

30^{MA} FIESTA BORICUA

"DE BANDERA A BANDERA"

CELEBRA

50^{TA} AÑOS CENTRO CULTURAL

CON

AGUADILLA



LA VOZ Est. 2004
DEL PASEO BORICUA

HONRANDO:
RAFAEL HERNÁNDEZ
JOSÉ DE DIEGO
RAY BARRETTO

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125 YEARS OF U.S. COLONIALISM IN PUERTO RICO: REMEMBERING THE MASSACRE AT CERRO MARAVILLA



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MCA'S NEWEST EXHIBIT SHOWCASES OUR COMMUNITY'S ART AND RESISTANCE



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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 grass-roots 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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Digitizing the Barrio Archive Preservation in Action: A Wild Success



By Zion Anthony Trinidad

On June 23rd, The PRCC's archival project "Digitizing the Barrio" co-hosted a small off-site preservation event with the American Library Association inside of the Paseo Boricua Arts Building located at 2709-15 W. Division St. This event was organized and hosted by Digitizing the Barrio Archivist, Angélica Hernández, Archive directors Dr. Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz and Dr. Margaret Power, Northwestern University preservationist Katie Risseeuw, and The Ohio State University preservationist Miriam Centeno. This event drew a crowd of 25 library science experts and enthusiasts; the majority of whom were librarians from all around the United States.

During this event the participants were given an in-depth look on various preservation issues such as mold, water, and light damage as well as the best ways to prevent or amend these common problems. What followed was a tour of Paseo Boricua, led by José E. López, in which the participants were given a sense of the history and culture of Paseo Boricua which helped ground them in what came next. After the tour, participants were able to use their newly gained knowledge on preservation and local history to help preserve the collection of more than 150 oversized political posters and artworks that are in possession of the Digitizing the Barrio Archive.

The event was a huge success, with nearly all of the posters being properly preserved and stored in archival-grade folders and custom-made boxes. None of this would have been possible without the work of the amazing organizers and the incredibly engaged and caring participants. If you are interested in also volunteering at the archives, please reach out to prccarchive@prcc-chgo.org.

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

Defining Wellbeing with Rebekah Marcano: Movement as Mindfulness at Community Schools

By Marvin García

Rebekah Marcano started her fitness career in the late '90s doing personal training, specializing in yoga, dance, and movement gymnastics. She was inspired by her father who would use movement and meditation to help her sit still as a child and wanted to pursue a career that she really enjoyed. Rebekah has done her practice in many settings, including teaching yoga for veterans with PTSD as an adjunct physical therapist, corporate wellness consisting of more tailored wellness practices, leading virtual workshops during covid, and now she is leading movement practices in classrooms. Over the years Rebekah has learned a lot from her clients. She listens to them and allows them to guide the practice with integrated yoga. This has greatly contributed to her trauma-sensitive practice. Rebekah favors a tailored approach where she can “meet people where they are”, give them choices, allow them to be in the moment, and develop an intrinsic awareness.

The virtual workouts she conducted with parents and kids during COVID inspired Rebekah

to take her same approach and use it with students. Rebekah is attentive to the ways in which movement practice can improve mental wellness in students, parents, teachers, and whole communities. “Movement is so important to [helping] anxiety and finding ways to feel safe in your body,” Rebekah says, and offering participants choice during their practice encourages partic-



ipants to organically make up their own movement. “It’s about what feels good to your body, knowing yourself and making choices that feel best for you; living well and letting that spread to families and communities” she continues.

Rebekah works in several schools in the Humboldt Park community, including Yates Elementary and Clemente High School. She

leads weekly and monthly workshops for students, parents, and even stress-management for teachers. “My goal is that even if you come one time, you can take some tools home with you to do on your own, make your own practice” Rebekah describes. She also does 8-12 week class sessions where participants can do continuous practice together. She notices how her students

begin to gain self-awareness, they can name emotions and self-regulate, explore movement and focus on their senses, and are overall more present with their bodies when attending her workshops. Rebekah emphasizes that making peace with being in our bodies looks different for everyone, but a small step towards wellbeing for all is offering choice and opportunity for mindfulness of feeling and movement.

While Rebekah enjoys tailored practices, she says, “it is nice to practice as a group! Let’s meet up and walk and talk! Wellness is also socializing– not isolating– being with each other, laughing, dancing, singing, and being in community together is also part of wellbeing.” Learn more about Rebekah’s practice, Define Wellbeing, on her website definewellbeing.com and join one of her workshops!

Centro Infantil: Classroom to Table Urban Agriculture Initiative

By Marvin García

Cecilia Calderón is the Assistant Director at Centro Infantil, a bilingual daycare center for children from six months to five years old. Centro Infantil has one hydroponic unit, and nearly 60 students engage with it. 40 children between the ages of 2-5 years old use it regularly. Cecilia typically does small group activities in which the kids plant the seeds and water the unit, as well as harvest all fruit and vegetables that are ripe. In addition, they use the produce they harvest in lessons teaching the children fine motor skills. For example, the children learn to cut the fruits, learn how to use a knife and other utensils safely, and they can then eat the food they have harvested. This shows that this kind of food education not only teaches children about gardening and origins of food, but other life skills as well, broadening the impact of the classroom to table program. At Centro Infantil, they are currently growing cucumbers, lettuce, lemon peppers, rosemary, lavender, sage, strawberries, and tomatoes. It is Cecilia's dream to be able to have an outdoor garden space so they can show the young students how to start a plant in the unit and then transition to planting it outside in the soil. She even envisions some sort of greenhouse, so they would have the opportunity to grow year-round, rather than just during the growing season.



