January 28, 1997

On behalf of the Office of Student Life & Development and the 1996/97 Yearbook Committee, we are proud to announce the distribution of the 1996/97 LaGuardia Community College Yearbook, entitled “Innovations.”

This Yearbook, the first of its kind at LaGuardia since 1989/90, represents yet another collaborative effort by LaGuardia Students, faculty and staff in commemoration of the College’s 25 years of success and innovation. The book features a special 4-page color section focusing on two of the qualities that have made LaGuardia Students stand out: leadership and empowerment.

The staff of Student Life & Development and the Yearbook Committee present you with this complimentary copy of “Innovations,” as a token of our appreciation for your contributions to LaGuardia’s success. We know you will join us in wishing the graduating class of 1996/97 the best of health and happiness in their future.

Enjoy the book!

The 1996/97 Yearbook Committee
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The 1996-97 Yearbook Committee would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you, the 25th Anniversary Graduating Class of 1996-1997.

To say this project was difficult would be an understatement; but for the students of LaGuardia, we would have it no other way. We hope that when you flip through the pages that follow, whether one week from now or ten years from now, it helps bring back fond memories.

A great number of people have assisted with this book, in one way or another. Although we have attempted to thank each of you, it is a near impossible task. With that in mind, from the delivery man at Great Wall Restaurant (we’ve worked through quite a few lunch hours), to the photographers & layout artists…. THANK YOU!! (And remember, the ‘97-'98 book is right around the corner).

This book is part of your life. A remembrance of the good and bad times you’ve shared with friends and acquaintances here at LaGuardia. We hope you enjoy it as much as we have.

Good health, wealth and happiness to you all!

All our best!

The 1996-97 Yearbook Committee
Congratulations!! You have the honor and special privilege to be LaGuardia Community College's 25th Anniversary Graduating Class. I am especially proud of you as you symbolize the true height of success and the tremendous achievement that our College has made over the last 25 years. The 1996-87 academic year is a very important year for all of us. It is a time for us to celebrate LaGuardia Community College's founding, its evolving mission, and its growing Tradition of Innovation. Above all, it is a celebration of our success in putting students first and in creating a college on the cutting edge of educational innovation.

We have come a long way since opening our doors in the fall of 1971 when located in a converted factory in Long Island City, we admitted our first class of 450 students. Over the last 25 years, we have grown to become a nationally acclaimed leader in public higher education. In Fall 1996, the College had approximately 11,080 students enrolled in our credit programs and 19,400 students enrolled in non-credit programs (for 1996-97). At least half of our students are born overseas and the College serves as a primary site of access to higher education for New York City's diverse and increasingly global student population.

The faculty and staff at LaGuardia have long understood the continuing importance of education in the quality of life and economic vitality of New York City. We realize that our students require an education that prepares them for life and careers in an increasingly diverse, technology driven and global society. To meet these ever increasing needs and expectations, new challenges and opportunities, we have provided distinctive practical education to all students. As all of you step into the "real world," I hope that you will use the education that you have attained here at LaGuardia to search for meaningful jobs and even further your education. LaGuardia should be the firm stepping stone from which you launch your professional careers and realize your dreams of personal fulfillment.

My very best wishes for your continued professional growth and success!

DR. RAYMOND C. BOWEN
PRESIDENT, LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
On behalf of the Student Government Association of LaGuardia Community College, I would like to first congratulate the class of 1996/97. Secondly, I would like to remind you not to be satisfied with your Associates Degree, but instead use it and LaGuardia as a stepping stone from which you launch your career and fulfill your dreams.

With the 21st century fast approaching, it is more imperative that you are prepared to face the challenges of the next millennium. Continuing one's education and obtaining new skills and knowledge will be the weapon you need to face and conquer those challenges of the future.

For those who will leave LaGuardia and enter the work force, I say to you, do not be content with the first position you obtain, but instead, strive forward and continue to better yourself and your situation. Diversify your skills, learn to do many things very well. This will make you more valuable.

Again, I congratulate you on your outstanding and achievement and wish for you all the best of what the world has to offer. Look back fondly at your days at LaGuardia Community College and may God bless you all.

William Negron
President, Student Government Association 1996/97
The Deans

George Hamada
Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Roy McLeod
Interim Dean of Institutional Advancement

Richard Elliott
Dean of Administration

Judith McGaughey
Dean of Adult and Continuing Education

Harry Heinemann
Dean of Cooperative Education

Ruth Lugo
Dean of Student Affairs
FACTS & FIGURES

LAGUARDIA OPENED ITS DOORS FOR THE FIRST TIME ON SEPTEMBER 22, 1971 WITH ONLY 29 FULL-TIME FACULTY

IN THE EARLY YEARS OF LAGUARDIA'S EXISTENCE, ITS CAMPUS CONSISTED OF ONLY 1 BUILDING, THE "MAIN BUILDING."

