CUNY Celebrates Puerto Rican Alumnus

Save the Date – May 15th 2003 from 6:00-9:00 pm. CUNY is planning an event to celebrate the contributions of its Puerto Rican alumnus to the City of New York. The event is being planned by the Vice Chancellor for University Relations and is co-sponsored by Centro, the NY State Assembly/Senate Task Force, the Hispanic Federation, and the National Puerto Rican Day Parade, among others. Please e-mail Ms. Luz Jimenez (luz.jimenez@mail.cuny.edu) if you know of CUNY Puerto Rican alumnus who needs to be contacted for this event.

Mission
The Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños/Center for Puerto Rican Studies is a university-based research institute whose mission consists of two components. One is to collect, preserve and provide access to archival and library resources documenting the history and culture of Puerto Ricans. The other is to produce, facilitate, and disseminate interdisciplinary research about the diasporic experiences of Puerto Ricans and to link this scholarly inquiry to social action and policy debates.

Dr. Félix V. Matos Rodríguez
Director
Puerto Rico’s Governor Sila M. Calderón Visits CENTRO

For the first time in the thirty-year history of Centro the Governor of Puerto Rico visited the institution. On January 23, Governor Sila M. Calderón toured Centro after being the keynote speaker at Hunter College’s commencement ceremony and receiving an honorary degree and the President’s Medal. Calderón, who toured Centro with Director Félix V. Matos Rodríguez and Archivist Pedro Juan Hernández was impressed with the quality of the documentation, research and reference work done at Centro. Calderón also praised Centro for the work they have done in processing the historical documents provided by the offices of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the U.S. from 1930 to 1992. Governor Calderón was accompanied during her tour by her son Francisco González who resides in New York City.

“The communities in Puerto Rico and the U.S. are inextricably linked through history, family, and shared experiences and culture,” Calderón said. “I am very much aware that Hunter College has provided the Puerto Rican community in the United States and in the Commonwealth with an invaluable resource. The Center for Puerto Rican Studies houses a truly impressive collection and sponsors exciting research into the experience of my people in the U.S. I greatly appreciated the opportunity to tour this facility” stressed Calderon after her visit. Matos Rodríguez thanked the Governor for her visit to Centro and to Hunter College. “I hope your visit helps to generate interest on the Island about the current situation and the experiences of Puerto Ricans in the U.S.” said Matos Rodríguez.

Prior to visiting Centro, Calderón gave the keynote address at Hunter’s graduation and received an honorary Ph.D. in Humane Letters from Hunter President Jennifer Raab. Several NYC elected officials, community leaders, and artists attended a reception given in Calderón’s honor, including Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión, Senator Olga Mendez, Assemblyman Adam Clayton Powell IV, and painter Rafael Tufiño. CUNY was represented by Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and Vice Chancellors Louise Mirrer, Jay Hershenson and Ernesto Malavé, among others.

CENTRO Turns 30!

Centro will be celebrating its 30th anniversary during the academic year of 2003-2004. To commemorate this very special milestone, Centro has several events planned including a birthday celebration with a keynote speaker on September 19th, a fundraising gala hosted by El Diario/La Prensa, a photographic exhibit documenting Puerto Rican life in NYC, hosting the Puerto Rican Studies Conference in 2004, unveiling a new logo, and organizing several panels throughout the academic year, among other activities. Centro also plans to launch a fundraising campaign to support its ongoing work.

continued on page 5
CENTRO Receives State Award For Documenting New York’s History

The New York State Board of Regents and the State Archives awarded the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College (Centro) with the 2002 Debra E. Bernhardt Annual Archives Award for Excellence in documenting New York’s history.

The award was presented to Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, Nelida Perez, and Pedro Juan Hernández, during a ceremony at the state Education Department in Albany on October 3rd. The award is named after the late Dr. Debra E. Bernhardt, former director of the Wagner Labor Archives at New York University. It is presented to an individual or organization in New York that has demonstrated leadership in documenting the history of groups who traditionally have been omitted from the historical record.

This award commends the Library and Archives of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies for ensuring that the history of the Puerto Rican community in New York is preserved and made accessible for future generations. It recognizes the Center’s strong outreach program that has made previously unknown archival records accessible to students, teachers, scholars, genealogists and the community at large.