Community Reflections During People's Parade

By Zion Anthony Trinidad

This June, Chicago's Puerto Rican community celebrated the 45th Annual Puerto Rican People's Day Parade as The Puerto Rican Cultural Center celebrated their 50th Anniversary. The weekend celebration was filled with joy and reverence for all the best food, music, dance, and artisanry of Puerto Rico. More than 50 floats and organizations participated in the parade. Every year the Puerto Rican People's Day Parade attracts thousands of people from all over the world to celebrate the culture, but it is also a time to reflect on how far we've come as a people. This year in particular, a group of students, under the guidance of Humboldt Park-born professor Dr. Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz, took on the task of documenting these reflections for a research project sponsored by University of California-Berkley.

On June 2nd, in preparation for the Puerto Rican People's Day Parade,



six college students underwent training with longtime community activist, organizer, and University of California-Berkeley Professor of Sociology, Dr. Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz. The purpose of the training was to learn how to

conduct a qualitative interview under the ethics guidelines of the International Review Board, an organization that ensures that every study that involves human participants follows ethical guidelines.

The interviews were conducted during the Puerto Rican People's Festival from June 8th to the 11th. During the interviews, participants were shown various Puerto Rican flags, from the royal blue triangle to the sky-blue triangle, the black and white Puerto Rican flag, and even the Puerto Rican Pride flag. The goal of the interviews was to gauge how the Puerto Rican community here in

Chicago felt about each flag and if they knew the history of the flags. In a statement, Dr. Rodríguez-Muñiz emphasized the importance and honor of conducting this study on our community stating:

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

“The research project was motivated by a simple fact. Throughout Humboldt Park, especially in June, we see Puerto Rican flags everywhere. But if we look closely, we see that there is not only one kind of Puerto Rican flag. There are many kinds. There are flags with different shades of blue. There are black and white flags. There are flags with images on them, like coquis and roosters. There are also combinations of all sorts, such as the Puerto Rican Pride Flag and Puerto Rican flags waved alongside other flags. What do Chicago Puerto Ricans think about these Puerto Rican flags? Which ones do they own and wave? Which ones represent their identity and express their attachments to community. What associations and emotions do these flags invite? What do their views about the Puerto Rican flags tell us about life in the Diaspora and national symbols more generally?”

It was an honor to hire and train a talented set of young Puerto Ricans and Latinxs researchers to conduct interviews. It is not easy to walk up to complete strangers in the street and ask them to participate in a research study. Thanks to their efforts, we collected over 60 interviews with Chicago Boricuas during the week of the Puerto Rican festival and Peoples Parade. Ultimately, I plan to write an article based on my analysis of the interview data.”

Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño de Chicago Insiste en el Congreso en Favor de un Programa de Soberanía Alimentaria

Ha propuesto que al menos el 50% de un aumento en fondos del PAN se destine a incentivar la industria agrícola



Por José A. Delgado (*El Nuevo Día*)

El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño de Chicago afirmó hoy que insiste ante el Congreso en favor de que se integre a la asistencia nutricional federal un programa de soberanía alimentaria para Puerto Rico, lo que consideran urgente después de la crisis que causó, hace cerca de seis años, el huracán María.

Por medio de la propuesta, la institución cultural boricua propone que el 50% de cualquier aumento en los fondos del Programa de Asistencia Nutricional (PAN) o relacionado al ingreso al Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP), de cara a la reautorización de la ley agrícola, vaya atado a promover la agricultura puertorriqueña y la soberanía alimentaria de la Isla.

José López Rivera, director ejecutivo y cofundador del Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño, aludió al apoyo que ha recibido la iniciativa de parte del Colegio de Ciencias Agrícolas de la Universidad de Puerto Rico (UPR), el Fideicomiso de Tierras Comunitarias de Agricultura Sostenible, y los alcaldes de Loíza, Julia Nazario, y Aguadilla, Julio Roldán.

“Confiamos en que el apoyo a esta iniciativa esencial seguirá creciendo en las próximas semanas y meses. Esta iniciativa de sentido común busca maximizar los fondos federales para ayudar a Puerto Rico a recuperarse de manera sostenible y autosuficiente. “Como les hemos dicho repetidamente a los miembros del Congreso y al personal con el que nos hemos reunido, nuestra propuesta no reduciría ni un centavo de ningún beneficiario actual de cupones para alimentos”, indicó López Rivera.

