LaGuardia at 25:
A Tradition of Innovation
President
Raymond C. Bowen

His academic year, LaGuardia Community College celebrates the 25th anniversary of its founding. With conferences, concerts, speakers, and reunions, the College is sponsoring anniversary activities to mark LaGuardia’s emergence as one of the nation’s most distinguished educational institutions.

Ever since we admitted our first class in the fall of 1971, we have been pioneers in higher education. Students, faculty, staff, and administrators have worked tirelessly to create a “tradition of innovation” of which we can all be proud. As a somewhat younger administrator coming from Cleveland to Queens in the summer of 1973 to help start the College, I remember the unique challenges that faced us. We occupied the M Building, that had been the Ford-Phillips car factory and that still looked like a factory when we opened with 500 students and some 40 faculty and staff. Construction swirled around us as we improvised space, shared offices and classrooms, and literally invented a college from the grassroots up.

If necessity is the mother of invention, then faculty and students at LaGuardia have always had to be educational pioneers. For the challenge of having never ceased. And when during that first year we needed a library in order to obtain a government grant, we threw some books in a car and called it a library. And we got the grant. Today, we enjoy more than $8,000,000 annually in grants that help us to stay on the cutting edge of educational innovation. Similarly, when we have faced crises especially fiscal crises—we have responded in equally creative ways. Over 40 years, our mission has evolved to the point where today we are an integral part of New York City’s global community. We have 11,000 full-time students and 25,000 part-time students. LaGuardia’s students are great in more full-time programs and the nation’s most distinguished demand in New York’s economy and in the nation’s most outstanding programs. LaGuardia’s students are in great demand in New York’s economy and in the nation’s most distinguished four-year colleges. Our faculty is outstanding: most have doctorates or terminal degrees, and many have national reputations in their fields. The LaGuardia tradition is rooted in access, excellence, and opportunity for all. These are not abstractions, but ideas that we constantly struggle to achieve.

Years ago, an outside evaluating agency termed us an “urban oasis.” We were a small oasis then and a larger one today, possessing a Master Plan that calls for significant expansion by the year 2004. As an educational oasis, we have nurtured the dreams of tens of thousands of students. Working together, we have created a college that will remain vital for those students coming to LaGuardia in the next 25 years.

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The Bridge is the official student newspaper of LaGuardia Community College. It is published by an independent staff and financed by Student Activity funds. Opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the College, administration, faculty, or the student body. The Bridge is not responsible for unsolicited material and all material is subject to editing. Copyright by The Bridge located in 1117E at LaGuardia Community College, 31-10 Thomson Ave., LIC, NY 11101 (718) 482-5189.
Guardia Speaks Out!

Gousse Editor

the student committee chairman, worked with students to promote the event.

Next, Luis Merchant from the Student Life and Development Office proposed forming a planning committee consisting of members from administration, faculty, staff, and students. It's through the committee's teamwork that LaGuardia's first Town Hall Meeting was held.

Professor Terence Julien, faculty member of the Social Science Department and Chairman of the Task Force on Pluralism Committee at LaGuardia, opened the meeting.

In his speech, he appropriately defined the Town Hall Meeting as a place where "students can have a forum to express concerns... The purest form of democracy, that's what the Town Hall Meeting is." He also stated that because of the Town Hall Meeting, "Twenty-five years from now LaGuardia is going to be a different place because of the tradition of Town Hall meetings we are beginning today." Following these remarks, dialogue between the audience and the panel of deans began.

Using an open microphone format, audience participants, mostly students, raised questions about lack of funding for library materials, instituting a telephone registration process, and overcrowding of classrooms.

Some of the issues discussed were dealt with by making appointments with the appropriate faculty and staff to provide help with their situation. For instance, a transfer student stated that she had experienced difficulties with the Registrar's Office due to her inability to obtain her transcript. Upon hearing this, Ray Schloenberger, the director of the Registrar's Office, made an appointment with her to discuss what could be done.

Another student complained that he had been rejected for every kind of financial aid he had applied for and he didn't know how he would pay for school. Responding to this complaint, a representative from the Financial Aid Office made an appointment with the student to talk about alternative solutions.

Difficult issues and complaints were not the only subjects discussed. One student declined an appointment with the H.E.L.P.S. (Health Education Learning Project and Services) program, which gives students health information and provides referrals to health-related services in Room M640.

Among those fielding questions were: Raymond C. Bowen, President; George S. Hartford, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost; Richard Elliott, Dean of Administration; Harry N. Heinemann, Dean of Cooperative Education; Ruth Lugo, Dean of Student Affairs; Judith L. McGaughey, Dean of Adult and Continuing Education. There also were staff and faculty members on hand to answer questions concerning their departments.

According to the surveys taken from the audience, the Town Hall Meeting was a hit. There was a demand for more of them and that they last longer so that more people can have their questions answered. In addition, the audience would like to discuss issues such as the future of the Early Childhood Center, financial aid and tuition hikes in future meetings.

The Town Hall Planning Committee has stated that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 3, in the E-Building Atrium from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Students are needed on the committee to obtain their perspective on how and what the next meeting could focus on to make it more effective. If you would like to be a member of the committee, please contact Irene Sosa in Room M118-E.

If you would like to discuss your meeting with The Bridge, contact The Bridge at (718) 482-S189 or come to Room M118-E on Thursdays from 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
LaGuardia Stars Come Out To Shine

Honors Night Gives LaGuardia Students the Recognition That's Well Deserved

by Joan Yvette Zelaya

LaGuardia students were rewarded for their academic achievements and community service on Honors Night held last Sept. 10. Students received recognition for categories such as Outstanding Professional Growth and Development as an Intern, Outstanding Service to the College Community, and Highest Scholastic Achievement (final G.P.A. of 4.00). Every department at LaGuardia handed out awards.

