CUNY unveils Master Plan

BY ALEKSANDR SIDOROV

CUNY unveiled 2004-2008 Master Plan in November 2005 at meetings with student club representatives all over CUNY campuses. Yearly tuition increases are one of the important factors of the Master Plan, which according to Richard Elliot, LaGuardia’s Vice President of Administration, is staying away from a huge tuition increase every year.

According to the plan, which has yet to be approved by the New York State Legislature, the tuition increase would be 4.3% for the 2006-07 semester for community colleges, like LaGuardia, and 3.3% for senior colleges like Queens College. The Master Plan should be implemented by the Fall 2006 semester at all CUNY campuses. The tuition for senior colleges would increase by $130 to $4,130 per year, and community colleges’ tuition would increase, but by a smaller amount: $120 to $2,290.

By the 2009-10 semesters, yearly tuition for senior colleges will be $4,390, while community college students will have to pay $3,160. These figures are representations of what a full-time, New York State resident, 2-credit student will have to pay. The figures do not include out-of-state and international student, who pay nearly 50% more than their matriculated counterparts.

To offset students’ costs, CUNY came up with a plan so that what a student has to pay in Fall 2006 will be the same as they pay now.

For those who receive TAP (Tuition Assistance Program), the increase should have no effect, since the TAP is large enough to cover this increase. For students who do not have TAP or any other grants, corporations and other donors should help those students and pay the difference.

The administration was not clear as to how that would be done below, and security personnel responded immediately, as well as local police and fire fighters, when he was safely removed from the roof, and escorted to the hospital by two Public Safety officers — according to an official report from LaGuardia’s Chief External Affairs office.

Even though the man was from the neighborhood, LaGuardia’s open-door policy has raised some concerns about student safety. “This is an open campus,” said Captain Brooks, from the Public Safety Office, “They show us a valid driver’s license, and we can’t stop them, or even know where they are going.”

LaGuardia is one of a few of CUNY’s colleges with an open door policy while some close their doors to the public; a student must show a valid student I.D. to gain access to the college grounds.

Regresa el Programa de Educación Bilingüe

Gústele a quien no le guste

Por FABIAN ZARTA

A través de los últimos años, en Estados Unidos el bilingüismo ha venido tomando bastante fuerza, en especial cuando de Español e Inglés nos referimos; esto gracias a un alto índice de inmigración Hispana. Consecuentemente, se ha ido creando mayor conciencia cada vez más, en cuanto a la formación académica en los dos lenguajes, hecho que debe prevalecer. Ello fundamentará la exitosa transgresión de nuestra sociedad y la expansión del pensamiento de nuestra raza.

El Programa Bilingüe arraiga comienzos en el año 1973 pero genera fuertes fundamentos después de 1974 en LaGuardia. Según informes de “Bilingual People Services”, antiguos exgraduados de LaGuardia, hay gran demanda de maestros bilingües en la ciudad pues los que hay no suplen las necesidades. Sin embargo, hace aproximadamente dos años atrás el programa dejó de funcionar en LaGuardia por cuestiones aparentemente de revisión y/o reestructuración. Hecho que no duda haya sido importante para el desenvolvimiento de de nuestros futuros educadores bilingües. Pero estamos hablando de un periodo bastante largo, ¿Cuáles realmente fueron las razones? Me di a la labor de indagar al respecto, y después de escuchar voces aquí y allí, contacté a Ana Maria Hernández, maestra de Literatura, y uno de las pioneras en este programa en LaGuardia.

"Yo fui una de las primeras sorprendidas cuando el programa fue cerrado" dice la docente. Y agrega "aún me pregunto, cuales fueron las razones por que uno de los programas más exitosos fue cerrado", quise profundizar un poco más en la connotación que tenían sus palabras y sin tanto rodeo tomé al toro por los

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School lunch tasting more like money

By JENNIFER MORRON

Listening to the sweet beat of “Jingle Bell Rock,” a great holiday song, I could smell the thick cheeseburger sandwich sitting on my friend’s plate.

“How much was that? It looks good!” I asked facing her as she was placing the gigantic burger in her mouth. “How does it taste?”

Wow, $2.39? For a cheeseburger?!

And this is not including a drink, correct? Wow! In McDonald’s, you could buy two cheeseburgers for that price! I had remembered this past experience as I saw my two friends eating those crispy curly fries and a cup of warm, delicious oatmeal.

School lunch is tasting more like money than food.

Cost is Great, Correct?

There are two cafeterias, one in the M Building located on Thomson Avenue and an additional cafeteria in the C Building located on 43rd Street on Thomson Avenue. Both have the same type of food, such as crispy curly fries, warm cheeseburgers and even sushi. The food is fantastic and so is its cost, isn’t it?

Ebony Dawkins and Ayesha Sultana, freshmen, both disagree. “The school lunch tastes very good, but it is putting a dent in my pocket because it is too expensive.” Dawkins said. Sultana added that the food cost was making her waste about $30.00 per week.

Even staff members of the Recreation Department agree that the food is too expensive. “I think the school lunch is way too expensive and they need to have more of a variety of foods to choose from since the school promotes diversity,” one staff member spoke out.

Another staff associate, Tamer Altan disagreed and thought that there was a large selection to choose from and the price was pretty reasonable.