Según López Rivera, los programas vigentes del Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos

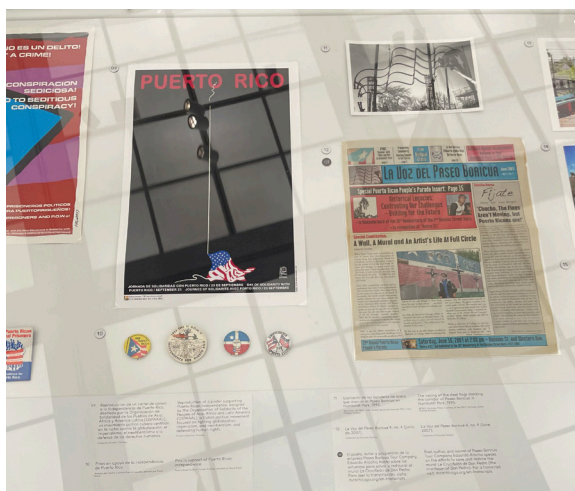
en la isla “claramente no están funcionando y un equivalente reprogramado o superior a la mitad de todos los fondos adicionales asignados en la ley agrícola a Puerto Rico debe destinarse a construir un sistema alimentario resistente y sostenible para nuestra gente”.

El gobernador Pedro Pierluisi, cuya administración impulsa un proceso de transición del PAN al SNAP, expresó su oposición a que se utilice una porción de un potencial aumento en fondos del PAN o el SNAP para proteger la agricultura y la soberanía alimentaria de Puerto Rico, pues “lo que quiero es que se nos trate igual que los estados”.

“Siempre salimos trasquilados cuando se ponen reglas diferentes para nuestra población o la Isla”, dijo, al indicar que apoyaría un programa independiente en favor de incentivos agrícolas para la Isla.

El gobernador ha indicado que bajo la nueva realidad fiscal federal, es probable que una transición del PAN al SNAP no incluirá -a corto plazo-, un incremento en los fondos de ayuda alimentaria.

MCA's Newest Exhibit *Entre Horizontes: Art and Activism Between Chicago and Puerto Rico*



By Xiomara Rodriguez

The Museum of Contemporary Art's newest exhibit honors Chicago Puerto Ricans' contribution to Puerto Rican history. The exhibit titled "Entre Horizontes: Art and Activism Between Chicago and Puerto Rico" examines the artistic genealogies and social justice movements that connect Puerto Rico

with Chicago. The exhibit showcases works by an intergenerational group of artists with ties to Chicago, Puerto Rican painters, and artists who address social and political issues through their work. The name "Entre Horizontes" speaks to the exhibition's goal to bridge the horizons between the waters of Lake Michigan and the Caribbean, by tracing correspondences across not only visual art and social justice, but also place and identity.

This exhibition is historic for many reasons as it is rare that Chicago Puerto Ricans are celebrated in such an illustrious space like the Museum of Contemporary Art. But beyond that, the San Juan-born Curator Carla Acevedo-Yates has done the work to bring justice to the often-overlooked beauty, power, and resiliency of our "Pedacito de Patria".

In addition to the artwork in the exhibition, there are photographs of local Humboldt Park residents taken by Carlos Flores in the 50s, there are archival materials on display (including old issues of this newspaper taken from The Puerto Rican Cultural Center's Digitizing the Barrio Archive), and you can listen to interviews with current Humboldt Park residents reflecting on the materials. I would say that this exhibition is the most beautiful love letter to Humboldt Park, but I believe it is much more than that. The exhibition goes beyond showcasing the beauty of the connection between Chicago and Puerto Rico. The exhibition also teaches the history of anticolonial resistance and transcultural solidarities that have shaped Chicago's Puerto Rican community. I was able to view the exhibit on opening day with the former Puerto Rican political prisoner, Ricardo Jiménez, and as we viewed the archival materials documenting the long fight this community took on to free our political prisoners, I asked if when he was in prison he ever imagined we would be standing in the Museum of Contemporary Art reading articles honoring the fight to get him released,

and he replied: "No, I thought I would die in prison". Throughout the day I kept thinking of Fidel Castro's speech "History Will Absolve Me", and the poetic justice that on the 50th Anniversary of The Puerto Rican Cultural Center, the founders of the Center (many of whom spent most of their lives in prison for their work to advance Puerto Rican self-determination) are being honored for their commitment to anti-colonial resistance. In so many ways this exhibit has done more than showcased our community, it has done it justice.

In addition to the exhibit, the opening day of Entre-Horizontes began with a discussion between The Puerto Rican Cultural Center's Executive Director José E. López and MCA Curator Carla Acevedo-Yates on the past, present, and future of Puerto Rican activism, which can be watched on The Puerto Rican Cultural Center's YouTube page. The event ended with the world premiere of the new documentary, *Humboldt Park: Raíces de Resistencia*, produced by Televisa/Univision Chicago. Both the discussion and the documentary highlighted the Puerto Rican community contribution to liberation work globally and implored the audience to look at its community organizing work based in the practice of Maroon societies in Latin America as a possibility for a liberated future.