Prof. Terrance Julien of the Social Science Department spoke briefly during the awards. He stressed the importance of achieving goals and the positive influence it can have on other students. In a later interview he summarized his speech, stating that "U.S. society seems to reward physical athletes, as exemplified by the recent Olympics held in Atlanta. LaGuardia has created a special night to reward our academic athletes—students who have worked hard, competed with the best, and are rewarded for the highest academic achievements.

LaGuardia's faculty and staff did reward their academic Olympians, but most students were not aware of it. Although there were plenty of family and friends to support the honorees on Honors Night, this reporter noticed a definite shortage of LaGuardia students among the audience. Despite the lack of LaGuardia students, the atmosphere remained buoyant.

And The Award Goes To...

Among the honorees was Donis Lipold, who received several awards from the Office Technology Department. Donis managed to do outstanding work, despite recently giving birth to a baby girl. Donis said that she would never have made it if it wasn't for the help of her family. "Students should never give up—even yourself and keep on going." Receiving an internship award from the Math Department was Rebecca Rodriguez, who started out in Basic Math and made it to calculus. At the reception, Rebecca said that "it wasn't easy and she found the experience challenging.

Another LaGuardia achiever, Blaizelina S. Sabatino, who began her studies in the E.S.L. program, received awards in Accounting and Managerial Studies. She also received an award for graduating with highest G.P.A. of 4.00.

"Students should never give up—believe in yourself and keep on going.

Gary Blake receiving his award for Outstanding Professional Growth and Development as an Intern.

The Bridge's very own Gary Blake and Yark Cherkaoui. Gary received an award for Outstanding Academic Achievement and Outstanding Service to the College. All honorees are shining examples of how hard work, determination, and dedication really do pay off. Honors Night might not have the glamour of the Olympics, but it has just as much glory—students receiving awards should be praised not only by faculty and family, but also by their peers.

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Dark & Lovely, Zero
Frizz, John Freida, Frizz
Ease, Revlon, Soft
Sheen, African Pride
Razac, Solid
Gold, Optimum Infusion 23
Mirthas, Paul Mitchell.

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25 YEARS OF INNOVATION

BY JORGE SALAZAR ARTS EDITOR

Although LaGuardia is only 25 years old, the youngest community college in the City of New York, it has successfully fulfilled its mission to "support the principles of open access and equal opportunity for all," through the use of innovative programs.

Some of LaGuardia's innovative programs include the largest English as a Second Language (E. S. L.) program in New York City, which grants non-English speaking students from all over the world the opportunity to get an education. Paul Arcario, the Chairperson of the E. S. L. Credit Program, said, "We have developed many new, small class courses in which students study E. S. L., together with courses in their majors, such as introduction to business, introduction to sociology, and introduction to computers." LaGuardia also holds the largest non-federally funded program for deaf adults in the nation.

LaGuardia was the first community college in the entire nation to require day students to participate in a cooperative (Co-op) education program. "What we wanted to do was to offer students not only an education, but also the opportunity to learn through experience and prepare them for life," Catherine Farrell, the Associate Dean of the Division of Cooperative Education, said. In addition, LaGuardia offers students on public assistance a College Opportunity to Prepare for Employment (COPE) program. This program provides special guidance and learning assistance to help these students.

LaGuardia collaborates with institutions of higher education in other countries to expand the concept of the community college. For example, LaGuardia collaborated with Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, and helped establish the island's first community college, Centro Cívico Universitario Regional del Sureste. "The international initiative is one of the most important undertakings for the college at the present time," Harry Heinemann, the Dean of Division of Cooperative Education, said. "The need to upgrade the human resources capabilities of people so their maximum is not only critical in this country, but it is also true in the rest of the world," he added.

A YEAR OF CELEBRATION

To celebrate its 25 years of success, since it first admitted students in September of 1971, LaGuardia planned a slate of activities for the 1996-97 school year. The anniversary year kicked off with Honors Night on Sept. 10, followed by Opening Sessions on Sept. 11. Throughout the year, an eight-paneled exhibit, located on the second floor above the Atrium, will highlight the story of the college, its founding leadership, faculty, staff, students, and physical growth. In addition, satellite exhibits on specific departments and divisions are located on other sites. Yvette Urquhart, the Interim Associate Dean of the Division of Institutional Advancement, who is in charge of the 25th anniversary planning committee, promised students the opportunity to learn more about the school's history, growth, and many successes that the school has enjoyed during its 25 years.

There are many anniversary activities scheduled. A lecture in the Full Focus on technology in the 21st century. The Spring lecture will highlight the question of community in a diverse society. 25th anniversary recreational activities will include a 5K road race and fitness walk, golf outing, and fishing trips. The Alumni Association will coordinate an evening out on Broadway, a financial planning workshop, an alumni reunion garden party, and more. LaGuardia students will present a shooboacultural travelogue to underscore the cultural diversity of the student body. A Spring gala dance at the Inn Crown Plaza Hotel will offer the College community and friends a chance to celebrate the milestone anniversary in a grand way.

A picnic planned for June 1997 will bring the milestone anniversary year to a close. So, guys, if you haven't noticed, the 25th anniversary celebration is still going on!

Dean Urquhart said, "It is going to be a great opportunity to expose students to many more events than usual, such as performances, lectures, and activities, some of them sponsored by students themselves." She added, "The program is not only directed toward students and faculty members, but to many others in the community who are interested in the college.

The anniversary logo, which shows Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia waving a morsbord with the slogan "A Tradition of Innovation," is displayed on a flag, flying atop the main entrances of the East and West Buildings. Poster-size calendars are being placed throughout the college to keep students informed about the 25th anniversary activities, and, of course, your college newspaper, The Bridge, will keep you up to date.

From the Office Of the President of Student Government

William Negron

To commemorate Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College's 25th Anniversary, I would like to remind my fellow students what a great institution of higher learning LaGuardia is.

