

# EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

## 41st ANNUAL THREE KINGS DAY PARADE Friday, January 5, 2018 Event Info

### PARADE INTRO AND SCHEDULE

#### PARADE CANCELLED

We regret to inform you that El Museo del Barrio's 41st Annual Three Kings Day Parade has been CANCELLED due to inclement weather. Our Marchers, in their majority are school children, are not able or expected to participate in these historically frigid temperatures. The safety and well being of our tiny Marchers, Parade-goers, and the El Barrio community is of the utmost importance. We ask that everyone please keep warm and above all be safe this week.

In lieu of this and in the spirit of the Parade, El Museo del Barrio will be hosting a special SUPER SABADO, a free family day on Saturday, January 20th. The afternoon will feature live musical performances, art-making workshops, storytelling, and more. We invite everyone to join us in this eventful celebration of Three Kings Day and our community! Details coming soon.

### HONOREES

<b>Jesus 'Papoletto' Melendez</b> <b>King Emeritus</b> Poet, Playwright, Performance Artist and long-time El Barrio resident	Long considered one of the original founders of the Nuyorican Movement, Meléndez addresses political, intellectual and linguistic topics in his work that remain relevant today. A New York-born Puerto Rican award-winning poet, playwright, teacher and activist, he began his career nearly 40 years ago as a poet-facilitator in public schools, working at workshop programs in California and New York. In 1974, Meléndez's play, " <b>The Junkies Stole The Clock,</b> " was the first Latino play produced by the New York Shakespeare Festival, The Public Theatre's Nuyorican Playwright's Unit. Over the years, Meléndez has performed his poetry with his musical group " <b>Exiled Genius,</b> " with Eugene Mingus on piano, and M'Chaka Uba on bass, a trio that combined the tradition of jazz spontaneity and precision with the natural melody of the poetic voice in poetry/jazz collaboration.
<b>KINGS</b>	
<b>BÁRBARA HERNÁNDEZ</b> Actor, LGBTQ and Animal Rights Activist	Bárbara Hernández (aka Bárbara Herr) is an actress, writer, and a veteran transgender artist and activist. After 40-plus years in show biz, life become a bit of a drag for one of the Big Apple's oldest living — and working — lip-synch legends. Over the last few years, Barbra staged several incarnations of her first one-woman show, "I'm Still Herr." The live cabaret debuted at the Duplex in the West Village,

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	<p>followed by performances at the Bronx Academy of Art &amp; Dance and the FUERZAFest: LGBTQ Arts Festival at Julia de Burgos Latino Cultural Center in El Barrio, NYC. Bárbara's most recent work was "Trans-Mission," a one-woman show about her transition, directed by Helen Hayes Award nominee Luis Caballero ("DC-7: The Roberto Clemente Story") and staged off-off-Broadway at Teatro Circulo. This alternately hilarious/heart-tugging story of struggle and survival is told through the memories and psychiatric sessions of the transgender artist/activist recently seen in HBO's "Habla: Men." Make no mistake, Bárbara is very proud of her hard-earned "Drag Queen" status (Lady Bunny once declared Herr a "hysterical and great old-school Latina lip-synch artiste"), but she actually broke into show business as an 8-year-old nightclub singer, circa 1963. After more than two decades of channeling other divas in NYC, this transgender trailblazer is relishing being her true self.</p>
<p><b>PAOLA MENDOZA</b> Film Director and Author</p>	<p>Paola Mendoza served as Artistic Director for the Women's March on Washington, the largest one-day mass mobilization in the history of the world. In addition to her role in the March, Paola is a critically acclaimed film director and author. Her award-winning films tackle the effects of poverty and immigration on women and children in the United States and have premiered at the most prestigious film festivals around the world which include: Toronto, Berlin, South by South West, Pusan, Deauville, HotDocs and Tribeca. Most recently, she directed Behind the Headlines, a documentary series executive produced by America Ferrera. Paola was recently named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Independent Film. She has also published her first novel, The Ones Who Don't Stay, published by Penguin Books. She is the proud mother of Mateo Ali.</p>
<p><b>ANA-OFELIA RODRIGUEZ</b> Director of Community Development, Broadway Housing Communities</p>	<p>Ana-Ofelia Rodríguez was born in San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic and migrated to the United States in 1965. She completed her high school at La Cite Technique de Boulogne-Sur-Mere in France, and obtained a degree in French with a minor in Spanish Literature of the Middle Ages from the City University of New York. Rodriguez attended graduate school at the University of Seville while directing a Foreign Cultural Exchange and Study Abroad Program, and earned a Doctorate Degree in 19th Century Spanish Literature at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. In 1992 she joined the staff of the first Dominican elected to a U.S. public office, the Hon. Guillermo Linares, where she began to realize the great need that artists had for space to exhibit their work, and used the Council Member's community office as gallery space. In 1997 she became the Community Development Director for Broadway Housing Communities and established the first community gallery in Washington Heights. The Rio Penthouse Gallery, sponsored by Broadway Housing Communities, opened its doors to local artists in 1997, and in 2003 a second Gallery (Rio II) was inaugurated in their new site in West Harlem. Rodríguez has been the recipient of many</p>