***¡Bienvenidos!
Welcome!***

LO MEJOR DE NUESTROS
PUEBLOS:

**AGUADILLA,
PUERTO RICO**



**30^{MA} FIESTA BORICUA
"DE BANDERA A BANDERA"**

**HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE PUERTO RICAN CULTURUAL CENTER**

MENSAJE DEL ALCALDE DE AGUADILLA, PUERTO RICO, HON. JULIO ROLDÁN CONCEPCIÓN A LA 30^{MA} FIESTA BORICUA



Para nuestra ciudad de Aguadilla es un enorme privilegio el poder llegar hasta la ciudad de los vientos, Chicago, Illinois para presentar lo mejor de nuestra historia, cultura, oportunidades y la oferta turística y económica que ofrece Aguadilla. Nuestra presencia aquí marcará las futuras relaciones de Aguadilla y Chicago para el beneficio de ambos pueblos. Aguadilla es una ciudad vibrante y en constante progreso, con una historia rica, pues la historia de Puerto Rico comenzó en Aguadilla con el Descubrimiento de nuestro país en 1493. Esta oportunidad será para reafirmar nuestra idiosincrasia puertorriqueña para que siga latiendo en todos los rincones de los estados continentales. Estamos listos para festejar en esta Fiesta Boricua junto a la

comunidad, los boricuas y el Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño en Chicago que realiza una labor social y cultural de gran envergadura. Desde nuestra Ciudad de Encantos estamos orgullosos de lo mejor de nuestra identidad aguadillana. ¡Aguadilla Resplandece!



30^{MA} FIESTA BORICUA PRESENTA "LO MEJOR DE NUESTROS PUEBLOS": AGUADILLA, PUERTO RICO

La comunidad puertorriqueña de Chicago y El Centro Cultural Puertorriqueño Juan Antonio Corretjer se enorgullecen en darle una calurosa bienvenida a los más de 50 visitantes Aguadillenos que asisten a la 30^{ma} Fiesta Boricua. El municipio de Aguadilla que este año representa lo mejor de nuestros pueblos "han tirado las puertas por las ventanas" ofreciendo a nuestra comunidad la más excelsa representación de sus quehaceres culturales. Gracias compatriotas y muy particularmente le damos un abrazo especial a su Alcalde Julio que nos acompañará en esta celebración de nuestras Borincanías.

GRUPO CON MI VERSO Y CON MI TAMBOR TRIBUTO A JOSÉ DE DIEGO:

Soy la gestora cultural Nora Cruz Roque y por más de 30 años me he dedicado a educar y llevar mensaje de respeto a lo que significa ser puertorriqueño. A través de mis trabajos literarios, mis grupos de teatro y bailes folclóricos acompañados de poesía, lecturas, y presentaciones de cuentos nos damos a la tarea de llevar un mensaje que invite a sentir el orgullo por nuestras raíces culturales.

Nuestra misión es la de promover y motivar al pueblo para que aprecie, sienta orgullo, y valore todo lo que nos identifica como afrocaribeños. Trabajamos para

que nos vean como un grupo que difunde, estimula, y apoya todo lo que es la creación de grupos folclóricos, artísticos e investigativos, rescatando los espacios físicos para la presentación de estas producciones culturales

Grupo Con mi Verso y mi Tambor es mi grupo familiar, donde a través de la declamación de la poesía negrista, el toque de tambores y los bailes de bomba llevamos un mensaje de respeto y concientización hacia nuestra cultura afrocaribeña.



TITO ALLEN TRIBUTO A RAY BARRETTO:

Tito Allen started his musical journey in 1962. In 1972 Allen spent six months in Puerto Rico performing in hotels, but later returned to New York. Once Allen returned to New York, he joined Ray Barretto's band as their lead singer. During the years between 1975 and 1981 Allen released seven albums under the Alegre label. Allen later went on to join other groups as their lead singer.



KARLA MARÍA ROSADO TRIBUTO A RAFAEL HERNÁNDEZ:

Karla María Rosado has always been a fan of the music and artists of Puerto Rico's "Golden Age." Rosado's music focuses on preserving the culture and identity of Puerto Rico and its artistic legacy. One of the most recent projects Rosado has worked on is a tribute to Myrta Silva.





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CONGRATULATIONS ON 30 YEARS OF FIESTA BORICUA!





TOP 10 TÚ22 FILM FESTIVAL



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Guillermo Casarin



2ND PRIZE

Noche del Infierno
Andrew Reid



3RD PRIZE

The Fix
Emilio Miguel Torres

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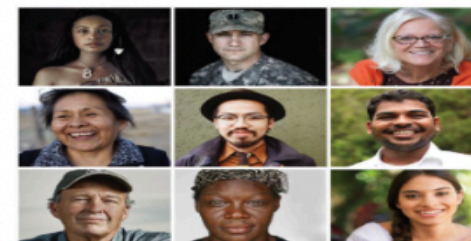
**Community
Action
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The Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) works to empower students, teachers, and parents to ensure families and communities have an active voice in their child's educational experience. FACE works to empower families through outreach, events, whole-family educational opportunities, and community and faith-based partnerships.

