WELLNESS

Novel Coronavirus, protect yourself by;

- *Keeping your hands clean- constantly wash them with soap and use hand sanitizer*
- *Always use a mask, cover your face and nose while out shopping and around public*
- *Stay away from groups of more than 6, when in doubt stay home.*
- *Get vaccinated*

The proposed new center, a first in Upstate in New York, will be located at the corner of Niagara and Hudson Streets on Buffalo's west side. It will be Green Energy Efficient with solar panels and other energy savings, will encompass approximately 33,000 square feet on three floors. The architectural design objective is to create a friendly, modern, and sustainable facility with Hispanic / Latino elegance. The conceptual exterior images depict a variety of natural materials such as stone and wood, accented with bold colors- reminiscent of the Caribbean. The facades also incorporate expansive sections of glass to deliver abundant natural light and encourage visual connections to the internal activities, promoting inclusivity for a diverse user group. Interior spaces include a museum, café, gift shop, performing arts theater, activities space, broadcast media center, learning labs, and administrative spaces - spread over the first two floors. The third floor has been allocated for tenant leased space as means of generating revenue, to support economic sustainability.

Architectural Design: Stieglitz Snyder Architecture.

HISTORY PROJECT / PROYECTO DE HISTORIA

This project seeks to engage the community in the collection of historical data, pictures, news clips, oral interviews and artifacts, current events, and plans for the future. The project is sponsored by the Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc. in partnership with the Buffalo Erie County Public Library and the Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society.

Este proyecto busca involucrar la comunidad en la recopilación de datos históricos, fotos, recortes de noticias, entrevistas y artefactos, eventos actuales y planes para el futuro. El proyecto es patrocinado por el Concilio de Herencia Hispana del Oeste de Nueva York, Inc. en colaboración con la Biblioteca de Buffalo y el Condado de Erie, y la Sociedad Histórica de Buffalo y el Condado de Erie.

BRING US YOUR HISTORY PROJECT
email to: info@HispanicHeritageWNY.org



ANNUAL REPORT REPORTE ANUAL

Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc.

Statement of Cash Activity

year ending December 31, 2019

Cash beginning 1/1/2019	\$12,099.00
Receipt	\$168,177.00
Expenditures	\$150,951.00
Net Cash Activity	\$14,226.00
Cash ending 12/31/2019	\$29,325.00

Provided by treasurer

Felipe De Jesús Martínez, fsp

MARCH-WOMEN'S HISTORY

Women's History Month is an annual declared month that highlights the contributions of women.

Rigoberta Menchú is a Guatemalan human rights activist. She won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992 for her fight to defend indigenous and human rights in her country.

Dolores Clara Fernández Huerta is an American labor leader and civil rights activist who, with Cesar Chavez, is a co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers.

Ellen Ochoa, selected as the first latina astronaut candidate in 1990, flew on NASA space missions in 1993, 1994, 1999, and 2002. Currently is the Deputy Director of the Johnson Space Center

RALPH R. HERNÁNDEZ BILINGUAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

One \$500 scholarship will be awarded

We are looking for applicants, they must meet the following general criteria:

- Be a direct descendent of Hispanic/Latino parent/grandparent.
- Be enrolled in a teacher preparation program leading to certification to teach in any grade or subject (preference will be given to candidates enrolled in a Bilingual Education Program).
- If enrolled in college, applicants must have at least a 2.75 grade average; High School Seniors or recent HS graduates must have a grade of 85 or above.
- Be a resident of one of the six counties of Western New York, Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Wyoming or Allegany county and attend an educational institution in one of these regions.
- Show commitment to the Hispanic/Latino community.
- Participate of an interview.
- Appear to receive the award at our Hispanic Heritage month kick off.
- Serve for one year as a student representative of the HHC.
- Write an essay indicating your personal history, goals, commitment to the Hispanic community, and any special circumstances.

Submit your completed application and essay by August 1, 2021

Application available online, visit <http://hispanicheritagewny.org/pdf/HHC-Scholarship-2021.pdf>

or you may request one at

scholarship@HispanicHeritageWNY.org.

HHC Scholarship Committee Chair, Maritza Vega



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

The Annual Hispanic Heritage Community Breakfast is an opportunity to announce the plans for the coming year, and to reflect on the previous year's accomplishments. The event will feature a Hispanic leader as a guest speaker. Our annual community breakfast is scheduled to take place virtually on Saturday, June 26 at 10:00am. If you'd like to be a part of the event contact HHC at info@HispanicHeritageWNY.org Your contribution will support HHC's projects and yearly events:

- Día de los Tres Reyes Magos (Three Kings Day)
- Día del Niño (Day of the Child)
- Cinco de Mayo
- Hispanic Heritage History Project
- The Guitar Initiative
- Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff Ceremony
- Hispanic Heritage Cultural Institute

Los programas de HHC son posibles gracias a la generosidad de nuestros patrocinadores, donantes y voluntarios.

Visit:

<http://hispanicheritagewny.org/support/index.php>

Or mail donations to:

Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY, Inc.

P.O. Box 361

Buffalo, NY 14201

GUITAR INITIATIVE

The HHC Guitar Initiative is a comprehensive program whose objective is to involve the community of WNY in the guitar culture, and enrich the community's life through a world-class International Concert Series and a free After-school Guitar Program.

Nuestra Iniciativa de Guitarra es un programa comprensivo que tiene como objetivo el involucrar a la comunidad en la cultura guitarrística y el enriquecer la vida de la comunidad mediante una Serie de Conciertos de clase mundial y un Programa de Clases de Guitarra gratuitas para niños.

