

# ¡A CELEBRAR LAS NAVIDADES Y LOS SANTOS REYES MAGOS EN EL PASEO BORICUA;



SEE HOLIDAY  
INSERT ON PAGE 5 FOR  
COUPONS TO USE AT  
LOCAL PASEO BUSINESSES

**DIA DE LOS REYES**  
DISTRIBUCIÓN DE REGALOS (GRATIS)  
ENERO 6, 2023 EN 2625 W. DIVISION 1:00 P.M.

**SINGLE MOTHER LOST TO  
GUN VIOLENCE  
LEAVES 9 CHILDREN  
DONATE NOW TO HELP!**



PG. 3

**PRCC  
COMMEMORATES  
World AIDS Day  
WITH VIGIL AND  
GALA**



PG.10

**WELCOME  
¡BENDICIÓN!  
DRY BAR  
TO PASEO BORICUA**



PG.11





### ABOUT LA VOZ:

The most recent manifestation of Puerto Rican journalism in Chicago, La Voz del Paseo Boricua proudly continues in the legacy of our community's previous newspapers. Founded in 2004,

La Voz del Paseo Boricua, or simply 'La Voz' as it is affectionately called by our readers, is a grassroots bilingual periodical published by the Juan Antonio Corretjer Puerto Rican Cultural Center. We report on stories relevant to our community on a bimonthly basis, disseminating news about local events, programs, resources, and developments. As an alternative source of media, we seek to acknowledge the achievements of the Puerto Rican community at large and to advocate for the preservation of the heart of our barrio in Humboldt Park - our "pedacito de patria" in Chicago.

### SOBRE LA VOZ:

La más reciente manifestación del periodismo puertorriqueño en Chicago, La Voz del Paseo Boricua continúa orgullosamente el legado de nuestros primeros periódicos. Fundado en 2004, La Voz del Paseo Boricua, o 'La Voz' según se le conoce cariñosamente por nuestros lectores, es un periódico de pueblo, publicado de manera bilingüe por El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño Juan Antonio Corretjer. Bimensualmente, divulga historias relevantes de nuestra comunidad, diseminando noticias sobre acontecimientos, programas, recursos, y progresos locales. Como fuente alternativa de medios, intentamos reconocer los logros de la comunidad puertorriqueña al igual que abogar por la preservación del corazón de nuestro barrio Humboldt Park - nuestro "pedacito de patria" en Chicago.



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## Bodega del Barrio Banco de Alimentos Ofrece Educación Nutricional Gratuita

Por Armando Nava

La Bodega del Barrio Food Bank, ubicado en Paseo Boricua, es una extensión de Vida/SIDA, el programa de educación y prevención del VIH/SIDA de la PRCC. En La Bodega ayudamos a familias calificadas y familias necesitadas con asistencia alimentaria. Además de los servicios de alimentación, brindamos educación nutricional y cocina, facilitada por nuestro socio colaborador Universidad Dominicana. Los participantes han aprendido a hacer recetas y aperitivos rápidos, simples y saludables, manteniendo la relevancia cultural. Las clases de nutrición y las clases de educación para la salud ahora se llevarán a cabo el jueves en El Mercado 2559 W. Division St., a la 1:00 P.M., llame con anticipación para conocer los horarios de clase. 773-342-0855. Además en conjunto con los servicios, también ofrecemos clases gratuitas de actividad física abiertas a toda la comunidad. Debe tener 18



años o más para inscribirse en la clase.



# COMMUNITY AS A CAMPUS (C.A.A.C) BRIEFS:

## The Hernández Family Needs a Village: Donate to Help Nine Children After The Tragic Passing of Their Single Mother



By *Mónica Lozada*

Community As A Campus outreach services are currently assisting this family of siblings who lost their mother to gun violence.

Esmeralda Hernández, 38-year-old single mother of nine children was murdered in front of her home at 221 S. Kilpatrick, on July 14, 2021. She is described by her oldest son, Joseph as a strong, independent woman and mother. Growing up he helped his mother raise his eight siblings, and although they struggled, she always found ways to make them happy even though they didn't have much financially. Since the loss of his mother, Joseph, a 23-year-old, has taken responsibility for his siblings. He made a

promise to his mother before she passed that he would never let his siblings be separated and he in fact has kept that promise. He works every day to provide for his brothers and sisters, the youngest of them is two-years old.