Many have the same opinion with these staff members, particularly on the price range. A cup of cereal itself is sold separately from a container of milk. Together, that would be close to three dollars.

Another example would be a turkey sandwich. This alone would come out to almost $4.00. Additionally, there is ten percent sales tax on the food. Why the tax? Mike Gelles, President of the Food Corporation for CUNY food services added, “It’s the law. We can’t get away from it.”

7 Eleven Moves Into Town

Recently, a new 7 Eleven opened across the street from the E Building. Many students have been going there and buying hotdogs and instant spaghetti. When asked if there was a decline in customers, Levine explained, “Not that I have seen. I’ve seen a couple of 7 Eleven coffee cups in the school campus but no decline has been made. I personally feel that the store was built on the wrong side of the street because it’s dangerous.”

The wide block has traffic lights, but is still known as a dangerous street due to the fact that the Queensboro Expressway is right next to the school. It is in fact very perilous but many students seem to rather choose 7 Eleven than college food, regardless of the weather or the traffic.

Many students, like Austin J. Auricemma, chooses 7 Eleven rather than the college’s cafeterias, “Well, first of all, everybody crosses that street, go to the train station or to buy their cigarettes. And, well, rain doesn’t bother me at all. It’s just across the street; it’s not like walking an extra 10 blocks or something.”

The prices in 7 Eleven are as costly as college lunch. The only difference is they sell more of a variety like dishes of instant noodles, hotdogs, slurpies, hot pockets, frozen dishes and additional materials for home and to eat.

Could a Difference Happen?

The head of the food industry here at LaGuardia said they can lower the prices, but to keep in mind, they do sell more of a quantity than McDonald’s for the same price. For example, the box of small French fries costs the same amount but they offer more than McDonald’s plus they are made instantly, hot and fresh.

“I recommend before the students go and make assumptions about our food being pricey, to check out any other CUNY school. Out of all CUNY food industries, we are the lowest committee in the system.” Gelles responded. “If students feel so strongly, a petition could be made.”

If anyone feels strongly about the food prices or quality, please feel free to voice your opinion. A single voice can make a difference.
International High School receives high marks

By ANGIE ORTIZ

A recent study done by the City University of New York Graduate Center has compared the graduation and dropout rates of international high schools with traditional high schools. The international high schools participating in this study were Brooklyn International, Manhattan International, and LaGuardia's very own International High School. The study found that the graduation rate for foreign students from international high schools is higher than foreign and non-foreign students from traditional high schools. For international high schools overall, the 4-year dropout rate is 5.2%, while the rate for students who are learning English is at 31.5%, and 19.9% for students who aren't English language learners.

Many will wonder, what are the international schools offering that the others aren't?

This research was also looked at further by other factors such as age, gender, and GPA. LAGCC's International High School requires students to take Regents exams required for high school students to graduate. New York State has excused all 28 international high schools from having students take the Regents, although in the International High School at LaGuardia they have to produce a collaborative final project to be considered for graduation.

While there are no honors courses offered, for students who wish to get a head start on their academic career, there is a program offered called EXCEL, where students can earn their high school diploma and associate's degree by taking college classes. The coursework isn't any easier or tougher, and there is tutoring available to help them. Every teacher helps students improve their English along with the lesson.

In its 20th year, the international high school in LAGCC has many success stories, such as receiving and winning grants from foundations such as the Gates Grant for the Early College Program. Also, officials from other states such as Colorado will visit the high school to gain knowledge on what to do to achieve an international high school as successful as LaGuardia's. Officials from North Carolina have also visited the school to gain insight on opening an Early College Program similar to the school's.

Once the students reach their goal, they are able to participate in the honor of graduating from their high school, which takes place in LaGuardia's main stage theater in the evening hours so parents who work can watch the special event. The graduation ceremony is performed in English, but students who speak are welcomed to say something in their native language as well as translate for the others. The ceremony also has special guest speakers, some who are given awards from the school. Many special awards are given to the students at the time of graduation, from academic achievements to scholarships to private schools that can be up to $100,000. Awards are also given to outside sources, such as people who have given their time and funds to help the school continue with its success.

Photographers light up LaG

Commercial Photography Majors illuminate campus with vivid colors, images and creativity.

By BETTY BENITEZ

The LaGuardia Community College, CUNY Commercial Photography Department presented, Student's Exhibition by Upper Class Photography Majors, October 12 through November 30, 2005.

The student exhibition presented work by ten Upper Class Photography Majors. Students' work was showcased in the glass case located in the main lobby of the college, where most student could get a glimpse of the exhibition.

Each student offers a unique style of photography. Students submitted their best work in both, black and white and color. The photographs also varied in subjects from landscapes and experimental work to studio still life, portraits and photo documentaries.

This particular exhibition presented student-produced and student-curator work. Students were in charge of production, which allowed space for hands-on experience. The curator opportunity was given to student and Commercial Photography major Sungoon Kim.

Sungoon Kim printed all photographs on an Epson 7600 ink jet printer using Ultra chrome archival ink. He also did the layouts of the photographs, by choosing from thumbnail images. His final choice was 24x33 life-size photographs. Having design experiences helped him curate this exhibition. "I have a bachelor degree in Fine Arts [and] my major was design, so I think I was pretty much familiar with doing printing and using computers," he said. According to Sungoon, his experiences helped him organize the exhibition, but it was still hard work. "It took a lot of time to put together the images and print them out. It took 1 month because of my class schedule," he said.