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	awards, and most recently was featured in a book by Nicole Sanchez and Giovanna Bonnelly as one of the most outstanding Dominican women in NYC (2009).
<b>PADRINOS</b>	
<b>JORGE MERCED</b> Artistic Director, Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater	Jorge Merced currently serves as the Artistic Director of Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater (PRTT) and is instrumental in the ongoing development of the company's original repertory and programs. A company member since 1987, he is an acclaimed theater artist, who trained with Osvaldo Dragún, Eugenio Barba, Miguel Rubio and Teresa Ralli (EITALC 89 – Cuba), Augusto Boal (Brazil & France), and at the Alvin Ailey Center (NY). Merced's New York directing credits include: Jordi Casanova's Gazoline, Fellini's La Strada with René Buch, El huesped vacío and The Smell of Popcorn (IATI). Pregones directing credits include: El Bolero Was My Downfall, Baile Cangrejero, El Apagón, Blanco, Aloha Boricua, Migrants!, Las facultades, Neon Baby, Marchers Trilogy, and 11 years of readings and workshop productions for the LGBTQ-themed Asunción Playwrights Project at Pregones. He is a graduate of City College-CUNY and Board member for the National Center for Creative Aging.
<b>M. TONY PERALTA</b> Designer/ Artist/ Creative Force, The Peralta Project	New York native and first generation Dominican, M. Tony Peralta, is a contemporary artist and designer known for his fusion of pop art aesthetics, cultural iconography, and vibrant hues. While living in a home dominated by Dominican culture, Peralta developed a deep appreciation for American art and influences. His admiration for Andy Warhol, Keith Haring, Frida Kahlo, and Hip-Hop culture inspired him to creatively explore his identity. Using screen printing, painting, and mixed media techniques, Peralta has paid homage to his heritage, showcased the stigma of Blackness in Dominican identity, and tipped his hat to the golden age of Hip-Hop. His personal depiction of the Latino American experience fills a need for ambicultural representation. Through social media and an e-commerce undertaking known as The Peralta Project, he continues to artistically connect and engage with his followers. His work has been collected by notable public figures like Junot Díaz, Lin-Manuel Miranda and Swizz Beats. Currently, Peralta's "Celia Con Rolos" art piece is on view at the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum in Washington D.C. This work of art has been acquired and added to the institution's Permanent Collection.
<b>HATUEY RAMOS-FERMÍN</b>	Hatuey Ramos-Fermín is an artist, educator, and cultural producer based in The Bronx. He is the co-founder of meta local collaborative, a Bronx-based artist collective, Boogie Down Rides, a bicycling and art project celebrating cycling in the Bronx, and the open streets event Boogie on the Boulevard. He has organized projects and made presentations at a security guard training school (in tribute to