Since the passing of his mother, all the social safety nets have failed these children. They still live in the same home where their mother was killed. They have a CHA voucher for a 4-bedroom apartment, yet no one wants to rent to a 23-year-old with eight siblings. They all have some form of depression, PTSD, and anxiety, and they are in need of therapy. On November 7, 2022, one of the boys was

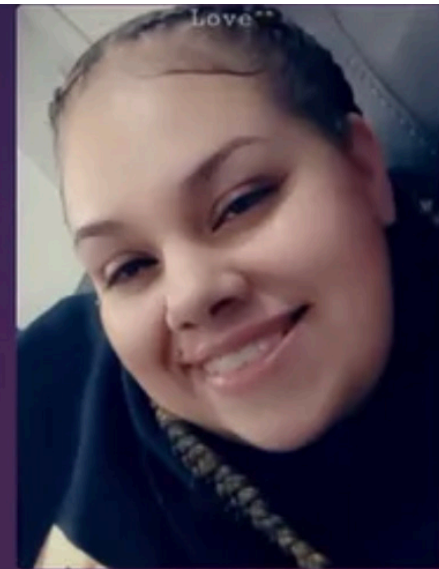
robbed at gun point when he was on his way home from work. A job he got to help his older brother take care of their siblings.

Our goal is to help them get a fresh start at life. So far, we requested CHA extension on the moving voucher to find them a rental space; it expires in 30 days. Once a rental is acquired, they will need bunk beds for the minor children because there are five boys in grammar school, and the youngest children are girls ages six and two. We were able to secure therapy from Chicago Survivors and raised \$3,000 through a

Go Fund Me initiative to ensure they have winter clothes.

These are good kids who need a village of support after being failed by so many. Please contact Mónica Lozada, CAAC Outreach Coordinator at monicalozada1980@gmail.com If you can assist with the following:

- *Secure a rental property that accepts CHA with 3-4 bedrooms before rental assistance expires.*
- *Purchase seven beds total, 2 sets are bunk beds.*
- *Household items for their new apartment, (dishes, utensils, etc.)*
- *Donate to help the family with expenses at <https://gofund.me/9f3c7857>*



**ESMERALDA HERNANDEZ, 38-YEAR-OLD SINGLE MOTHER OF NINE CHILDREN MURDERED IN FRONT OF HER HOME ON JULY 14, 2021.**



# At Clemente Community Academy Girl's Day of Play: Honors and Sustains 50 Years of Title IX



By Juanita García

On Saturday, November 19, Community as a Campus (CAAC) hosted the First Annual Girl's Day of Play at Roberto Clemente Community Academy to honor 50 years of Title IX. Title IX is the federal civil rights law in the United States that was enacted as part (Title IX) of the Education Amendments of 1972. It prohibits sex-based discrimination in any school or any other education program that receives funding from the federal government. For the Girl's Day of Play more than 75 middle school athletes participated from seven community schools which included Moos, Chase, Yates, Stowe, De Diego, West Park, Roberto Clemente, as well as Barreto's Boys & Girls Club- all schools serviced by the East Humboldt Park Community Action Council, CAAC.

Young people rotated through 45-minute clinics in volleyball, soccer, and basketball which were all led by college athletes, high school coaches, and professional trainers. After the clinics



and a short lunch break, CAAC was

presented with a \$4000 check from Dino Vulpitta, member of the Windy City Hockey Foundation and owner of Esmeralda's Lounge on Paseo Boricua. Migdalia "Maggie" Feliciano was the keynote speaker. Maggie is a Clemente alum, Class of 95 whose jersey, #15, is retired for a record 1,022 rebounds in four years. Maggie serves as the vice-president of the Humboldt Park Women's Softball League.

The event ended with a volleyball tournament where schools teamed up to compete against each other. Jose De Diego and Stowe joined forces against Moos and Yates. The game was a nail-biter and ended in a tie. Throughout the day's activities, the young people were invited to complete the phrase "We can do it because" on a



large poster board.

Girl's Day of Play was made possible by the generous support of The Puerto Rican Cultural Center, CPS's Family and Community Engagement, Leadership Greater Chicago and Laureus. A special shout out to the coaches and students for their continued participation and support of CAAC's sports program.





