



CRUZ NEWS

December

Volume 3, Issue 2

LEHMAN COLLEGE JOINS CELIA CRUZ FOR PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY

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On Wednesday, October 26th, the head of the music department at Lehman College, Dr. Shockett, joined the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music for PENCIL's "Principal for a Day" program.

Dr. Shockett met with Principal Dr. William Rodriguez, before hitting the halls to make the rounds.

As the principal for the day, Dr. Shockett attended meetings, visited classrooms, spoke with teachers and staff, and discussed school life with students.

The Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music would like to thank Dr. Shockett for his visit and congratulate him on a job well done!



Dr. Shockett meets Chemistry teacher Ms. Christian



Dr. Shockett meets students during a class visit.

WINTER CONCERTS ARE HERE!

The concert season is upon us! Freshman and Concert groups performed on December 2nd and 9th. The Symphonic performance is this Friday!

The Freshman and

Concert Ensemble performances were met with great enthusiasm!

The Symphonic performance is scheduled for December 16th and will be held at

the Lovinger Theatre at Lehman College.

Please join us in our annual celebration of music and support our students!



PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN



Dr. William Rodriguez

December is always an exciting time here at the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music. Students will perform the Winter Concert Series. Auditions are held for all eighth graders to become the next ninth grade class in September 2006. There are several holiday performances. All students are completing their

academic work in anticipation of the holiday break and New Year.

It is hard work being a musician. Students have to practice to prepare for performances as well as study and complete assignments to succeed in all areas of school life. I am very proud of all of our students, their parents and our staff for

their work and commitment to academic excellence and performance readiness.

I wish all of you a happy, safe, restful, peaceful and fun Holiday. May the New Year bring you health, joy, success and happiness.



Come to the Academic Tutoring Club every Monday through Wednesday!

REGENTS ACADEMY AND TUTORING

Academic success is all about preparation! Providing your child with a quiet, academic atmosphere in which they can study without distractions is the first step!

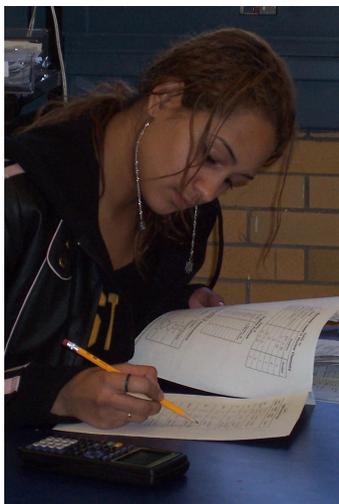
The Regents Academy is available on Saturdays for stu-

dents to prepare and study for the Regents tests that begin in January.

Tutoring in all subjects is available every Monday through Thursday after school in room CC-3 from 3:15 to 4:15 in the afternoon. All

Academic subjects including Math, English, Science, History, and Spanish are available to any and all students.

CCBXHSM would like to thank Mr. Damian Sowinski for helping create and run the ATC.



COLLEGE ADVISEMENT AVAILABLE

Global history teacher, Ms. Tutti Touray, has been hard at work preparing for the college advisement meetings that she is running.

Ms. Touray is advising

students on college placement, applications, financial aid, and answering all questions that students have about college.

If you are interested in college, the process and procedures

that you need to follow, or just want to learn more, please contact Ms. Touray at school.



STUDENT INTERVIEW:
MS. ELENA PAPALIBERIOS
 LOCAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPERINTENDENT
 BY CORDEILA WAITE AND MICHAEL JAMES

What does a LIS do ?

I supervise thirteen High Schools, work with principals, assistant principals, teachers, provide support for principals, and evaluate educational programs to provide support for teachers. I also visit schools and classrooms to see how students and teachers are doing and to talk to the students, principal and staff.

How did you become a LIS?

I was an educator for twenty-four years. I was a teacher, assistant principal, principal and then after that I became a LIS. I had to go through many years as an educator.

What do you expect from our students and school?

I expect students to be working, doing their best, having fun and to have a goal.

I expect our school to provide the best education that students will need, and expect students to be challenged.

What does an ideal school look like and how does a LIS help schools get better?

An ideal school is a place where students have an excellent learning environment, best possible teachers and a real community where students, staff and parents can work to-

gether to make a better school.

What else would you like students to know?

It makes me feel great to see students succeed. At Celia Cruz it makes me proud to see students perform. I would love to play the piano. I first wanted to be an architect but then realized that I communicated well with people and so I wanted to start working with people. I find teaching to be very rewarding. I always taught high school and love working with high school kids.



“I expect students to be working and doing their best, and to have fun!”

Elena Papaliberios

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SAT

Although we love and adore our children, colleges see your child as a number: an SAT score. The higher this number the better.

The New SAT has three sections; Math, English, and an Essay section. The new SAT

is different from the SAT that you took and it is going to take a lot of work for you and your child to prepare for it.