This is the second time the NY State Archives recognized Centro with an award — the first was in 1994 and was for excellence in archival work.

The state commended Centro “for its unparalleled leadership in ensuring that the history of the Puerto Rican community in New York is preserved and made accessible for future generations.” The state also recognized Centro’s strong outreach program that has made previously unknown archival records accessible to students, teachers, scholars, genealogists and the community at large.

“This award acknowledges our tremendous efforts and track record in preservation and access,” said Centro Director Félix V. Matos Rodríguez. “I hope it encourages additional support for our efforts to preserve and disseminate the historical legacy and importance of the Puerto Rican and Latino communities in New York.”

Distinguished Visitors

CENTRO had the honor of receiving two distinguished guests last Fall. On November 19th, Congressman José Serrano visited Centro and toured our Library and Archives. Centro staff showed Congressman Serrano numerous photographs documenting several phases of his political career in the Bronx. They also showed him records from Bronx-based organizations such as the United Bronx Parents. Congressman Serrano was also very impressed with the progress being done in organizing and processing the documents released by the FBI of Puerto Ricans and organization under surveillance due to their political beliefs. Hunter College President Jennifer Raab also joined Congressman Serrano for part of the tour and thanked him for his leadership in helping Centro obtain a congressionally-directed initiative.

On November 25, New York State Education Commissioner Richard P. Mills visited the Centro Library and Archives. Commissioner Mills had expressed his interest in coming to visit us while awarding Centro the Regent’s Awards in Albany. During his visit, Commissioner Mills also met briefly with Hunter College President Jennifer Raab.

Above: Congressman Jose Serrano, Nelida Perez, Félix Matos Rodríguez, and Idilio Gracia-Peña

Left: Commissioner Richard P. Mills, Félix Matos Rodríguez, and Nelida Perez.
T
he past semester was a busy one for Centro researchers. Carlos Vargas-Ramos co-authored “Paradigms of minority and immigrant political participation in the United States” in Michael X. Delli Carpini, Leonie Huddy and Robert Y. Shapiro (eds.) Political decision-making, deliberation and participation. New York: JAI Press, Inc. He also presented the paper, “The Changing Nature of Race among Puerto Ricans,” at the 27th Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA), held in Nassau, Bahamas and at the Columbia University Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race. Carlos presented another paper, “The Political Participation of Puerto Rican Women in Puerto Rico,” at the Puerto Rican Studies Association (PRSA) Conference in Chicago. He also participated in a training workshop on the Census sponsored by the Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPR), held at Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Indiana in July. Carlos was interviewed by Carolina Jaramillo, for Noticiero Telemundo, on Latinos and the 2002 national elections.

Ramón Bosque-Perez was busy sending the final version of his co-edited book Puerto Rico Under Colonial Rule: Political Persecution and the Quest for Human Rights to review to a university press, while giving the finishing touches to a revised second edition of Las carpetas, persecución política y derechos civiles en Puerto Rico. He also conducted the research for the documentary Viegues en el espejo de Panamá, aired by WIPR-TV on January 26 & 27, 2003 in Puerto Rico. He also drafted three short essays for the Encyclopedia of Latinos and Latinas in the United States (forthcoming, Oxford University Press). Ramón was also busy leading a team in processing the FBI files generated by the Congressman Serrano; some 100,000 pages belonging mostly to Puerto Rico-based political organizations. He was also working on a prototype for the dissemination of the documents that would most probably be Internet-based. The first stage would include the files that the FBI kept on Puerto Rican leaders Pedro Albizu Campos and Luis Muñoz Marín.

Pedro Pedraza and Melissa Rivera were awarded a book contract from Lawrence Erlbaum for an edited volume on education research on Latino/as in US public school systems. Pedro also participated on a panel on the National Latino Education Research Agenda Project at the PRSA Conference in Chicago.


Gina also had the following media appearances: Hispanic Link Weekly Report, quoted her in article about Puerto Rican politics, economics, and migration; and National Public Radio affiliate in Chicago, WBEZ, interviewed her about the history of Chicago’s Puerto Rican community.