# DO PASEO EN LAS NAVIDADES

SHOP TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES ON  
PASEO BORICUA DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON!  
ALL COUPONS ONLY VALID IN STORE

## SHOP ON PASEO!



THE SUCCULENT  
CITY



10% OFF \$20 OR MORE  
EXP 1/6/23  
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CUSTOM TEE  
CO.



10% CUSTOM ORDER  
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HONEYCOMB  
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2659 W DIVISION ST

FLORES DEL  
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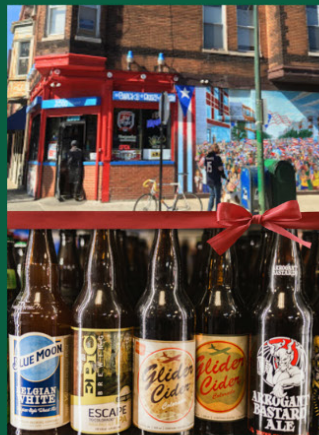
10% OFF \$25 OR MORE  
EXP 1/6/23  
2611 W DIVISION ST

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10% OFF \$20 OR MORE  
EXP 1/6/23  
2510 W DIVISION ST

BORIKEN



2500 W DIVISION ST

CICLO URBANO  
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15% OFF ANY IN STORE  
PURCHASE EXP 1/6/23  
2500 W DIVISION ST

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HEALING HERBS



10% OFF ANY PURCHASE  
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2500 W DIVISION ST

MUNICIPAL  
MARKET



2500 W DIVISION ST



# #Centerfold



# #Centerfold





# SHOP ON PASEO!

## AT ¡WEPA! MERCADO DEL PUEBLO

2559 W. DIVISION STREET



### ECO BOUTIQUE BY ALEJANDRA



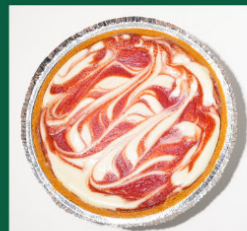
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### ROCHY'S ART STUDIO



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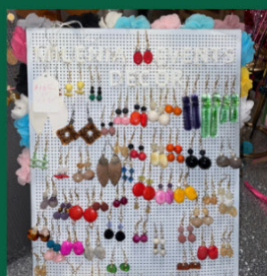
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### MIGDALIA'S ART



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EXP 1/6/23

### MILLENNIA EVENTS DECOR



10% CUSTOM ORDER  
EXP 1/6/23

### MODESTO PLAYERAS



10% OFF \$25 OR MORE  
EXP 1/6/23

### BORINCANIAS



10% OFF \$25 OR MORE  
EXP 1/6/23



## During Gala Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School Celebrates 50 Years of Learning and Struggle



By: Dr. Melissa Lewis

On Friday October 21, 2022, The Puerto Rican Cultural Center, Youth Connection Charter School, and Alternative Schools Network came together with Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School to celebrate the high school's 50th anniversary. We are pleased to announce that the event was well-attended. Highlights included emcee Ana Belaval and the singing of La Borinqueña by Cassandra Figueroa. We were

honored to receive the Honorable State Senator Christina Pacione Zayas as she presented the high school with the State Resolution recognizing our history as an institution. We also commemorated the lifetime achievements of Board Member Milagros De La Rosa and Michelle Morales. This celebration of 50 years of educational work at the Puerto Rican High School was a powerful testament to how many lives the high school has touched throughout the years. It was an honor to have two of the founders of the Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School (Carlos Alberto Torres and José E. López) in attendance along with educator Alejandrina Torres, and representatives from different years of graduates. It was a memorable evening of dancing inspired by DJ Julio Bishop and salsa band Willie García y su



Orquesta Sabor. Thank you to all our event sponsors, attendees, and special guests for a wonderful 50<sup>th</sup> Gala! Community is at the heart of what we do and to have the opportunity to celebrate our founders' legacy and come together as one community was incredibly special.