TODAY, LAGUARDIA'S EXPANSION HAS REACHED 4 BUILDINGS

IN 1971 TUITION WAS FREE FOR FULL-TIME, MATRICULATED STUDENTS! DUE TO THE FISCAL CRISIS OF THE MID '70'S TUITION WAS INSTITUTED AND LAGUARDIA STUDENTS HAD TO PAY $775.00 A YEAR

IN 1971, A STUDENT HAD A CHOICE OF 39 COURSES OF STUD Y IN ONLY 4 MAJORS: LIBERAL ARTS, BUSINESS, SECRETARIAL SCIENCE AND EDUCATION ASSOCIATE (PARA PROFESSIONALS)

TODAY, LAGUARDIA OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF MAJORS, SUCH AS ALLIED HEALTH, COMPUTER SCIENCE, PARALEGAL STUDIES AND TRAVEL & TOURISM

IN 1971, 25% OF LAGUARDIA'S STUDENTS WERE "MINORITIES." SIX YEARS LATER, THAT NUMBER HAD Risen TO 85%

TODAY, HISPANIC STUDENTS MAKE UP 39% OF LAGUARDIA'S STUDENT POPULATION WHILE AFRICAN-AMERICANS ACCOUNT FOR 21%, CAUCASIANS 14% AND ASIANS 12%
ABOUT LAGUARDIA

THERE WERE ONLY 540 FULL-TIME STUDENTS IN LAGUARDIA'S FIRST FRESHMAN CLASS

TODAY, THERE ARE MORE THAN 11,000 FULL-TIME STUDENTS AND 19,000 PART-TIME STUDENTS

MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL WAS ESTABLISHED AT LAGUARDIA IN 1974.
INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE 1980'S

TODAY, TUITION FOR A FULL-TIME STUDENT IS $2,500 A YEAR,
STILL THE LEAST EXPENSIVE COLLEGE EDUCATION AVAILABLE IN NEW YORK


LAGUARDIA'S POPULATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN PREDOMINATELY FEMALE. IN FACT, BY THE LATE 1970'S LAGUARDIA'S POPULATION WAS ALMOST 60% FEMALE.

TODAY THE RATIO OF FEMALE STUDENTS TO MALE STUDENTS IS ALMOST 2 TO 1
A Beautiful African Queen

The Accounting and Law Clubs at the Lincoln Memorial

Members of the Caribbean Club share a laugh
An Indian Club Cultural Dancer

Indian Club Fashions

Members of Latinos Unidos at "MS-Walk '97"

Proud members of the African Club
Haitian Club fashion plates

A lovely Peruvian Club couple

Dominican Club Dancers
The African Club

The Peruvian Club

Latinos Unidos and Mayor Giuliani at "MS-Walk '97"
Hey Over Here!

How can I get you to notice me?
    I notice you.
I want to ride you in the next dimension,
    feel your past,
make your present,
    be your future,
but your eyes pass me over
Do I have to strip bare to the bone,
    should I turn into air,
be your wind,
    Could I just be me,
will that turn you on?

by Blondell Jackson

activate

Cry freedom child! Loud! Long! Hard!

Cry righteous girl! Strong! Heavy!

Don’t stop imagination from taking over.

Black, white birth many rainbows.

Cry freedom boy or should I say man?

Cry justice everyone! Swift! Blind!

Cry!

by Blondell Jackson
Oh earth the blossoms of nature
are gone,
What have you done;
You put nature asleep,
ever so deep.

Oh earth you transformed the
water into ice,
You let us pay the price;
Is this your pride,
to allow our food to hide.

Oh earth we need to gather a reserve,
So that we have some nutrition
to serve;
Because during the months of sleep,
people will have nothing to leap.

Oh earth this is the winter’s space,
but soon there will be the springs pace;
So that the months of blooming will
be awakened,
and you will give back what
you have taken.

By Philipp Mandalidis
THE FIRST
LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TOWN MEETING

A student waits his turn to ask the next question

Professor Terrence Julien and the panel of administrators

Students, faculty and staff listen intently during this historic event
On Wednesday, January 15, 1997 LaGuardia Community College held its first ever Town Meeting in the E-Building Atrium. This premiere event opened the lines of communication between students, faculty, staff and the administration at the college.
Murder Mystery Cruise

Professional Workshops

Disability Awareness Week

Travel Logue

5K Road Race/Fun Walk

Honors Night
Lecture Series

25th Anniversary Dinner Dance

MultiCultural Awareness Week

Family Day Picnic Celebration

International Hall of Flags

Alumni Association Dinner
LaGuardia's President Bowen and Dr. Edyberto Cabral, Rector Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo renew an agreement promoting continued cooperation between our two institutions.