The exhibition was intended to highlight work by students produced in class assignments and individual outside work. There were no guidelines as to what types of work were installed. The final choice was made by the students themselves as explained by Mr. Scott Sternbach, Lecturer and Director of Commercial Photography at LaGuardia Community College. "I gave them basic guidelines that the subject matter did not matter, the thing that mattered was the quality of the work. They should only show their best work that would translate well to a large image," he said.

Students were also very happy that their work was installed in the exhibition. "As a student from LaGuardia Community College, I feel grateful that my work is up because there are only a few students whose work is up - ten out of at least thirty students," said Upper Photography Major Mauricio Quinto. "Our professor's work is experimental. He uses a technique called painting with light, where the subject he photographs is highlighted by a flash light in plain darkness. "I feel everybody's work is great and I feel good about my school and class work. I feel confident about my school and department," he said.

Each photographs has a different meaning and reflects specific visions of each photographer as explained by Photographic Major Joe Canol.
LaGuardia helps to battle asthma
LaGuardia CC launches a 300 Family Asthma Assessment and Prevention Project focused on Elmhurst, Queens and Parkchester, the Bronx.

By WALTER IWACHW

Through a pilot $250,000 two-year Federal Environmental Protection Administration Project LaGuardia Community College is recruiting volunteers and eligible participants in an asthma assessment and prevention project in Elmhurst, Queens and Parkchester, the Bronx. This study is a collaborative effort with Environmental Protection Agency, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Education, the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, and community hospitals supporting the LaGuardia-based project.

The motivation for the project is the continued increase in new asthma cases among the New York City population. Currently, over 700,000 adults and 300,000 children are diagnosed. This assessment project is an effort to establish monitoring and remedial programs to stem the tide of asthma and the thousands of deaths that result every year. Low-income communities have a threefold greater incidence of childhood hospitalization from asthma.

This initiative involves conducting an initial assessment of the home environment and providing individuals with educational information on how to minimize or eliminate asthma home environmental triggers such as pests, dust mites, secondhand smoke, molds, and household cleaning products. Six months after the initial visit, a Master Home Environmentalist will conduct a follow-up visit to evaluate the effectiveness of asthma education in decreasing the occurrence of asthma symptoms.

The project is recruiting individuals with asthma and health care workers through its website (http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/AsthmaProject/). Volunteer Healthcare workers are being recruited from the community, student and faculty base and the program offers a stipend to qualified students to defray the costs incurred. Allied health field students are encouraged to volunteer and take advantage of the training with a certificate as community health worker, provided by the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation in support of the program. The student body as a whole is encouraged to inform eligible friends in the Elmhurst and Parkchester areas to register for the benefits of the program, which includes an asthma kit with products to help control asthma symptoms, a home assessment for asthma triggers and education designed to minimize or eliminate triggers in the home.

LaGuardia CC faculty, staff and large members of the asthma assessment and prevention committee are project director Rosely Ociaviano, RN, MA, AEC, project manager Marcia Caton, RN, Ph.D. Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, committee members Cynthia Boone, OTR/L, Fredesindina Dura, BScE, ME, Debra Engel, PT, DPT, MS, Nurpel Gokhan, Ph.D., Adjina Gizhi, BA, MA, Rosann Ippolito, MS, RD, CDN, Selvi E. Mark, Ph.D., Maria Pinto, Fonti, RN, BSN, MA, Diane Slade, RN, MSN, Iona Thomas-Conor, RN, BSN, MA, EPA Project Officer Aneesha Mehta-Sampath, EPA Grant Specialist Douglas Robinson.

Family Asthma Assessment and Prevention Project http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/AsthmaProject/
CUNY unveils Master Plan

Continued from Page 1

The Master Plan has some vulnerabilities; the most important one is that it has not yet been approved. Another one is the fact that its three primary budget providers – state and city, private donors, and student tuition – are dependent on each other. Master Plan, in itself, is a call for higher standards at CUNY. “Every dollar will go to improvements,” said LaGuardia’s President, Dr. Gail O. Mellow. She also added that the budget depends on those primary budget providers. If one of them doesn’t get enough money or doesn’t get approved, Master Plan could fall apart. State and city funding are especially critical, since they produce the majority of the budget.

The budget will also strengthen CUNY’s and LaGuardia’s flagship programs, according to Mr. Elliot. The colleges will have money to hire new faculty, improve undergraduate education, and expand teaching through technology. The new Master Plan is different from CUNY’s tuition increases in the past. Justin Pastor, LaGuardia’s representative at University State Senate (USS) of CUNY, views the plan as good. “I think that the plan is better than the past because the increase is gradual instead of having the tuition jump every few years,” he said. The gradual tuition increase ensures that the University expenses will be covered even with inflation. It also adds programs to the colleges, while decreasing emphasis on students paying tuition. According to CUNY’s website, the percentage of CUNY’s budget funded by students’ tuition will decrease to 37.6% in 2009-10 semester from the current 40.6%.