Félix V. Matos Rodríguez presented the paper “Emigración, política pública y gobierno en Puerto Rico” at the Puerto Rican Studies Conference in Chicago in October 2002. During the conference, he also conducted a workshop for Chicago high school teachers on current trends in Puerto Rican history. He was also the keynote speaker at the National Council of La Raza’s Professional Development Institute, held in October in Brooklyn and spoke on “Puerto Ricans and Latinos in New York City: A Historical Perspective”. Felo also presented “Libertas citadinas: Free Women of Color in San Juan, Puerto Rico,” at Moravian College, Africana Lecture Series, in April. His “¿Quién trabajará? Domestic Work, Urban Slavery and Abolition in 19th Century San Juan” was reprinted in Verene A. Shepherd, ed., Slavery Without Sugar: Diversity in Caribbean Economy and Society since the 17th Century; [University Press of Florida; 2002]. He was also selected by NY State Commissioner of Education to serve in the Local Historians Advisory Council; he was also selected to serve on the editorial board of the Latino Studies Journal. Felo was quoted in the Orlando Sentinel about return migration to Puerto Rico and in a New York Times article about “El Barrio.” He also had media appearances in Telemundo and El Nuevo Dia.
New Records Open for Research

The Centro Library and Archives has recently opened 72 new record series for research. The collections were processed under the Centro’s ongoing archival project to make available the Records of the Offices of the Government of Puerto Rico in the United States (1930-1993).

The bulk of the archival records document the operations of the Puerto Rican government’s Migration Division and its regional offices on the East Coast and the Midwest. The record collections contain information regarding various programs run by the Division such as: the Community Organization Program, Employment Program, Farm Labor Program, Public Relations Program, Research and Evaluation Program, and Social Services Program. There are materials from the main office as well as Regional Offices such as Boston, Hartford, Keyport, Miami, Newburg, New York, and Rochester. There are also records and publications from the Department of Community Affairs in the U.S., and the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration. These collections are in addition to the previously opened Identification and Documentation Program records that are currently used by researchers. For the most part the collections contain: correspondence, memoranda, reports, newsletters, various Puerto Rican organizational minutes, directories, employment applications, job orders, airline passenger manifests, newspaper clippings, press releases, radio broadcast transcripts, and case files. A detailed list of the open record series will be available through the Centro’s website at http://centropr.org/lib-arc/archives.html.

Although the collections are made available to researchers, some restrictions may apply. For an appointment to view the collections please contact Pedro Juan Hernandez, the Centro Archivist at (212) 772-5151 or dhernand@hunter.cuny.edu

Beyond the Marine Tiger: The Journey of Steamships from Puerto Rico to New York City

Since November 12, many visitors have enjoyed recreating and learning about the steamship voyage of numerous early migrants from Puerto Rico to New York. Collectors José Rafael Méndez (Ralph) and his wife Carmen Serrano have generously made available for display in the Centro Library documents and artifacts which they have passionately gathered over the years. Although they collect in various areas of Puerto Rican history and culture, they have significant holdings about the Steamships which figure so prominently in the Puerto Rican migration experience. The exhibit opened with an informative Powerpoint presentation by Ralph about the history of the steamships followed by a lively discussion with an enthusiastic audience. The exhibit has received great publicity with articles in el Diario/la Prensa, El Nuevo Dia, and La Prensa Española de Noticias (EFE.) Bronx Net also produced a program on New York Profiles titled Pioneers: Puerto Rico to New York which featured Ralph and the Méndez-Serrano collection.

Our heartfelt appreciation to Ralph and Carmen for sharing these treasures with us. The exhibit will be on display through February 2003. In March it will travel to Albany for the Somos El Futuro Conference of the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Legislative Task Force.

A special note of thanks to all staff and volunteers who organized and installed the exhibition: Pedro Juan Hernández, Jose Vidal, Mario Ramirez, Michael Ng, Kimberly Irizarry, Jason Almodovar, Jose Camacho and Felix Rivera.