Learn more at cps.edu/FACE

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The *All of Us* Research Program at UIC

The *All of Us* Research Program at the University of Illinois-Chicago (UIC) School of Public Health & the Institute of Minority Health Research, College of Medicine, is proud to support the 2023 Boricua Fest. *All of Us* is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and it was launched in 2017 through the Precision Medicine Initiative. Precision medicine is a new approach in health and medicine aimed at developing new strategies to individualize medical care based on individuals' environment, lifestyle, family and health history, and genetic makeup. This type of research will support a future where you receive the best care for you as an individual rather than one-size fits all. The goal of the *All of Us* Research Program is to speed up health research discoveries, enabling new kinds of individualized health care. For this reason, we are inviting one-million individuals of diverse backgrounds from across the nation to participate in our program. The UIC *All of Us* Research Program is a partner of the Illinois Precision Medicine Consortium that consists of diverse academic and healthcare organizations to assure that the residents of the Chicago area are properly represented in the registry of one million persons. If you want to participate and be a volunteer in the *All of Us* Research Program, please come to our booth located in the Division Street corridors between California and Western Avenue and talk to our research team to obtain more information about the program. If you are eligible to participate in the study, we will schedule an appointment at our research clinic at UIC, located at 840 S. Wood St., Chicago (first floor, room 246, telephone 312 996-2778) to complete some surveys, complete physical measures, donate biological specimens and be compensated with \$25 for your time.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A PARTICIPANT OF THE ALL OF ALL US PROGRAM, WE WOULD LIKE TO RECONNECT WITH YOU. Please pass by our booth to get a gift and to make sure that your information is up to date with the program.

#Centerfold

#Centerfold



SPANISH

El Programa “**Todos Nosotros**” (**All of**) en la Universidad de Illinois-Chicago (UIC) Escuela de Salud Pública y el Instituto de Investigación de Salud Minoritaria, estamos complacidos de ser auspiciadores de Fiestas Boricua del 2023.

El Programa de **All of Us** de los Institutos Nacionales de Salud del gobierno federal fue lanzado en el 2017 como parte de la **Iniciativa Medicina de Precisión** (*Precision Medicine*). Ésta es una nueva modalidad en el campo de la salud y medicina, dirigida a desarrollar nuevas estrategias para individualizar el cuidado médico a base de factores asociado con el ambiente, estilo de vida, historial familiar, historial de salud y composición genética. Estos esfuerzos van a lograr que en el future usted reciba el mejor cuidado médico dirigido a Usted en vez de uno general. La meta del Programa “Todos Nosotros” es acelerar los descubrimientos en el campo de la salud y medicina para lograr que en un futuro cercano usted reciba un cuidado médico individualizado. Por este motivo, estamos invitando a un millón de personas de diversos grupos a participar. El Programa de UIC **All of Us** es parte de la *red de Medicina de Precisión de Illinois* donde participan diversas universidades y organizaciones de la salud para asegurar que los residentes del área de Chicago sean representados en el registro de un millón de personas. Si usted desea participar voluntariamente, favor de venir a nuestra mesa de información localizada en la División entre las avenidas de California y Western para obtener más información. Si usted es elegible a participar, le haremos una cita a nuestra clínica de investigación en UIC, 840 S. Wood St., Chicago (primer piso oficina 246, teléfono 312 996-2778) donde completará unas encuestas, medidas física y donde usted dará muestra de sangre y orina y luego recibirá \$25 por su tiempo.

SI USTED YA ES UN PARTICIPANTE DEL PROGRAMA ALL OF US, DESEAMOS

RECONECTARNOS CON USTED. Favor de ir a nuestra mesa de información a obtener un regalo y poner su expediente al día. ¡Gracias!

CON LO MEJOR DEL PATIO:

BOMBERXS D'CORA OF LA ESCUELITA:



ORQUESTA LEAL:



COLECTIVO SAYBA:



ORQUESTA TUMBAO:



ORQUESTA NABORI:



JUNO LOST KAUSE:



CROCUS in the Community: A Blueprint for Change: How Computer Models Will Help Communities Respond to Climate Change

By Jenn Nimke

While climate change may affect us all, there is no “one size fits all” approach to providing communities with solutions to lead healthier and more resilient lives. This is where the work of Community Research on Climate and Urban Science (CROCUS) comes in. CROCUS is a five-year, \$25-million program carried out by a team of 17 organizations, and funded by DOE’s Office of Science, Office of Biological and Environmental Research.

“Our goal is to develop tools that make sense of environmental measurements and support communities with informed decision-making,” said Rao Kotamarthi, CROCUS deputy project director and science director of the Center for Climate Resilience and Decision Science at the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory.

Kotamarthi and his team of researchers sit on the modeling end of the project. They take environmental data—such as air quality, temperature, wind speed and direction, soil moisture and rain fall—and analyze it using the supercomputers at the Argonne Leadership Computing Facility, a DOE Office of Science User Facility.

Unlike a weather forecast that might project weather patterns for the next days or week, these sophisticated models can help scientists predict how climate will change over the next 10 to 50 years. The modeling team’s goal is to provide new insight on current and future urban climate challenges and solutions at the street, neighborhood, and regional levels.