CUNY officials point out that the last increase, which was in 2004, raised tuition by $800 in senior colleges and $300 in community colleges. Though, some of LaGuardia’s students disagree with the plan. At the time of the announcement of the plan, students leaders spoke against the hike, calling it unfair because by the time the changes are implemented, the students will be gone. Mr. Elliot acknowledged their concerns, but said it’s out of their hands, since LaGuardia is only a two-year college.

Some international students voiced their concerns as well, citing the fact that they pay more than other students, while not getting any aid from the government or any other sources, other than their own income. Elliot tried to alleviate their concerns by repeating that the difference in tuition will be paid by a private investor.

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Projected Annual Undergraduate Resident Tuition Increases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Projected Senior College Increase</th>
<th>Senior College Tuition Rate</th>
<th>Projected Community College Increase</th>
<th>Community College Tuition Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005 - 2006</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$2,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 - 2007</td>
<td>$130</td>
<td>$4,130</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$2,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 - 2008</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$4,230</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$3,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 - 2009</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$4,320</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$3,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 - 2010</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$4,390</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$3,160</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage change from 2005: 9.8%

Percent Annual Average Change over 4 years: 2.4%
I'm going to be working on my career in real estate, my LaGuardia classes and, if I have time, party!
- Alberto Santiago, Deaf Studies

I am going to go upstate four-wheeling and working on a farm.
- Radica Lazic, Liberal Arts: Math and Science

Vegetating on the sofa as I graduate at the end of this session.
- Suzanne Georgion, Teacher's Ed/English
WORD ON CAMPUS

How Do You Plan to Spend Your Spring Break?

I'd like to look for another job so that I can quit the one that I have right now.

- Alexander Espinoza, Computer Science

Traveling. Whoo! I love to travel. I just got a new car, so I can't wait to take a road trip with my girlfriends. What better time than springbreak?

- Monique Pettawal, Liberal Arts: Social Sciences

I plan to visit my family in Massachusetts and then come back to prepare for my Spring 2006 classes.

- Pedro Peralta, Computer Technology

I plan to study for Biology II, since I am taking Biology I during the six-week session.

- Kelly Sexton O.T.A.
Regresa el Programa de Educación Bilingüe

Continuación página 1

Por FABIAN ZARTA


4. Cuando nos menciona leyes a que tipo de leyes te refieres, leyes de LaGuardia?

hablaba que la universidad de cuatro años que da la licencia de maestro es donde debe hacerse el “Field work”. Además, que los estudiantes de LaGuardia iban muy bien preparados académicamente. Desde ahora, todos los cursos de educación bilingüe que tomen aquí, les serán útiles al transferirse a la universidad de cuatro años. En adición, se darán “internships” para que el estudiante trabaje en el área de docencia bilingüe, porque que antes hacían los “internships” pero no realmente en su campo. Los cursos de composición I y II en Español e Historia Latinoamericana continuarán y también serán transferibles. Adicional, el programa estará en un solo departamento.

6. Hablamos que no había un director en el Programa Bilingüe. Por qué dejar eso vacío, y luego sencillamente cerrar el programa? Carencia monetaria. No querían traer a nadie, hasta no saber hacia que dirección realmente iba el programa. Se habló de un revisor del programa, luego, que quedarían en un solo departamento. Y después que este estuvo supervisado por una sola persona que estará a cargo de todos los programas de educación en LaGuardia. Entonces no tenía sentido traer una persona para el Programa Bilingüe, cuando se iba a traer a alguien para la supervisión general. Yo creo, esto es pura conjetura mía, como tú sabes que esto de la educación bilingüe es una cuestión muy política; muchos de los críticos, a nivel de bochinche, dicen que no debe existir y que se va a acabar. Esto no es cierto, ellos no tienen ni la menor idea de lo que hablan...

No, a las leyes de la oficina de educación del estado. Por ello, inclusive tuvimos una persona de fuera inspeccionando el programa, dijo de algunos ajustes que debían hacerse pero los comentarios fueron muy faltadores. Además, se revisó con aquel director de aquel director, el Programa de Educación Bilingüe que a ellos les sea útil y educación bilingüe. 

-Como escritor de este artículo, debo mencionar que ciertas personas con las que hable, dicen que quien hizo la inspección realmente no era muy bien aceptada por todo el programa de educación bilingüe en LaGuardia.

5.- No servían acaso todos esos cursos? Cual fue el causante del largo tiempo, después de LaGuardia?

que según se informó a ella poniendo en tela de juicio de su campo. Los cursos que habían antes y a la universidad.

que eran esos cursos y para el estudiantado?

la carrera profesional ya se puso. Había gente que pensaba que el Programa Bilingüe en LaGuardia, no se podía enseñar el lenguaje, hablar Español es una cosa y Enseñar Espanol es otra. Yo vine a LaGuardia con el Programa Bilingüe e implante de dos años.

5. No servían acaso todos esos cursos / Cual fue el causante del largo tiempo, después de LaGuardia?

que habían antes y a la universidad.

que eran esos cursos y para el estudiantado?

3. Por qué fue suspendido el Programa de Educación Bilingüe. Vamos al punto, el profesorado tenía faltas, el alumnado, las instalaciones, no necesitaba realmente una reestructuración, cuál era el causante del largo cierre del programa? Hablamos de dos años.