¡WEPA! MERCADO DEL PUEBLO  
2559 W. DIVISION ST  
CHICAGO, IL

DEC.01-JAN.06

¡WEPA! MERCADO DEL PUEBLO  
2559 W. DIVISION ST  
CHICAGO, IL

DEC.01-JAN.06

THE PUERTO RICAN  
CULTURAL CENTER

### CHICAGO'S PUERTO RICAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

*every weekend  
on Paseo Boricua until Jan. 6*

EXPERIENCE THE HOLIDAYS THE PUERTO RICAN WAY WITH:

**COQUITO. PASTELES. PARRANDAS. TEMBLEQUE.**  
**HANDMADE PUERTO RICAN ARTISAN GIFTS.**

**BORICUA HOT CHOCOLATE. PHOTO OP. PUERTO RICAN CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS.**

**LOCAL VENDORS MARKET. HAND-DRAWN CUSTOM PORTRAITS. PUERTO RICAN TREATS FROM THE ISLAND.**

### CHICAGO'S PUERTO RICAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

VISIT PASEO BORICUA DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON TO BUY GIFTS AT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES, DINE AT ONE OF OUR PUERTO RICAN RESTAURANTS, ENJOY THE FREE PARRANDA, PHOTO OPS, AND HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES PLANNED EVERY WEEKEND, AND EXPERIENCE AUTHENTIC PUERTO RICAN CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS & TREATS!

¡WEPA! Mercado del Pueblo



LA BRUQUENA. LILY'S RECORD SHOP. YAUCO STORE. LA SANDWICHERIA. MUNICIPAL MARKET. PAPA'S CACHE SABROSO.



# Chicago Groups Commemorate World AIDS Day During March in Humboldt Park



*By Will Jones originally published on 12/01/22 at ABC7.com*

On World AIDS Day, the Puerto Rican Cultural Center organized a march in Humboldt Park to remember those who have died from HIV-related complications.

“I think that’s the big thing reflection and remembrance,” said Anthony Marquez, the associate administrator for the public health initiative at PRCC.

World AIDS Day became the first global health day when it began in 1988. Each year on December 1, people from around the world unite in the fight against HIV.

Last year, new HIV cases among Chicago residents rose by just under 2%, while new AIDS diagnoses dropped to their lowest level since 1985, according to the Chicago Department of Public Health.

Planned Parenthood of Illinois is on the frontlines of the fight against HIV. PPIL offers

testing, education and case management.

“Every day for us is World AIDS Day. Every day for us, for every patient and for every individual, we try to make sure that we provide the care that everyone needs,” said Brenda Wolfe, the senior director of clinical initiatives and education at PPIL.

While there have been great strides in medically preventing new infections and treating the virus, there’s still a ways to go culturally.

“Just like 40 years ago, fear and stigma are the main factors that were

driving this epidemic and those continue to cause major issues and obstacles,” said Dr. Anu Hazra, with Howard Brown Health.

In Chicago, Black people are disproportionately impacted by HIV and AIDS, according to CDPH. “It’s important to realize that we can have the best HIV treatment in the world, but it is meaningless if it’s not able to reach the communities that need it the most,” Dr. Hazra said.

For decades, the Puerto Rican Cultural Center has been focused on tackling the HIV epidemic on the West Side.

“When we think of HIV, especially in the LGBTQ community we mainly think of Boystown, we have to think outside of that,” Marquez said.





# La Voz del Paseo Boricua Welcomes the Third Puerto Rican Woman Owned Business on Paseo Boricua this Year



By *Xiomara Rodríguez*

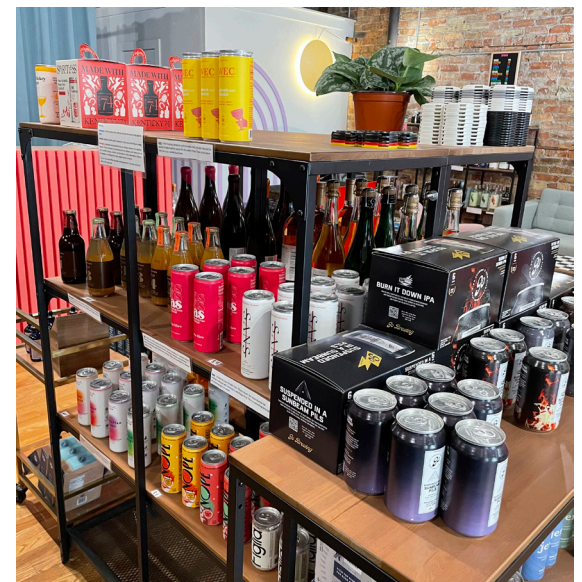
Cristina Torres is the founder of the non-alcoholic pop-up shop called “Bendición Dry Bar” located at 2540 W Division St, which the newest Boricua woman-owned business to come to Paseo Boricua. Cristina is a proud Mexican and Puerto Rican woman who grew up in Humboldt Park on Talman & Wabansia, and has worked in the service industry for the past 32 years. One chief reason Cristina was inspired to create Bendición Dry Bar when she became sober and saw that there were not many spaces that felt safe for her to hang out in that didn’t revolve around alcohol. Cristina says “since I saw that that space was not there for me, I decided to create it myself. Many say that cafes are where you can gather without alcohol. However, that option only works until about 3:00 pm, so I wanted to create a sober social place where people could come, hang out with their friends, make new friends, and also come to community-oriented events”. The official hours for Bendición Dry Bar are Wednesday-