Farewell and Thanks to a Friend and Volunteer, Elsa de Jesús

Last November, Elsa de Jesús and her husband Héctor packed their belongings and after a lifetime of residence in New York City left for sunny Orlando, Florida. For almost a year, Elsa gave many hours as a volunteer in the Archives helping to update the database for the Identification Records. She also enriched archival holdings by donating some family photographs documenting her trip on the steamship the Marine Tiger in 1947 as well as other photos of the Santiago-Febus family.

We will miss her generosity and her warm and inspiring presence. Thank you Elsa and sincere best wishes to you and Héctor in your new home.
Thanks to the Edward T. Rogowsky Internship Program in Government and Public Affairs of CUNY, the CENTRO Library and Archives Benefited from the Work of Two Fine Interns.

Jason Almodovar and María de Lourdes Mójica–both Hunter College students–helped advance the work of the archives and became a part of our team. We enjoyed having them with us.

Thanks to Vice Chancellors Jay Hershenson and Ernesto Malave and especially Anthony Maniscalco, Director of the Program. We were also fortunate to have Reza Teheranifar an intern from the Africana, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies Department who helped survey, organize and prepare inventory lists for some archival collections. We wish him well at the Brooklyn College History Graduate Program where is now.

Brooklyn Seniors Celebrate Puerto Rican Heritage Month

Archivist Pedro Juan Hernandez participated in an event for senior citizens organized by Dr. Concha Mendoza, Chief, Division of Geriatrics in the Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn on November 14, 2002. Pedro Juan gave a slide presentation about the Puerto Rican pioneers to an audience of more than one hundred and fifty. The slide show was well liked and served to highlight the significance of our elders in preserving and passing on to later generations the heritage and contributions of Puerto Ricans to the history of New York.

The Hispanic Genealogical Society of New York held its annual meeting and Christmas Party in Hunter College. They presented an award to Centro Director Félix V. Matos-Rodríguez in appreciation of the collaboration and support received from the Centro and the Library and Archives.

CUNY ENLACE: A Partnership of Partnerships

It is sometimes in the process of coming together that separate pieces take on their most creative forms. This has been the case in the development of the CUNY ENLACE program, an initiative funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies. During the Fall 2002 semester, faculty and staff at five CUNY colleges (Brooklyn, City, Hunter, Lehman and Queens), in partnership with community based organizations and school districts, have worked to develop education support programs for Latino/a children and families in their respective communities. However, more than this has emerged.

In the process of designing and implementing contextually relevant services for students, project directors from each site have had to contend with the real challenges facing our Latino/a communities as well as grapple with how best to share their individual strengths and resources. But given the unique, inter-university nature of this initiative, the difficult task of translating expertise into meaningful programming for Latino/a children and youth has now become a shared one.

Supported by a management structure focused on facilitating cross-site learning, program staff reflect monthly on the different school and community environments influencing the academic progress of their Latino/a students. Together they explore the dilemmas of practice and offer creative ideas and resources that can strengthen each other’s efforts. The result has been the development of five unique CUNY ENLACE sites strengthened by a network of CUNY faculty committed to working together to increase the academic success of Latino/a students in all four boroughs. It has become a partnership of partnerships.

Currently, services range from culturally and artistically enriched math, literacy, and Regents exams preparation programs for middle and high school students (Brooklyn, Lehman, and Queens ENLACE), to the development of a college course aimed at recruiting and preparing teachers and teacher candidates to better understand the educational and social contexts of Latino/a students living in an urban setting (City College ENLACE). CUNY ENLACE also includes an initiative focused on developing a parent component to the already existing Hunter College Professional Development Project, Literacy Through the Arts for Hispanic English Language Learners (Hunter ENLACE). For more information on this initiative please contact Odalys Diaz, CUNY ENLACE Project Coordinator, at 212-772-5691.

campaign to increase programmatic support from individual and corporate donors. The fundraising gala sponsored by El Diario/LaPrensa will be part of the many events the newspaper will be organizing as they celebrate their 90th anniversary (for more details on their events go to: http: www.eldiariony.com). We will be sending you more information about our plans in the months ahead. For the historically-minded, Centro was officially created by a vote of the CUNY Board of Trustees on September 23, 1973. Please help us celebrate our anniversary and prepare for our next thirty years by participating in our events and assisting us with our fundraising campaign!
**New Staff**

