





salutes Círculo de la Hispanidad on its 35th Anniversary Spring Gala.

2015 Honorees

Affinity Health Plan

Servando Cid Owner Marbella Restaurant

Yahira DeLeón Girl Scouts of Nassau County, Inc.

> Luis F. Ras RAS Associates, PLLC

Gladys G. Rodríguez Nassau County Department of Social Services

> Miriam López Roosevelt Middle School

Visit your local Affinity Retail Store at: 80E Clinton St, Hempstead, NY 11550 For more information call:

1.866.731.8001



Hwarding the 2015 Honorees

GLADYS G. RODRÍGUEZ Case Worker NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Welcome to Tonight's

Celebration

^{of the} 35th Anniversary Spring Gala

AFFINITY HEALTH PLAN <u>.</u>

SERVANDO CID OWNER MARBELLA RESTAURANT

YAHIRA DELEÓN Community Initiatives Manager GIRL SCOUT OF NASSAU COUNTY, INC.

.00.

LUIS F. RAS Trial Attorney Owner and Founder of RAS ASSOCIATES, PLLC

Miriam López School Counselor Roosevelt Middle School

Growing Stronger Together



bring

May 15, 2015 / Contents

06 Círculo de la Hispanidad

Mr. Gil Bernardino, Executive Director and Founder of Círculo, addresses our community. Mr. Leo Fernández, President of the Board of Directors of Círculo, addresses our community. Discover the various programs provided by Círculo de la Hispanidad and learn more about their Mission Statement.

57th Anniversary

12 Círculo Green Center

The Center is a 35,000 square foot facility; the first "green" or LEED building of its kind built by a non profit 501 (c) (3) community based organization in New York State. It contains a large multipurpose room for educational, cultural, social and recreational programming.

36 Evergreen Charter School

Founded in June 2009 Evergreen is an elementary school housed within the Center and authorized by the New York State Department of Education. Learn about Evergreen's Mission and see how it has inspired our students to deal with everyday hurdles to focus on their dreams and achieve their ultimate goals.

46 Círculo Food Services

Make reservations and have a catered private dinner at the Green Center "Café" or plan your next event at our 10,000 sq ft facility. From birthday parties to weddings or corporate events, let Círculo Food Services cater your next event.

57 Honorees

Read about the 2015 Honorees. Learn about their vocations and their involvements with the surrounding communities. Review the attributes that make them unique and the accomplishments that have earned them the recognition as a 2015 Honoree.

71 Elected Officials' Letters of Acknowledgment

Letters from the elected officials bequeathing their support of Círculo de la Hispanidad for their involvement with individuals and families in the surrounding communities for the betterment of our children's future.



Sponsor Highlights

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Enjoy photos of the 2014 Gala.

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List of Sponsors by category and Journal Composers and Authors.

The Gran Finale Celebration

Inside back cover announces "The Gran Finale Celebration" for the Círculo de la Hispanidad Green Center.



CÍRCULO DE LA HISPANIDAD 1980 - 2015

35 Years "A Remarkable Journey" 35 Años "Una Historia Admirable"

Thanks to you and to all who have supported us throughout our thirty-five years. Gracias a todos ustedes y a todos los que nos han apoyado a través de estos treinta y cinco años.

Our 35th Anniversary Celebration has special significance. We are celebrating 35 years of commitment, dedication and a deep sense of service to the most vulnerable people in Nassau County (Hispanics and Non-Hispanics alike).

Círculo received its articles of incorporation in 1980. However, the history of Círculo began some years earlier. Círculo's founder, Gil Bernardino, came to the United States in 1974 to discover the many needs of the Long Beach Hispanic community. Concerned about the oppression of immigrant populations and underserved groups, Gil formed the vision of Círculo.

Barbara DuBow, through her ideas, advice and support provided the essential tools for Gil to make the dream of Círculo a reality. Another key and trusted advisor, who assisted Gil in developing the organization, was Pat McCormack.

In 1980, New York State awarded Círculo with its first grant for \$25,000 to operate independently as a youth oriented organization. It was difficult to open doors in the beginning. Círculo started with three employees and a typewriter which had some missing keys. Now, the organization has a team of over forty full and part-time staff and a sophisticated computer system including a technology center, as well as many other amenities thanks to the commitment and vision of Círculo's dedicated staff, volunteers and Board members.

Many individuals have supported Círculo along this "Remarkable Journey". Senate Majority Coalition Leader of New York State, Senator Dean G. Skelos, provided the seed funding for Círculo's Center more than 15 years ago. His vision and support enabled us to think large and dream of a Center that would serve thousands and thousands of individuals and families for many generations to come. We are especially grateful to Eileen Mullin and Lance Roth of Non Profit Preferred Funding. They were instrumental in securing the loan for this project. Non Profit Preferred Funding purchased the bonds made available through the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency. Welquis R. López, a longtime friend of Círculo, has also been very supportive of our organization for many years and assisted Círculo achieve its dream to build a Center.

We want to recognize County Executive Ed Mangano for his financial support to the Center. Through his support Círculo has been able to enhance the Center. Thank you. In addition, Supervisor Kate Murray, of the Town of Hempstead, also has helped to support activities and programming at the Center and provided Círculo with funding in the past. Gracias Supervisor Murray for your support. We also want to extend our thanks to Mayor Wayne Hall, Sr. who supported our Center including our Nature Explorer Classroom Project. We are grateful to all our supporters.

We are pleased this year to have finished the last major construction of our Center: the lower level of the facility. We are grateful to those of you who have supported us over the years, helping us to realize our dream of a Center. We continue to sell bricks to fundraise and support our Center activities and needs. Please contact us if you are interested. Your financial support is tax deductible as we are a nonprofit organization.

As we continue on our mission to improve the lives of individuals and their families through a comprehensive continuum of social service, recreation, education, cultural, economic development and social justice programs, we are grateful for the special efforts of dedicated employees, supportive volunteers, Board members and relationships with many corporate partners and friends who have helped us live our mission. Together we can make a difference.

Thank you!

This past year of 2014 has been one of the most extraordinary, unexpected and rewarding years for me personally that I have experienced.

I received the Dr. Martin Luther King award from Nassau County. Also I was selected to receive an award from Spain called "100 Spaniards in the World", for my support to the vulnerable and needy. This award was given to Spaniards all around the world for their contributions in their own professions. I was also given a special honor, "Hijo Predilecto de Tapioles", "Special Son of Tapioles", by the town of my birth, Tapioles, in the province of Zamora, Spain. The town presented me with a bronze bust of my profile on a pedestal that is displayed in my town's square. This was on August 16, 2014. It was a memorable day for me. My family and friends were there to support me.

This past year will also be remembered as the year the Círculo Center was completed after more than twenty-five years of dreams, hard work, much anxiety, many rejections and closed doors, but with the support of many friends and supporters.

But some very important doors opened and the completion took place. It is again, that I want to recognize publically those whom have answered our call for help: New York State Senate Majority Coalition Leader, Dean G. Skelos, Nassau County Executive Edward P. Mangano, Supervisor Kate Murray and Mayor Wayne Hall. Thank you to all of you who help us live our mission and achieve our dreams. Your support is fundamental to the work we do each and every day. We could not do it without you.

As I have stated on other occasions, all of these achievements and awards are the result not only of my dedication and work for the most vulnerable, but of the many people like you, including those of you attending the Gala tonight, and many others throughout my entire life. Therefore, I want to thank all of you who throughout the years have supported Círculo de la Hispanidad and me. Together, you make my work, our work possible.

To all of you participants and sponsors, I want to say thank you. Together we are working to make the world a better place. I hope you will continue supporting Círculo, its programming and its new Center for many years to come. Gracias.

I want to thank the Gala's Planning Committee for supporting our honorees and our Gala. Their support has been essential in the always stressful work of implementing a successful event.

Thank you Círculo Board members, staff, colleagues, volunteers, and friends for supporting the journal, the raffle and selling tickets. I also want to give a special thanks to Gloria Robles, Gala Coordinator.

To all 2015 Honorees for accepting our invitation to be part of our history and supporting the Gala, gracias, thank you.

As always, I want to thank my family for their encouragement. They have helped me to face the many difficulties that I have encountered this past year and over the years. I want to say a special thanks to Sarah Brewster, my partner in work and in life. Gracias por todo, thank you for everything. You continue to inspire me and I enjoy working with you every day.

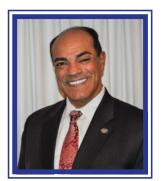
Gracias to my deceased parents, brother, niece and sister-in-law; they have always inspired me in my difficult times. I want to thank my three children, Deborah, Daniel and Gil Miguel for their support. They share not only my happy moments but also my challenging ones and they continue to give me encouragement to persevere. This year I have enjoyed spending time with my granddaughters, my precious "nietas", Rebecca, Sofía and Giuliana. I have also welcomed three new grandchildren, one from each of my three children: Isak, Gabriella and Sebastián.



Message from the Founder/Executive Director Círculo de la Hispanidad Gil Bernardino

(Mil Gracias! A thousand thanks for your support over the years! My work has been made easier with your support!

Message from the President of the Board



LEO FERNÁNDEZ

As President of the Board of Directors, and on behalf of Círculo de la Hispanidad, I would like give my special thanks to all our 2015 honorees for their support and dedication to Círculo's mission to improve the lives of individuals and families.

This evening we celebrate our honorees and recognize them for their commitment to strengthening our community and supporting vulnerable populations. We admire our honorees for their professional achievements and for their examples of leadership and service.

We also would like to recognize all the individuals who have made our Spring Gala 2015 possible.

Thank you to all of you attendees tonight for supporting us with our mission and vision. Thank you sponsors as well for contributing in large and small ways to the success of our journal and Gala.