When visiting different institutions across the country, or lobbying at the state assembly and in our nation's Capital, I always make it a point to boast about LaGuardia's graduation rate for Latinos (fourth in the nation), and our equally impressive graduation rate for African Americans (fifth in the nation).

I would also remind everyone within earshot that our college was the prototype for two sister colleges, one in Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic and the other in St. Petersburg, Russia, which only goes to show that the formula for success has always been here. But, what really makes this college truly different from other CUNY institutions is its rich cultural diversity. LaGuardia Community College has over a hundred different nationalities represented in its student body. LaGuardia is so culturally enriched that one only need to walk the halls to get an informal education on the beauty of multiculturalism and pluralism.

This institution is now 25 years older, and wiser. Such a landmark occasion should not go unnoticed. Therefore, I think that as students we should remember that LaGuardia has added much to our lives. Not just in education, but all its wonderful intangibles—the people, the events, and ideologies. Outside of a degree, students will leave LaGuardia with far more than what they arrived with.

I've often wondered what the powers that be had hoped for 25 years ago, when they renovated the old munitions building into the current Main Building. Did they note the incredible irony of changing this structure from an armament to an institution that helps student arm themselves mentally? One which gives students the necessary ammunition they need to be productive members of society.

Finally, I'd like to say to everyone within earshot, happy 25th Anniversary LaGuardia Community College.

I hope I'll live to see you celebrate your golden anniversary as well.
A potential incoming freshman, would you think twice about enrolling in a community college?

Many would say "yes" and instead choose to go to a four-year college. Recent statistics confirm this trend. 

Here at LaGuardia, for instance, there has been a decreasing gap between the number of applicants granted admittance and the number who actually enroll. In fact, according to LaGuardia's Data Warehouse, there is a decrease by nine percentage points since 1991.

Why are so many potential students initially applying and then not enrolling?

Provost George Hamada offered the following explanation: 

"There are several reasons why students are not enrolling, including increased financial aid pressure. In fact, the budget cut affects the financial aid budget as well. Second, the Human Resources Administration (HRA) has issued regulations that make it tougher for people on welfare to attend college. Third, and most significant, is the recurring threat of budget cuts."

What is the recurring threat of budget cuts mean to students, in years to come?

What will happen to all of those people who cannot afford a senior college and whose only chance of getting a higher education is to go to a two-year college? Well, as a paying student who has already witnessed several tuition increases, here's my opinion: With the consistent threat of tuition increases and TAP coverage reductions, I believe that a majority of students will transfer and seek education elsewhere.

There is also a great possibility that they will become frustrated and drop out of college entirely.

This is a very serious problem that needs to be addressed. We, as students, will suffer in one way or another. Therefore, we must fight for our education before it is too late.

One good way to make sure that we have a voice is to vote in all of the elections!

Kiwana Bland
News Editor
SOME THOUGHTS ON THE CONTINUING BUDGET CUTS

We, the Editorial Board of The Bridge, agree with State Comptroller H. Carl McCall that higher education is not an expense, but an investment. The following statement made by Comptroller McCall reflects our opinion:

HIGHER ED: NOT AN EXPENSE, AN INVESTMENT

by State Comptroller H. Carl McCall

In Governor Pataki's budget proposal for fiscal year 1997-98, he is recommending a $300 million cut to higher education. If that cut is enacted, tuition at the State and City University systems will have increased by 40 percent in the two and a half years Governor Pataki has been in office. His penny-wise, pound-foolish approach to higher education is jeopardizing the public university system. Even more troubling is the response of the two university boards, which are supposed to serve as advocates for the University. There has not been any cry of protest from either board, most of whose members were appointed by the Governor.

The Governor looks at education as not an investment but as an expense. His tuition hikes send an unfortunate message to our young people: go study somewhere else. The problem is, some kids can't afford to go study somewhere else, and those that can afford to will probably live somewhere else after they graduate.

New York can't afford to lose young minds. Our State needs bright, energetic, educated young people to create new businesses, fill technical jobs and develop new products. The Governor may have missed it, but the world's economy has changed. If New York is going to regain its competitive edge, we have to change also. We need to focus on the most important tool for economic success — education. Today's global economy doesn't have much room for unskilled, uneducated workers.

Regrettably, the Governor has tried to make his lack of commitment to higher education into a partisan issue. It's not a partisan issue. It's an economic issue, and the future of our State depends on our willingness to invest in the future. A study done in Illinois showed that for every dollar Illinois invests in higher education it gets back four dollars and thirty-one cents in taxes along with an educated, innovative work force. New York needs to make an investment in higher education because it's the best investment for a strong economy.

Thirty years ago, then-Governor Nelson Rockefeller, a Republican, said, "Our goal is to assure that no young man or young woman in this State with the desire and capacity for education shall be denied it for lack of facilities or personal financial means."

Governor Rockefeller had the vision to recognize the importance of making higher education available and affordable. He understood the value, not only to the individual but to the State as a whole, of a higher education system that gives students, poor, rich, or middle class, the opportunity to become contributing members of society. Governor Pataki should take a page from Governor Rockefeller's book and recommit himself to New York's economic future.

If our State is going to be competitive in the future, we have to invest in the young people who will shape that future. We shouldn't penalize those young people for going to school in New York. We should be doing everything we can to make sure they have an opportunity to stay here, learn here, and when they graduate, contribute to the economy here.

Students have to make their government realize that tomorrow's opportunities are created by today's investments. It's imperative that every student on every campus stand up and be counted. Get involved. Your future, and the future of New York, depend upon a commitment to providing every person with the "desire and capacity" the opportunity for a quality education.
**Student Activity Fees**

Do you want to know how your student activity fees are spent? Here’s the financial statement from the College Association.

### Nature of the Organization

The Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College Association, Inc. ("Association") is a not-for-profit corporation created for the principal purpose of developing and cultivating educational and social activities among students of the Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College of the City University of New York ("College"). The Association’s revenues are derived primarily from student activity fees levied by a resolution of the Board of Higher Education and collected by the College. Revenues are also generated through tuition fees from the Early Childhood Learning Center, which provides day care facilities for children of students, faculty and staff.