MARIO H. RAMÍREZ is an archivist currently working under a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on the processing of the Centro’s organizational papers. He received his B.A. in American Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz (1993), studied psychoanalysis and philosophy at the Graduate Faculty at New School University (1995/1997), received his M.A. in Rhetoric from the University of California, Berkeley (1999), and recently received an M.S. in Library and Information Science and a Certificate in Archives and Records Management from the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University (2003). Before joining the Centro staff, Mario worked as a librarian for The New York Public Library and as a teaching assistant at the University of California, Berkeley. For three and a half years he also volunteered in the Centro Library and Archives, initially helping with the Migration Archives database and the processing of the Clemente Soto-Vélez and Amanda Vélez Papers. Among his interests are continental philosophy, race/ethnicity, literary theory, film, contemporary visual art, feminist theory and philosophy, 20th century intellectual history, and the relationship of archival institutions to minority communities. He is a member of the Society of American Archivists and the Archivists Roundtable of Metropolitan New York, Inc.

ODALYS DIAZ: Since last October, Odalys has been on board as the full time project coordinator for the CUNY ENLACE program, a two year Kellogg Foundation sponsored initiative, aimed at providing coordinated educational programs that meet the needs of Latino students and their communities. She has worked as a consultant through New Visions for Public Schools and the NYU Metro Center to assist school leadership teams, teachers, and parents develop capacity centered approaches to school-parent-community initiatives. Odalys is currently a doctoral candidate in the Educational Administration program at New York University’s Steinhardt School of Education. Her dissertation focuses on understanding school involvement in community development efforts. Odalys received her Masters in Educational Administration from New York University and her BA from the University of Pennsylvania with dual majors in Political Science and Communications (from the Annenberg School of Communications). Odalys is very proud of her Cuban and New Jersey roots.

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**CENTRO Exchange Programs Update**

Twenty students participated in the Winter intersession course in Havana, Cuba. The course was designed and developed by the Education Abroad and the CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program at Hunter College in collaboration with Casa Las Américas in Havana. Hunter students and faculty members involved are designing a website to report on their experiences. Casa Las Americas in Cuba has also expressed their satisfaction with the experience and are proposing an agreement to broaden the collaboration between Casa and El Centro.

The Education Abroad Program and the CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program at Hunter College along with Casas Las Americas and El Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Cultura Cubana, Juan Marinello, in Havana, are collaborating this Summer to offer two courses in Havana, Cuba. Course I: Cuban Culture and Course II: Cuban Studies, course topic still to be determined. Tentative course dates are July 5, 2003 to August 2, 2003. The cost is $2795; roundtrip airfare from New York City is included. Each course is 3 credits. For more information and contact visit www.hunter.cuny.edu/psa.

The CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program and The Caribbean Cultural Center will host presentations about Música Folclórica Popular de Cuba on April 16, 2003 at the Caribbean Cultural Center. The presenters are Dr. Olavo Alen Rodríguez and Ana Casanova Oliva from the Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Música Cubana. They are the authors of “Instrumentos de la Música Folclórica-Popular de Cuba”. They will also present a tertulia on Puerto Rican influence on Cuban music on April 15, 2003 at Hunter College.

The CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program received a $5,000 grant from the Social Science Research Council to explore collaboration and academic exchanges between the University of Havana’s School of social work and Hunter College School of Social Work.

At the end of February 2003, CUNY-UPR/Intercambio and The CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Programs will be launching a up to date and comprehensive website which will allow students and faculty to receive information and apply for grants and exchange programs on line. For more information visit us at www.centrop.org. Grant Proposals for the Academic year 2003-2004 are due May 2, 2003. For more information contact Rossy M. Matos at 212-772-4198 or at rmato@hunter.cuny.edu.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Submissions are invited for a collection of critical essays tentatively titled, *Writing Of(f) the Hyphen: Critical Perspectives on the Literature of the Puerto Rican Diaspora*. The special issue on Puerto Rican Politics in the United States (José Cruz, Guest Editor) will come out in the Spring of 2003 (Vol. XV, no. 1). Send submissions and all correspondence to the Editor (centro-journal@hunter.cuny.edu).
CENTRO Celebrates Hispanic and Puerto Rican Heritage Months

The Africana, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies Department, and the Offices of the President and Provost of Hunter College joined Centro in celebrating the Hispanic and Puerto Rican Heritage Months during the fall 2002 semester. The activities for this semester ranged from book presentations/discussions, to evenings of oral history, poetry and visual arts.

