

The Celia Cruz Bronx HS of Music Newsletter

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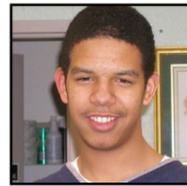


Visit the new school web site at www.ccbxhsm.org

Sudoku Quest Are you up for the challenge?

Do you have what it takes to be a Sudoku champion? If you can solve the Sudoku puzzle and you submit your answers first to the school newsletter, we will list your name in the Sudoku winners column posted each month in the Cruz News newsletter. Top Sudoku players will have a chance to win gift certificates in the final month of the contest. You can also enjoy playing Sudoku online at www.sudoku.com. Good luck everyone!!

Rafael Rios



"Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 through 9."

		8		7		4	6	
3				5				8
		6	2					7
	4		7		8			
8	9				6		2	
				2	9		4	
				1		5		
							7	6
5			4					

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Thursday
March 30th
2006

The Camp10 Korsloekke Youthschool of Music from Denmark will be visiting **Celia Cruz High School of Music**

in a joint education workshop which will culminate with a dual music high school jam session.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"If hard work is the key to success, most people would rather pick the lock"

CLAUDE MCDONALD

March 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Feb 28 T/F SAT Classes Begin	1 M/W SAT Classes Begin	2	3	4
5	6 Campus Wide PD SLT Make-up	7 Gang Awareness Workshop	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Last Day of 1st Mkg Period	18
19	20 Faculty Conference SLT Meeting	21 Principal's Learning Walk PA Meeting	22	23 Open School Night	24 Open School After-noon	25 Saturday Regents Academy
26	27	28	29 Trip to Spanish Repertoire Theater De Los Santos	30	31	

Important Dates

March 6-10--Spirit Week

March 10--Party,
7-10 in Walton Cafeteria

April 4-5--NYSSMA Solo
Adjudication

April 25
CPR Training Class
Sponsored by FDNY

Spring Concert Series
May 4--9th Grade
May 16--Concert
May 23rd--Symphonic,
Select

May 6--Six Flags Music
Festival for Chorale and
Concert Choir

May 13--Six Flags Music
Festival for 9th grade
strings, band, and
concert band



DISNEYWORLD GETS TWO THUMBS UP!



During Mid Winter Recess, the Select Choir, Major Orchestra, and Symphonic Band traveled to Florida to participate in Disney Magic Music Days.

Story Continues with pictures on page 4



Ms. Penelope Smetters-Jacono
Music Chairperson &
Band Director



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Poetic Expressions on page 3



DisneyWorld Performance on page 4



Celia Cruz Students to Perform in West Side Story on page 6



Technically Speaking on page 7

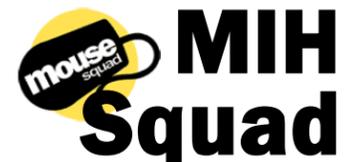


Students Aja Rodriguez (Left) and Erica Vanrabenswaay (Right) enjoy a photograph with Lehman College President Dr. Ricardo Fernandez.

A Visit from Dr. Fernandez A Celia Cruz Community Inspiration

The President of Lehman College, Dr. Ricardo Fernandez, recently visited our school on the third floor of the Walton Educational Campus. He spoke with faculty, office staff and students. President Fernandez observed classes in session and met with Principal Rodriguez. The President was accompanied by

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MOUSE is in the House

There's a MOUSE in the house at Celia Cruz High School. But before you break out the cheese traps, this Mouse isn't of the rodent type. This MOUSE is (Making Opportunities for Upgrading Schools and Education), an exciting and growing network of students interested in technology from all five boroughs of New York City.

Mouse Squad benefits students by providing ...

Continued on page 7

Principal's Message



Dr. William Rodriguez
Founder and Principal

We are all certainly filled with pride at the wonderful job The Symphonic Band, The Major Orchestra and the Select Choir did on President's Day in the Magic Kingdom at Disneyworld, Florida. It was an honor to be selected to perform on that world stage. I have received several calls and e-mails congratulating our school. Special congratulations to the teachers, staff, parents and all who worked behind-the-scenes to pull together what was a challenging but wonderful and meaningful experience for our students. Special thanks and recognition go out to Ms. Penelope Smetters-Jacono, our Music Chair, Band Director, COSA and UFT rep for her remarkable and tireless work on this project. Special thanks also to Mr. Ira Shankman, retired Principal and consultant for the trip. What is most important is that all of you, together, have worked to secure an open path for all others to follow. You have opened doors beyond our building, borough, city and state for future students of the Bronx and especially the Celia Cruz High School of Music to enjoy.

