

Professor Nancy Shankman

Is Principal For A Day

On October 19, 2006, Nancy Shankman, former Director of Music for the New York City Public Schools and professor at NYU, was our Principal for A Day. Mrs. Shankman visited classrooms and Lehman college where she was able to observe classes.

For many years, Mrs. Shankman served as the liaison between the Department of Education and the cultural community of New York City, expanding the walls of the classroom by encouraging collaboration among teaching artists, performing ensembles and schools. Ms. Shankman conducted the choir at Hostos Community College, served as Director of Creative and Performing Arts for Bronx High Schools, chaired the Department of Music and the Arts at Columbus High School and held the post of Arts Coordinator in Community School District 7. She designed and developed music programs and curriculum, most recently creating the Blueprint for Teaching and Learning in the Arts in collaboration with the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera Guild, Jazz at Lincoln Center and other arts and cultural organizations.



Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music welcomes Ms. Shankman as Principal for a day.

Students Rewarded With Free Movie Tickets

Congratulations to all of our Celia Cruz students who received free tickets to the movies as a reward for achieving perfect attendance during the months of September and October. Keep up the great work!



Pictured from left to right: Irene Morales, Jeffrey Bryant and Perla Cabral are just a few of the students awarded free movie tickets for perfect attendance.



Cute Chicks at Celia Cruz. Students get their first taste of parenthood ... on page 5



Do You Know How to Save A Life? Parents and students learn how... on page 7



Our New AP of Supervision. Mr. Mabry is ready to assume his new role ... on page 3



Winter Concert Series Coming! All concert performances are free... on page 3



Enjoy Poetic Expressions Read "It's Like Kool-aid" by Sophia Green ...on page 4

Principal's Message



Dr. William Rodriguez
Founder and Principal

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2006-2007 school year. We are all very excited since we now have our first graduating class. Congratulations to those students who have earned senior class ranking. We also want to say WELCOME to the new teachers and to the incoming ninth grades students and parents. We hope that you are having a good time adjusting to high school. Lehman College continues to be our most important supporter as we maintain a relationship that is growing and bonding into an even stronger unique partnership involving the a city university and a public high school.

Visit our school website at www.ccbxhsm.org. Many thanks to Mr. Greene, who is working miracles to keep our many technology activities active and maintained.

Please check the calendar for important dates including the winter concerts that are coming soon. I want to remind parents to support the Parents Association and all events that benefit the school. Our students have already performed at the Marriott Marquis on Broadway for the National Council for Education's 25th Anniversary. Students have performed for DC 37's annual October event. They have also performed for the Chancellor, the President of New Visions for Public Schools and many other dignitaries with over 300 guests at the very special retirement dinner celebration for Region One Superintendent Irma Zardoya and Ray Rosemberg. We are very proud of all our students.

In the Spring, the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music will be the site and host for the New York

State School Music Association (NYSSMA) festival competition. I urge all schools to prepare their soloists for the evaluations. Our Open House is Saturday, November 18th

It will be an exciting year in many ways. Thank you for your continuing support of the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music.

"Congratulations to those students who have earned senior class ranking."



**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 387.

¿Sabías Qué? Did You Know?



... that Celia Cruz's birth name was Celia de la Caridad Cruz Alfonso?

... that Celia Cruz was a literature teacher before becoming famous?

Interested Students: Do you enjoy writing stories or poetry? If you would like to be a part of the Cruz News Publishing Team contact Mr. Greene in room 387 and sign-up.



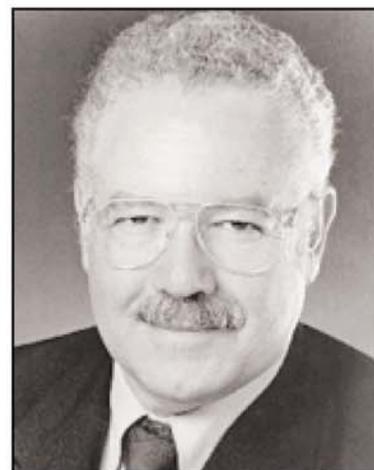
Mabry Jumps Into Assistant Principal Role

*Mr. Mabry
Assistant Principal
Supervision*

I'm very happy to be working at Celia Cruz as the Assistant Principal of Supervision. The three years I spent at Celia Cruz teaching English have really prepared me to jump right into my work as AP. I am responsible for teacher supervision, professional development, curricu-

lum development, and I share the responsibility of supervising the Extended Day program with Ms. Lopez. I think that this will be Celia Cruz's best year yet and I'm excited to watch our first senior class graduate this June.