We kicked off our semester with Gilberto Gerena Valentin and his remembrances and reflections of our community experiences in the New York of the 1950’s to the 1980’s. “Beyond the Marine Tiger: The Journey of Steamships from Puerto Rico to New York City” was an activity organized by the Centro Library Staff with an audio-visual presentation and an engaging discussion on the history of steamships that brought many Puerto Ricans in the early 20th Century to New York City. We enjoyed the rich collection of José Rafael Méndez and an exhibition of artifacts and documents curated by Centro Archivist Pedro Juan Hernández.

We had the pleasure to host a wonderful night of poetry with “Four Decades of Puerto Rican Poetry in New York City”. A standing-room only audience of over 150 people enjoyed the variety of poetry read in English and Spanish, and themes from gender to identity and how poetry narrates the experiences lived by Puerto Ricans in the city. An introduction by Dr. López Adorno, detailed the different decades and pointed some historical facts from Puerto Rico and New York City. He also introduced each decade the poets were representing. The poets who participated in the event included: Noel Luna, Carmen Valle, Pedro Pietri, Sandra García and Lenina Nadal. This activity was also sponsored by the New York Council for the Humanities.

“The Puerto Rican Nation on the Move” a book authored and presented by Jorge Duany lead to a discussion on race and identities among Puerto Rican scholars Arlene Dávila, Juan Flores and Yvonne Lasalle. The activity was moderated by Prof. Felipe Pimentel from the Africana, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies Department.


To conclude our celebration, Dr. Jocelyn Solís offered a lecture on Mexicans in New York City. The lecture focused on the growth of the Mexican population in NYC and on the development of Mexican Identities in the city.

Women, Education and Community: The Case of the East Harlem Block Schools was another book presentation followed by a lively discussion. The evening had guest speakers Carmen Gonzalez, Tom Roderick and Carmen Ward who played a key role in the development of the East Harlem Block schools. They discussed the key role Puerto Rican parents, and particularly women, played in the development of this experimental school. The panel was moderated by Pedro Pedraza from Centro.

All Centro activities are free to the public. We invite you to come and join us. Should you wish to receive updates on events contact us at centroevents@hunter.cuny.edu or visit us at www.centropr.org.
We are often asked who is interested in Centro’s research, records, and library collection? The answer includes some groups that might not surprise many of us: students, academic researchers, journalists, genealogists, and writers, among others. What might surprise many is the growing interest by foreign scholars in coming to use our research library and archives and getting to know and interact with our researchers. Although we are unable, unfortunately, to fund visiting scholars to come utilize our collections and our library, at Centro we get numerous inquiries every semester from scholars all over the world interested in researching the Puerto Rican experience in the United States. Last October, for example, Centro staff appeared in a taped radio interview show on a BBC program in London on the oral history recordings done in NYC by Tony Schwartz in the 1950s. As of now, we have a Japanese colleague who plans to use his upcoming sabbatical year researching Puerto Rican politics. Another Japanese scholar has used our collection on numerous trips to NYC to research Puerto Rican women and feminism. A Spanish literature scholar is making plans to visit this summer and advance her research on Latino narratives, focusing on Puerto Rican authors. Another German graduate student wanted to find out more about Puerto Ricans and ‘code-switching’ in NYC. During the past several months, for example, several Centro staff have received research and information queries from scholars and graduate students in Italy, Germany, Holland, Brazil, Switzerland, Argentina, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turkey. There seems to be a considerable amount of interest in what Puerto Ricans are doing outside of the U.S. We are proud of being such an important resource to scholars around the world.