### Student Activity Fees

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<th>Theater</th>
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<th>Early Childhood Learning Center</th>
<th>Recreation</th>
<th>Media</th>
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### Expenses:

|                                   |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |       |                 |            |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|       |                 |            |            |
| Salaries                          | 31,048     | 813        | 14,634     | 42,543     |            |            |            | 24,842 | 165,922         | 109,771    | 53,152     |
| Employee benefits                 | 2,684      | 1,328      | 13,017     |            |            |            |            | 3,084 | 25,147          | 15,119     | 77,000     |
| Payroll taxes                     | 2,712      | 94         | 1,728      | 4,704      |            |            |            | 2,228  | 16,440          | 12,761     | 6,564      |
| Supplies and equipment            | 614        | 9,288      | 783        |            |            |            |            | 931    | 10,653          | 6,666      | 22,133     |
| Temporary services                |            |            |            | 1,153      |            |            |            | 265    |                 |            | 15,400     |
| Insurance                         |            |            |            |            |            |            |            | 1,452  | 4,661           |            | 6,951      |
| Travel                            | 23,105     |            |            |            |            |            |            | 1,452  | 3,705           |            | 35,202     |
| Conference and convention         |            |            |            |            |            |            |            | 70     | 235             |            | 465        |
| Depreciation                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            | 465    | 4,923           |            | 5,388      |
| Professional fees                 |            |            |            |            |            |            |            | 3,700  | 5,213           |            | 8,913      |
| Program and activities            | 52,291     | 47,860     | 11,162     | 14,606     | 12,729     | 2,637      | 16,269     | 1,597  | 150,367         | 224,491    | 374,850    |
| Stipends                          | 7,585      |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 7,585           |            | 7,585      |
| Meals                             | 204        |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 204             |            | 1,210      |
| Contracts                         |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 2,837           |            | 6,556      |
| Miscellaneous                     | 1,303      |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 1,303           |            | 5,210      |
| International Studies             | 78         |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 78              |            | 78         |
| Program                           |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 4,000           |            | 4,000      |
| Regals                            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 148             |            | 148        |
| Scholarships/Grants               |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 960             |            | 960        |
| Bad debt expense                  |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |        | 2,745           |            | 2,745      |
| Total expenses                    | 113,724    | 48,785     | 49,594     | 92,741     | 13,014     | 61,895     | 243,150    | 146,312| 116,004         | 684,153    | 982,226    |

**Excess (deficit) of support over expenses:** 
- 1996: $15,849
- 1995: $15,000

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DID YOU KNOW...

Healthy Relationships Require Work

Partners in a relationship may never see eye to eye on certain things, but there are ways to work through difficult spots. One way is "fair fighting."
Some examples:
* Don't expect your partner to read your mind. Say what you are really thinking.
* Stick to the issue at hand, and take one issue at a time.
* Cool down before talking to your partner.
* Bring up an issue at an appropriate time and place -- not, for example, as you are about to walk into a dinner party.

Diabetes Hits Hispanics Earlier

Adult-onset diabetes attacks Hispanics at an earlier age and more often than other ethnic groups. Adult-onset diabetes typically strikes people aged 30-60, but among Hispanics, the disorder appears more frequently starting in their 30s, according to Carlos Valbona of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Diabetes occurs in adult Hispanics two to three times more often than in whites. Much of the diabetes in Hispanics is undiagnosed, Valbona said. He suggests that Hispanics older than 35 be tested for diabetes. Complications -- including premature death -- can be prevented through early detection.

Ways to Relieve Stress

Knowing there are two kinds of stress is the first step in coping. The two kinds of stress, according to Dr. Michael Cox, a psychologist at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, are: a) things you can do something about and, b) things you cannot change. Stress that people can do something about requires action. This type of stress could include personality conflicts, marital tensions, or illness. Lessening these kinds of stress could be as simple as negotiation, compromise, or following a physician's advice. For sources of stress that cannot be changed, Cox suggests:
* Reaching out to others for support.
* Making time for enjoyable activities.
* Learning to relax. Relaxation can be improved by: Closing your eyes and picturing an enjoyable scene, such as the beach or a vacation. Maintaining the scene in your mind and actually "feeling" it. Think soothing thoughts.

AIDS

* AIDS is now the leading cause of death among all Americans aged 25-44.
* One to two adolescents are infected with HIV every hour.
* The majority of HIV-positive college students are unaware they are infected.
* About 75% of College students report that they have engaged in unprotected sexual activity with multiple partners.

Bridges to Healthy Communities, American Association of Community Colleges, in collaboration with the Harvard School of Public Health and the Miami Dade Community College Medical Center.

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New York State is ranked as number one in the reported number of AIDS cases, according to Harold Hodgkinson, a demographer from the Institute for Educational Leadership in Washington, D.C. For college students, the situation is even worse. The American Association of Community Colleges highlighted the following facts in its pamphlet, Bridge to Healthy Communities: 1) one to two adolescents are infected with HIV every hour; 2) the majority of HIV-positive college students are unaware that they are infected; and 3) the rates of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are highest among 15 to 29 year-olds.

To combat these high rates of HIV/AIDS and STDs, LaGuardia Community College developed a new program, which is the only one of its kind in the CUNY system. Under the Student Services Cluster’s Health Security Ceases Cluster at LaGuardia, said "tools like pre and post counseling and testing combined with counseling sessions and referrals to other health and social services agencies if treatment is needed.

HELPs is a collaboration between LaGuardia, the New York City Department of Health (DOH), North Shore University Hospital, and the New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens. HELPs provides HIV/AIDS and STDs counseling and testing provided by HELPs in right and classrooms. Throughout the academic year, workshops, seminars, and forums will be offered to the college community about the threats of HIV/AIDS, syphilis, hepatitis B, and STDs.