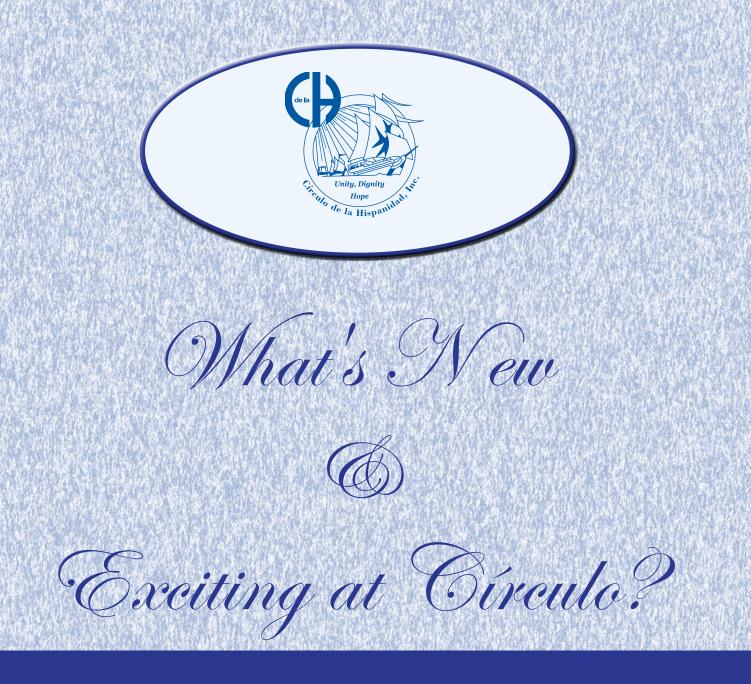
Thank you Planning Committee members for your dedication and support. Your hard work has helped us to have a special evening tonight.

The Board would also like to recognize the staff of Círculo and thank them for their efforts and dedication to our organization.

With your help, all of us together are working to make our community a better place every day.

Congratulations to this year's Honorees.







Read on and discover:

Friends of Círculo!



Círculo de la Hispanidad **Programs** With two office locations in Nassau County And The New Círculo Center

26 West Park Ave. Long Beach, NY 11561 (516) 431-1135 phone (516) 431-2307 fax cdlh.org

605 Peninsula Blvd. Hempstead, NY 11550 (516) 282-0145 phone (516) 282-0146 fax circulocenter.org

EDUCATION & CAREER SERVICES

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) **GED** Preparation Career Services Culinary and Hospitality Job Training

HEALTH

HIV Prevention/Education and Case Management Ryan White Transportation

HOUSING

HHAP: Permanent Housing for Homeless SHP: Supported Housing for Individuals Living with a Mental Health Diagnosis CASA Salva: Rental Assistance for Victims of Domestic Violence (Federal Program of HUD) Casa Serenidad: Rental Assistance for People Living with HIV/AIDS (Federal Program of HUD)

CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Food Pantry Domestic Violence Hotline Referral Services

cdlh.org

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Salva: Domestic Violence Services Salva hotline: 24 Hour Domestic Violence Hotline FFVPSA: Support services for Victims of Violence

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Y.D.D.P: Hispanic Youth Advocacy Summer Camp- Ages 6-12 Partners After-School Program (Long Beach) Partners After-School Program (Hempstead) Long Beach Soccer Club

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Spring Gala Dinner Dance Hispanic Heritage Month Cultural Celebrations Award Night for Youth

FEE-BASED DANCE STUDIO/ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Tango Salsa, Merengue, Mambo Modern Dance for Youth Flamenco Spanish for Adults

91 North Franklin St. Hempstead, NY 11550 (516) 292-2433 phone (516) 292-7792 fax

CDLH Mission

To improve the lives of individuals and families through a comprehensive continuum of education, social services, recreation, cultural, economic development and social justice programs.

Growing Stronger Together!

From a Dream to Reality

frculo Center is the realization of a dream by Gil Bernardino of more than twenty-five years in the making. Mr. Bernardino wanted to create a center for the community to serve as an institute for change. In keeping with Círculo's mission to improve the lives of individuals and families through a continuum of social service, education, recreation, cultural and economic development programs, the vision of the center builds upon this mission by improving our relationship with the earth through reducing energy usage and our impact on the environment thus helping individuals becomes stewards of the earth and its resources.

This year as Círculo celebrates its 35th anniversary, it will also celebrate the 5th anniversary of the inauguration of the building and the completion of the various construction phases that have taken five years. Círculo will hold a celebration during Hispanic Heritage month in the fall to celebrate the Center and recognize the support from many who have contributed to the center and have made this dream possible.

Círculo's dream for the Center became a reality when it obtained a loan through a bond issue from the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency in collaboration with Non-Profit Preferred Funding. The funding enabled the organization to construct a 35,000 square foot "green' LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) facility. Círculo de la Hispanidad is the first nonprofit community based organization in New York State to have achieved "gold" certification by the U.S. Green Building

Council, (USGBC), for its facility. USGBC is a nonprofit organization that assures that facilities are built according to the standards developed for LEED construction. LEED building include five essential elements such as sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality.

In essence a green facility is one that encompasses a holistic approach to building. From the design to the choice of materials used in the building, a green facility is one that incorporates healthy products and construction practices that promote sustainable development and help to reduce energy usage and save resources of the planet.

To follow is a summary of the five elements and a description of how Círculo has addressed these areas in its facility design and construction.



Sustainable Sites

Círculo's facility has been built minimizing impact on existing ecosystems. It uses regional plants for its landscape that will further eliminate the use of irrigations systems for maintenance. It promotes green friendly transportation choices. The facility has also incorporated components to control stormwater runoff and has engaged in practices to minimize soil erosion. The roof of the building is designed as a white roof which helps to minimize heat island effect. Lights chosen for the facility help to reduce light pollution in the area.

Water Efficiency

The Círculo Center has been designed to reduce the use of water. There are many water saving features in the building. The landscape of the building is one that does not require irrigation. It incorporates the use of native plants to reduce the need for an irrigation system thatuses potable water. There are also efficient appliances including water faucets and toilet features that allow an individual to adjust the amount of water needed for waste elimination. The building also features waterless urinals, another feature to reduce the use of potable water. These elements help to contribute to the water efficiency of the building.

Energy & Atmosphere

The design of the Círculo Center and the items used in the center promote efficient energy usage and clean sources of energy. There are light savings features that include sensor monitors to reduce the use of energy for light fixtures. The heating system and cooling system for the building have also been designed to maximize energy efficiency.



Materials and Resources

Círculo made an effort to use materials and resources that are regional to Long Island, greater NYC and New England. Use of regional materials helps to reduce energy expenditures in transportation of products. Círculo also engaged in recycling of materials throughout the construction process and monitored these levels. Job waste was sorted and if it could be used again it was recycled. Materials in the building itself including tiles used in lobbies and other areas were recycled from other jobs. These are just some of the examples of how Círculo's facility has reduced its consumption of materials and resources.

Indoor Environmental Quality

The building was designed to accommodate the needs of the occupants. Classrooms were built with southern exposures allowing for maximum light. The facility also was designed to ensure for healthy air quality. Products used in the building help to ensure healthy air quality. For example paints and glues used in the building meet with LEED requirements and help to improve the overall air quality by limiting the amount of toxins in the air.



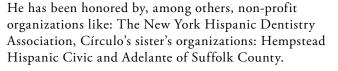


Reflections

ur Founder and Executive Director has received multiple recognitions throughout his life and professional career. All of them have been important, and Mr. Bernardino is grateful to all people who have been involved in the selection process.







Highly emotional and appreciated was the award received by his own organization, Círculo de la Hispanidad, on its 25th Anniversary during the Gala 2005, attended by his family from Spain.

He is deeply honored by the Martin Luther King Award given by Nassau County in January of 2014 from the Nassau County Dr. Martin Luther King Birthday Celebration Committee.

Equally, Mr. Bernardino was totally surprised when he received an email from Madrid, Spain, informing him that he was selected to be honored as one of 100 Spaniards living outside Spain, for his significant contributions to the

vulnerable and needy children and families, throughout his profession and life. The award was given to Spaniards residing abroad who have made special contributions in their respective professions, (art, education, research, literature, sports, etc.). Many of them are well known internationally such as Plácido Domingo, among others. The Awards Ceremony took place in Madrid on May 26, 2014. A book with their short biographies was published. This homage was covered by national newspapers and television.

Mr. Bernardino during his 2014 summer vacation, on August 16, received the most emotional and unexpected homage from his birthplace: "Hijo Predilecto de Tapioles", "Special Son of Tapioles". Tapioles is Mr. Bernardino's birthplace. It is a small farm town in the province of Zamora, Spain. The neighbors and Mr. Bernardino's family attended the unforgettable Award Ceremony where the







town's Mayor, Pepe García Badallo, and its Trustees, in the name of all residents of Tapioles, presented Mr. Bernardino with a bronze bust of his profile on a stone pedestal.

Also Mr. Bernardino's brothers Ángel Antonio and Baudilio in the name of their family spoke with deep emotions congratulating their brother. Mr. Bernardino at the end thanked all his neighbors, Mayor, Trustees, his wife Sarah, children and his family for this very special award and their support. He also thanked his deceased parents and family members: his brother Isidoro, his niece Rosa Mari and his sister-in-law, Adela. Mr. Bernardino spoke about his great feelings of gratitude to all the neighbors and parents who taught him about fundamental values of compassion, solidarity and support for the poor and the vulnerable.

"It was a day to remember forever!"



Círculo After School Programs

Círculo de la Hispanidad Center 605 Peninsula Blvd. Hempstead, New York 11550



Círculo de la Hispanidad's commemorative brick program is a wonderful way to recognize a loved one or to show your support to the organization. Funds raised through this project help us reach our dream to complete and maintain our "green" Center. To make your pledge please fax a copy of this form or forward via e-mail or US Postal Service to our office at the addresses listed on this form. A separate form must be used for each brick you wish to inscribe. Please keep a copy for your personal records.

CONTRIBUTION LEVELS

BUY A BRICK PROGRAM

REQUEST A PLEDGE FORM

• 6" X 6" BRICK

This brick includes 9 characters per line including spaces and has four rows total. Use the format sample below to fit your message using 1 box per letter or space. Use this format as a sample to order additional inscriptions.