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**Grants Received Fall 2002**

1. Documenting Puerto Rican Migration, Ford Foundation, $150,000, Nélida Pérez
2. Puerto Ricans in New York: Records, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, $22,575, Nélida Pérez
3. National Latino/a Education Research Agenda Project, Rockefeller Foundation, $62,000, Year 2, Pedro Pedraza
4. National Latino/a Education Research Agenda Project, Annie E. Casey Foundation, $42,000, Year 2, Pedro Pedraza
5. Hunter/Habana Community Organizing Initiative, Social Science Research Council, $5,000, Pedro Pedraza
6. Centro Institutional Development Grant, Inter-University Program for Latino Research, $5,000, Félix V. Matos Rodríguez

**Grant Proposals Submitted Fall 2002**

2. Film Restoration, National Film Preservation Foundation, $6,000, Nélida Pérez
4. National Latino/a Education Research Agenda Project, Spencer Foundation, $20,000, Pedro Pedraza
5. Latina/o Families, the Military and Household Economies in Chicago, PSC/CUNY, $10,432, Gina M. Pérez
6. Beyond El Barrio and Little Havana – Transnational Puerto Rican Communities in Florida, National Science Foundation, $147,000, Jorge Duany, Gina M. Pérez, and Félix V. Matos Rodríguez

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

- Institutional: $60/year
- Individual: $35/year
- Student: $20/year

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or contact:  
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New York, New York 10021  
T: 212.772.5686 / Fax: 212.650.3673
As we are beginning the process to place the Centro Journal online, (up until the 2001 issues) effective immediately, the following journals that we have in stock will be available at no cost to schools, organizations and individuals:

1898-1998 Parts 1 & 2
The Education of Puerto Ricans
Race and Identity
Future Directions in Puerto Rican Studies
Puerto Rican Youth and Youth Culture #1 #2
Puerto Rican History and Politics #2
Música: Alma del Pueblo
Latinos and the Media.

Bulk order requests are strongly encouraged.
Your orders will be shipped regular U.S. mail or UPS at no cost to you. The special order form can be downloaded from the front page of the Centro’s website www.centropr.org or can be requested from Ms. Catrize Ortiz at 212-772-5686.

While preparing for the celebration of Centro’s 30th year anniversary, a logo became fundamental for our planning, image and vision. Our search and decision for a logo has finally come to an end. You will find the new logo on this newsletter and in other Centro printed materials.

Centro hired Ms. Adrienne Assaf-Montalvo to provide a logo that would identify us as well as capture our mission. Ms. Assaff-Montalvo has been a graphic designer for the past fourteen years. Born in New York City, Adrienne spent summer vacations as a child visiting her family in Lajas, La Parguera, Puerto Rico. Her parents recognized her talent for drawing and encouraged her to attend the High School of Art & Design in NYC. Continuing an art education at the New York Institute of Technology, she studied graphic design and computer graphics, graduating with honors. Currently, she designs corporate identity systems, advertisements, annual reports, print and web design for a top marketing/design firm in NYC. In her spare time she often mentors young artists.

Over the past several years, Ms. Assaf-Montalvo has had remarkable opportunities working on projects involving her heritage. She designed the poster for Puerto Rican heritage month 2001 “Puerto Ricans United for Peace in the World” in the wake of the WTC tragedy on September 11th. She also designed book jackets for “In the Eye of the Storm”, a woman’s health Action Agenda and “A reproductive health Agenda for Women of Color”, for Casa Atabex Aché; and most recently the new logo for the CENTRO.

The conceptual approach for the Centro’s logo combines a book and a spiral. The spiral has many meanings. This symbol has been used since the beginning of time and has a sense of history and familiarity. It also suggests growth— similar to the inside of a shell and represents development—and most of all it signifies an outward path or journey. The book identifies Centro as an educational institution. The color purple ties the Centro logo back to Hunter College, CUNY.