Grammy Winner & Academy Award Nominee RAY SANTOS



Presents

The History of Caribbean Music

Join us on Wednesday,
November 29th, 2006
at 6:00 p.m. in the
Lehman College
Music Building 306
Recital Hall

FREE! FREE! FREE!

Join Ray Santos as he explores the history of Caribbean Music from the beginning of the Nineteenth Century to present day Salsa. Mr. Santos' talent and work have placed him among the developers of this music. As an accomplished musician, arranger, conductor and composer Ray Santos brings an insider's view to the history and development of Caribbean music.

The presentation will also include musical demonstration by Dr. William Rodriguez, Principal of Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music.

Who's Your DEAN?

Who is the new Dean of Students you ask? If you have not already met Mr. John Moro you probably noticed him constantly patrolling the hallways and ushering students into their classes. Standing at about 6'4", it would be hard not to spot Mr. Morro during hall sweeps.



When asked what he hopes to accomplish as the new dean of students Mr. Moro replied, "I want our school to be safe for everyone. Students should be inside the classroom maximizing their learning experiences."

Mr. John Moro
Dean of Students

Winter Concert Series Is On The Way



The Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music is proud to announce its 2006 Winter Concert Series.

Friday, December 1st,

Featuring Concert Band, Concert Orchestra, Concert Choir, Women's Choir, Pianists, and More!

Tuesday, December 5th,

Featuring Freshman Band, Chorale, Freshman Orchestra, Gospel Choir, Pianists and More!

Friday, December 15th,

Featuring Symphonic Band, Select Choir, Major Orchestra, Pianists, and More!

Performances start at 7:00 pm

Lovinger Theatre at Lehman College
250 Bedford Park Blvd W, Bronx, NY
10468

Admission is free!

For more information, please call
(718) 733-3781

POETIC Expressions



By Sophia Green

It's Like Kool-Aid



Growing up with an innocent mind up on Webster. As I get older I realize what I'm going through each day. I sit at my window and stare at my hood. A hood where I don't need to be. It's like kool-aid. The kind you can buy from the corner store for a dolla. There at the corner I walk faster because of the guys up on the hill from me that I'm trying not to be bothered with. I drown out the shouts, "Yo home girl! I'm gonna holla at you later!" The sound of their voices fading, that smell that goes down in the hood rising. I wished they could be somewhere better instead or is this just a bad dream? A child's scream from above my head. Hits from years ago played by the lady next door on her record set. Guess she gotta do whatever she does to get that paper I bet. That same raised voice of my grandmother telling me to take out the trash, or my aunt telling me to clean my room. The love of the hustle. The love of the game. The same Cherry kool aid you drink time and time again hoping the flavor lasts. Living each day without wanting to be thrown away. That same guy trying to holla at me from yesterday. He's with his baby's momma today. I guess the drama just won't go away. But it ain't all that bad. I got my gurl up on 14 and 11B. And how can I forget that cutie that lives right next to me. You rise at five in the morning. The kool-aid taste on your tongue making you thirsty for more. A new glass of drama and pain. But the question is: mama can I have that last glass of kool-aid?

Way To Go Joe!



Joseph Aponte proudly displays his gift certificate from Best Buy

Congratulations to Joseph Aponte for being the first student at Celia Cruz High School to win the Cruz News Sudoku puzzle challenge.

Joseph was awarded a ten dollar gift certificate from Best Buy for solving the most consecutive puzzles that were published here in our newsletter. Way to go Joe!