Individual Rate\$100					
Friend Rate\$175					
Supporter Rate\$250					

• 6" X 9" BRICK

This brick includes 14 characters per line including spaces and has four rows total. Use the format sample below to fit your message using 1 box per letter or space. Use this format as a sample to order additional inscriptions.

Individual Rate\$150							
Friend Rate\$300							
Supporter Rate\$500							

Contact Círculo de la Hispanidad for an order form and additional instructions. Círculo reserves the right to approve all brick pledges, contributions are tax deductible.



East School of Long Beach



Círculo After School Programs



Círculo After School Programs

Círculo de la Hispanidad Partners II



Círculo Summer Camp Program Long Beach

Círculo Saturday Programs









Cultural Saturdays Program

Hispanic Folkloric Dance, Arts and Crafts, and Spanish Language Instruction of the History of Various Hispanic Countries.









Círculo Dance Studio



Círculo Flamenco Classes for Children



FLAMENCO FOR CHILDREN -8



Ages 4 To 6 (516) 431-1135

A.P

TEACHER: DEBORAH BERNARDINO ARDEN

Círculo Culinary Academy





Joshua Poveda

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE CHEE



Círculo / Long Beach Soccer Club

Supporting Youth Soccer for More Than 25 years

The Long Beach Soccer club offers travel team competition on Long Beach through the Long Island Soccer League.

The ag e for t ravel team participation is 8 years old and above.

Team registration for fall season begins in **JUNE** to play in **SEPTEMBER**.

Team registration for spring season begins in **DECEMBER** to play in **MARCH**.

Winter sessions are also available.

Register at : 26 West Park Ave. 2nd Floor, Long Beach, NY 11561 Monday to Friday: 9:00 am- 5:00 pm

TUESDAYS: 4 & 5 year olds : 4:30 - 5 :30 pm. 6 - 8 year olds : 5 :30 - 6:30 pm.

Your child will need cleats, shin guards and a soccer ball. (4 & 5 yea r- olds use a size 3 ball; 6 - 8 year olds use a size 4 ball). We play at the Point Lookout Fields, Town of Hempstead . Time may change according to the number of registered players in each age group.

26 West Park Ave., Long Beach, N.Y. 11561 Phone: (516) 431-1135 • Fax: (516) 431-2307 • E-mail:grobles@cdlh.org

SESSIONS

SATURDAYS:

4 & 5 year olds : 9:00 -10:00 am. 6 - 8 year olds : 10:00 - 11:00 am.



Círculo HIV/AIDS and Domestic Violence Program

WALK WITH US



Círculo's Housing Programs

Permanent Housing

- · Individuals Living with a Mental Health Diagnosis
- Individuals Living with HIV/ AIDS
- · Homeless Individuals and Fami lies

Transitional Housing

· Families affected by violence

Phone: (516) 431-1135





Offering Bilingual English/Spanish Support:

ransportation Services Case Management Services Education and Prevention Services 'hones: (516) 431-1135 (516) 292-2433

Saturday, September 26th, 2015

at 9:00 am

Long Beach Board Walk

At Riverside Blvd.



Join us on our "peace begins with me" Walk to End Domestic Violence

Presented by the Salva Domestic Violence Project of Círculo de la Hispanidad 26 West Park Avenue, Long Beach, N.Y. 11561

For more information and registration contact: Phone:(516) 431-1135 e-mail: grobles@cdlh.org Donations accepted

Stop The Silence TOGETHER We Can End







Círculo de la Hispanidad **GED** Classes





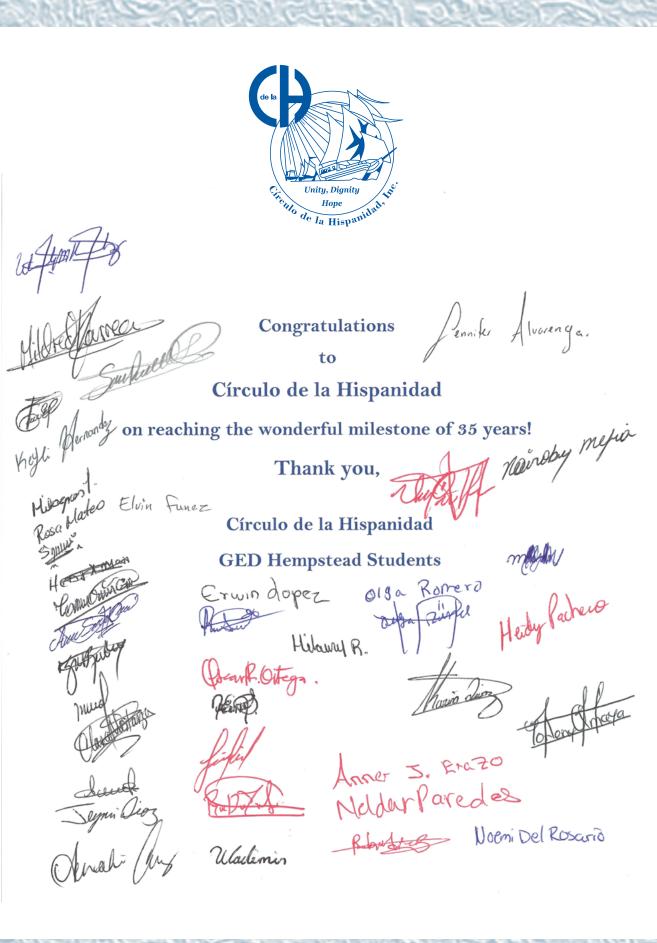




Círculo de la Hispanidad **ESL Classes Hempstead**







Wener Perec Munizol Rus Juan Miquel Wendy Levi sanchez Aex mesía Marcela ulloa Arnololvillamil wordah orozco LLFSR Surandente indy Clarissa Liverz Congratulations to Círculo de la Hispanidad on its **35th Anniversary**! TORES Mairoby Molio José chacán Círculo de la Hispanidad Zeen S. Henboza. ESL Hempstead Students Anner J. Erozo Alonsotusci Luis molino OSMO-hick olefacul Scar Alltegs. Cistin Rode Hanc Santan Acosto 112 AR Ding Coreas ousso RevelCoreas Flor Amand Rigg

Informatics classes



"Congratulations Círculo de la Hispanidad on your 35th anniversary serving the Hispanic Community"

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A MAN OF THE TOTOLOGICAL AND A THE TOTOLOGIC

"I am very happy with all the new things 1 am learning in my computer class" María R.



"I hope the government continues to support these types of programs" Héctor M.



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CIRCULO DE LA HISPANIDAD – EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Citizenship classes



CLASSES

"Thank you for thinking of people like us who need to learn English" Alejandra C.

G









"I'm grateful for this program because it helps our community to improve our personal development" Ros R.



LITERACY CLASSES SEE WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT CÍRCULO'S LITERACY PROGRAM

"This program is very important for me because it has given me my most beautiful dream and now I can communicate with others, Thanks Círculo" Mercedes C.

"For me, the literacy program is essential to our daily lives, thank you for this opportunity" Anonymous

"For me, the literacy program is beautiful, very special and I'm learning a lot." María R.

"I have no words to express how grateful I am with Circulo and God for this great opportunity to learn how to read and write. In my country, my mother would not let me go to school and that was really sad for me" Rosa R.



The students of the Literacy class want to Congratulate Círculo de la Hispanidad in its 35th anniversary



This program is targeted for adults who have not had the opportunity to complete elementary school in their home country. The classes are held in Spanish. We know illiterate people won't be able to read this flyer, but if you know someone who would benefit from this program, please pass the information around... Help us help somebody else!

Thank you!



Evergreen Charter School



History of the School

Vergreen Charter School received its charter on January 13, 2009. It was granted its charter U by the New York State Education Department Board of Regents to operate an elementary school in Hempstead, Long Island. The school opened with a kindergarten and first grade class of 100 students in the fall of 2009. Since then, it has grown to now serve 300 students from kindergarten to fifth grade.

The concept for Evergreen Charter School was developed by Mr. Gil Bernardino, Founder and Executive Director of Círculo de la Hispanidad, and Dr. Sarah Brewster, Supervisor of Círculo de la Hispanidad. With support from Círculo's employees, Board of Trustees and friends, Evergreen took form. The Planning Board for Evergreen Charter School included: David Boone, Maritza Meyers, Luis Ras, Eliezer Reyes, Gladys Rodríguez, Rebecca Sanin, and Gerry Vázquez. Círculo also consulted with Sy Fliegel, Harvey Newman, Frank San Felice, and Linda Vergara. Círculo is thankful for those who contributed to helping the dream for Evergreen become a reality.

The vision of Evergreen emerged from many conversations from parents in the community over the years. Mr. Gil Bernardino, Founder and Executive Director of Círculo de la Hispanidad, a community based nonprofit organization serving Long Island residents and their families since 1980, wanted to create an educational institution that would meet the needs of children and their families. Dr. Sarah Brewster, with her background in education and social work and her love and respect for the environment, joined with Mr. Gil Bernardino to develop the vision of the charter school. What developed was a concept for a strong academic program coupled with a curriculum that emphasized the environment, and knowledge of a second language (Spanish). The philosophy behind Evergreen Charter School is to prepare children to live in a global community, one that respects and values the dignity of all and prepares children for success in school and life.



academic excellence and prepares its students for success in school and in life.

one world, in harmony, with peace, freedom and justice for all.





Evergreen Mission

The mission of the Evergreen Charter School (ECS) is to nurture the intellectual, physical and social development of children, through a comprehensive program that promotes

Evergreen Promise

I promise to respect myself, respect others and respect our earth's resources.

Evergreen Pledge

I pledge to protect the Earth, respect the web of life upon it, and to honor the dignity of every member of our global family. One planet, one people,

Evergreen Board of Trustees



Evergreen Charter School 2009-2015

A free, public elementary school for children K-5th grade, founded by Gil Bernardino and Sarah Brewster of CÍrculo de la Hispanidad with support from CÍrculo's Board, staff and representatives from the community.



