

The Celia Cruz Bronx HS of Music
 2780 Reservoir Avenue
 Bronx, New York 10468
 Tel: (718) 329-8550
 Fax: (718) 329-8559
 www.ccbxhsm.org



Seniors Kick It At Pinegrove!

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We were sad to leave Pinegrove but glad to have taken away such great memories. I am proud of our seniors for being continually complimented for their maturity, respect, and talents! Way to go seniors!



Senior photos compliments of Joseph Aponte

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Spring Recess School Closed	3 Spring Recess School Closed	4 Spring Recess School Closed	5 Spring Recess School Closed	6 Spring Recess School Closed	7
8	9 Spring Recess School Closed	10 Spring Recess School Closed	11	12	13	14
15	16 Faculty Conference SLT Meeting	17 Fire Drill Pd. 7	18	19 Fire Drill Pd. 8	20	21
22	23 Department Conference	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

April
2007

*Happy
Easter!*



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Students Audition for Menudo Talent Search
 By Rafael Rios



Pictured Above: Rafael Rios, Alberto Oquendo, Manuel Estevez, Issac Diaz, Randy Class and Jamie Flores

"Menudo", MTV3's newest show series recently had auditions for male students to win a chance at becoming the next Menudo hopefuls. Menudo, the launching pad for Latin performers like Ricky Martin, is a famous Latin American teen idol group.

Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music, represented by our very own Issac Diaz, Manuel Estevez, Jamie Flores, Alberto Oquendo and Rafael Rios, all got the opportunity to audition for a chance to be a part of this International sensation.

Now everyone has the chance to go online and watch the students audition and then vote on whether they are Menudo material or not. To find out how our students performed and to learn more about Menudo, check out www.menudo.com.

LIGHTS, CAMERA ACTION!



Jesanthony Feliz and Gretchen Gomez rehearse scenes in the new playwright class

By Amy Vargas and Joseph Aponte

Before productions by the likes of William Shakespeare and Andrew Lloyd could take place, they had to be written. One place that today's up and coming talent could be fostered is in Mr. Miller's playwright class.

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In Loving Memory of Pedro Knight ...on page 2



Is Legend of Zelda Your Game of the Year? ... on page 3



Laptop Repairs Are On The Rise ... on page 3



Seniors At Pine Grove ... on page 3

Dr. William Rodriguez
Founder and Principal



Principal's Message

Monday, February 5th, Mayor Bloomberg held a reception honoring special citizens, selected public service city workers and the extraordinary Tuskegee Airmen Unit with a proclamation making February 5th Tuskegee Airmen Day. The annual reception was held in Gracie Mansion. It was indeed an honor for our school to be invited to perform the music for the event. It was a noble and historical day. Members of our school's Saxophone Quartet and Jazz Band were there as guests and performers. Among those that spoke to our students and listened to them perform were former Mayor David Dinkins, current Deputy Mayor Dennis Walcott, Percy Sutton and other members of the Tuskegee Airmen. Mayor Bloomberg shook hands with all our students, took an official Mayor's Office group picture (look for it in the next newsletter) and mentioned the school by name to the very large audience to thank us for providing the music.

I want to congratulate Ms. Gwasda, Senior Advisor and the faculty and staff that assisted her in the very successful first ever Senior Trip. The senior class spent a weekend together which was described by all as a surprisingly and much better than expected fun, memorable time.

Congratulations to Ms. Smetters-Jacono and Jack Jacono. IT'S A GIRL! Phoebe-Jean.

Mark your calendars: May 3rd. Lincoln Center performance 11:30 a.m-1:30 pm. ; Spring Concerts May 18th, 23rd, and 31st. Lovinger Theater 7 PM;

GRADUATION: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 3 PM Lehman College Performance Arts Center. All are invited.

Have a wonderful, successful spring term.

¿Sabías Qué?

Did You Know?

Celia Cruz's first big break came in 1950 when the regular singer with Cuba's Sonora Mantancera had to return home and was unavailable which presented Celia Cruz with the opportunity to perform with the popular band. The rest was history.