Lo que pasaba es que no teníamos un director en el programa bilingüe. Para el año 1991 y 1992 con el director del programa Jesús Fuentes, una persona totalmente dedicada, hicimos algunos cambios al programa, desafortunadamente con sumo esfuerzo para aquel tiempo, no hemos tenido directivas que realmente hayan hecho lo suficiente. Las leyes han cambiado, se decía, que supuestamente se iba a revisar que estaba pasando con el programa, bueno eso fue parte de la movida que hicieron, porque después nos enteramos que era que estaban formando un nuevo departamento de educación. Pues el Programa

8. Que puede ofrecer un estudiante graduado de este programa en LaGuardia?

Realmente con un diploma de LaGuardia solo pueden trabajar como asistentes para profesionales y servirles mientras van terminando la carrera profesional de cuatro años.

9. Que le dirías a un estudiante que quiere ser docente bilingüe? Yo siempre he dicho que la enseñanza es una vocación, la riqueza del maestro está en la satisfacción. Nosotros como latino tenemos una contribución muy importante que hacer a esta sociedad y la educación bilingüe es una gran contribución. La idea del bilingüismo es formar niños competitivos en dos lenguas y para eso se debe estudiar de nuestra historia latinoamericana y conocer muy bien métodos de enseñanzas.

10. Bien, y lo que todos estamos esperando, para cuando iniciara...

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La pequeña nota

Se inicia una nueva etapa en The Bridge, pues se da paso al pensamiento Hispánico y al rescate de nuestra escritura y lengua. Debo decir que aún soy un aprendiz, y que toda mi vida lo seré; se que falta mucho por explorar en el Español, la Sección. Sin embargo, el ideal es noble y la esperanza grande. Por ello, seguiré trabajado más en profundidad para las futuras ediciones, con más temas de interés, no solo de aquí en LaGuardia, sino también en el panorama socio-político-cultural de nuestra comunidad Hispana y por supuesto de esta cultura americana que es nuestro hogar ahora. La idea es crear y sembrar inquietudes por nuestro lenguaje, tanto para nosotros y para el público en general; y es por esto que hago una invitación a todos aquellos que quieran ayudar a enriquecer esta sección, para que se unan a esta causa. Compañeros como quiero que sea les deseo lo mejor en la marcha. Gracias a todos mis compañeros del periódico por apoyar esta idea, a los entrevistados y a todos ustedes lectores, gracias.

Fabian Zarta
Editor
El Español

La sección

Elecciones en Colombia de 2006

Por FABIAN ZARTA

Colombianos de LaGuardia haganse sabedores de que tenemos Elecciones Presidenciales y del Congreso para el periodo que dura entre 2006-2008. El domingo, 12 de marzo se llevará a cabo las elecciones del Congreso de la República; y el domingo, 28 de mayo la elección presidencial. Como nota extra, les comentó que la Corte Constitucional Colombiana adhirió a la constitución el acto legislativo que permite la reelección presidencial inmediata, lo cual deja libre potestad de inscripción a nuestro actual presidente Álvaro Uribe para las candidaturas presidenciales de 2006, acción que no demoró en ejecutar el mismo líder. Más aún, porque tal hecho le dejará huella inborrable a su nombre en la historia histórica de nuestro país, por ser el primero en lograr tal evento, ya veremos cómo le va.

La pregunta que no puedo hacer es la llave de su éxito?

Impongan. La presión debe estar para sean tomar un curso en lengua inglesa o si simplemente quieren darles un vistazo a las diferentes áreas profesionales, respecto a sus propósitos en las universidades de aquel país. No escuchen las presiones familiares y/o sociales que les impongan. Yo se que buscan o que les llenan.

En los años 80, con entrega, quieren trabajar como misionera. En el campo, encuentran la injusticia política y el económico, viajan a ciudades como Detroit y algunas ciudades de esa, entonces debo citar a una famosa actriz y docente nacida en Washington, tiempo en el cual ha estado trabajando como actriz profesional. Se destacan, por ser el primero en lograr tal evento, que durante sus últimos 15 años de vida profesional, ha trabajado en diferentes escenarios en el mundo del cine, el teatro y la televisión americana. Se destacan, en el campo del cine "Apartheid Movement", (Movimiento antirracismo precedido en el Sur de África), donde ella por iniciativa propia, con parte de su patrimonio cultural y económico, viajo a ciudades como Cape Town, Johannesburb, Soweto y Durban; para participar activamente en favor de este movimiento.

Y ha sido gracias a estas experiencias, que durante sus últimos 15 años de vida profesional, ha trabajado en diferentes escenarios en el mundo del cine, el teatro y la televisión americana. Se destacan, en el campo del cine "Apartheid Movement", donde ella por iniciativa propia, con parte de su patrimonio cultural y económico, viajo a ciudades como Cape Town, Johannesburb, Soweto y Durban; para participar activamente en favor de este movimiento.