Board of Trustees: Standing (L-R) Ariel Soto, Trustee, Gil Bernardino, President, Luis Ras, Trustee, Added: José Canosa, Treasurer. Seated: Nancy Iglesias-Gillen, Trustee, Sarah Brewster, Vice President, Gladys Rodríguez, Secretary, Yvonne Mowatt, Trustee.



MARITZA MEYERS PRINCIPAL



KAREN LEEPER ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



LISETT KNOX DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS



LILY SANÁBRIA-HERNANDEZ Director of Student Services and Family Outreach



38







Evergreen Charter School























Evergreen Charter School

















Evergreen Charter School



















Círculo de la Hispanidad's Scholarship Fund has distributed over \$200,000 in scholarships to youth over the past thirty years thanks to your support.



Standing left to right: Evelyn Hernández, member of the Scholarship Committee: Jonathan Carrera, Jean Q. Fleuriscar,, Katerin Robles, Ingrid Portillo, Alicia Núñez, Angie Cerquín, José Marte, Jayro Guerra Jiménez; Gloria Robles, Coordinator; Gil Bernardino, Founder & Executive Director.

Seated left to right: Nataly B. Cheves Escobar, Astrid Dayana Manueles Ventura, Frida F. Rivera, Jacqueline Rus Gruber, Joanne Alegría, Berenice Espinal, Génesis Rodríguez.

Scholarship Awardees Not in Picture: Caroline Crispin, Fidel Angel Gutiérrez

Scholarship Committee Members Not in Picture: Leo Fernández, Flor West, Liz Sherlock, Jhoselin Fernández, Héctor Martínez

Círculo de la Hispanidad 2015 Scholarship Awardees Thanks to all our sponsors and supporters who made this possible!

Círculo Food Services

Círculo Food Services

frculo food services was established by Círculo de la Hispanidad as a subsidiary to support events and programming at the Center and for the agency at large.

Círculo Food Services has been involved in community events and activities including preparing a Thanksgiving feast for affected families following Hurricane Sandy. This was done in collaboration with the Hispanic Federation and other community organizations.

Círculo Food Services Chef



. Joshua Poveda

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE CHEF

Solution of the security of th St. Louis University and Estudios Sol, School of Cooking and Restaurant Management in Madrid, Spain, where he acquired his degree in Culinary Arts in June of 1995. He later attended the Culinary Institute of America in New York for an Advanced Diploma in Culinary Arts which he acquired in August of 1998.

Joshua is known as Chef Josh and is involved in all phases of food preparartion, development and presentation. He specializes in kitchen management, menu development, staff training, private party and planning and customer relationship management. Joshua's managerial skills and experience in international settings provides him strong cross cultural skills and ability to adapt to different envrionments lending to a smooth operating service.

Joshua's culinary specialties include American, European and Asian haute cuisine. He is fluent in English and Spanish with a professional proficiency in French.

hef Josh has prepared three of his favorite dishes to share with you. Starting with a Beet Tartare for an appetizer which he prepared for the very first time in Cotonou, West Africa in the year 2000 at a small tapas bar with a very peculiar French Chef by the name of Jacques Laine.

The original idea was to have a beef tartare on the menu but Chef Josh disagreed because of the quality of the beef available in the area and the fact that power was lost quite often concerning him with the health of his patrons. Joshua suggested a very interesting recipe of a beet tartare but Chef Laine was not convinced. Joshua made his presentation of the dish winning over Chef Laine hence, quickly becoming one of the most popular dishes on the menu having several patrons visiting several times a week just for the beet tartare. The main course is a hanger steak, a cut of beef not familiar

ten to fifteen years ago. It was known as the butcher's steak and because of its unfamiliarity and appearance it was not found appealing. Simply, a small part of the Argentinian community were familiar with the hanger steak and knew how to prepare it.

Chef Josh introduced the hanger steak to El Chaflan



BEET TARTARE INGREDIENTS:

1 lb. fresh beets 2 tbsp. minced shallots 2 tbsp. minced gherkins 2 tbsp. minced capers 2 tbsp. Dijon mustard 1 tbsp. lemon juice 1 tbsp. mayonnaise 2 hardboiled eggs balsamic reduction (for decorating) 2 tbsp. chopped chives 1 tbsp. white vinegar (for boiling the beets) green oil (for decorating)

The final dish is a dessert consisting of a pastry cream that was was one of the first dishes he learned to prepare in cooking school. The dough is actually a recipe from his colleague Jacques Laine from Benin and of course it's a tart you can top with any kind of fruit.

restaurant in Madrid, Spain, which he worked as Chef

de Partie and later on as Executive Chef. It actually took

Joshua a while to the acquire, first googling hanger steak

to discover what it was called in Spanish. His results

came up with the description, Corazon de pulmon but

not one butcher he approached was familiar with this cut

of beef. He finally came across a butcher cleaning a piece

of meat which in fact was a hanger cut and he exclaimed,

"that is what I am looking for!" The butcher responds, "Ohhh, this is Pito!" Chef Josh tells the butcher, "I will

have some pito!" they both had a good laugh hence, his

recipe for the hanger steak.

jBuen Provecho:

Preperation:

- Place the beets in a pot with enough water to cover and add the white vinegar (this will keep them from bleeding). Bring to a boil and reduce heat to a simmer, cook for approximately 30 minutes.
- 2. Place beets under cold running water until cooled.
- Peel the beets and chop into a medium dice or roughly chop 3. in a food processor.
- To make the green oil just add 3 parts olive oil to 1 part water in to a blender and add any green herbs you have (parsley, chives, cilantro) blend and reserve in a squeeze bottle.
- Place beets in a bowl and add the minced shallots, gherkins, capers and chives. Add mustard, lemon juice and mayonnaise.
- Mix well and refrigerate for 1 hour. If mixture is to wet 6. place, in a colander to drain excess liquids.
- Using a round cookie cutter divide the beet mixture on to 4 7. plates and press down on the mixture so it keeps its shape.
- Top the beet tartare with shredded egg white and egg yolk and drizzled balsamic reduction and green oil on the plate and over the beets.

Serve the tartare with any type of toasted bread. Serves 4.

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Círculo Food Services



GRILLED HANGER STEAK WITH CRISPY SHALLOTS, SMASHED POTATOES AND HARICOT VERT

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 lbs. hanger steak
- 1 lb. fresh shallots
- 2 lbs. Yukon gold potatoes
- 1/2 stick of butter
- 1/2 cup of butter
- 1 1/2 lbs. haricot vert

Steak Preperation:

1. Season steak with salt, pepper and dry oregano to taste.

- 2. Grill on medium/high heat until desired doneness.
- 3. Slice steak on a bias and top with crispy shallots.

Shallot Preperation:

- 1. Peel and slice shallots.
- 2. Fry shallots in olive oil until golden brown.
- 3. Season to taste with salt.

Mashed Potatoes Preperation:

- 1. Wash potatoes under cold running water.
- 2. Place potatoes in a pot and cover with cold water.
- 3. Bring water to a boil and reduce heat to a simmer and cook for approx. 25 minutes.
- 4. Combine cream, butter and salt in a pot and heat until butter is melted.
- 5. Drain potatoes, add cream mixture, using a potato masher, mash until there are no lumps.

Haricot Vert Preperation:

- 1. Wash and trim the haricots.
- 2. Add salted butter to a pot of water and bring to a boil. Add the haricot vert and cook for 1 minute. Drain the haricot and place in an ice bath to cool down completely.
- 3. Finely chop 2 shallots and sauté in a pan with 2 tbsp. of butter, once the shallots are nice and soft add the haricot vert and cook for another 3 minutes.

Serve immediately. Serves 4.



MIXED BARRY TART Ingredients for Dough and Preperation:

1 cup flour

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 egg yolk
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ tbsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tbsp. water

Mix all ingredients until they come together, form a ball and refrigerate for 1 hour.

Once the dough is cold cut into 4 pieces and roll out to 8 inch discs 1/8 of an inch thick. Place dough on 4 ½ inch shallow ramekins and bake at 350 until golden brown.

Ingredients for Pastry Cream and Preperation:

- ½ cup milk 1 egg yolk
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ tbsp. sugar
- 1 tbsp. corn flour
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract

Bring the milk to a boil. In a bowl mix eggs, flour, sugar and vanilla. Gradually add a portion of hot milk to the egg mixture while whisking to avoid the egg from curdling. Continue by adding the rest of the egg mixture to the milk and cook over medium heat until it thickens. Add butter, if lumpy pass through a fine mesh colander or use a hand blender. Reserve cream in the frigidaire until completely cooled. Fill tart shell with cooled pastry cream and top with desired berries (raspberries, blueberries, blackberries...). Serves 4.





Círculo Food Services LLC

605 Peninsula Boulevard Hempstead, New York 11550 Telephone: 516·282·0145 email: CFS@cdlh.org



Círculo Food Services

Círculo Food Services Provides Diversity!

PRIVATE PARTIES AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Birthday Party Sweet 16 **Bridal Shower** Baby Shower Theme Party Special Ceremonies Wedding Anniversary Family Dining at the Café Retirement Party Family Reunion Graduation

CORPORATE FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

Workshop Seminars Corporate Lunches and/or Dinner Holiday Party Social Events (Anniversaries and/or Awards) Retirement Party Fund Raisers

SERVICES PROVIDED

Personalize your menu with the various dishes available. Please make inquires if not on the menu, we will accomodate.

INTERNATIONAL CUISINES AVAILABLE

Mediterranean, Indian, Asian and many European dishes.

Special Needs: Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten Free, Lactose Intolerant, Low Fat/Cholesterol. Please be very specific of any known food allergies you or any of your guests may have to best serve your needs.



MENU OPTIONS INCLUDE:

- Cocktail Hour •
- Bartender / Bar Set-Up
- **Beverage Station**
- Hors D'oeuvres / Tapas
- Carving Stations * •

MAIN ENTRÉES:

- Salad
- Soup
- Beef
- Chicken
- Pork
- Seafood
- Dessert

Courses will be served Buffet Style unless other preparations have been arranged with Círculo Food Services and stipulated in your contract agreement.