Our school continues to move forward on all levels. We have demonstrated in a short amount of time what is possible with the right vision and determination. As we look musically ahead, students and teachers are preparing again for the annual NYSSMA evaluations, which will be held this year on our campus and NYU in April and June. Please check the upcoming calendar for our annual spring concerts, recitals, Lincoln Center May 11th performance and wish us well as our student ensembles will compete again in the North Eastern High School Music Festivals in New Jersey.

We hope you enjoy this newly formatted CRUZNEWS NEWSLETTER.

Visit us at www.ccbxhsm.org to read and learn more about us.



New York City
Department of Education
Region One Learning
Support Center

Mr. Joel Klein
Chancellor

Ms. Yvonne Torres
Regional Superintendent

Dr. Askia Davis
Deputy Superintendent

Ms. Elena Papaliberios
Local Instructional
Superintendent

CruzNews Newsletter
Serving the staff, students
and parents of the Celia Cruz
Bronx HS of Music community.

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If you would like to be a part
of the CruzNews School Newsletter
staff see Mr. Greene in room 350.

Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Launches Its New Website www.ccbxhsm.org



The successful launch of the Celia Cruz high school web site is now online and available for your viewing at www.ccbxhsm.org. The web site continues to be a work in progress with an emphasis on becoming as interactive as possible while providing information and resources that are important and useful for our students, parents and teachers.

You will be able to visit the web site and download past and present issues of our Cruz News school newsletter as well as view important dates and events that are taking place. Teachers will soon be able to go online and post classwork, home work assignments, and test scores for their students. In the weeks to come, teachers, students and parents can look forward to requesting their very own school email addresses. Just visit the school web site and complete the convenient online form. Submit the form for verification by the school, and your email account information will be sent directly to you. If you experience any problems with the site or if you would like to share your ideas and comments, contact the school web advisor online.

mouse squad Celia Cruz HS of Music Has a MOUSE in the House **MIH Squad**



MOUSE Squad Agents Fox, aka David Alvarez and VDrive, aka Rashad Vereen Welcomes Lead Technical Support Specialist and Regional MOUSE Coordinator Mr. Carlos Concepcion.

Continued from page 1.

... them with opportunities to explore and learn more about technology in a unique learning environment.

Mouse squad is beneficial to the school because the technical training that students receive helps them become very important and valuable resources to the Celia Cruz learning community. Students that participate in the MOUSE squad team learn to support technology, provide customer service, apply leadership skills, and develop many other creative skills that are sure to be enjoyed by student technology enthusiasts.

The MOUSE Squad, otherwise referred to as the MIH, isn't just another geek gathering. Why be a geek when you can be an

MIH Agent? The MIH represents the first student group of its type to be organized at Celia Cruz High School.

Mr. Carlos Concepcion, the Regional MOUSE Squad Coordinator, visited to offer his support and encouragement of our efforts as a first time student organization.

Recruitment efforts are now fully underway to identify students with an interest in technology. Students can pick up a Mouse Squad membership application from Mr. Greene in room 350. There is a limited number of student memberships in the Mouse squad so in addition to the required application students will be interviewed for available positions on a first come first serve basis.

Technically Speaking

These past few months have given me the chance to speak with teachers and students about their technology concerns at Celia Cruz High School. A combination of teacher surveys and personal observations have helped to give direction to the support efforts that are currently being implemented for our school.

While the help desk is the most visible technology support strategy that has been introduced, several other less obvious strategies such as the use of service request forms have

Michael Greene
Technology
Coordinator



proven to be successful as well. Since service request procedures have been put into place, there have been more than seventy nine service requests completed.

The laptop program will be the focus of improved technology over the next few months. Student input will be key in forming new laptop program strategies.

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Dr. Ricardo Fernandez
President
Lehman College

Ms. Sandra Lerner, Deputy to the President on High School Initiatives and a member of our School Leadership Team. Lehman College is our CBO and Lead Partner under New Visions for Public Schools and the Bronx New Century High School Initiative. Our students are actively engaged on the college campus for all their music courses, the College Now Program, SAT Prep courses and Jazz Band, which is directed by the college jazz professor Mr. Bob Stewart. Several of our students are rehearsing and performing with the College Community Band under the direction of Professor Alan Hollander and the College Community Chorus under the direction of Professor Dr. Diana Battipaglia. It was certainly a pleasure welcoming President Fernandez to our high school site on the Walton Campus. He was impressed with the new science facilities and enjoyed talking with students and staff. Dr. Fernandez is interested in our success. He has attended our concerts and traveled to see us perform at Lincoln Center. He often visits our classes, in the college music building, with his own guests. Dr. Fernandez' ongoing support of the Celia Cruz Bronx HS of Music is truly inspiring and appreciated.