Friday 1:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. and Saturday-Sunday 12:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. However, you will often find Bendición Dry Bar hosting events that go until 8:00 pm or later. Cristina shared that she brought the dry bar to Paseo Boricua because “I grew up in the neighborhood and have felt out of place everywhere else in the city and I didn’t want to be a part of the continuous gentrification of the city. Paseo Boricua specifically feels like home to me and I love

being able to be a part of the larger Puerto Rican community in Humboldt Park, while being able to contribute something that is beneficial to people in the area and not adding another alcoholic option. I wanted to provide a safe space for people to hang out that didn’t revolve around alcohol.”

According to a study done by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism titled “Alcohol and the Hispanic Community” researchers found that “trends in drinking among Hispanics vary by country of origin. Among men, Puerto Ricans tend to drink the most and Cubans the least. Among women, Puerto Ricans tend to drink the most and Mexicans the least.” and “overall, Puerto Ricans had the highest rate of alcohol dependence at 5.5% in comparison to Mexicans (4.7%), South/Central Americans (3.1%), and Cubans (2.4%).” These statistics are heartbreaking to read. However, this is also why La Voz is excited to welcome Bendición Dry Bar to Paseo Boricua! Alcohol

abuse is a major health concern in the Puerto Rican community, and it is an uncomfortable topic we need to work on. Alcohol itself has been a tool used to advance colonialism for centuries in indigenous communities around the world. It is a cultural activity to get together with family, especially during the holiday season, and share a drink like coquito. But maybe this year instead of using rum you can bring the non-alcoholic coconut rum from Bendición Dry Bar to your family gathering and talk about why we as Puerto Ricans need to be wary of alcohol dependency. Or maybe a few times a month you can visit Bendición Dry Bar to share some drinks and laughter instead of going to your usual bar. Cristina shared that she named the dry bar Bendición in honor of her grandmother from Ponce, Puerto Rico. As Puerto Ricans, it is a cultural tradition to “pedir la bendición” or ask for a blessing when you see your family elders. We hope bendición dry bar will serve as a blessing to our Puerto Rican community as it continues to offer a space for community to gather without the use of alcohol.





# CHICAGO'S PUERTO RICAN CHRISTMAS MARKET PRESENTS:

**A DAY OF CHICAGO BORICUA CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS**

**SATURDAY DEC. 17. 2022 AT 3 P.M.**

**2625 W. DIVISION ST**

**(LA CASITA DE DON PEDRO Y DOÑA LOLITA)**



**3:00 PM: FREE VEJIGANTE ORNAMENT MAKING & HOT CHOCOLATE AT 2625 W. DIVISION STREET**

**3:00 PM: COOKIE PAINTING AT CHUCHERÍA'S TROPICAL CREATIONS (2627 W DIVISION ST) REGISTER FOR COOKIE PAINTING WITH CHUCHERÍA'S TROPICAL CREATIONS HERE: [BIT.LY/COOKIEPAINTING](https://bit.ly/cookiepainting)**

**3:40 PM: PASEO BORICUA CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AT 2625 W. DIVISION STREET**

**4:00 PM: FREE 16TH ANNUAL PASEO BORICUA PARRANDA (FACE MASKS REQUIRED)**

**THE**  
**PUERTO RICAN**  
**CULTURAL CENTER**



**HISPANIC HOUSING**  
**DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**



**DÍA DE LOS REYES FREE GIFT GIVEAWAY**

**JAN.06.2023**

**1:00PM AT 2625 W. DIVISION**