*A waited dinner will enhance your package price.

Contact us today at 516-282-0145 or e-mail us at CFS@cdlh.org to schedule an appointment for a consultation. Our packages are flexible to accomodate your needs.

Make your dream a reality!







Círculo Food Services **INTRODUCES**

Celebrate Your Child's Special Day in 4500 square feet of pure FUN!



BOUNCE GREEN PACKAGES

- Various packages available to accommodate vour budget
- Healthy children's menus •
- Additional services for attending adults • available upon request

*ALL ECO FRIENDLY CUPS, PLATES, NAPKINS AND UTENSILS





*A Variety of Bounce Houses Available

OBSTACLE COURSE

Become A "Friend of Círculo de la Hispanidad" "Join the Circle"

Mission Statement

Círculo de la Hispanidad is establishing the "Friends of Círculo" to promote, strengthen, and enrich the economic, educational, civic and cultural development of the Hispanic community THROUGH

networking and multiple educational, social and cultural activities.

What does being a friend of Círculo mean?

For a small membership fee, you will have access to members' only events including networking, cultural and social events. In addition you will receive discounted pricing on services offered at Círculo Food Services and on special fee based programs. Being a Friend of Círculo provides you with an opportunity to have increased visibility in the community. In addition, by showing your financial support as a Friend of Círculo you are also demonstrating your commitment to needed programs and services to help vulnerable individuals in our community.

Why be a Friend?

- Show your support for critical community services and programming.
- Increase the visibility of your business in the community.
- Receive access to member only events.
- Receive discounted pricing on events and activities promoted by Círculo de la Hispanidad and Círculo Food Services.
- Receive free publicity and promotion on Círculo's website and social media pages.

When will this begin?

We will send out additional information in the upcoming months. We will give special recognition to all "Círculo Friends" at a celebration we will have at Círculo Center to commemorate the completion of construction on the facility, this fall.

When will this Círculo Friends Recognition take place? Saturday, October 24th, 2015, Círculo Center, Hempstead, NY 11550.

What is the Cost?

Join us for the 2015-2016 year for \$200. This will be discounted to \$150 until June 1, 2015. If you pay the night of the Gala, registration is only \$100!

Registration:

Use the card on your table and fill out your name and contact information to become a "Friend of Círculo." Give your card to Círculo staff at the registration table to be included in a special raffle drawing for a Cooking Lesson with Chef Josh at Círculo <u>Center.</u> Participation in the raffle does not require you to pay the membership fee at this time, although you may.

Savor the Moment with Friends at Círculo Café

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Círculo Café









EXPERIENCE THE MOUTHWATERING **D**ELICACIES **O**F CHEF JOSH AT THE Círculo Café

























Tapas and Fine Wine!











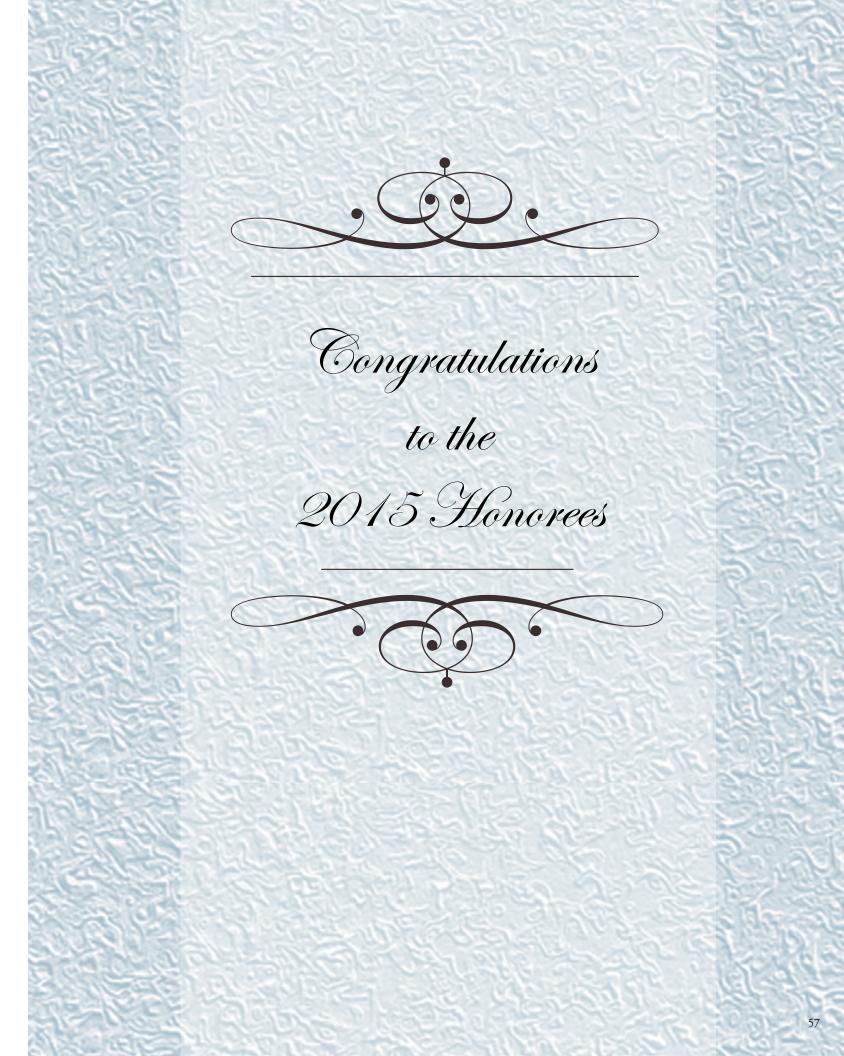


Círculo de la Hispanidad's Annual Spring Gala Serving Two Purposes

- Funds raised not only support agency programs, they support college scholarships for high school graduates from Long Beach and Hempstead who are matriculating in college or vocational training institutions.
- Círculo de la Hispanidad holds its Annual Spring Gala every May. Individuals and companies are recognized for their contributions to the community.

Scholarship funds raised from the event are bestowed to youths at Círculo's Annual Awards Night held in June.







Affinity Health Plan Dedicated to Excellence

Affinity Health Plan is an independent, not-for-profit managed care company dedicated to serving the needs of the underserved residents of the New York Metropolitan Area. Founded in 1986, Affinity was the first health plan licensed in New York State specifically to serve public sector programs. It served as a model for the development of the State Medicaid managed care program, and as a pilot for State subsidized programs for the uninsured.

Affinity Health Plan has been a leader in providing free or low-cost health insurance to residents of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Orange and Rockland counties. Affinity's mission is to improve the health and well-being of its members, their families and their communities in collaboration with primary care providers. We strive to be the health plan of choice for our members and our providers.

Affinity Health Plan is dedicated to improving the health and welfare of the communities we serve by building partnerships with providers, community and faith-based organizations, local businesses, schools, and elected officials. Through our partnerships, Affinity participates in many innovative programs that impact lives-one person at a time, one community at a time. We do this through a variety of strategies and tools such as: health education screenings, life improvement and empowerment seminars, event sponsorships and Community events.



Servando Cid born in Puente Grande, Ourense, Spain. His father was a farmer and traveling salesman during the Spanish Civil War. He also set up a country store/tavern. Servando's aunt Remedios was an avid reader and she helped to raise Servando when his mother took ill. She encouraged him to study up to the highest level and that meant leaving at the age of 10 to go to boarding schools. He was ultimately accepted at Escuela de Ingenieros Industrial of Barcelona. Servando was the first in his family to receive a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering in 1968. Soon after graduation, he was accepted for employment at Zelita, a prominent Chemical-Industrial company in Galicia. Before starting, he asked permission to travel to the United States to visit his brother, Delfin, who was living in New York with his wife and two children. Servando arrived in New York on January 10th, 1970. He had a visa for two months, but after two weeks he wanted to go back home. His brother insisted that he stay a little longer and he is still here forty-five years later.

Servando studied English at the American Language Institute at New York University and continued his education acquiring his degree in Chemical Engineering from the Pratt Institute in 1972. While taking some time off, he met and married the beautiful young lady, Susana, a New Yorker with roots from Spain. While she was finishing her Bachelors in psychology, Servando was introduced into the family restaurant business. His destiny was changed! He was appointed as administrator for a new Spanish restaurant, "O Lar" on 72nd St and Central Park West. During this time he met many famous people, such as Zero Mostel, the actor; Valerie Harper whose wedding he catered there; Leonard Bernstein, the Director of New York Philharmonic; and John Lennon and Yoko Ono who dined at the restaurant at least 4 times a week. From there he went on to open his own place, the Marbella Restaurant in Bayside, with his brother Delfin in 1976. That same year his family started to grow. He raised three amazing sons, Alexander, David, and Carlos. Alex and his wife Ana have 4 children: Mateo, Marcos, Andres and Emma. Alex is Senior Vice President of "City Private Equity Services" at Citi group. David and his wife Dolores have two children: Tomas and Sofia. David is Senior Vice President, Creative Art Director at Gray Healthcare group. Carlos is a Music Producer and DJ. He is the first in the family to win a Grammy for "Summertime Sadness Remix" in 2013. Throughout his 39 years in business as a restaurateur he has had many wonderful opportunities to contribute to organizations through catering and fundraisers.

Some of Servando's Contributions and Proposals:

Queens for Progress, an organization for those with disabilities that conducts fundraises at Terrace on the park;

- A contributing member of St. Francis Hospital, Port Washington.
- Platinum Member of Memorial Sloan Kettering Center, NY.
- Supporting Member of Feed the Children Foundation, Oklahoma City.
- This was passed into law in 2004.

Servando values Benjamin Franklin's quote, "The most acceptable service to God is doing good to man."

Growing Stronger Together!

Servando Cid

Owner, Marbella Restaurant

Proposed a scholarship fund in 1986 in his hometown for high school and college. Proposed recuperation of Spanish Citizenship to all children of immigrant parents to Spanish legislators in 2000.

Growing Stronger Together!