HELPs has trained 40 students in HIV/AIDS prevention and education. These students, called Peer Health Educators, are taught to interact with students throughout the campus and give presentations about the services offered by HELPs in right and classrooms. Throughout the academic year, workshops, seminars, and forums will be offered to the college community about the threats of HIV/AIDS, syphilis, hepatitis B, and STDs.

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The core group of students responsible for the communication between students and counselors includes Jessica Costillo, James Antonino, Hernan Cortes, Tamara Ormanzas, Jose Rosa, Jaime Acosta, Esmeralda Ybarra, Catherine Ayala, Tisha Johnson, Maricela Veloz, Katherine Lopez, Narcisa Moran, Daisy Pagan, and this reporter. By doing active outreach, the Peer Health Educators get the word about HELPs out to students.

Tanya McKinney, a counselor from North Shore University Hospital, has been with HELPs since it started on Oct. 7, 1992. Ms. McKinney has dealt with many worried students who come to the Health Center in search of answers to their questions about HIV/AIDS and STDs, and sees a real gap in students’ education. "It bothers me to see students who come in and think they know everything there is to know about HIV/AIDS and STDs. The lack of knowledge on their part is really alarming," said Ms. McKinney.

Ms. McKinney, along with a counselor from DOH, Lydia Rafferty, have counseled over 250 LaGuardia students since the program started. This averages 30 students per week. Ms. McKinney and Ms. Rafferty also are in charge of training the Peer Health Educators. The 40 Peer Health Educators who have already completed the initial training program have served more than 140 volunteer hours.

Other essential HELPs' helpers include Don Barker, College Nurse, who despite his tight schedule has managed to contribute time to the program; Alice Roberton, Health Center Receptionist, known for her patience and Angel Rosario, a counselor from the DOH, who has trained peer health educators since the program started.

Lydia Rafferty (on the left) counseling a student.

Photo by: Wilberto Ortiz

From left to right, in front: Don Barker, Rene Butler (Director of the HELPs Program), Lydia Rafferty, and the Peer Health Education Team.
Background before LaGuardia

I was born in Brooklyn. My family moved to Merrick, Queens when I was two years old. I was educated throughout my adolescent years at parochial schools. Therefore, for me, LaGuardia was a completely new approach to education. The diverse makeup of the student and faculty bodies afforded me an opportunity to develop not only educationally, but culturally. In 1970, there were not many extracurricular activities, which I really regret. The student count was only a few hundred.

When I left high school, I was not sure what I wanted to study. I didn't even know which college I wanted to attend. I opted for LaGuardia because I was impressed with LaGuardia's concept of education, especially the Co-op Preparation Program. LaGuardia was a forerunner in the U.S. because the College offered students experience in the workplace and college credits for workplace internships.

LaGuardia Experience

Prior to making my final decision to attend LaGuardia or, as it was called then, "Community College #9," I remember I came to LaGuardia to look around. I spoke to a receptionist who took me to meet the College's president, President Joseph Shenker. We had a very nice meeting. President Shenker discussed the educational philosophy of the school, such as the Co-op Prep program. This experience helped me decide to come to LaGuardia. Years later, I can see that an Associate's Degree is a great way to provide a student with a second chance. A two-year degree also offers a student in his early 20s the opportunity to "test the waters" in a field. If the student changes his mind, he can still change directions.

Not having a specific career direction, LaGuardia gave me the opportunity to pursue studies in Liberal Arts. I also received my first real experience of what it was like to be in the workforce while doing my Co-op Prep internships. My internships were very varied. First, I worked in American Chuckles, the gun factory that used to be next door to LaGuardia. Then, I interned as an instructor with the Greater New York City Ice Hockey League. Finally, I worked in a delicatessen. Imagine all of these opportunities were presented to me by LaGuardia because I wanted to attend. I was impressed with LaGuardia's concept of education, especially the Co-op Preparation Program. LaGuardia was a forerunner in the U.S. because the College offered students experience in the workplace and college credits for workplace internships.

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Have you checked out the New Science Study Hall?

BY KEITH J PLEICKHARDT
STAFF REPORTER

The lab opened on Jun 6, 1997. Scheduled hours are from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Tuesday, and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday. If you need help in your human bio courses, this is the place to be! Tuition is always on call. The lab is new and constantly being updated. It includes new skeletal models, muscle models, and human anatomy models. Often, there is real animal anatomy to study. During Spring Session - I, additional improvements will include new on-line and CD-ROM computers along with resource books; there is even a videocassette player to view all those exciting human bio videos.

Staff members are very excited about the study hall and its future. "Students are more comfortable learning in this lab due to its larger space," according to one student tutor, Lourdes Aponte. "Students tutors can be a great help in tutoring their fellow students," she said. Lourdes and many of the other tutors believe their experience can help to prepare students for human biology and anatomy exams. The Coordinator of the Science Study Hall, Gunther Eichholz, added that "many students are leaving the Study Hall with more knowledge and a positive attitude."

"The lab is a real confidence builder" said student tutor Aul Kutwal. "The Science Study Hall is a great help for those studying intense anatomy and biology courses." Aul added that he is always eager to help students. "This study hall provides an excellent environment for students to obtain knowledge," said Yakov Katanov, another tutor.

"The real anatomy models provide a better understanding of body structure" he added. According to the tutors, many students leave with a better understanding of anatomy and biology. "This new lab is much better than those at other colleges," according to Trevor Babae, human anatomy tutor. Dr. Carl Happe and Dr. Michael Gitten come up with the concept of the study hall and obtained the grant for it.

Students like Mechelle Negron are taking full advantage of the New Science Study Hall. "Students feel comfortable learning from their fellow students," she said. Mechelle also noted that the new anatomy models have helped her to study more effectively. Mechelle and many other students this reporter spoke to said they are happier studying in this new larger study hall. Students also liked the new models.