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<p>Director of Programs and Community Engagement, The Laundromat Project</p>	<p>Fashion Moda), community centers, churches, restaurants, laundromats, as well as galleries and museums. He has mentored young adults at the Center for Urban Pedagogy, and The Bronx Museum of the Arts, where he also served as Curator of Education. Ramos-Fermin has also participated in the Elizabeth Foundation for the Art's Shift Residency, and The Laundromat Project's Create Change Public Artist Residency. He received his BA from the University of Puerto Rico and his MFA from St. Joost Art and Design Academy. Currently Hatuey is Director of Programs and Community Engagement at The Laundromat Project.</p>
<p><b>ADRIÁN 'VIAJERO' ROMÁN</b>  Visual Artist, Viajero Art</p>	<p>Viajero is a visual artist that focuses on issues of race, migration and identity while exploring both personal and historical memory of the two disparate world that he lives in. He combines drawing, painting and sculpture within immersive installation environments composed of objects collected from different communities. He's inspired by his interest in the continuity of time and how those interventions may bring those living histories forward to the present.</p>
<p><b>CHARLIE VÁZQUEZ</b>  Deputy Director at Bronx Council on the Arts / Director, Bronx Writers Center</p>	<p>Author Charlie Vázquez is the Deputy Director at Bronx Council on the Arts, where he also directs the Bronx Writers Center. He is the former NYC Coordinator for Puerto Rico's Festival de la Palabra as well as a freelance editor, youth mentor and activist.</p>
<p><b>MADRINAS</b></p>	
<p><b>SANDRA GARCIA-BENTANCOURT</b>  Poet, Writer, Arts Activist, Administrator</p>	<p>Sandra Garcia-Bentancourt is the author of Ombligo de Luna and Memorias y Olvidos, poetry books. Her work has appeared in several publications, most recently in Breaking Ground: Anthology of Puerto Rican Women Writers in New York 1980-2012, edited by Dr. Myrna Nieves and published by Campana, as well as Amanecida, an anthology of poems by Latin American writers celebrating renowned Puerto Rican poet Julia de Burgos, edited by Etnairis Ribera. Previously, Garcia-Betancourt served as the founding Executive Director &amp; CEO of the Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance (NoMAA), an arts organization launched in 2007 with the mission to cultivate, support and promote the works of artists and arts organizations in Northern Manhattan. Most recently, she served as Interim Director of the Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art &amp; Storytelling in Harlem, NYC. Garcia-Betancourt has a Bachelors from Union Institute University in Vermont, and a Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Writing (Spanish) from New York University.</p>
<p><b>ANA M. LOPEZ</b></p>	<p>A native of Cerro Gordo, Bayamón, Puerto Rico, and raised in El Barrio, New York City, Ana M. Lopez is an Assistant Professor of the Humanities Department/Latin American and Caribbean Unit at</p>

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<p>Assistant Professor of the Humanities Department/Latin American and Caribbean Unit at Hostos Community College</p>	<p>Hostos Community College holding a Juris Doctor (1982) and Political Science (2001) degree. For more than 35 years López has been actively organizing and raising conscientiousness in Puerto Rican/Latino communities in which include: freedom campaigns of Puerto Rican political prisoners (securing their release 1979, 1999 and 2017), the independence of Puerto Rico, education, workers, women &amp; prisoners' rights, community organizations' empowerment and human rights mainly in New York, but also in areas such as Connecticut, New Hampshire, Ohio and in her island-nation Puerto Rico. In 2008, López developed a strategic and effective campaign against the federal grand jury persecution of Puerto Rican cultural activist youth in favor of independence. López also served as the main strategist /organizer for the campaign to Free Oscar López Rivera in New York.</p>
<p><b>NANCY PEREIRA</b> Family Leadership Coordinator, Community School District 4</p>	<p>With more than 20 years of working in parent advocacy, Nancy Pereira began her career as a Parent Leader and former CEC6 member in District 6 from 2003 – 2006. In February of 2006, she began working with the Department of Education as a Parent Coordinator and then transitioned to District 4 as the Family Leadership Coordinator, providing professional development and learning opportunities for School Leadership Teams, Parent Coordinators, Parent Associations, as well as developing new parent leaders. This year Ms. Pereira is celebrating 8 years working with District 4 families, Parent Coordinators, Principals, and Community Based Organizations.</p>
<p><b>VANESSA PÉREZ ROSARIO</b> Associate Professor, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies/Managing Editor, Small Axe</p>	<p>Vanessa Pérez Rosario, Ph.D. is Associate Professor in the Department of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at Brooklyn College, City University of New York. She earned a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of California, Davis with a Designated Emphasis in Critical Theory. Her teaching and research areas include U.S. Latino/a literature, language, culture and society, and Latinos and education. She is an Associate Investigator on the City University of New York – New York State Initiative on Emergent Bilinguals, a project of the Ph.D. program in Urban Education and the Research Institute for the Study of Language in Urban Society at the CUNY Graduate Center. She is also on the board of the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage project at the University of Houston. Vanessa is author of <i>Becoming Julia de Burgos: The Making of a Puerto Rican Icon</i> (University of Illinois Press 2014) and the editor of <i>Hispanic Caribbean Literature of Migration: Narratives of Displacement</i> (Palgrave 2010).</p>
<p><b>JARITZA TAVERAS-CABA</b> Director of Community Affairs, Manhattan North Management</p>	<p>As Director of Community Affairs, Jaritza Taveras-Caba is responsible for creating and maintaining relationships with tenants and community stakeholders. Her collaborative efforts have strengthened the Manhattan North Management's relationship with elected officials, community based organizations, religious groups, the District Attorney's office and local police precincts. Previously, she worked with then Manhattan Borough President, Scott M. Stringer as the community liaison. She represented President</p>