From flooding to extreme heat to poor air quality, understanding what problems exist is the first step in this process. From there, scientists can look to find solutions.

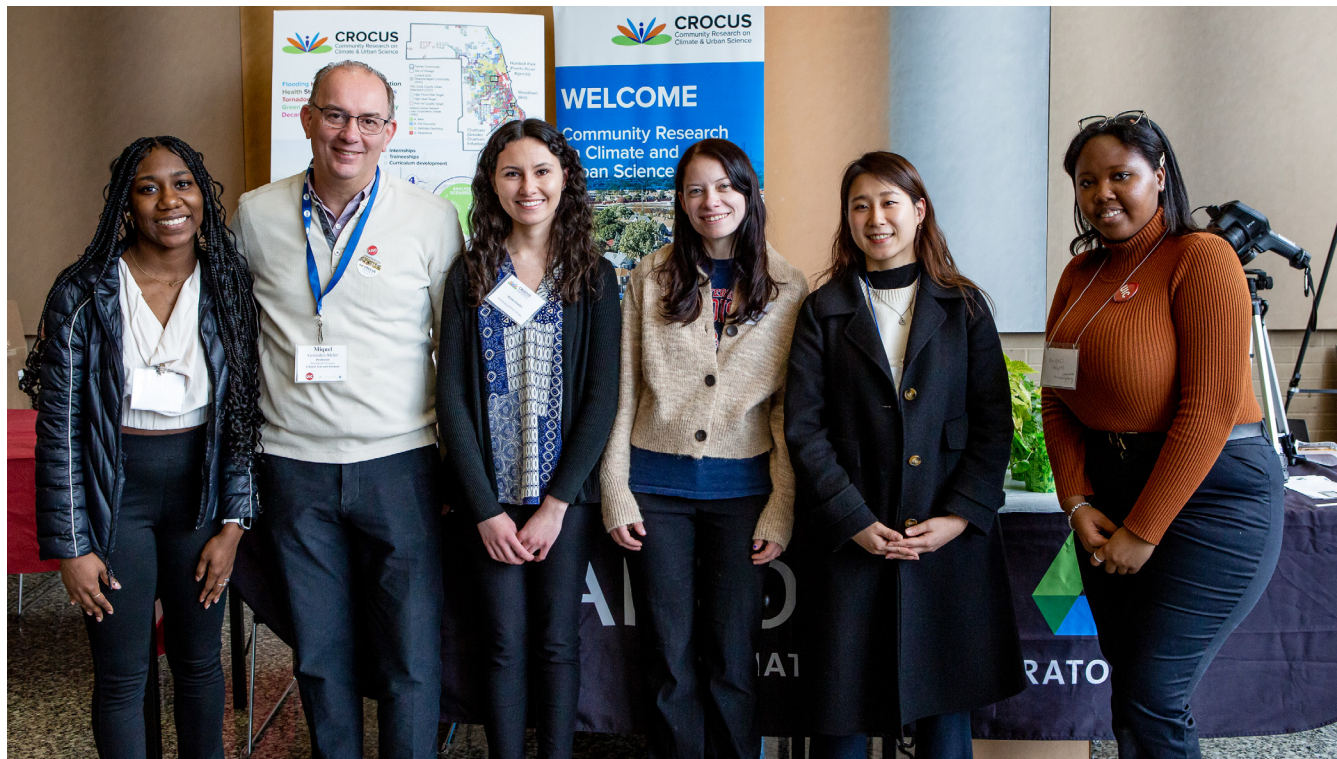
“We all know the importance of green infrastructure solutions — green roofs, solar panels, planting trees and using more porous surfaces. How-

ever, simply taking these elements and introducing them into communities without understanding their priorities won’t achieve climate resilience,” Kotamarthi said. “Instead, the work must begin by working alongside community residents and understanding how exactly they are impacted, and then designing targeted solutions.”

Pointing to some of the more

recent modeling work, CROCUS modeling lead Ashish Sharma studied the impact of planting trees. Sharma has a joint appointment at Argonne and is the climate and urban sustainability lead at Discovery Partners Institute of the University of Illinois System.

“By utilizing sophisticated computer models and advanced algorithms like machine learning, we are able to determine where a tree should be planted in a specific area and what impact the tree would have on the temperature,” he said. “We can gauge how installing trees helps reduce the temperature for areas prone to extreme heat. The models also show the impact of pollution and how the physical, chemical, biological, and geological processes and reactions related to urban vegetation impact urban environments,” said Sharma.



(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)



This sophisticated modeling will be key to communities like Humboldt Park, where residents have identified extreme heat as a potential threat. The Puerto Rican Agenda, a Humboldt Park community partner with CROCUS, is provid-

ing insight, feedback, and guidance that informs the research team and the climate science models. The models will be essential in helping communities understand whether their current efforts at climate resilience are working. Data and research outcomes will be shared with the community.