This project was a collaborative effort involving many people. It is the first time the Centro has had a logo of its own. Ms. Assaf-Montalvo is very proud to be able to share her expertise and her passion for her culture with her participation in this project.
Farm Labor Exhibit

Farm Workers on the New Jersey Farms – Circa 1950s

In Fall 2002 an exhibit called Following the Crops: Puerto Rico’s Migrant Farm Labor Program in the U.S. was installed in the Centro’s Library and Archives. It displayed photographs and documents from the Records of the Government of Puerto Rico in the United States, an archival project currently underway at the Centro. The exhibit sought to inform the public of the little known seasonal migration of Puerto Rican farm laborers to the continental United States. Thanks to Nitza Medina, assistant project archivist, and other project staff for an informative and well presented exhibition. It is currently on display in the archives project space in the North Building. For more information, please contact the Centro Library and Archives at (212) 772-4197.
**Center for Puerto Rican Studies**  
Hunter College, CUNY  
68th Street & Lexington Avenue

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING 2003**

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**Taíno Treasures: The Legacy of Dr. Ricardo E. Alegría – A Symposium**  
Thursday, March 20th, 2003, 3:30-5:00 pm  
Lovinger Theatre Lehman College, CUNY  
**Moderator:** Felix V. Matos Rodríguez, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños  
**Presenters:** Ovidio Dávila, Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Carmen Dolores Hernández, Biographer, Iván F. Méndez Bonilla, University of Puerto Rico and Xavier Totti, Lehman College  
**Sponsor:** Lehman Art Gallery, (718) 960-8731

**New Waves in Puerto Rican/Latino Literary Criticism**  
Thursday, April 3rd, 2003, 6:30-8:30 pm  
Faculty Dining Room–Hunter College  
West Bldg. 8th Floor  
**Presenters:** Orlando Hernández – Hostos Community College, CUNY  
Graciany Miranda Archilla Unpublished Books and Personal Papers  
Elizabeth Garcia – Hunter College, CUNY  
Medicinal Histories: Puerto Rican Women’s Writings in the United States  
Lyn Di Iorio Sandin – City College, CUNY  
Killing Spanish: Doubles, Dead Mothers and Other Allegories of Ambivalent U.S. Latino/a Caribbean Fiction  
**Moderator:** Marguerite Fernández Olmos – Brooklyn College, CUNY

**Puerto Rican Influence in Cuban Music**  
Tuesday, April 15th, 2003, 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Faculty Dining Room – Hunter College  
West Bldg. 8th Floor  
**Presenters:** Dr. Olavo Alen Rodríguez and Ana Casanova Oliva, Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Música Cubana  
**Co-sponsors:** CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program, Caribbean Cultural Center and Latin American and Caribbean Studies Department, Hunter College

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**Instrumentos de la Música Folclórica-Popular de Cuba**  
(Book Presentation)  
Wednesday, April 16, 2003, 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Caribbean Cultural Center, 408 West 58th Street-(212) 307-7420  
**Presenters:** Dr. Olavo Alen Rodríguez and Ana Casanova Oliva, Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Música Cubana  
**Discussants:** Pedro Pedraza, Director CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program  
Marta Moreno Vega, Caribbean Cultural Center  
**Co-sponsors:** CUNY-Caribbean Exchange Program, Caribbean Cultural Center and Latin American and Caribbean Studies Department, Hunter College

**Vieques: Recent Developments and Future Challenges**  
April 2003– date and location to be announced  
Ramón Bosque Pérez, Centro Researcher and other speakers to be announced

**Winter/Spring Brown Bag Lunch Series**  
Wednesday April 9, 2003, 12:00 – 2:00 pm  
Deborah Parédez, Vassar College  
“Becoming Selena, Becoming Latina.”  
**Location:** Hunter College, East Building Room 1413-Solarium  

**Monday, April 14, 2003, 12:00 – 2:00 pm**  
Dr. Olavo Alen Rodríguez and Ana Casanova Oliva  
“Música Folclórica Popular de Cuba”  
**Location:** Hunter College, East Bldg. 1441

**Wednesday May 14, 2003, 12:00 – 2:00 pm**  
Odalys Díaz, New York University  
“The Challenge of Connecting Schools to Urban Community Development.”  
**Location:** Hunter College, East Building Room 1413-Solarium  
*Please bring your own lunch.

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**Centro Events are free to the public.**  
Hunter College is located at 68th Street and Lexington Avenue.

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**MORE INFORMATION AT 212-772-5714 CENTROEVENTS@HUNTER.CUNY.EDU OR WWW.CENTROPR.ORG**