Teatro en LaGuardia a la Retaguardia

La actriz y maestra

Por FABIAN ZARTA

Digna representante de la raza negra; actriz y docente nacida en Washington D.C. está radicada desde 1993 en New York, tiempo en el cual ha estado trabajando tanto en el teatro de LaGuardia y actriz profesional. La realización de sus estudios de actuación, han sido en “The University of Michigan, M.A.”, “Howard University, B.F.A. (Magna Cum Laude)” y “Webber Douglas Academy Of Dramatic Arts”, en Londres, donde tuvo un encuentro especial con Shakespeare y sus clásicas obras. Es una talentosa mujer, que ha vivido en Francia, donde fue estudiante de intercambio, para estudiar en colegio regular por un año, después de terminar su secundaria aquí. Así como también, ha vivido y estudiado en Detroit y algunas ciudades de Centro América por cortos periodos. En los años 80, con entrega, quieren trabajar como misionera en el "Apartheid Movement", (Movimiento antirracismo precedido en el Sur de África), donde ella por iniciativa propia, con parte de su patrimonio cultural y económico, viajo a ciudades como Cape Town, Johannesburb, Soweto y Durban; para participar activamente en favor de este movimiento.

Teatro en LaGuardia a la Retaguardia

La actriz y maestra

Por FABIAN ZARTA

Digna representante de la raza negra; actriz y docente nacida en Washington D.C. está radicada desde 1993 en New York, tiempo en el cual ha estado trabajando tanto en el teatro de LaGuardia y actriz profesional. La realización de sus estudios de actuación, han sido en “The University of Michigan, M.A.”, “Howard University, B.F.A. (Magna Cum Laude)” y “Webber Douglas Academy Of Dramatic Arts”, en Londres, donde tuvo un encuentro especial con Shakespeare y sus clásicas obras. Es una talentosa mujer, que ha vivido en Francia, donde fue estudiante de intercambio, para estudiar en colegio regular por un año, después de terminar su secundaria aquí. Así como también, ha vivido y estudiado en Detroit y algunas ciudades de Centro América por cortos periodos. En los años 80, con entrega, quieren trabajar como misionera en el "Apartheid Movement", (Movimiento antirracismo precedido en el Sur de África), donde ella por iniciativa propia, con parte de su patrimonio cultural y económico, viajo a ciudades como Cape Town, Johannesburb, Soweto y Durban; para participar activamente en favor de este movimiento.

Y ha sido gracias a estas experiencias, que durante sus últimos 15 años de vida profesional, ha trabajado en diferentes escenarios en el mundo del cine, el teatro y la televisión americana. Se destacan, en el campo del cine "Apartheid Movement", donde ella por iniciativa propia, con parte de su patrimonio cultural y económico, viajo a ciudades como Cape Town, Johannesburb, Soweto y Durban; para participar activamente en favor de este movimiento.

Teatro en LaGuardia a la Retaguardia

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Teatro en LaGuardia a la Retaguardia con Catrina Ganey

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(Samford Theater Works), obra con la cual ganó una nominación por parte del "Exmo Crítica Circle" como mejor actriz en 1999 y pese a que no se llevo el premio, el mérito fue grande. Con la obra For Colored Girls, (Off Broadway, teatro de bajo presupuesto) interpretó a "Lady in the Violet", entre otros personajes y bajo la dirección de Nizozake Shange, fue una obra que le dejo reconocimiento por parte de "Auditorio Award", por excelente integración de todo el grupo de trabajo. Estas son solo algunas de sus muchas obras.

No puedo dejar por supuesto a nada final, su trayectoria televisiiva con "All my children", ABO, donde interpreta a Zora Jones, bajo la dirección de Conal O’Brien, "Law and Order: Trial by jury", NBC, interpretando a Taylor/ Forewoman, dirigida por Constantine Markis, entre otras series.

Cuando uno se encuentra está mujer en la senda, descubre muchas manifestaciones de la berraquera de una americana. Ella con su particular estilo demuestra lo que es más sin más ni menos a pesar de las etiquetas, la síntesis de una gran fuerza y energía, algo que no podemos negar las personas que hemos tenido la oportunidad de compartir con ella. más aún, quienes somos sus estudiantes, pues no tomamos con un método de enseñanza que aunque profesional no deja de ser jocoso y entretenido, y para que más, no apropóse se fundamenta en disfrutar y con su boca se producira sabiduría, como todo hombre prudente encubrir su saber y como hombres hallen en el corazón, mas que la sabiduría, y la sabiduría en los labios del prudente, pues el prudente con labios de sabios se guardará para su propia ciencia que es entender su camino para la integridad de sus caminos en la recta. Porque el aviso mira bien sus pasos y como sabio teme y se aparta del mal en justicia de perfecto que es entender su camino porque mandando la instrucción se ama la sabiduría, que es el camino a guardar en la vida pues éstas simples heredadas recuerda y que al aborrecer la represión es ignorante porque el camino del necio es extremadamente serio con su rol de loco, drogadicto y desechable.

"Pese a que no conozco muchos escritores Hispanos... a los pocos que me he leído los he disfrutado!", me dice Catrina con ganas de correr.

Dentro de mis proyectos, está un programa piloto llamado "convirtíos" que empezó a grabar a finales de noviembre, y cosas por ahí, aún por concretar.

Me gustaría ser una niña Bond 007 en el cine, pero No, no soy una niña sexy... claro que, como una niña si puedo soñarlo! Uf! O talvez, hacer un alien; y en el teatro me he trabajado muy fuerte y por muchos años que hacen que no este interesada en regresar a la escena. Sin embargo, si me ofrecieran el rol de la enfermera en "Romeo y Julieta" o el del de Mara en el musical "Chicago" regresaría, y en su televisión, definitivamente trabajaría en una serie llamada "Smallville" historia basada en la tiñez de Clark Kent ("Superman"), amo la humanidad y pureza de esta serie.