The Stage Is Set

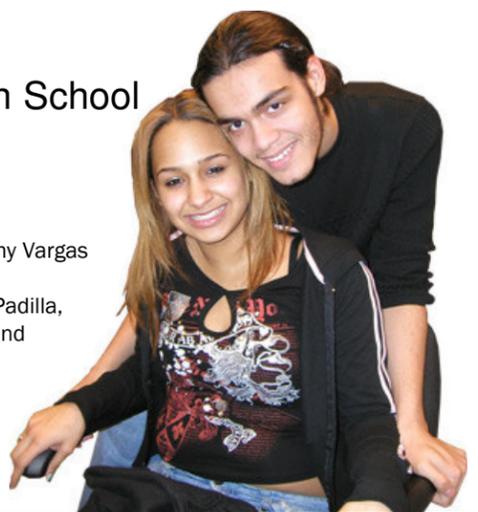
for Celia Cruz students to participate in the T&P High School campus-wide production of West Side Story.



Pictured Right: Jamie Flores and Amy Vargas

Pictured Left: Rafael Rios, Emvie Padilla, Stephanie Santos, and Adrian Wright, and

Pictured Below: Rosemarie Escalera



Congratulations to the students of Celia Cruz High School that won main roles in the T&P High School campus-wide production of West Side Story. Student performers selected for the play include Rafael Rios, Danielle Vegerano, Adrian Wright, Amy Vargas, Jamie Flores, and

Rosemarie Escalera. Celia Cruz students also received recognition from the Building Unity Walton Educational Campus Newspaper. According to the Building Unity, you will soon be able to find the West Side Story project featured on the official West Side Story website at

www.westsidestory.com under the "Now Playing" section.

We want to wish the students of Celia Cruz, T&P High School and their production crew along with Walton High School, Discovery, Isla, and Kingsbridge International, the best of luck on this campus-wide effort.

Clearing the Hallway for Sweeps



Mr. S. Fitzgerald
Dean of Students

You may have noticed that the hallway is a little clearer these days. Its because of the hall sweep policy that is now enforced on our floor. Students must have their ID's and

programs available at all times. If any student is having a problem with their ID card then they should see Ms. Perez in room 350 to avoid any situation.

Programs notify us of where and

when students belong in a particular class. If a student attempts to enter the building, and their ID does not work, the student should not surrender the ID to Walton personnel but instead bring the ID immediately to Ms. Perez in order to have it replaced.

Hallway sweeps are overseen by the Walton Campus management. Therefore, students found where they do not belong after the bell will be picked up and sent to the auditorium where they will receive a dean's referral for cutting class.

The hall sweeps have proven to be an effective deterrent to students roaming the halls and it helps to keep the building orderly so that it will not interrupt classroom instruction during the change of periods.

Beyond the Classroom

What are your thoughts on Reggaeton? Is Reggaeton music just another fading disco fad, or does it have staying power?



Jaret Hewitt
Junior



Shavonne Bell
Junior



Stephanie Santos
Junior

"I think Reggaeton is trying to live up to modern Hip-Hop and rap, but it really isn't cutting it. It's probably going to fade out just like disco did because its too repetitive. I'm surprised its lasted as long as it has."

"Reggaeton is not just another passing disco fad. It is a rhythmic music that is strongly expressed throughout the Hispanic community and it will be long before Reggaeton will be forgotten."

"Reggaeton is one of the latest sounds out right now. At some point people thought it would end up being another fad, but it has outlasted their expectations. It will be the same old thing that comes back in the future."

POETIC Expressions



In the dark, I only see myself
Choose to be by myself
For there I think
I cry for hard times
I desire the impossible
And I breath for my life.
For only that dark hole
That hole led me to happiness
In a life all the mistakes
Mistakes made were gone
In the dark only I know I hurt
In the dark only I know I cry
In the dark I see my death
My heart feeling only pain, but
My mind sleeping away
Thinking of nothing
only seeing Nothing.
Nothing because the dark is a blank
Where you fill in the spaces and only you do
Then when the light comes it goes away.
Only the dark can hold your sorrow
But the light opens your day
The dark becomes your way

Student Achievements

Principal's List

- 9th Grade**
 Dzindzio, Jessica 98.70
 Williams, Jenaë 94.66
 Perez, Christina 92.82
 Jimenez, Elizabeth 90.29
- 10th Grade**
 Alleyne, Daneiha 93.15
 Carpio, Christian 92.48
 Gaither, Cecily 91.74
 King, Ronald 91.63
- 11th Grade**
 Bell, Shavonne 93.00
 Vargas, Amy 92.98
 Clark, Garry 92.27
 Escalera, Rosemarie 91.97
 Streete, Neisha 91.56
 Perez, Frankie 90.97
 Flores, Jamie 90.63
 Aponte, Joseph 90.21