Dr. William J. Wilson, Professor of Social Policy at the J. F. Kennedy School of Government (Harvard University) speaking on the disappearance of jobs in America's ghettos.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Mathew Joffe of the Office of Students with Disabilities/Learning Project with Paul Hern of the Dole Foundation during the celebration of Disability Awareness Week.
LaGuardia's first President, Dr. Joseph Shenker addresses the 25th Anniversary Alumni Association Dinner

Dean Ruth Lugo and Dean Harry Heinemann "trip the light fantastic"

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
25th ANNIVERSARY
DINNER/DANCE

LEADERS OF LAGUARDIA: Present and Past Dr. Raymond Bowen and Dr. Joseph Shenker

President Bowen and one of LaGuardia's most "CHERISHED RELICS" Umoja Kwanguvu, former Coordinator of College-Wide Events
The International Hall of Flags

LaGuardia's youngest agents of peace—the students of the Early Childhood Learning Center, Inc.
An historic ribbon cutting unveiling LaGuardia's International Hall of Flags

The LaGuardia Singers sing a song of peace

"FREEDOM!"
Rick Kreuger shares a special father-daughter moment with Allison

"Tammy Faye has got nothing on me"

"CHOW TIME!"
President Bowen with some last minute advice for the contestants

Which "I" will win?

"WINNERS"

"Hey look what I won!"

"Ready... Set... Go!"

LAGUARDIA'S
5K/FUN WALK
MURDER

MYSTERY

CRUISE

The "LaGuardia Slasher" strikes again

Just one more dance, please . . .
I promise not to step on your toes again

LaGuardians Gettin' their groove on!
Appreciation Week '97

Multi-Cultural
"Popcorn is my life," says Robert Levine

The sounds of steel pans set just the right tone

"SPRING"

"That's one with the works!"

Ellie Evans of The Business Office serves up an ice cream bar

Diane Colon and Ron Paynter keep the drink line moving...
Dean Ken Cottrell with another satisfied customer

Some righteous reggae rhythms!

Dean Cottrell and Bernice Harris provide service with a smile

Clara Roca and Sadre Motia lend a helping hand (or two)

"Popcorn... Hey get ya popcorn here..."
Here's to the WINNERS!
JOSE E. IRIZARRY
President
Student Government Association, 1997-98

A LOOK INTO
STUDENT GOVERN

LaGuardia Community College
YESTERDAY
1971
THE FUTURE... MENT 1997-98
I am.

The length of my birth is beyond human comprehension, beyond humans. I learned how to walk while they were still homeless souls.

I am what some see, some feel deep down within, some have hidden far in their own thoughts, some have no intention of facing.

I am what some know they must face if they are to truly grow and live.

When something comes over you to make you suddenly realize yourself. It was because I held the mirror.

In a moment of terror a strength that was never known to you overpowers your fear. My might was always yours to command.

When frustration gets unbearable you politely brush it aside. Those were my hands

Engulfed in tracking the night sky. If I were to close my eyes you would go blind.

My skin is marbleized opal.

arteries are made of gold.

veins are made of silver.

heart is pure water.

blood is liquid light.

eyes are black holes.

mind is time.

And my soul is infinite.

My voice is but a whisper, my silence is that space deafening.

With one hand I hold life dear, with the other I brush those who outlived their usefulness aside.

I am not the Alpha or the Omega, just what has been because of them.

I am everyone yet have never met one such as myself. And I wait still. Hopeful. Now more than ever.

Victor H. Araque
STUDENT

Leadership

and

Empowerment

"The leaders of Tomorrow"
"Fired up, can't take no more"

"Student Government leads the way"

LaGuardia's Bangladesh club lends their support.

"New York's Finest" await the demonstrators.

CUNY Students let their feelings be known.

A TIME for CHANGE
"Education is a right, FIGHT . . . FIGHT . . . FIGHT . . ."

LaGuardia takes its concerns to the "Steps of the Capitol"

LaGuardians "Doing the Right Thing".

Students will go to any lengths to get their point across.

No more "Horsing around".
LaGuardia students bound for "Glory"

I know you are, but what am I?

Laurie Dinan of the Student Center of Women.

Two of LaGuardia's brightest stars Juan "Doc" Gonzalez and "Pure Light Allah" "Proud LaGuardians"
The Graduates
On behalf of the Office of Student Life & Development

Congratulations
Class of 1996/97
Credits

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                                                          Philipp Mandalidis

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• Valdi Morell
• Vincent Banrey - "You were right, what a headache!"

EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS

Steve Avelleyra of Herff Jones - OUR HERO!
This yearbook is dedicated to the lasting memory of Dr. Betty Shabazz, a courageous woman of peace and integrity who has touched all of our lives.