Yahira DeLeón

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES MANAGER GIRL SCOUTS OF NASSAU COUNTY

Yahira (Yari) DeLeón of Dominican decent was born and raised in the Inwood Heights region of New York City, NY. She attended Aquinas HS in the South Bronx and continued her college education at SUNY Stony Brook. As a young girl and throughout her teenage years, Yari was deeply involved in helping the community where she lived and always gave back whenever and wherever she could. She sat on various community based youth boards that geared their attention to helping youth become pillars within their community. She continued her passion for youth empowerment and leadership during her high school years by spearheading many community services and programs to benefit youth in the Bronx and Manhattan.

During her college years at SUNY Stony Brook, her horizons were broadened and her passion for Latino youth empowerment became evident as she sat on various executive boards for the university's clubs and organizations, such as Student Government Organization, Latin American Student Organization, Minority Planning Board, Hispanic Heritage Month Planning Committee, and Inter-Fraternity and Sorority Council where she represented the needs and wants of the Latino students to the University, it governing body and campus administration.

For the past 23 years, she has been an Hermana/Sister of a Latina community service and academic based sorority, Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. (SIA). She lives by the goals of the sorority within her academic, professional and personal life. She has expanded the awareness of the Latino culture to the community at large, promoted sisterhood, academics and leadership in and out of the organization on a national and local level. She was given the distinct honor of receiving the Hermana of the Decade and Sister of the Year awards.

Throughout Long Island, she has over 25 years of personal commitment to the needs of our youth and of the Latino community. She has aided in community outreach programs and dedicated a vast amount of her personal time by facilitating workshops/speaking engagements at many national conferences at colleges and universities throughout Long Island and New York State, such as Somos Unos, Latinas Unidas, Somos El Futuro and La Vision Conference to name a few and has been recognized for her leadership, continued dedication and work in and out of the Latino community on Long Island. In 2013, she was given the distinct honor of being named Long Island's Top 25 Advocates for Latino Empowerment by The Hispanic Network. In 2014, she was an Honoree of the 2014 Champion's for Humanity benefiting Hermandad, Inc. and received the New York State Senate Unidad Latina Conference Community Advocate Award. In 2015, she received recognition by Nassau County Executive, Ed Mangano for community leadership and advocacy during their 6th Annual Dominican Independence Celebration.

In 2010, She became a volunteer with the Girl Scouts of Nassau County (GSNC) by partnering SIA's R.O.S.E. Mentorship program to the GSNC Hispanic/Latino Task Force, program that provides mentorship and programming that will aid young Latinas ages 13-18 in relationship building, academics, leadership and personal and professional development.

Professionally she has over 20 years of experience in customer service, project and office management, web development, and community development. She currently works for the Girl Scouts of Nassau County, Inc. as the Community Initiatives Manager where she services the Latino and other communities throughout the county where GSNC is under-represented and girls are under-served. She is able to do this by collaborating with community business owners, organizations and community leaders (social and political) to aide in empowering and building the future leaders of tomorrow and have FUN doing it too!

Yari has been married for 14 years to her loving and supportive husband, Jules DeLeón, and her proudest accomplishments are her two beautiful daughters, Maia and Leila, who in their own right are quite the philanthropists and community advocates.



Luis F. Ras, Esq. is an attorney, admitted to the practice of law in the Federal and State Courts of New York, New Jersey, the Western District of Pennsylvania, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He obtained his Juris Doctor degree in 1990 from Fordham Law School, and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Fordham University in 1987. He obtained his High School diploma from the Bronx High School of Science, to which he gained admission via competitive examination. He is fluent in Spanish, French, Catalan, and has a working knowledge of Portuguese.

In 2003, Mr. Ras founded the law firm of RAS ASSOCIATES, PLLC, after fifteen (15) years of legal experience in varied fields of law, with an emphasis on litigation and trial work. Consistent with the experience he gained during those years, the firm is proud to represent individuals and corporate clients in litigation matters ranging from complex accident, construction workplace safety cases, vehicle, products liability cases involving industrial tools, property damage, and medical malpractice cases. His firm also advises individual and corporate clients in business negotiations, contract matters, and real estate transactions. The firm has a Facebook page at RAS ASSOCIATES, PLLC, which highlights topics of interest in the law.

Mr. Ras is proud to be of both Catalan/Spanish and Hispanic heritage, and strives to pass on the strength he gained through this diversity to the next generation of children, through his participation in educational efforts to promote respect and appreciation for the environment, other cultures, and fluency in several languages, as a Trustee on the Broad of Directors of the Evergreen Charter School in Hempstead.

Growing Stronger Together!

Luis F. Ras Esq.

RAS ASSOCIATES, PLLC

Growing Stronger Together!



Gladys Rodríguez

CASE WORKER NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Gladys G. Rodriguez was born in Bogota, Colombia. She came to the United States as a child. She lived with her family in Port Washington, Long Island, where she graduated from Paul D. Schreiber High School. She received her BA in Management and Communication from Adelphi University.

Ms. Rodriguez has been actively involved in many diverse projects and organizations in the community. Presently, she proudly sits on the board of the Evergreen Charter School, the Board of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Village of Hempstead, the Church Council for The Lutheran Church of the Epiphany and she is Executive Vice-President for the CSEA local 830 Nassau County Department of Social Services of approximately 1000 employees.

For 22 years Ms. Rodriguez has worked as Social Welfare Examiner II for Nassau County Department of Social Services. This is a job that she truly loves because it gives her the opportunity to do what she likes most, to serve the community. Her position at NCDSS allows her to see and recognize the needs of the Latino Community and permits her to assist in the process of assimilation while keeping our roots, culture and language intact.

As an Executive Vice President for CSEA local 830, her motto is "A happy employee is a productive employee." Every employer should know that good training and a good working environment produces great employees.

Ms. Rodriguez has been the recipient of numerous awards including: Latin American Coalition of Long Island Inc. (for supporting needy children in El Salvador), Certificate of Appreciation in Recognition for Professionalism and Dedication from County Executive Honorable Ed Mangano and DSS Commissioner Dr. John Imhof, Certificate of Recognition from PACCLI (Peruvian American Chamber of Commerce Long Island) for Outstanding Service and Support to this organization, The Town of North Hempstead Certificate of Recognition and Achievement for Outstanding Service and Assistance to Low Income Community, New York State Senate, Honorable Jack M. Martins, honorable mention for support to the Port Washington Community Action Council. She also received the "Orgullo Colombiano" Award from Long Island for Colombia Inc. at the bi-centennial celebration of Colombia's independence on July 20, 2010 and a Certificate of Appreciation from County Executive Honorable Steven Bellone for the contributions and commitments to the Colombian American Community in Suffolk County. Ms. Rodriguez was also named "Madrina Internacional" on the celebration of the 20th Central American Parade/Festival of Nassau County.

Gladys G. Rodriguez lives in Hempstead with her two daughters Jennifer and Monica and loves to travel, read, learn about other cultures and spend time with her wonderful family.



A resident of Rockville Centre, Ms. López is a Guidance Counselor in the Roosevelt School District. She works in Roosevelt Middle School providing guidance services to youth. As a bilingual advocate, she has helped many young people receive needed support. Ms. López enjoys working with youth and being a role model to them.

Ms. López has been involved in many community activities and volunteer work especially with the Girl Scouts of Nassau County where she has assumed many roles. She has been a leader of Troop 1618 for over thirteen years, leading girls in various activities and service projects. Ms. López volunteered at the Roosevelt Middle School in the "Be a Friend First" Program, which is an anti-bullying program launched across the country by GSUSA, (Girl Scouts of United States of America). Through this partnership, Miriam encouraged school staff to become new GSNC (Girl Scouts of Nassau County) volunteers, helped organize girls in small groups, and supported over 120 of her students as they became members of GSNC.

In 2007 she was elected to the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of Nassau County, after having served on the Council Nominating Committee. She has been a member of the Advisory Board for GSNC Hispanic/Latina Task Force for the past 12 years and was an Honorary Co-Chair of the 2005 National Latina Conference. She was a chaperone to the past two National Latina Conferences and in the summer of 2004 served as interpreter and chaperone at the WAGGGS Western Hemisphere Meeting in Costa Rica.

Additional leadership positions held by Ms. López include serving as a Board Member to the Long Island Arts Council in Freeport.

Ms. López holds a BA is Spanish/Education from Adelphi University and MS in Guidance Counseling from C.W. Post.

She is supported by her family including her husband Welquis Ray and her children, Welquis, Erica and Jennifer. She is the happy grandmother of Tomas Joseph, (Tomasíto - T.J.), Cottrell from her daughter Erica and her son-in-law Patrick.

Growing Stronger Together!

Miriam López

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR **ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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ELIZABETH GARCÍA

YOUTH SERVICES DIRECTOR, HEMPSTAED

NORA MARTÍNEZ

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SARAH BREWSTER CHEIF DIRECTOR OF SERVICES AND OPERATIONS



ZULY CARSON BOOKKEEPER



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SILVIA GALLEGOS Domestic Violence Advocate



EMMA MARTÍNEZ PROGRAM ASSISTANT



KATHERINE MORA BOOKKEEPER

CÍrculo de la Hispanidad Staff Members

2015 Gala Planning Committee



CESAR NUESI BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SPECIALIST



BLANCA NÚŃEZ **RWT TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANT**



MARYANN PATIŃO HIV/AIDS CASE MANAGER





GIL BERNARDINO





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YENY SANTIAGO HIV/AIDS CASE MANAGER



ELIZABETH TORRES SSBG PROGRAM DIRECTOR



ELIZABETH REYES RWT PROGRAM DIRECTOR



JAQUELINE SLEEFE CASE WORKER



SARI VAYDA PARTNERS AFTER SCHOOL DIRECTOR



GLORIA ROBLES Gala Coordinator, Program Assistant OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR



ARIEL SOTELO HOUSING DIRECTOR

Thank you... Thank you... Círculo Employees!