So, for those of you who have not paid a visit to the New Science Study Hall, go and check it out! By all accounts, it is a really helpful place that provides tutoring and science study materials for those who really want that "A" in human biology and anatomy courses. It is the place to be!

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LaGuardia Students Study with NASA

By ROSALEEN CROTTY CHIEF EDITOR

"I have always dreamed of working with NASA, even since I was a little girl and my father used to talk to me about Einsteins theory of relativity and black holes in space. When I came to the U.S. from Peru, I never believed my dream could come true. But it has! It is very hard work, and I think it is worth it."

LaGuardia Community College student Ely Dueñas is talking about her experience as a research student at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in New York City. Ely plans to pursue a career in researching black holes in space. This is a real possibility because of the scientific research work she and other LaGuardia students are doing at GISS. For the past two years, Ely and other researchers have been working on front-line scientific research which analyzes the planet Jupiter's atmosphere. This special project is an educational and scientific research program administered by the City University of New York (CUNY), the Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, and Engineering and Mathematics (AMPS), the Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS), and the Institute on Climate and Planets (ICP). The research project is funded jointly by the Equal Opportunity Office and the Education Division of NASA. Research associate and senior scientists from GISS are unpaid mentors who contribute their time and expertise to encourage minority students to pursue careers in science.

LaGuardia students at GISS are investigating the chemical composition and spatial distributions of Jupiter's stratospheric aerosols, which are minute particles suspended in the upper regions of the atmosphere. This research, performed in conjunction with GISS scientists, provides opportunities to gain networks in the scientific community. It is an important catalyst to engage students in the processes of scientific discovery. After the research is finished, the students will write a report on their findings. In the mean time, they will continue to explore new career possibilities in a scientific community.

How it is possible that a LaGuardia student, such as Ely Duenas, could pursue her dream of working with NASA? "President Bowen went to a HACU conference in 1991," explained Dean Roy McLeod. "HACU is the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. This association encourages support for underrepresented minorities in the math and science disciplines. At the conference, NASA representatives, promoted science scholarships to four-year colleges for minorities who are underrepresented minorities in the sciences," Dean McLeod said. "After meeting the NASA representatives, President Bowen challenged them to consider including two-year colleges, such as LaGuardia. They accepted President Bowen's challenge and asked me to submit a proposal to them," he added. The late Prof. John Stevenson presented the proposal, which included four scholarships for LaGuardia students, according to Dean McLeod. Later the scholarship program was extended to fund two additional students, a total of six students.

NASA's successful relationship with LaGuardia and the CUNY-wide program, according to Dean McLeod. Michelle Berry, a LaGuardia alumna and former participant in the NASA program, is now a computer science major at Queens College. She did not have a strong grounding in the sciences. "Lacking the knowledge of physics and chemistry, I had to learn basic scientific concepts in a short time span," Michelle indicated in an article published in The Community College Journal, April/May 1996. "Students often don't receive a sound grounding in physics, chemistry, and calculus in high school," observed LaGuardia professor Jim Frost in the same article. They are limited in what they can do by the time they reach college. I feel I can expose them to a new world that will give them more options for the future," he added. Prof. Frost also works at GISS.

So, if you are a minority student who is pursuing studies in science, mathematics, or engineering, you may want to check out this incredible program! For additional information on becoming a research scholar, contact Femi Jones, AMP Activity Coordinator, Room MB-06U, or call (718) 482-5478.

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LaGuardia Student
Sings for the World

Interviewed by Rosaleen Crotty
Chief Editor

Here is Marilyn's story as told to Rosaleen Crotty...

Getting a Musical Start

I am an only child. I live at home with my parents. I started singing in the church where my father is a pastor. In high school, I had a teacher, Miss Goodrich, who really liked my voice. She always encouraged me to sing, and this really made me believe I could sing! By the time I was 16, I knew for sure I wanted to be a singer. I remember the day I told my Dad that I wanted to be a singer. We were in the kitchen, his immediate response was, "Well, you have to go to college."

I had hoped to study at Purchase College. However, I was not accepted. After this initial disappointment, I decided to go to a community college. I chose LaGuardia because of the diversity of cultures in the school.

At LaGuardia I became involved in a musical, "The Wiz." In 1996, I met Prof. John Williams, who was conducting auditions for the show. After the auditions, he offered me the role of Dorothy, which I really enjoyed. Another student in "The Wiz," Felix Wellington, who is now deceased, told me about a professional audition. He believed that I had the voice for this particular production, and he was right! I auditioned, got a callback, and was eventually hired. Imagine, on my very first professional audition! I did the show, "Mama, I Want to Sing" in New York City on weekends for about one year, while I continued with my studies at LaGuardia. At the end of 1991, the producer's asked me to go on tour with the show to Japan, and I did. Japan was wonderful! They treated you very well there, especially if you are an entertainer. The Japanese people really appreciate black music, especially Gospel music.

Before I went on tour, I wondered if the Japanese would like the show; I also wondered how they could understand the music. But I learned that music is truly a universal language.

When the tour ended, I came back home and returned to LaGuardia immediately. I never forgot what my father told me about the importance of a college education. However, in the summer of 1992, I took three years off to tour with the show, then returned to Japan about four times and toured Europe, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. In 1995, I returned to school in Fall Session 1. I really wanted to complete my degree. Finally, I graduated in 1996.

Presently, I am working on a music project. Since I don't want to "count my chickens before they're hatched," I can't reveal any details at this time. I hope, by the help of God, you will soon see the results of these efforts.

To my fellow students, I just want you to remember that you are all put on this earth for a reason. When you truly know why you are here you should strive to achieve all of your goals. Go for it! Follow your dream! Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do it because you are the master of your own destiny.