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	Stringer in East Harlem, Washington Heights, and Inwood for over three years.
<b>POSTHUMOUS HONORS</b>	
<b>ELI S. ALVARADO</b> Former President of La Casa de la Herencia Puertorriqueña (d. – January 30, 2015)	An accomplished visual artist, poet, and the author and artistic director of various play productions, Eli was also one of the most ardent proponents of our Puerto Rican culture. His paintings reflect the love he had for Puerto Rico, and many aspects of his life and culture. Eli devoted more than 20 years of his life to the development and preservation of La Casa de la Herencia Puertorriqueña.
<b>LOUIS FELIPE NUÑEZ</b> Former ASPIRA Director (October 31, 1931 – April 30, 2015)	Born in East Harlem to a Puerto Rican mother and Peruvian father, Louis was a staunch advocate of educational and economic opportunity for Puerto Ricans for more than three decades. After graduating from Morris High School in the Bronx and City College with a degree in business administration, and a short stint in the Army from 1953 to 1956, he went on to serve on New York City’s Board of Higher Education; as national executive director of Aspira, a leadership development and educational counseling agency; as staff director of the United States Commission on Civil Rights; and as president of the National Puerto Rican Coalition. Louis served on the civil rights commission in various roles for nine years, including acting director during the administration of President Richard M. Nixon. He retired as president of the National Puerto Rican Coalition in 1994.
<b>CARMEN M. PIETRI-DIAZ</b> Former Executive Director of the Nuyorican Poets Cafe (d. – July 17, 2015)	Former executive director of the world renown, Nuyorican Poets Cafe, and co-administrator of the Pedro Pietri Benefit Fund, Carmen was publicly honored with the title of executive director emeritus of the Nuyorican Cafe in 2008. e metropolitan area. Pietri-Diaz sat on the boards of various cultural organizations, including the Clemente Soto Velez Cultural Center and the Federation of EasShe continues to be active in community and cultural affairs and was President and CEO of Zero Budget Productions.
<b>ANITA VELEZ MITCHELL</b> Founding Member of La Casa de la Herencia Cultural Puertorriqueña (February 21, 1916 – July 10, 2015)	A long-time advocate and protagonist in the arts, Anita performed the role of Anita in the 1963 production of “West Side Story” and coached the Sharks gang members a decade later in the Lincoln Center revival directed by Lee Theodore. She culminated her performing career in April 2015 at the age of 99, giving a stunning video performance in the Off-Off Broadway production of “Comida de Puta,” a new play by Desi Moreno-Penson. Anita is also the subject of the multiple award-winning documentary, “Anita Velez: Dancing Through Life,” by daughter and TV journalist Jane Velez-Mitchell. Her body of work is in the archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY in New York City. As a cultural arts representative, Anita addressed the UN General Assembly over nine times to protest the U.S. Navy’s bombing maneuvers on Vieques, Puerto Rico, which has resulted in

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	birth defects and ecological damage to the island and its phosphorescent sea.
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## TALENT

<b>Abya Yala Arte y Cultura</b>	Abya Yala Arte y Cultura, a New York-based non-profit cultural organization, presents diverse art projects that maintain Andean cultural expressions and promote cultural awareness. Their programs are community grounded, intergenerational and inclusive. Each year, Abya Yala presents and produces a season of events that include: educational and artistic workshops, art exhibitions, community forums, theatrical representations, and culinary and art festivals. Their mission is to present, promote and celebrate the cultural identity of the native communities of Peru, focusing on the Andean region and the diffusion of its living and thriving culture.
<b>Annette Aguilar &amp; The String Beans</b>	Combining superb musicianship with unique string and percussion arrangements of Latin Brazilian jazz, contemporary jazz, classical and world music, Annette A. Aguilar & String-Beans are very Special Friends. Annette A. Aguilar, the band's talented and versatile percussionist and musical director, produced, arranged and shared in the mixing of the tunes. She was also fortunate to have the constant support and consultation of well-known producer Frank Dorieti. A long-time friend of Aguilar, Dorieti has twice produced Grammy award winning recordings, for Latin jazz great Cal Tjader and the eminent jazz artist Art Blakey (Art Blakey & The Jazz Messengers.)
<b>BOMBAZO DANCE COMPANY</b>	Bombazo is a non-profit dance company, who's mission is to showcase choreographies that have been influenced and inspired by from traditional folkloric elements drawn from our history as Americans and as Latinos. Taking those main ingredients and mixing them with classical, contemporary and social styles of dance, thus creating a new movement vocabulary; yet still preserving the authenticity of our culture.
<b>KR3TS (KEEP RISING TO THE TOP) DANCE COMPANY</b>	The mission of KR3TS is to broaden the notion of what a dancer is and promotes the preservation of ethnic and cultural dances. Based in Spanish Harlem, KR3TS fulfills a need in the community to provide a positive alternative to social and street pressures by providing dance classes and support programs in a non-discriminating atmosphere. KR3TS also carries out its mission through its core-performance group that fosters pre-professional dancers. Their goal is to provide an outlet to develop skills and abilities that will enhance their lifestyles. They learn to express their talents through dance, and are encouraged to set goals, strive for what they believe in, to improve their self-esteem, cooperation, and integration as part of a group, and to dream. They are secure with the knowledge that no matter what level of skill, they can achieve their goals through