AMPARO AMAYA

BESAI BARRERA





SUSANA CID

ERICA COTTRELL





GILMA ESCOBAR

JHOSELIN FERNÁNDEZ

GLORIA ROBLES GALA COORDINATOR



SARAH BREWSTER





HERMINIA BONILLA



MARÍA ELISA CUADRA

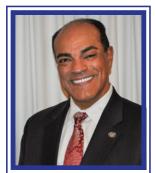


DOLORES CID



ELIZABETH CUSTODIO





LEO FERNÁNDEZ



STEVEN GILLEN

2015 Gala Planning Committee

2015 Gala Planning Committee



NANCY IGLESIAS-GILLEN



LEONOR GONZÁLEZ



EVELYN HERNÁNDEZ



FRANK MINIER





JULIÁN HERRERO



INGRID IZAGUIRRE



NANCY JIMÉNEZ



LISETT KNOX



SYLVANA LOYOLA



WELQUIS LÓPEZ



MAGGIE MARTÍNEZ MALITO



JENNIFER LÓPEZ



ELIZABETH MINIER



BEATRIZ PARUCH



LUZ RAMÍREZ



YESENIA C. VÁSQUEZ





JAIME M. MOYA PE



BRIAN OTWAY



ALFRED PEŃA



DENISE ROGERS



JOSHUA POVEDA



GOERGE SIBERÓN



RAHSMIA ZATAR

Thank y^{ou...} Planning Committee !



2015 ala lann mmittee







helped us achieve our goals...





Our supportive

We Thank You!



Hnited States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510

BANKING DEMOCRATIC POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS FINANCE JUDICIARY RULES

COMMITTEES:

May 15, 2015

Dear Friends.

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather for the Spring Gala 2015 celebrating 35 years of "Growing Stronger Together." I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of Circulo de la Hispanidad and tonight's distinguished honorees on this wonderful occasion.

Circulo de la Hispanidad has been improving the lives of individuals and families though social service, education, recreation, and cultural programs. Circulo offers more than twenty-five programs and activities, and has worked with more than twenty thousand members of the community. Circulo has been committed to providing programs and resources to Long Island's underserved communities, and I applaud their efforts.

Furthermore, I would like to congratulate tonight's distinguished honorees: Servando Cid, Owner of Marbella Restaurant; Yahira DeLeon, Community Initiatives Manager Girl Scouts of Nassau County Inc.; Luis F. Ras, Owner and Founder of Ras Associates; Gladys G. Rodriguez, Caseworker Nassau County Dept. of Social Services; and Miriam Lopez, School Counselor, Roosevelt Middle School. Each of these fine individuals stands as a testament to the values of Circulo de la Hispanidad and the importance of giving back to the community.

Again, congratulations on this wonderful occasion, and on behalf of all New Yorkers, I thank you for your hard work and dedication to Long Island. I applaud Circulo de la Hispanidad and tonight's honorees for wonderful work they do for the Long Island community. Best wishes for a wonderful evening.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schumer United States Senator

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May 15, 2015

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to join Circulo de la Hispanidad in celebrating its 2015 Spring Gala Dinner Dance and in recognizing this evening's distinguished honorees.

For over 35 years, Circulo de la Hispanidad has made great strides in advocating on behalf of underserved communities throughout Long Island. Through a diverse assortment of programs and services, including educational classes, career mentoring, youth sports and immigration counseling, this organization has become more than just a community service center; it is a vital resource for countless Long Island families. Circulo de la Hispanidad's dedication and hard work is not only remarkable, but truly impactful, and has helped improve the lives of so many people.

I am extremely grateful to all of those who have contributed to this organization's efforts and would especially like to recognize tonight's honorees for their selfless work in the area.

On behalf of the residents of New York's fourth congressional district, I would like to congratulate everyone who helped make this year's Spring Gala a success and I extend my best wishes for the continued success of the Circulo de la Hispanidad.

Sincerely,

Kathenfice

KATHLEEN M. RICE Member of Congress



Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3204

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ANDREW M. CUOMO GOVERNOR

May 15, 2015

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the Annual Spring Gala hosted by Circulo de la Hispanidad, this year celebrating its 35th anniversary.

The Empire State's strength is its diversity of people, including our many communities that reflect various Hispanic cultures and countries. The greater Hispanic population is a growing and integral component of this state and nation, and they contribute to our society in many ways that have furthered their presence, their visibility, and their influence as a dynamic community.

Across Long Island, the Hispanic population continues to flourish thanks to organizations that provide support and advocacy to people in need. Circulo de la Hispanidad offers a valuable network of services and resources that assist people in achieving greater independence and selfsufficiency. I applaud your continuum of programs and services that enable new citizens to build a brighter future, as such compassion reflects a level of humanitarian spirit that is truly inspiring.

With warmest regards and best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

Sincere

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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DEAN G. SKELOS PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE MAJORITY LEADER COALITION LEADER

Circulo de la Hispanidad 26 West Park Avenue Long Beach, NY 11561

Dear Friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most heartfelt greetings to all in attendance at Circulo de la Hispanidad's 2015 Spring Gala Dinner Dance on the occasion of their 35th Anniversary.

I would also like to congratulate tonight's distinguished guests of honor, Affinity Health Plan, Servando Cid, Luis F. Ras, Yahira DeLeon, Gladys G. Rodriguez and Miriam Lopez. All of these individuals and organizations are truly an asset to Circulo de la Hispanidad and I commend each of them for their hard work and dedication.

Under the leadership of Gil Bernardino and his remarkable staff, Circulo de la Hispanidad, Inc. has been serving the community for 35 years. Through advocacy, Circulo seeks to unify community voices with the goal of empowering the underserved and protecting human and civil rights for all. We have all come to understand the remarkable work of Circulo de la Hispanidad through their growth over the years. Beginning with one youth program, this organization has grown into a multi-service resource delivery system offering over 20 helpful programs and serving more than 5,000 individuals and families annually.

As the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate, I join with the people of New York in applauding the continuous dedication and service of Circulo de la Hispanidad.

With my best wishes to all, I remain.



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May 15, 2015

Sincerely yours,

Dean M. Skelr

DEAN G. SKELOS Majority Leader New York State Senate

0

SENATOR KEMP HANNON 6TH DISTRICT E-MAIL: HANNON@NYSENATE.GOV WEBSITE: WWW.KEMPHANNON.COM



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May 15, 2015

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Mr. Gil Bernardino Executive Director Circulo de la Hispanidad, Inc. 26 West Park Avenue Long Beach, NY 11561

Dear Friends:

I would just like to take a moment to offer you my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes as you celebrate 2015 Spring Gala Dinner Dance this May 15, 2015, at the Garden City Hotel. Since 1980, your fine organization has been serving the community in myriad ways. This year, Circulo is celebrating its 35th Anniversary.

As the largest non-profit Hispanic organization on Long Island, Circulo de la Hispanidad, Inc., has been committed to providing comprehensive community programs and human resources, serving vulnerable individuals and families. I applaud all the members for their outstanding efforts, and I thank you for your continued contributions and commitment to so many Long Islanders. Keep up the great work.

I would also like to offer special congratulations to your honorees: Affinity Health Plan, Servando Cid, Yahira DeLeón, Luis F. Ras, Gladys G. Rodríguez, and Miriam López.

o

Once again, my congratulations and best wishes to all.

Sincerely,

KEMP HANNON Sixth Senatorial District THE SENATE STATE OF NEW YORK

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION

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Dear Friends,

I take pride in extending warm regards to everyone gathered here this evening at Circulo de la Hispanidad's 35th Anniversary Spring Gala.

Everyone here this evening is grateful for Circulo de la Hispanidad's mission to improve the lives of individuals and families through a myriad of services and programs in a culturally sensitive manner. Since its inception in 1980, the organization has achieved many milestones including the recent opening of the Circulo Center. This center is New York State's first nonprofit to be awarded with Gold level certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. Circulo de la Hispanidad also continues to be recognized for its advocacy for the underserved population by viewing education as a means of progress by supporting children and adults alike. It is with gratitude for the support of everyone who has assisted in the growth and for the future of this outstanding organization.

Please join me in congratulating this year's honorees, Affinity Health Plan, Mr. Servando Cid, Ms. Yahira DeLeón, Mr. Luis F. Ras, Ms. Gladys G. Rodríguez and Miriam López. It is also with special thanks for the work of the volunteers who diligently put forth extreme effort to help change the lives of others each year.

Best wishes for continued success and an enjoyable evening.

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Sincerely,

MICHAEL VENDITTO New York State Senator



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COMMITTEES Consumer Affairs & Protection Priving mental Conservation Juniciary Transconstion Veterans' Alfansi

May 15, 2015

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to welcome everyone to Círculo de la Hispanidad, Inc.'s Spring Gala Dinner Dance. Congratulations to tonight's Guests of Honor: Servando Cid, Yahira DeLeón, Luis F. Ras, Gladys G. Rodríguez and Miriam López.

Círculo de la Hispanidad has been a pillar of the community for 35 years, providing invaluable services to individuals and families such as career and housing assistance and youth empowerment programs. Its blend of educational and developmental programs has helped countless families, especially by providing scholarships to youth. I have no doubt that Circulo will continue to make a lasting impact in our community. I am honored to share this special evening with you all.

Please accept my warm wishes for an enjoyable evening and for continued success.

Sincerely,

12

Todd Kaminsky Member of Assembly

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Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to celebrate the Circulo de la Hispanidad's 35th Anniversary Spring Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of this organization and the 2015 Award Recipients.

Throughout the years, this fine organization has established a distinguished record of excellence, working diligently on behalf of causes and ideals, which uphold the principals of human decency and brotherhood.

Circulo de la Hispanidad recognizes members of our community and other distinguished individuals for their generous acts of public service and is deserving and worthy of the esteem of Nassau County for its selfless service to the community, which has made a permanent and positive impact on us all.

I wish to extend hearty congratulations to this evening's honored guests, Servando Cid, Yahira DeLeon, Luis F. Ras, Gladys G. Rodriguez, Miriam Lopez and Affinity Health Plan and to all the staff and supporters of Circulo de la Hispanidad who work toward forwarding the goals of this fine organization

Best wishes for continued success in all your endeavors.