November 2006

Celia Cruz wishes everyone a **Happy Thanksgiving!**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Senior/Staff pictures Sr. Parent Orientation 6 pm	2	3 9th, 10th, 11th grade pictures New Visions Retreat	4 New Visions Retreat
5	6 Monthly Faculty Meeting	7 Election Day City-Wide PD (No classes)	8	9	10	11
12	13 Symphonic Orchestra 10 - 12	14	15	16	17	18 Open House
19	20 SLT Meeting	21 UFT Application due to Ms. Shapiro	22 End of 2nd marking period	23 Thanksgiving (No School)	24 (No School)	25
26	27	28 College Applications Due	29 Grades Due 1:pm Make - up Picture Day	30		

Cute Chicks at Celia Cruz

Students at Celia Cruz got their first taste of parenthood last month when teachers Alison Christian and Wendy Williams hatched chicken eggs in their classroom. The teachers and students received the eggs which they took care of for about a week before they hatched. Every day, the eggs had to be turned three times and the temperature and humidity had to be carefully controlled. One morning at school, the beaks of baby chickens began appearing through the egg shells and by the end of the day, all but one had hatched. The tardy chick emerged the following day. All in all, eleven chicks hatched. The cute chicks were at school for two days before they were taken to a ranch in upstate New York.



Above: Student Mercedes Norton gently turns the eggs daily
Below: Chicks after they have been hatched from the eggs

Question of the Month

How important do you think your academics are if you are pursuing a music career?



Miguel Vargas
Senior

"Since academics are a requirement for college, to be successful in the field of music you need to extend your studies so that you can improve your talent and progress towards having a career in music."



Leticia Johnson
Senior

"Since academics are a requirement for college, to be successful in music you need to extend your studies so that you can progress towards improving your talent and having a career in music."

If you have an interesting idea or question to ask, we would love to publish it here in the Cruz News Newsletter! Students of all grade levels are welcomed to ask or answer the "Question of the Month." Bring your ideas to room 387

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Winter Concert (Series 1)	2 Auditions 9 - 1:00 pm
3	4 Monthly Faculty Meeting	5 Winter Concert (Series 2)	6	7 Parent - Teacher Night	8	9 Auditions 9 - 1:00 pm
10	11 Orchestra - Symphony performance 10 - 12 pm	12	13	14	15 Winter Concert (Series 3)	16 Staff Holiday Party
17	18 SLT Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25 Holiday Break!	26 Holiday Break!	27 Holiday Break!	28 Holiday Break!	29 Holiday Break!	30

December 2006

1st Day of Classes starts on Tuesday, January 2 2007
Happy New Year!



EXTENDED

Good news for everyone that wants to make their memories last a lifetime

The Yearbook Presale is Going on Now!



Buy it before the Winter break and be entered into a raffle for a free yearbook!

See Ms. Y. Perez in room CC350 or Ms. J. Perez in CC18 to get an order form and turn in your \$10 deposit TODAY!

Prices:

\$45 - Yearbook only (hard cover, full color)

\$65 - Yearbook & Prom Book (for Seniors & Juniors attending the Prom only)

EXTENDED

Meet Your New College Advisor

My name is Ileana Shapiro and I have the pleasure this year to work as the College Advisor with this year's first graduating class. I have been a counselor since 1990 and a College Advisor since 1996. Every year brings new and interesting challenges and I am looking forward to working with this year's seniors.

The College Office is located in room 356. My hours are 8:00-3:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. My extension is 3563. Students are seen by appointment only (of course there will always be some exceptions) and I will try to see them during their lunch periods only.



*Mrs. Ileana Shapiro
The New College Advisor*

It is my belief that the college process is a joint effort among the students, their families and their educational community. It is to this end that I ask for your cooperation and support.

Senior Class Reaches Milestone



*Ms. Lisa Gwasda
Senior Advisor*

Under the guidance of our new Senior Advisor, Lisa Gwasda, senior students are preparing for the most anticipated moment of their lives. Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music will be commencing its first graduation ceremony in the history of the school. This graduating class will mark the final milestone in completing a four year school.

Ms. Gwasda and the graduating seniors have already begun planning memorable activities that will lead up to the big day.

Welcome Aboard!

The CeliA Cruz Bronx High School of Music is proud to announce the latest additions to our family.