For information contact HHC Director Ricardo Saeb at hhc.guitar@gmail.com

BORINQUENEERS

On Friday January 1, 2021, with bipartisan support, Congress designated April 13 as National Borinqueneers Day. The Borinqueneers refers to the 65th Infantry Regiment, comprised largely of Puerto Rican soldiers. Its name refers to Borinquen, Puerto Rico's precolonial name. Members of the 65th fought in both world wars and the Korean War, and their members endured years of unfair treatment and discrimination while fighting for the United States, garnering 90 Purple Heart medals and many other combat awards. On June 10, 2014, President Barack Obama signed bills H.R. 1726 and S. 1174 awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to The 65th U.S. Army Infantry Regiment. On April 13, 2016, the regiment was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal and the medal was unveiled in Congress' Emancipation Hall. The Borinqueneers went from forgotten soldiers, who had to face both the enemy and discrimination, to heroes earning praise from Congressional and military leaders. And now, every year on April 13, the Borinqueneers' service will be officially honored. The day marks, quote, "the sacrifices made and adversities overcome by Puerto Rican and Hispanic members of the armed forces," the law reads.

~ Lulu Garcia- Navarro, NPR Host, contributed to this post



*Dedicated to preserving
the history of Hispanics
in Western New York for
future generations.*

P.O. Box 361 | Buffalo, NY 14201 | 716-402-1111 (1442)

Statement on Anti-Asian Violence

Board of Directors

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Esmeralda Sierra, MPA

Vice President

Maritza Vega

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Elda Pichardo

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Immediate Past President & President Emeritus/Founder

Casimiro D. Rodríguez, Sr.

Directors:

Michele Agosto, M.A.

Tamara Alsace, PhD

Ricardo Saeb, DMA

John Sanabria

Legal Counsel

Arnold N. Zelman

Our entire Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc. family is anguished by the horrific shootings which left eight people dead in Atlanta, Ga., on March 16, 2021, attacks that appeared to target the Asian-American community specifically, including six Asian American women. Our condolences go out to the victims and their families.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Asian American communities around the country have been targeted by groups and individuals who are driven by white supremacist and misogynistic beliefs and encouraged by right-wing politicians and media figures. The tragedy in Atlanta occurred in a climate of anti-Asian hate and scapegoating.

This is not the first time in our country's history these communities have been subject to racial and ethnic hatred. From the Chinese Exclusion Act to Japanese Internment to targeted hate crimes, mass shootings and the disproportionate impact of incarcerations and deportations on Asian communities, anti-Asian racism has been a reoccurring injustice in our country's history.

As we saw again in this case, gun violence is a public health crisis in our country, killing more than 30,000 Americans each year. It is intolerable that any community has experienced acts of racism, violence and hatred. As a community organization, we denounce these vile acts and stand firmly with our Asian and Asian American friends. Asian American frontline workers have put their lives at risk to serve our community during the COVID-19 pandemic, even as they faced the additional burden of racist attacks.

We cannot allow these attacks to continue. We have the responsibility to prevent the spread of violence and hate and stand in solidarity with Asian American communities.

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How You Can Join the Stop Asian Hate Movement - <https://www.oprah.com/inspiration/the-stopasianhate-movement-and-how-to-support-it#ixzz6ojAQ7U8n>

View this toolkit for addressing anti-Asian bias, discrimination, and hate - <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/cchr/community/stop-asian-hate.page>

Read this article on ways to support Asian-American colleagues - <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/02/19/how-to-support-asian-american-colleagues-amid-anti-asian-violence.html>

Watch this video from The Daily Show with Trevor Noah - The Pandemic Fuels Anti-Asian Racism - <https://www.cc.com/video/3i22x4/the-daily-show-with-trevor-noah-the-pandemic-fuels-anti-asian-racism>

Read this article on the impact of the ongoing pandemic on Asian Americans in New York City - <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/study-shows-rise-of-hate-crimes-violence-against-asian-americans-in-nyc-during-covid/2883215/>



CINCO DE MAYO

~ Cinco de Mayo is an annual celebration held on May 5. The date is observed to commemorate the Mexican Army's victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla, on May 5, 1862, under the leadership of General Ignacio Zaragoza. The event is celebrated with Mexican Food, Music, Dance and Culture in the United States.

~ El Cinco de Mayo es una celebración anual que conmemora la victoria del Ejército Mexicano sobre el Imperio Francés en la Batalla de Puebla, el 5 de mayo de 1862, bajo el mando del General Ignacio Zaragoza. Esta fecha se celebra en Estados Unidos con cultura, música, danza y comida mexicana.

QUOTES THAT INSPIRE

“Don’t let the hand you hold hold you down.”

Julia de Burgos

UNTIL WE GET
EQUALITY IN
EDUCATION,
WE WON'T
HAVE AN
EQUAL SOCIETY.

Sonia Sotomayor



COLLABORATIONS

Explore Buffalo is proud to announce that beginning in June 2021 we will be offering a new walking tour of the Hispanic Heritage Corridor of Buffalo. Come learn the history of Buffalo's Hispanic community from the 1800s to present day. See all the many contributions, activities and plans for this unique area. The tour will begin at the Isaias Gonzalez-Soto Library on Porter Avenue, and will be approximately 90 minutes. For more info please visit HHC Facebook & Web Page.

BECOME A SPONSOR

Dedicated to preserving the history of Hispanics in Western New York for future generations. HHC programs are made possible through the generosity of our sponsors, donors and volunteers.

Email: info@HispanicHeritageWNY.org

Los programas de HHC son posibles gracias a la generosidad de nuestros patrocinadores, donantes y voluntarios.

www.HispanicHeritageWNY.org

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THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



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