Bién, pues ahí estuvo Catrina Ganey sin más, ni más, tal cual ella es. Ya veremos más de sus películas y si regresa a las tablas, o las tablas van a ellas. n

La Sección, Reflexiva!

Textos de la palabra para la palabra

En los labios del prudente se halla la sabiduría pues en las muchas palabras no falta la falta mas el que refrena sus labios es recibirá la felicidad porque los labios del justo apacientan con poco dinero. A Dios gracias, en mi primer día pudí ubicar este trabajo de maestra. Fue algo increíble, yo estaba buscando por un apartamento y allí estaba W. Koolsbergen, director del Programa de Teatro, le hablé un poco de mi situación, me dijo hay una vacante en LaGuardia, es tuya, si la quieres.

En mi carrera, personal, el actor de la señora Eunice Evers en "Miss Evers Boys" fue definitivo en mi profesión, por lo controversio de la obra, basada en el Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment, (Experimentó con 399 hombres negros enfermos de sifilis con quienes el gobierno y doctores experimentaron en Alabama, durante el periodo entre 1932 y 1972. Esto con el fin, de saber que poder de destrucción, en su etapa final, tenía esta enfermedad). Trabaje arduamente en esta obra.

La cultura Hispánica es excitable; tiene un ritmo, una pasión, un fuego emocional. Y en el escenario de entretenimiento cada vez van con más fuerza que la cultura hispánica y la África América tienen en común que deben dar el 110% cuando las puertas se abren para demostrar nuestro talento, pues aún existe una pequeña diferencia de igualdad entre estos dos culturas y la Americana. Pero si hay ejemplo de un actor hispánico talentoso, es actores en: Benicio Del Toro. El nunca trabaja dentro de la cája, hay una subyacente de calor que se genera desde él. Benicio nunca hace un personaje regular, La primera vez, que lo vi actuando, fue en una película llamada "China Moon", pensé "quien es ese muchacho?" Amé su actuación. El es un actor increíble. También debo decir, que amaba mirar actuando a Benicio cuando hicimos la película "Bringing out the Dead" fue de quedarse sin palabras.

Miro

Miro al espejo y públíco mi tristeza paso andante a
decirte que las risas se fueron con razón

loco, drogadicto y desechable.

Pupilas

Letras en tus pupilas

Lámpices en las risas.

La prueba del delito;

Puse, pues ahí estuvo Catrina Ganey sin más, ni más, tal cual ella es. Ya veremos más de sus películas y si regresa a las tablas, o las tablas van a ellas.

Por Fabian Zarta

Por Fabian Zarta

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Poemario en la Sección

Poemas en la Sección

Por Fabian Zarta

Por Fabian Zarta
Elections aftermath

By Annais Morales

I woke up on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2005 feeling tired and drowsy, like I did not get enough sleep the night before. I rolled out of bed and remembered that I had stayed up early the night before watching the results of the mayoral election. I asked myself, why? Why did I stay up to watch something of which I, as well as countless other New Yorkers, already knew the outcome? It’s like watching a car crash; you don’t want to look, but you do anyway.

Not that the results were bad, at least in my opinion. I voted for Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. Yes, I am a Democrat. Yes, I am Hispanic. Yes, I do reside in the South Bronx. Yes, I did get to shake former Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer’s hand, and even had a two minute conversation with him when he visited LaGuardia’s campus last semester. However, I do not feel that I owe my vote to him just because I can relate more to him than I can to our billionaire mayor. Ferrer does not have what it takes to run a city that holds the risk of falling back down to the level it was at four years ago. Sometimes change isn’t so good.

My mind was pretty much made up from the start. During the Democratic primaries I backed Congressman Anthony Weiner just because anyone besides Ferrer seemed like a good choice. I knew Ferrer would win the primaries, but I am not the type to follow the crowd, especially when the future of the greatest city in America is at stake.

Mayor Bloomberg possesses the ability to appeal to a vast majority of New Yorkers. In a city that is heavily populated with immigrants and people of different backgrounds and religions, this is a crucial component to winning the hearts and trust of the citizens. According to the New York Post, Bloomberg dominated in four of the five boroughs. Ferrer was only able to win his hometown of the Bronx. Take into account the fact that the Bronx is primarily Hispanic and one could easily assume that the only reason Ferrer won that borough is because the residents wanted to see a Hispanic take over City Hall.

Ferrer lost the support from the African American community as well as other Democrats when he told a group of police sergeants that the shooting death of unarmed African immigrant Amadou Diallo was not a crime. The Village Voice’s Jarret Murphy called it a, “self-inflicted wound.” If four officers, regardless if they are white, shooting at an unarmed suspect, 41 times and 19 of 30 bullets striking him not a crime, then I do not know what is. Now that he is not busy campaigning, maybe Ferrer should sit on a Government 101 class at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Mayor Bloomberg made this city a better place to live, work, go to school, and raise a family. He made sure that businesses continued to operate here after the terror attacks on September 11, 2001. He helped form Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in commercial neighborhoods in the outer boroughs to make sure that small businesses are partnering up with one another to promote local businesses and ensure a safe shopping experience for residents. He eliminated social promotion in the 3rd, 5th, and 7th grades in order to recognize and stop any academic problems early on that young students may be facing. He reduced crime in some of the worst high schools in the city by flooding these trouble-plagued schools with cops and school safety agents. He introduced a nine-point plan to end chronic homelessness in five years. He has fought hard against terrorism, I applauded him when he made the decision of informing New Yorkers about the terror threat to the city’s subway system. He knows that in this day and age, we cannot take any threat lightly. What has Ferrer done for the city? As far as Bloomberg is concerned - nothing but complain. You know what? I agree. All Ferrer did was attack Bloomberg. He never explained what he would do differently.