THE 17TH ANNUAL LIBRARY
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REQUIREMENTS:
- The participants will be required to demonstrate their ability to conduct a brief literature search and incorporate relevant sources into their research papers.
- Entries must be written for a course taken at LaGuardia during the 1996-1997 academic year.
- The papers must be accompanied by an annotated bibliography.
- The papers must be submitted by the individual student or by faculty.

AWARDS:
- All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation.
- The First Place Winner will receive a $100 US Savings Bond and an Outstanding Academic Achievement Certificate.
- The Second Place Winner will receive a $75 US Savings Bond and an Outstanding Academic Achievement Certificate.
- The Third Place Winner will receive a $50 US Savings Bond and an Outstanding Academic Achievement Certificate.

- Winners will be invited to attend the Honors Night Ceremony to receive their awards.

RULES
- All entries must be accompanied by an official entry form and submitted to the attention of Professor Clementine Lewis at the Reference Desk (Library, Rooms E-101).
- All entries are judged by a panel of faculty and alumni representatives.
- The rules of entry are available upon request at the Library's Reference Desk.
- If you have any questions, please call Professor Lewis at ext. 5428.
When I arrived in January 1987, my first observation of New York was that it was just like TV! I could easily imagine a "Hill Street Blues" scenario happening as I walked down the street. Hill Street Blues, you may recall, was a popular TV show in 1987. But it was the little differences, the little things that I noticed. Being Irish born and bred, they gave rise to giggles, puzzlement, and the odd "well, would you believe that!" These were my first impressions when I arrived in New York.

To the Irish, Americans tend to be overly gushy. We Irish make a concerted effort to be grossly "under-gushy" about fellow members of the human race, especially our own families and neighbors. It's an Irish thing! For example, in an office in Manhattan, I congratulated a fellow worker on his recent engagement. Now, at home such a comment would elicit a response such as ... "Ah sure", she's not the worst I suppose ... I nearly fell off my standing, thus.

It was midweek, and the small crowd of mainly older people was dispersed throughout the church. Well, I wasn't at all prepared for the little old ladies. They were all in black, dragging themselves on their canes or walkers all over the church. The priest preached the part of the Mass when it was customary to offer a "sign of peace," and they proceeded to do so, not with a wave, or a handshake, but real live hugs all over the place. One got the distinct feeling that these little old dears were actually making a sign of peace, not just doing what Vatican II told them they had to do, weird stuff!

The Irish comic Neil Tobin from the apartment. No, we couldn't see anything "stareworthy." An American visitor to the apartment suggested that the conversation might have been noteworthy. Not at all, insisted Gerry, the conversation had been innocent stuff about people, it had been the night before. "What about the three "signs of peace," our American friend inquired. "Oh it was great ... the crowd was 90," Gerry replied.

Let me hasten to explain that Gerry wasn't referring to the infamous New York street drug, crack. Those of us "from across the pond" would know Gerry's observation was merely Hiberno-English for saying he'd had a good time the night before. However, we know how those listening on the N train might have thought Gerry's activities the night before were less to do with innocent fun and more to do with using an illegal substance.

Then, there are times when you think you are being perfectly "normal" when in fact your actions are a major social "fuss" in some places. Take, for instance, the story I just told. I've never told anyone. Gerry invited me to have dinner with him and his friend, Mike. We thought it would be a nice change to break out of our usual mold of going to a restaurant. Gerry's rental apartment was in the middle of the city, on the 18th floor, with a view of the Empire State Building.

On the way home, Mike and I stopped at a convenience store to buy some snacks. We bought a bag of pretzels, a couple of bars of chocolate, and some cookies. As our relationship developed, Gerry finally asked me why I did something "so odd" as to bring food with me when I invited me over to eat. "Odd," said I, "it would be odd not to!" According to Nigerian social mores, however, one should never bring a gift to someone who has invited you over to eat. Simply translated: "You think I'd be dumb enough to invite you over to eat, if I couldn't afford to feed you?"

So, by bringing my packets of cookies, I was implying that Gerry was dumb enough to invite me over when she couldn't afford to feed me! For the record, we've sorted out our differences. Now when Gerry comes to visit she takes my hands, looks straight into my eyeballs down to my soul and says, "Rosaleen, I am so happy to see you." And I know the truly means it down to her very toes. Me, I just arrive at her house with my one packet of chocolate chip cookies...
LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
25th Anniversary Celebration

TRAVEL LOGUE
Sponsored by Student Life & Development

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Don't miss out on an opportunity to "show off" your cultural heritage.
Educate others - wear traditional clothing from your country.

LEARN a new culture!

CELEBRATE our similarities!

RESPECT our differences!

Explore the rich cultural heritage of LaGuardia students, faculty and staff! Kiosks (Stations) will be set up throughout the college representing areas around the world!

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1997. 12:00pm - 5:00pm

For more Information, stop by Student Life and Development, Room M-115

[ ] YES, I want to volunteer for the 25th Anniversary Travel Logue.
[ ] NO, I can't volunteer now, but keep me in mind for future programs.

Name
Address
Phone
Country of Origin
BARRY'S BARKINGS

New York City what a town!
You can act like a complete nut
and still be thought as a normal human being.
But if you want to break out of the New York City normal mold, here
are some creative, nutty, fun, and just plain old stupid things to do.

1. Bring and wear hunting gear to the Bronx Zoo and ask a
  tour guide “Which animals are in season?”
2. Get stuck in the turnstile at the Wall Street subway station at 3:30 p.m.
3. Find tourists and nag them for directions about 20 times.
5. Dress as any religious figure and stand in front of a 25-
  cent peep show. When people come out, ask them “How
  was it?”
6. Do a ballet dance on the bus during rush hour.
7. Go to Madison Square Garden with a bunch of flowers
   and plants. Then bug security to tell you where you
   should plant them.
8. Try to bring fishing gear into the Coney Island
   Aquarium.
9. Gather a bunch of your friends and dress up like pirates.
   Then board the Staten Island Ferry and scream, “We will
   be taking over this mighty ship to look for our buried
   treasure.”
10. Do a series of scientific demonstrations about the
    strength of magnets in front of a body-piercing shop.