“Using advanced computer models and measurements around the net-zero building already in place in this community, we plan to develop a comprehensive understanding of the various energy use, greenhouse emis-

sion impacts and the potential contribution of these types of structures for improving the community wellbeing,” Sharma explained.

The models could also help communities explore other big questions around the future of urban planning, such as:

- Which building materials will lower temperature and reduce emissions?
- How will urban farming help change the microclimate and increase food stability?
- What is the real impact of rooftop gardens?

“By combining measurements with models, we are able to decipher how each element contributes to or undermines community goals,” Sharma explained.

Once the approaches are tested and validated, Kotamarthi and Sharma say these methods could be adapted to any city in the world. Users would specify the natural and built components present in their city (for example, tree coverage, concrete surfaces, solar roofs, or green roofs), and use computer models to determine what would work best in their area.

Global cities will have the tools and information necessary to make their cities sustainable and resilient to climate change.

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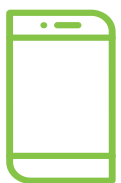
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The Council exists to protect and bolster a standard of living for members and their families by bargaining for good labor contracts and bringing the benefits of SEIU membership to non-union employees. We advocate to affirm the dignity of each worker, the services they provide, and to promote fairness in the workplace.

The State Council consists of the following three local unions that have members who work in Illinois:

- SEIU Local 1
- SEIU Local 73
- SEIU Healthcare Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Kansas (SEIU HCII or SEIU HCIIMK)



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At 84, Puerto Rico's Most Celebrated Artist Will "Never" Stop Painting

Called "one of Puerto Rico's greatest cultural ambassadors," Antonio Martorell was recently awarded a National

By Herson Guerrero (AFAR)

Painter. Printmaker. Writer, professor, illustrator, actor, sculptor, costume designer. Born in San Juan in 1939, Antonio Martorell has for decades been one of Puerto Rico's celebrated artists; in March 2023, President Biden awarded him the National Medal of Arts, calling Martorell "one of Puerto Rico's greatest cultural ambassadors."

In April, we sat down with Martorell at his sprawling studio on Calle Salmon in Ponce, in a building that dates to 1815. This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity.

What has been your inspiration for your art?

Everything that I like and that I dislike. But luckily, there is more of what I like than of what I dislike. What I dislike—I condemn it, and what I like—I celebrate it, with the instrument that I have, which is art. Various mediums, too, since the main motive of my work, besides the pleasure of creating, is to communicate. So, it's taken me from fine arts to the media, to writing books, to television, to radio, to film, to drama. All mediums are valid, and in addition, tempting, to be able to reach [people] and to communicate even further.

Do you ever get ideas for painting from other mediums?

All the time! One advantage of doing different things— theater, movies, books, painting, sculpture—is that every time you go into one, you learn from doing that and you apply it to the other discipline you are taking up next. So, it's a never-ending apprenticeship. And then everything an artist does, assists, or is subject to, whatever you read, whatever you see, whatever you hear, whatever you feel, becomes a source of the so-called inspiration. But I shy away from that word. I prefer "transfiguration" because you get an idea, but what ends up being art is doing it, working it, sweating it. And sweating it doesn't mean "in pain." You sweat in pleasure.

Do you consider yourself a Renaissance man? A person that does something of everything?

No. I only consider myself someone who wants to do things.

I love your work and have followed your trajectory since I was younger—my grandfather in particular, was also a fan of yours. How has the art scene in Puerto Rico—and the understanding of it—progressed in your time?

When I was growing up in the '40s, there wasn't a single museum in Puerto Rico. There had been great artists, like [José] Campeche y Jordán, [Francisco] Oller, [Ramón] Frade, Pou [Miguel Pou Becerra], and before them there had been the talla de santos [carving of saints], the Taino cemíes, the African influence on carving. But there was no place for one to see any of it.

It was in the '50s that a group was established, a movement. Then the museums came, then workshops, then the Escuela de Artes Plásticas, then the universities integrated arts. What we have to be very conscious about is that we are all heirs of a tradition that is old as it is new. And we should feel free to take from it.

I remember when I did my first exhibit in New York, at El Museo del Barrio. There were critics that were surprised to see that I had a piece titled "Rilke's House" after Rainer Maria Rilke, the great poet of German language, born in the 19th century. And they would say, "But what is a Puerto Rican doing . . . ?" And I would respond: "That is part of my heritage [as an artist]. Shakespeare is mine, Dante is mine, as well as Cervantes, and Díaz Alfaro, like René Marquez, all of it."

In terms of inspiration, what do you say to future generations? Is it to stick to the basics of art and then let themselves discover? Or do you encourage them to just break all the rules they know?

It's hard to give advice. But I can share my experience and my experience is: Be aware. Be as aware as you can. Feel. Listen. Read. Smell. Touch. Be aware of what happens here [in Puerto Rico] and elsewhere and respond to it. No matter what you do, you're going to be different. So, don't try to be different. You are different.

What writer or painter has inspired you?

