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EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO AND ARTS & MINDS LAUNCH NY'S FIRST SPANISH-LANGUAGE MUSEUM PROGRAM FOR VISITORS WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

NEW YORK, NY, December 14, 2015 - El Museo del Barrio and Arts & Minds are proud to present New York's first Spanish language museum program that engages individuals with memory loss in meaningful art-centered activities. Through El Museo's special and permanent collection exhibitions, the program aims to improve wellbeing for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias and their caregivers. For two Thursdays each month, Arts & Minds en El Museo del Barrio meets to view, discuss and make art.

"As a pioneer in bilingual museum education, El Museo is proud to partner with Arts & Minds to provide programming to the Spanish-speaking community in New York State. The new program underscores El Museo's commitment to civic responsibility by serving communities of all ages," said Jorge Daniel Veneciano, Executive Director of El Museo del Barrio.

Older adults in Latino communities have a greater risk of developing dementia than other aging populations. "I'm so pleased that we are able to help provide our programs in Spanish to this community," says Dr. James Noble, President of Arts & Minds and Assistant Professor of Neurology at Columbia University Medical Center. "It is a resource and service long overdue for this group."

The program kicked off with a 6-session pilot with 10 participants - 5 people with dementia accompanied by their professional or family caregivers. Through lively interactions with art, participants can respond, spark memories and create connections in the here and now. There are currently 3 spots left in the pilot program, and up to 9 spots available starting in January. For more information on the program and/or to sign up for our pilot program, please contact Carolyn Halpin-Healy, Executive Director, Arts & Minds at 646-455-3774 or chalpinhealy@artsandminds.org. To reserve a place, 646-755-3726



PRESS MATERIALS

Current and past press releases about El Museo del Barrio's exhibitions and programs are available for download at: <http://www.elmuseo.org/press/>

Press Materials pertaining this announcement such as images and credit lines may be downloaded at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wus7oys2cu9np6s/AAB6sTKqgQ003whoBL4RSKhka?dl=0>

ABOUT ARTS & MINDS

Arts & Minds is a non-profit organization committed to improving quality of life for people living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. We partner with museums to provide meaningful art-centered activities that create positive cognitive experiences, enhance communication and reduce isolation. Our programs empower people with dementia, family members, professional caregivers and educators to strengthen social, emotional and spiritual bonds by engaging with art. www.artsandminds.org

ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

El Museo del Barrio, New York's leading Latino cultural institution, welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of Latino, Caribbean, and Latin American cultures. This cultural richness is represented in El Museo's wide-ranging collections and critically acclaimed exhibitions, complemented by film, literary, visual and performing arts series, cultural celebrations, and educational programs.

El Museo del Barrio is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue at 104 Street in New York City. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11am. to 6pm. Admission is suggested.

For more information on El Museo del Barrio, please visit www.elmuseo.org. To connect with El Museo del Barrio via Social Media, follow us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/elmuseo](https://www.facebook.com/elmuseo), and using @ElMuseo on Instagram and Twitter.

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