Celia Cruz is there to help you. A new SAT prep course is beginning soon and your child will be able to

prepare at school and at home. If your child is a Junior, he/she is able to check out a 3 CD SAT Prep program that the school has purchased so that your student may study at home in addition to the in school program.



“Your student is seen by colleges as a number: an SAT score.”

-Mr. Sowinski



Support troops by sending food and health items to Celia Cruz!

DONATIONS NEEDED TO SUPPORT TROOPS

The Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music is preparing "care packages" for troops in Iraq.

Students Amaldalys Cintron and Odalys Jimenez came up with the idea after hearing that troops are in need of common everyday items that many take for granted. "I wanted to show my support for the troops and I thought that care packages

would be a great way for our school to support those who cannot be home for the holidays," said Cintron.

Troops are requesting foods such as powdered drinks, Doritos, and candy; hygiene items such deodorant, body washes, and Band-Aids, as well as clothing for cold desert nights.

For every item donated, students are given a

ticket for a prize drawing.

English teacher, Mr. Jerrod Mabry is donating an Apple iPod Shuffle to the cause and hopes that the added incentive of potentially winning an iPod will generate more word of mouth.

Students and families have until December 16th to donate.

SCHOOL DEANS HELP EVERYONE

There are two new Deans at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music.

Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Mabry share the role of Dean and are often seen in the hallways between classes helping students to get to

class on time. They are here to help in any way possible. Deans play an important role in resolving concerns and help to improve student and staff relationships at Celia Cruz. Deans also help at scanning and with every day

operations of the school.

You may contact either Dean at school by going to the office that they share with Guidance Counselor, Mr. Treschan, or you may call the school to contact them.

STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN DISNEY WORKSHOPS

Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music students are excitedly waiting for Mid-Winter Recess! This year, select performance ensembles are traveling to Orlando, Florida for the MENC approved Disney's Magic

Music Days to participate in educational music workshops. Teacher chaperones are traveling with the students for the five day journey.

While at Disney World students will perform and compete in band,

chorus, and strings categories.

Students are still fundraising for the trip. Please help students raise money to lower the cost of this exciting journey!



ENGLISH CLASSES MORE THAN JUST READING AND WRITING

English classes looked more like a court room last month at Celia Cruz. Mr. Mabry and Ms. Alp spent two weeks with students preparing for and holding a mock trial with students.

Mock trials teach students about the

American Judicial System and Parliamentary Procedure while allowing for students to be tested on their knowledge of a text. Ninth grade students went to trial with the novel *Lord of the Flies*, and Eleventh grade students went back in time to colonial America to

try a character from the play *The Crucible*.

The engaging activity was an excellent and innovative way to test student learning. Students reported loving the process and it was quoted in an online review of Celia Cruz as “exceptional.”



Students participating in Mock Trial

TECHNOLOGY CORNER WITH MR. GREENE

My name is Michael Greene and I am pleased to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new Technology Coordinator. My previous experience of twenty four years with the Department of Education was served as a Technology Specialist at DeWitt Clinton High School. I very recently joined the team here at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music and I am assuming the technology position from Mr. Mabry who has accepted other challenging responsibilities.

Thanks to a supportive administration and the continued involvement of Jerrod Mabry and Mr. Ram, the transition into the new position of Technology Coordinator has been a welcome experience. I am very excited about some of the initial changes you will see in the near future here at Celia Cruz which includes a new school web site, a support service Help Desk, and a Student MOUSE Squad technology team.

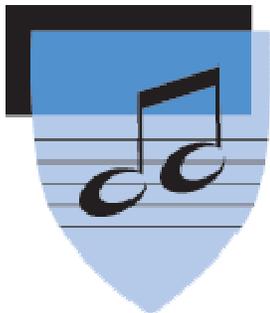
These changes, along with the creativity and innovations that have placed Celia Cruz

Bronx HS of Music at the forefront of technology in the Bronx, will enhance the great work that has already been done by the dedicated staff here. I am anxious to discover how I may better serve the technical needs of the students and faculty that have pioneered this unique new school of Music in the Bronx. I look forward to a future of possibilities and new journeys as we work together to make Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music an even better place to learn.



Getting help with technology is easy! See Mr. Greene at the Help Desk in the Administrative Hub.

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Coming soon to the Web!

December 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Winter Concert Series Three	17 Auditions Saturday Academy
18	19 SLT Meeting	20	21 Concert at Walton	22	23 Last Day of Classes	24 Holiday Vacation Begins
25	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School	30 No School	31

Special points of interest:

- Series Three: Symphonic Concert 12/16
- Auditions 12/17
- SLT Meeting 12/19
- Concert at Walton 12/21
- Last day of classes 12/23
- School resumes on Tuesday 1/3/2006