Oh, it's like a phone book, it would never end. But first and foremost, the two teachers that I had at the Puerto Rican Institute of Culture in San



(Continued on page 24)

(Continued from page 23)

Juan: [Lorenzo] Homar and [Rafael] Tufiño. They, for one thing, taught me the relationship between a word and an image. When we use words, we create and give life to meaning, and that is inspiration.

What does art bring to the to the world?

Art opens up new visions, new feelings, new knowledge. You learn through art. Art is not just decoration. Art is not just information. It's not just merchandise; it is not a brand that you pay for. Art is a way of knowledge, just as efficient and as profound as mathematics, science, writing, and reading. Art is learning and joy.

The more you learn, the more you know?

And the more you want.

The more you want.

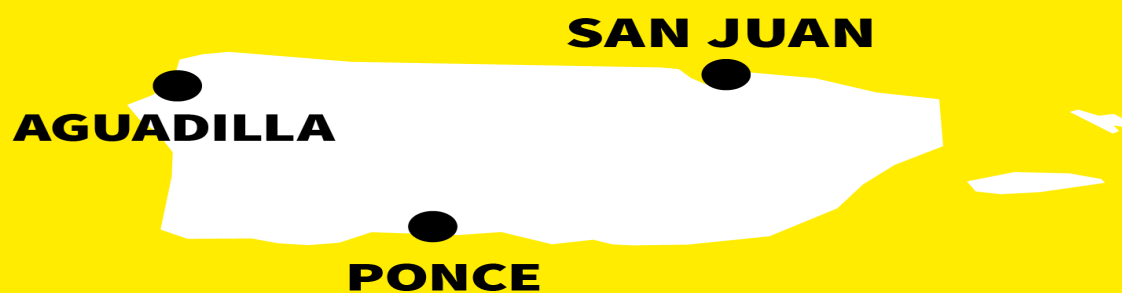
It's like eating carbohydrates.

Do you feel that it's ever going to end, this urge you have to keep creating?

Never! I'm insatiable.

Why would you want to end having pleasure and giving pleasure? Why? No other activity accepts the excess of art. I can work still 10 or 12 hours a day, without getting tired. Try any other activity, including the one you're thinking of, for 12 or 14 hours. You can't do it.

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125 Years of U.S. Colonialism in Puerto Rico: Remembering the Massacre at Cerro Maravilla

July 25th marked the 125th Anniversary of the U.S. Land Invasion of Puerto Rico. The Puerto Rican Cultural Center marked this day by holding a community viewing of the 1990 film “Show of Force”, which tells the true story of the 1978 execution of two pro-independence activists at Cerro Maravilla by the FBI. Following the movie The PRCC’s Executive Director José E. López gave a talk about the day and the horrific violence that has come from the U.S. invasion of Puerto Rico, including the murder at Cerro Maravilla. He went on to share The Puerto Rican Cultural Center’s own history with the FBI as the anti-colonial organizing work of the Center made it a target of the FBI’s infamous Counterintelligence Program (COINTELPRO) in the 70s. This day was a reminder of our dark past and how important it is to continue the fight against colonialism. Below is a statement by Power 4 Puerto Rico on the 125th Anniversary of Puerto Rico, and a call to action to support the current work to decolonize Puerto Rico:

By Power 4 Puerto Rico

On today in 1898, U.S. forces invaded a Puerto Rico that had just achieved its greatest level of autonomy from its then-colonizer, Spain. Puerto Ricans’ march towards self-determination –the right of a people to chart their own future free of intimidation or undue influence– was violently interrupted and derailed.

Today, in 2023, Puerto Rico remains a U.S. colony. An unelected colonial board imposed by Congress rules and impacts all aspects of life in this Caribbean country. This is beyond unfair and undemocratic, it is a suffocating injustice. Instead of supporting a Puerto Rico-forward vision and a post-colonial United States, institutions, including the Supreme Court, have doubled-down on sub-

jecting Puerto Ricans to harmful policies, year after year. As with so many actions historically directed at Latin America, the Caribbean, and marginalized communities, the undergirding belief and justification for intervention and institutional colonialism has been white supremacy.

The Puerto Rican diaspora has been a part of a long resistance to colonialism and the insistence that all that is spoken about human rights apply to Puerto Rico. We reaffirm the right of our people to lead and choose our own future and decolonize our homeland on transparent and participatory terms, not the terms of dark money or based on what the Democratic or Republican parties would find beneficial for them.

July 25th also marks the anniversary of the 1978 execution of two pro-independence activists at Cerro Maravilla. Hearings in the Puerto Rico legislature and investigative reporting revealed that the subsequent coverup of this crime was led by the FBI in conjunction with local authorities. We are reminded of current attempts to shut down the voices of Puerto Ricans, whether it’s the U.S. Supreme Court ruling against the right of Puerto Rican journalists and public to access all of the colonial board’s records, to rising police and private security violence against environmental protestors.

History is once again on our doorstep. We need to finish the struggle led by our ancestors to fully decolonize Puerto Rico under the process and status our people choose. That is why Puerto Rican diaspora organi-

zations seek to remind U.S. residents that their government is still holding colonies in 2023 and that they can express their solidarity with Puerto Ricans by joining the Diaspora and taking action.



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