New York City Department of Education

Region One Learning Support Center

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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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In Loving Memory of Pedro Knight



It is with sadness that we share with you the passing of Pedro Knight, widower of Celia Cruz. They were married for over 40 years and were inseparable during her skyrocketing career. Celia Cruz adoringly called him "Cabecita de Algodon" or "Cotton Head". He was almost always on stage with her and often directed the band that accompanied her.

Pedro Knight, an accomplished musician and Musical Director, visited us at the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music in 2003. He observed every ensemble visiting the chorus, string ensemble and concert band. Pedro Knight was happy with what he saw and heard and spoke to the students about music and staying in school. His visit was inspiring and will be remembered.

Attention Gamers!

Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess Is Riding High for Game of the Year.

By Rafael Rios



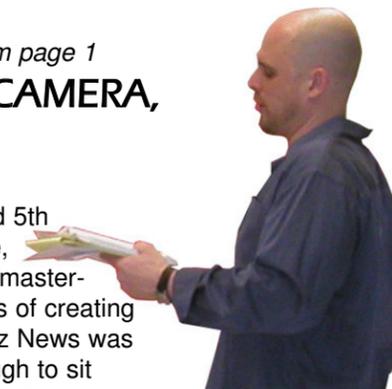
From 16-bit games like Super Mario Brothers to next generation games like Halo 2, the game of the year award has given us heroes like Mario, Link, Sonic and Samus, but this year the competition is heating up! We have, for the first time ever, a record breaking fifty-six videogames that are being nominated for the "Game-of-the-Year" award.

The ongoing battle between the X-Box 360, Sony Playstation 3 and Nintendo Wii have created a lot of excitement. With the Wii dominating the competition with 30 games so far, the title of "Game of the Year" is most likely going to be awarded to Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess. So for all of you here at Celia Cruz that enjoy these awesome games get ready for some exciting game play because the results for game of the year is not going to let you down.

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LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

In this 2nd and 5th period elective, students read masterworks in hopes of creating their own. Cruz News was fortunate enough to sit down for a little Q and A with the Teacher himself Mr. Miller.



Mr. Miller teaches new Playwright elective

CN: What are your classes about?

Mr. M: The classes are about students writing one act plays that use social issues as a way of expressing themselves.

CN: What are your classes currently doing?

Mr. M: The classes are currently creating their own one act plays, revising them, and rehearsing them eventually to be performed.

CN: Who is involved in the Playwright classes?

Mr. M: Currently, my 2nd and 5th period classes are involved which includes one sophomore and one freshman.

CN: How did you come up with a playwriting class?

Mr. M: I was inspired to turn the project into an elective after seeing how much talent and enthusiasm the seniors showed about it.

Seniors Kick It At Pinegrove!

By Ms. Gwasda

On the weekend of February second, the senior class braved the snow and headed upstate to what turned out to be one of the most exciting and memorable weekends ever!

We headed up to the Pinegrove Ranch where we occupied our own hallway of rooms. The weekend began with an evening of activities, including the biggest snowball fight of the season! Students built snowmen, and ran to the

fields, playing in the fresh snow. Each night, Celia Cruz dominated the Karaoke; kicking the party off. Frank Sinatra High School shared a great weekend with us. Students had a blast skiing, snow tubing, horseback riding, rock climbing, ice-skating, swimming, playing laser tag, dancing, and karaoke!

Continued with more pictures on page 4

Celia Cruz Seniors gather for a group photo at Pinegrove



Are Laptops Stacking Up?

By Harold Jorge

As a freshman I was excited about Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music for two reasons; it was a music school and it had a unique Laptop Loan program that I couldn't wait to be a part of.

When I learned that only juniors and seniors got to participate in the laptop loan program my enthusiasm was shattered so I did the next best thing. I volunteered to work in the technology office. Working in the Help Desk office

has given me a chance to learn first hand about technology. It also made me realize that laptop repairs this year were stacking up at an alarming rate.

I am hopeful that all of our students realize that having laptops is a privilege we will continue to have only if we take care of the laptop equipment we are given the opportunity to use. If not, then there won't be any laptops for us future upper classmen.