From top row left to right: Jackie Bergland, Music, Jessica Perez, ESL, John Moro, Special Education and Dean, Tom Hall, History, Tim Sato, History, Kamele Johnson, Math Coach, Matt Daley, English, Dinorah Rodriguez, School Aide, Varvara Marinescu, Physical Education, Steven Pachay, School Aide, Dominic Capozzolo, English, Ileana Shapiro, College Advisor, and Bryant Boggan, Physical Education.



Not Pictured

Photo Credits:
Thanks to all that have contributed photos for this issue of the Cruz News: *Michael Greene*

Senior - Junior Prom Is A Go

By Cecily Gaither



There is cause for the Seniors of Celia Cruz High School to feel special about graduating. They were the first class to enter this school. In four years they have grown very familiar with each other and bonded well. Now Celia Cruz has all four grades, this year's freshmen being the final piece to the puzzle. As the new freshmen enter, our first seniors are leaving. The seniors have a trip to look forward to, but there was skepticism about whether they would have a prom. It looked doubtful that a place for them to have their prom could be found. A solution suggested was to have a junior/senior prom.

On the 12th of October the seniors were given a choice. They could either vote for a senior prom, which would severely limit their space for a possible place or they could vote for a junior/senior prom. Many of the seniors felt that toughing it out for all those years and having the juniors in the prom made it less special. Senior student Rafael Rios stated, "It's not fair for the juniors to have two proms while the seniors only get one." But unfair or not it's the down fall to being first graduating class. An anonymous senior said that at first his answer to a junior/senior prom was no, "We were the first and I felt that we deserved our own prom because it would be special. But since we have such a small number of students graduating I figure, why not? It could still be fun." It's understandable why the seniors would be upset, but it would have been even more disappointing not to have a prom at all.

Do You Know How To Save Someones Life? Parent - Student CPR Training

On April 25th 2006, the New York City Fire Department visited the Walton Campus to educate the parents of Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music on the life saving techniques of CPR. During their visit, the instructors showed participating parents and students an instructional video and had all participants practice on dummies.

At the end of the training session, each of the participants got to keep a CPR kit. This would enable the newly trained participants to instruct others on this life saving practice. In addition to free CPR kits, each participant was given a face shield key chain in case



Ms. Bruno practicing her CPR technique on a willing subject

they ever needed to perform CPR on an actual person. Ms. Perez, Parent Coordinator at Celia Cruz, is hoping to plan another class during this new school year. If you are interested in participating in the CPR class contact Ms. Perez.



Trainers C. Miller, R. Crutch and E. Wilson instructed the Parents and Students on how to save lives with CPR.



**The
Celia Cruz
Bronx HS of Music**

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Michael Greene
Celia Cruz Bronx HS of Music
*Technology
Coordinator*



Technically Speaking

With the exception of rooms CC-10, CC-15, and CC-18, wireless access is now available in all classrooms. The help desk has already been notified of the rooms that still need to be wired.

The next important step is to enable wireless printing in the classrooms for laptop users. How long it will take to complete all of the necessary configurations for wireless access depends upon the DOE and when they complete all of the wireless installations and we are able to obtain all of the necessary printers and equipment.

We have been able to finally get the existing wireless access points in most classrooms working thanks to the collaborative effort of Carlos Sanchez, the support technician for the Walton campus.



Carlos Sanchez
*Walton Campus
Support
Technician*

Mr. Sanchez also informed us that a campus-wide issue involving the use of routers over the school network

is creating a problem. Mr. Sanchez remarked, "Routers are disruptive to Internet connectivity throughout the school and should not be connected anywhere in the building." We will continue to investigate the issue in support of finding a solution.

Tim Sato and Cesar Perez will be joining our technology support efforts. Mr. Sato will be responsible for reviving a computer lab in room CC-3 and Mr. Perez will be in charge of all text book and general equipment inventory.



Mr. Sato



Mr. Perez

\$10 Dollar Refund
Students that originally paid \$75 for laptop insurance should request their refunds in room 387.

Technology Office Hours

Room 387

Period 1	Closed
Period 2	Closed
Period 3	9:42 to 10:30
Period 4	Mobile Maintenance
Lunch	11:24 to 12:12
Period 6	Closed
Period 7	1:06 to 1:54
Period 8	Mobile Maintenance
Period 9	Closed

You may make appointments in person or over the phone at extension 3873.