Participating Organizations

Aileen Gonzalez-Marti Art Buffalo By Choice/Citybration Buffalo Public Schools – Health Related Services Buffalo Public Schools – Department of Multilingual Education Cornell Cooperative Extension Erie-Eat Smart NY! ECBA Volunteer Lawyers Project Erie County Department of Health Esperanza y Vida-Roswell Park Hispanics United of Buffalo Kaleida Health-Spirit of Women Medaille College The MOCHA Center Neighborhood Health Center NYS EPIC Program (Senior Prescription) Public Policy Education Fund of New York Univera Community Health UNYTS The Wellness Institute WNY Chiropractic, LLC Yvonne Marti-Lopez Arts & Craft Jewelry

Sincere thanks to our community, public officials, community organizations, performers, exhibitors, Buffalo & Erie County Library, Anne Conable, and to all the arts and cultural groups in Western New York for their spirit of collaboration.

Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc.

Michelle Agosto, Tamara Alsace, Luis E. Chiesa, Aileen González-Martí, Gilbert Hernández, Casimiro Rodríguez Sr., Evelyn Rosario, María Rosario Cala, John Sanabria, Dinorah E. Santos, Miguel Santos, Esmeralda Sierra, Maritza Vega, Daniel Vélez Arnold Zelman – Legal Counsel

We would like to thank our sponsors for today's program



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in Buffalo & Erie County



September 15, 2014 12:00 noon Buffalo & Erie County Public Library 1 Lafayette Square Buffalo, New York

"Hispanics: A legacy of history, a present of action and a future of success."

Profile: Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc.

The first organized celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month in Buffalo took place in 2010 with the cooperation of the Buffalo & Erie County Library. It became clear to the organizers of the celebration that the events associated with the month were just a small part of building awareness, education and mutual understanding about the important role of Hispanic cultural heritage. The Hispanic Heritage Council was formed as an outgrowth of the 2010 Hispanic Heritage Month experience. Its main objective is to highlight WNY's Hispanic community, its values and its culture through the community-wide celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15-Oct 15) and through activities throughout the year.

Soon, the Council's mission was established and through further planning activities, the Council identified a mission, goals and priorities, as well as its core values::

The mission of the Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc. is to foster and inspire awareness, understanding, and appreciation of past, present, and future contributions of the Hispanic community in Western New York

Goals and Common Priorities

- ✓ Preserve the history of Hispanics in Western New York for future generations.
- ✓ Promote peace, respect, and appreciation *within* the Hispanic Community.
- ✓ Promote peace, respect, and appreciation of Hispanic culture in the larger WNY community
- ✓ Educate ourselves and others in order to accomplish these goals

Core Values:

- Collaboration Collaborate to strengthen projects, maximize resources, and draw in new participants and strategic partners.
- ✓ **Inspiration** Inspire Hispanic youth to understand and take pride in their heritage so that they may be upstanding local citizens and contribute to Western New York's quality of life.
- ✓ **Education-** Work with schools and youth groups to incorporate the teaching of Hispanic culture within the Hispanic community and in the community at large.
- ✓ Leading by example Reflect a positive and strong Hispanic/Latino cultural identity.
- Representation Provide opportunities for non-Hispanic communities to appreciate and share our Hispanic heritage through programs, exhibits, performances, and other initiatives.
- ✓ Awareness Highlight WNY's Hispanic community, its values and its culture by disseminating information to the community-at-large.
- ✓ Future-focus Secure a place for future generations and community to take a prominent place in the community of the future and learn about and take pride in their Hispanic history, heritage and culture.
- ✓ Character Develop strong character by knowing about, caring about, and acting upon the core values of the Hispanic Heritage Council and working to unify and inspire all people.

In addition to the month-long Hispanic Heritage Celebration from September 15th to October 15th, Hispanic Heritage Council annual events and initiatives include:

- El Dia Del Niño
- Cinco de Mayo
- Community Education Seminars
- Community Breakfast
- Music and Art Education (Colaborate with Arts and Cultural Sector)
- Hispanic Heritage Corridor (Niagara Street)
- Hispanic Heritage History Project

Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY Inc.: Preserving History for Future Generations For updates, information, and a list of local Hispanic Heritage Month events and activities, please visit: www.hispanicheritagewny.org "Friend" us on Facebook!

Program

Master of Ceremonies......Daniel Vélez, PhD Associate V.P. Buffalo State College / HHC Director

Pledge of Allegiance Jean Carlos Flores Student, Maritime Charter School

RemarksRepresenting Interim Superintendent Donald Ogilvie, Ms. Linda Cimusz Chief of Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction, Buffalo Public Schools

NYS Proclamation.....Representing Governor Andrew Cuomo, Sam Hoyt Upstate Regional Representative

ProclamationHon. Mark Poloncarz Erie County Executive

Acknowledgements/DignitariesMr. Casimiro Rodríguez Sr. President, Hispanic Heritage Council, Inc.

> **Program Performance** *Grupo Variedad*

Dance performance Carlos Rivera

" Celebrando Nuestra Herencia Hispana"