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	dedication, determination and hard work. No matter what the obstacles, they must... Keep Rising To The Top!
<b>P.S./M.S 57 MARCHING BAND, CHEERLEADERS AND COLOR GUARD</b>	The vision of the P.S./M.S. 57 educational community is to enable the children we serve to achieve at the highest levels of their intellectual, emotional and social capabilities so that they can become life-long learners, problem solvers, and productive members of society. The P.S./M.S. 57 school community seeks to provide an environment that strives, through educational excellence, to encourage all students to expand their horizons and achieve their dreams. Students, parents, staff and the community, working collaboratively, will develop an enriched child-centered instructional program that supports high expectations for all students.
<b>BombaYo!</b>	BombaYo, a youth project dedicated to preserving the rich Afro Puerto Rican tradition of Bomba. BombaYo emerges from the streets and schoolyards of the Bronx, where salsa and hip-hop were born. Under the direction of Jose L.Ortiz aka Dr.Drum and Melinda Gonzalez, BombaYo's young people bring new energy to a centuries-old Afro Puerto Rican music and dance tradition. Bomba starts from within. In the spirit of Sankofa, BombaYo members draw from the bomba tradition to enrich their lives, embrace their cultural legacy, and share this gift with others. In a short time, the group had been invited to perform at schools, youth conferences, and Latino Heritage Month events across NYC.
<b>Los Pleneros de La 21</b>	Los Pleneros de la 21 is a non-profit community based organization and music ensemble located in the heart of El Barrio (Spanish Harlem). They are dedicated to fostering awareness, appreciation and understanding of the richness and vitality of Puerto Rican artistic traditions of African and Creole descent, as well as to promote their further development. Their goals are to present accessible public traditional music programming, to expose inner city youth and others to the cultural heritage of Puerto Rico and encourage their active participation in these traditions, and to perform a repertoire of works embedded in the rich tradition of Puerto Rican folk music to audiences everywhere.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

El Museo del Barrio will be hosting a special SUPER SABADO, a free family day on Saturday, January 20th. The afternoon will feature live musical performances, art-making workshops, storytelling, and more. We invite everyone to join us in this eventful celebration of Three Kings Day and our community!

## THREE KINGS DAY STEERING COMMITTEE

El Museo del Barrio would like to thank the following individuals for their tireless efforts and steadfast dedication to this year's Three Kings Day Parade celebration: Jaliz Albanese,



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M.A. Candidate Sociology and Education at Teachers College Columbia University; Leenda Bonilla, Partnership for Parks; Maritza Carmona, Friends of the Highline; Roberto G. Lebron, Office of the Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman; Christine Licata, Bronx Museum of the Arts; Alberto Minotta, ProyectoBBRAVO; Emily Parkey, DREAM Charter School; Eileen Reyes-Arias, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs; Eric Rivera, Office of the Mayor, City of New York; Alicia Rodriguez, Community Advocate; Joe Rogers Jr., Founder & Facilitator, Total Equity Now; Nina Saxon, Office of New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer; Taina Traverso, Taina Touch Enterprize, Inc.; and Carmen Vasquez, Community Advocate.

## SPONSORS

The 41st Annual Three Kings Day Parade is made possible thanks to the generous support of [New York Yankees](#), [Tahl Propp/Manhattan North Management](#), [Con Edison](#), [Mount Sinai Health System](#), [Nielsen](#), [Blumenfeld Development Group](#) and [Harlem RBI](#). Media Sponsorship provided by [Diario de Mexico](#), Telemundo 47 / WNJU and WXTV Univision, UniMas Nueva York, Univision Radio (X96.3 and Wado1280). In-kind support is generously provided by Positive Workforce and the [NYC Parks Department](#).

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