Find:
DCCBEZDCUTE
EWHITEVGDOR
RZWVHTERFOG
HEHDBSSNEIOR
RVEUEERDE
POPBCCSONERE
GLODROCOOLA
NHRBLGHDNIM

I love it. ‘Cause now
I have a higher chance
of scoring with Jenny
McCarthy.

I think it is bad. It
is
the beginning of
genocide and birth
to a new and perfect
human being!

Horoscopes
May 1997

Aries (March 21-April 19): Things are looking good for you, but look out for people who
say they are your friends. They might deceive you.
Taurus (April 20-May 20): Friends helping you out will leave you with plenty of paths of
knowledge, but choose wisely or the paths of knowledge will lead to a path of pain.
Gemini (May 21-June 20): You have been blessed with success in your endeavors. Watch
out for the greedy eyes that may want to harm you. Generous eyes will bless you if you
trick the trickster.
Cancer (June 21-July 22): You are on a rocky road of decision making. Choose wisely
and the fruits of your efforts will fall plentiful upon you.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): The tricksters are out hunting to give you trouble. Look for a friend-
ly hand to help you and to clear up the trouble the tricksters cause.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A path of judgment will turn into a path of light and success.
New friends will form, but old ones will seem more valuable.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Wisdom from the ages will guide you through a series of self-
doubt troubles. Just work through your problems and rewards will follow.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A decision must be made while you are in the right mood or a
path of troubling doubt will follow text. Don’t fall into the trickster’s lines.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Summer is the season of love but uncertainty will blur
your judgment. Love comes to you in a vision. What you see is what you
get. So smile and don’t look for trouble.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pick up your stuff and start a new beginning with some-
one you love. Together both of you can accomplish anything.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Love comes to you in a vision. What you see is what you
get. So smile and don’t look for trouble.

ADAM & EVE

YOU’VE GOT A PROBLEM??
WE’VE GOT THE ANSWER.
ADAM & EVE WILL HELP WITH ANY RELATIONSHIP
PROBLEMS. WHETHER IT’S A FAMILY, FRIEND OR LOVER.
ALL LETTERS ARE ANONYMOUS & CAN BE DROPPED OFF
AT THE INFORMATION DESK LOCATED IN THE M-BUILDING.
QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED IN THE UPCOMING
ISSUE OF THE BRIDGE.
WE’RE HERE TO HELP. ALL LETTERS ARE ANONYMOUS &
CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE INFORMATION DESK
LOCATED IN THE M-BUILDING.

by "Psy Eek"
MUGGS PRESENTS ...
THE SOUL ASSASSINS

In a time where most hip-hop “DJ” albums offer generic beats and lyrics—DJ Muggs proves his skill at producing a strong album with intoxicating beats. In his first solo album, Muggs takes a break from deejaying/producing for Cypress Hill, to bless hip-hop junkies with, MUGGS PRESENTS ...
THE SOUL ASSASSINS.

The album includes famous artists such as KRS-On, Dr. Dre, Mobb Deep, Goodie Mob, Cypress Hill, RZA & GZA/Genius, MC Eiht, Wyclef from Refugee Camp, and Infamous Mobb. He also collaborated with new Wu Tang Clan protege, LA The Darkman.

Lyrical content on Soul Assassins is not the usual “weed & crystal” cliché that has dominated the hip-hop industry for so long. With apocalyptic undertones throughout the entire album, creative rhymes tell preludes of a new millennium on tracks from Dr. Dre & B Real “Puppet Master,” Goodie Mob “Decisions, Decisions,” RZA & GZA/Genius “Third World,” and Cypress Hill “Battle of 2001.” Hip-Hop legend/philosopher KRS-One teaches a much needed lesson about unity throughout the hip-hop culture on his track “Move Ahead.”

Definitely worth the wait, DJ Muggs is one of the very few “DJs” willing to take the time to work with true hip-hop artists, and produce an album with original beats and versatile lyrics.

MUGGS PRESENTS ... THE SOUL ASSASSINS is one of the first albums of 1997 to finally take hip-hop to the next level.

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The Bridge

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Latinos Unidos

by Joan Yvette Zelaya
Managing Editor

Underrepresented Latino students finally find a home

With such a diverse Latino student population, why are there only four Latino (Dominican, Colombian, Peruvian, Puerto Rican) clubs at LaGuardia?

Colombian Club President Jayson Ramirez thought it an excellent idea to merge all four Latino clubs at LaGuardia, and open a club to all Latino students. Currently, the Colombian and Puerto Rican Clubs are working toward establishing a Latino club with a strong foundation that will encourage Latinos from South and Central America, and the Caribbean to join.

Latinos Unidos will provide a setting that will encourage unity and pride. It will also increase awareness throughout LaGuardia about Latino history and culture.

Colombian Club President Jayson Ramirez stated, “We're hoping to start a unity trend among our fellow certified Latino clubs and their members. We're also hoping that by Fall Session I, we will come together as a strong Latino club and achieve our goals as one.”

love jones the music

"love jones," the soundtrack, is a sweet, romantic collaboration of R&B artists that truly express the meaning of love missing from the repetitive and stale R & B scene. On the album are new songs from Lauryn Hill from the Fugees “the sweetest thing” and George Thaxton “never enough.” Also on the album are Maxwell and Xscape.

The soundtrack is composed of slow beats and smooth grooves that R & B listeners will love. It also features several contemporary jazz tracks from Kenny Lattimore, Marcus Miller, Meshell Ndegeocello, The Brand New Heavies, and a classic track from Duke Ellington and John Coltrane “in a sentimental mood.” Adding to the flavor is a spoken word, brother to the night, a poem written by Lauren Tate.

“love jones” is definitely a soundtrack that you should add to your collection, especially if you’re in the mood to mellow out and relax with that special someone.