Honor Roll

- 9th Grade**
 Rollins, Jazmynn 89.88
 Kang, Richard 89.42
 Rojas, Denise 88.70
 James, Michael 87.71
 Acevedo, Kristy 87.64
 Rodriguez, Emily 87.64
 Rodriguez, Liana 87.52
 Salas, Caleb 87.41
 Waite, Cordelia 87.17
 Santiago, David 87.00
 Fratto, Sebrina 87.00
 Hernandez, Victor 86.52
 Soto, Paul 86.35
 Santos, Kariadys 86.33
 Castillo, Jose 85.82
- 10th Grade**
 Soba, Daniella 89.78
 Melendez, Osvaldo 89.11
 Bruno, Kevin 88.97
 Newman, Andrene 88.56
 Gomez, Paola 88.37
 Rodriguez, Joshua 87.72
 Monroe, Evianna 87.54
 Asiedu, Jeffery 87.27
 Belliard, Salvador 87.20
 Pina, Andy 86.38
- 11th Grade**
 Rodriguez, Aja 89.94
 Barker, Stephen 89.58
 Vegerano, Danielle 89.58
 Hernandez, Marlenny 88.46
 Hernandez, Elaine 88.33
 Vanrabenswaay, Erica 88.00
 Williams, Saroya 86.92
 Feliz, Jesanthony 85.94
 Rosa, Aida 85.63

Perfect Attendance

- Aponte, Victor
 Asiedu, Jeffery
 Ballentine, Shaquana
 Barker, Stephen
 Bruno, Kevin
 Castillo, Ariana
 Castillo, Nicolas
 Gomez, Paola
 Rojas, Denise
 Salas, Caleb
 Santiago, David
 Santos, Stephanie
 Williams, Jenaë

¿Sabías Qué?

Did You Know?



Did you know that Celia Cruz used her famous phrase "Azucar" for the first time while she was visiting her favorite restaurant in Cuba? She ordered "Cafe con leche" and her coffee was served to her without sugar. She brought this to the attention of her waiter and asked for him to return to her table. The waiter returned to her table slightly confused, and asked was there a problem with her coffee? Then he remembered that she had asked for sugar. Celia shook her head with an approving nod and shouted "AZUCAR!". WHO KNEW!!

From Your College Advisor, Ms. Tutti Touray Important Notice:

- See Mr. Treschan to receive the SAT Waiver
- Register before April 13 for the May SAT
- Make an appointment to see me about college

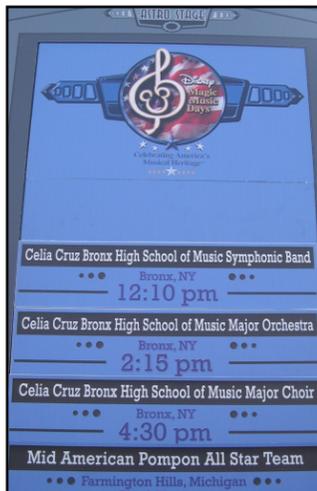


Celia Cruz Auditions Leads to Magic Music Days at Disneyworld!



After submitting an audition video into a highly competitive review process, all three ensembles were chosen to perform in the Magic Kingdom of Walt Disney World. The trip began with a 24 hour bus ride from the Bronx to Orlando.

Students stayed at the Days Suites in Old Town. On Sunday, February 19th, all students attended a Music Educator's National Conference (MENC) approved educational workshop where they read, performed, and recorded music from the Disney catalogue. Students experienced being professional musicians from the second they arrived at the workshop.



The workshop culminated in a recording session with only two takes. Each group then got to see the music they recorded combined with the movie it came from.



Students were thrilled to see their musicianship displayed in a Disney film.

On Monday, February 20th, students became honorary Disney Cast Members. They were taken behind the scenes of the Magic Kingdom to prepare for their performances. After changing into their new polo shirts and black slacks, students were escorted to the Astroland Stage in Tomorrowland. Each group performed a 25 minute set for all of the world to see. Sounding and looking their best, it was an incredible experience for both directors and students.

In addition to these unique and magical musical experiences, students had the opportunity to enjoy all four of Disney's



Theme Parks: The Magic Kingdom, Epcot, MGM Studios, and Animal Kingdom. They also visited DisneyQuest, an interactive theme park, enjoyed a Mystery Dinner Theatre and other good food, and a little warmth and sunshine in the middle of winter.

In the end, this experience exceeded expectations. Everyone returned from a jam packed week safe and happy. We look forward to many successful trips like this in the future!



"We look forward to many successful trips like this in the future!"