Office of the County Executive 1550 Franklin Avenue Mineola, New York 11501



May 15, 2015

Sincerely,

Edward P. Mangano **County Executive**



Office of the Supervisor Town of Hempsteac One Washington Street, Hempstead, NY 11550 516.489.5000 • www.toh.li

May 15, 2015

Circulo de la Hispanidad 26 West Park Avenue Long Beach, New York 11561

Dear Friends.

In respectful commemoration of this evening's 2015 Spring Gala Dinner Dance, the Town of Hempstead congratulates Founder & Executive Director Gil Bernardino, the Board of Directors and the entire Circulo de la Hispanidad organization. Tonight, friends and supporters join Circulo de la Hispanidad to celebrate 35 years of outstanding service to the Hispanic community.

On this most auspicious occasion, a distinguished group of honorees will step forward to receive acclaim and adulation for their benevolent service on behalf of the many Circulo de la Hispanidad causes and concerns. The Town of Hempstead proudly joins a chorus of admirers to extend sincerest congratulations to honorees, Affinity Health Plan, Servando Cid, Yahira DeLeon, Luis F. Ras, Gladys G. Rodriguez and Miriam Lopez.

In the midst of its fourth decade of operation, Circulo de la Hispanidad is respected as one of Long Island's most dynamic and diversified community service organizations. Currently, the group provides service and care for over 20,000 families. By bringing community programs and comprehensive human resources to vulnerable families and residents, the group has successfully attained its goals of empowering the underserved while protecting human and civil rights for everyone.

With an organizational theme of "Growing Stronger Together," Circulo de la Hispanidad is realizing important milestones in the growth and development of the organization. As the group looks ahead to a bright and prosperous future, our township remains a loval and enthusiastic supporter. Circulo de la Hispanidad's Annual Spring Gala affords an appropriate opportunity to reassert our cooperation and congratulations. Best wishes to you all.

Sincerely

ate Muray KATE MURRAY

Supervisor





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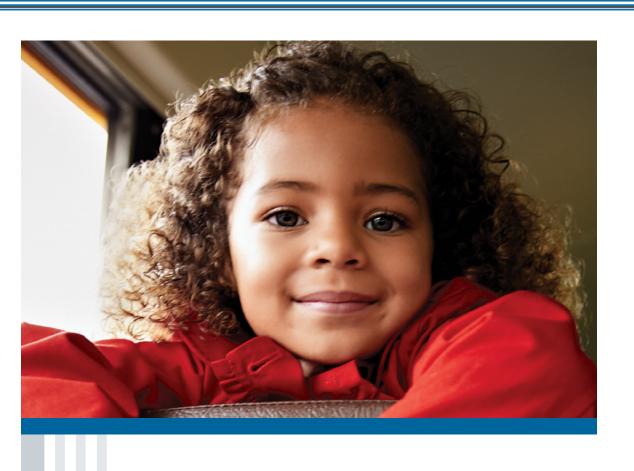
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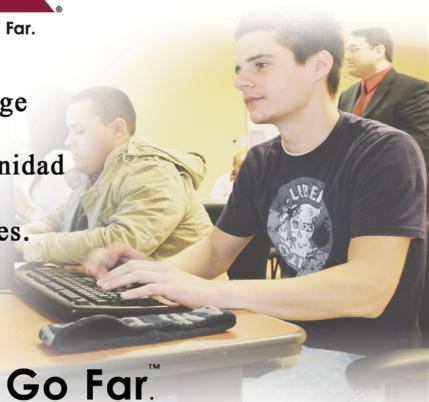
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It is with great pleasure that we have the opportunity to celebrate the wonderful work and effort of both Círculo de la Hispanidad and the 2015 Honorees for their work and effort to make the community a better place.

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> > Congratulations.



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Congratulations to this year's Honorees and to Circulo de la Hispanidad

on their 35th Anniversary Gala and the wonderful work they do for the community.

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Congratulations to Circulo de la Hispanidad on it's 35th Anniversary &

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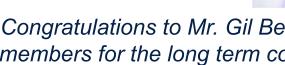
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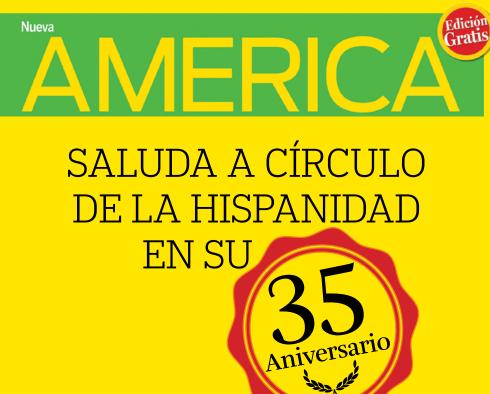


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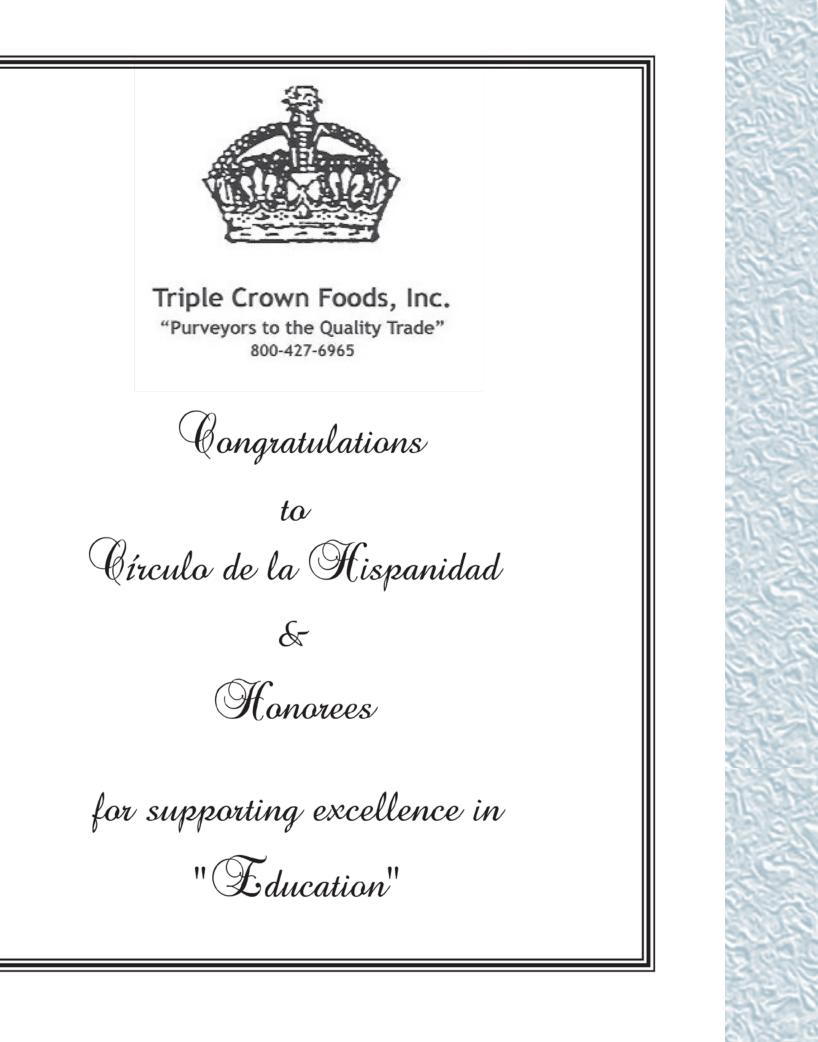


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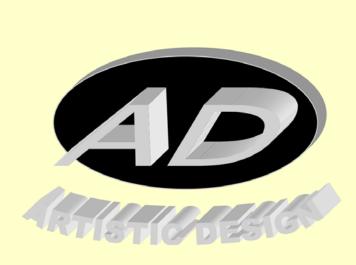


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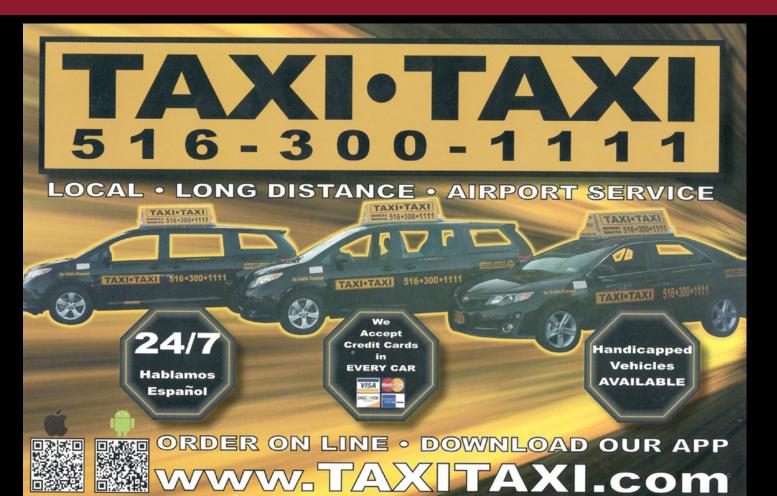
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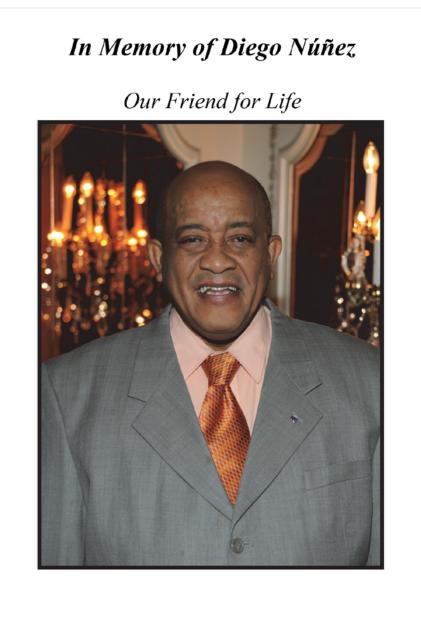












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