Mr. Ferrer did not take this campaign seriously. His advertisements were full of ridiculous humor: Reverend Al Sharpton dancing salsa (something I am sure New Yorkers do not want to witness again), President George W. Bush and Bloomberg riding a donkey together with Bloomberg throwing money at the president and Bush thanking him by planting a big kiss on the mayor’s cheek. Where were all the ads about what you can do for the city in the next four years? Where were all the ads about how you will be a better mayor than Bloomberg? At least this campaign did not turn into a personal attack blitz like the gubernatorial campaign in New Jersey.

And, about the mayoral debates: since when is it polite to point your finger at others, Mr. Ferrer? Obviously he forgot his manners during the debates when he kept wagging his finger at Bloomberg as if he were a mischievous little boy. And what was up with Ferrer trying to make it seem as if Bloomberg betrayed African-Americans by not participating in the debate that was held at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem? Obviously, that extra debate did not do you any good, Mr. Ferrer.

However, I do not agree with Bloomberg on many issues. I am against his stance on the war in Iraq. I was disturbed by the gargantuan amount of money that Bloomberg donated to the group that hosted the 2004 GOP presidential convention in New York City. I found it fishy that he finally signed a contract with the Uniformed Firefighters Association, nearly two weeks before election day. As if that would erase the fact that he closed six firehouses during his first few months on the job. Yet, this is what most New Yorkers love about the mayor; he’s not afraid to make tough decisions even if they are not popular ones.

All of the major papers supported him. The New York Post said, “He’s proven his competence, kept crime down and breathed hope into the schools; his opponent, Fernando Ferrer, has no viable plan.” The Daily News said, “His record far surpassed the expectations we held four years ago when the Daily News was the only major newspaper to endorse him [Bloomberg].”

The New York Times said, “If he continues his record of accomplishment over the next four years, he may be remembered as one of the greatest mayors in New York history.” Bloomberg asked Ferrer during the last debate, “Do you think they’re wrong?” Of course not, Mister Mayor. ■
LaGuardia educates former convicts

By SABRINA HARTEL

When you enter the tiny office located on room 238 on the second floor of the C Building, there are signs of encouragement lined up along the walls, and no name tags sitting on the desks - just a slew of fresh intake forms scattered about, while others are filled with black ink.

You will be greeted by smiling faces in the federally funded project of the CUNY Catch Program that creates change through economic and personal development. The program assists ex-inmates from Rikers Island with transition back into society, along with homeless persons and low-income youth, said Adella Horsford, coordinator.

Founded in 1991 by Dr. John Chiarkas, the program’s mission is to provide at-risk adolescents with their last shot of a high school diploma and an opportunity to pursue a higher level of education. The program offers vocational training, counseling, and continued education with college courses and GED preparation.

“We assist high-risk youth. Some of them are afraid to go to school because of gang threats and intimidation. We offer them an alternative,” said Adella Horsford.

140 CUNY Catch students applied to LaGuardia for Spring 2005 and Fall 2005. Out of that number, 102 received their high school equivalency diplomas, according to Dr. Chiarkas.

“My goal is to get students to college on the first day of orientation,” said Horsford. “Over 112 students went to college with degree programs ranging from computers, business, and nursing.”

According to Horsford, the Catch program is not required, but the challenge is to show them the benefits and make it appealing while the inmates are still in Rikers.

“I tell them, the same people you see here are the same people you will see there,” said Horsford.

Greg Bayduss, from the New York State Education Department, believes the ex-inmates face a few challenges upon release. “They have to get over the stigma of being incarcerated, not trustworthy and not being able to hold down a job with no proven record,” said Mr. Bayduss.

The CUNY Catch students’ crimes range from misdemeanors to felonies, according to Horsford. “Women are more forthcoming with their crimes, the men don’t talk about them much,” said Horsford.

The Catch students are allowed to enter all buildings within the college for the use of the library and other student facilities. According to an unnamed source in the public safety office, those who are in the program have a different color banner on their student ID cards than the rest of LaGuardia’s students. The source also stated that there has been some trouble in the past with Catch students within the school located in the basement of the M Building: causing trouble and smoking marijuana - although the captain of the public safety department has denied these allegations.

Nora Stock, a LaGuardia student majoring in human services, thinks that all students should be made aware of the CUNY Catch program. “People think that college is a bubble, but anything can happen on the streets of Manhattan,” said Nora Stock. “There are bad people everywhere, I’m always cautious. But no one is beyond redemption, though you will be judged on your past.”

Terri-Ann Villas, from the Women’s Center at the college, thinks that wearing 1ID’s should be mandated for visual identification of the Catch program students, but she also feels they deserve a second chance. “We don’t want to isolate them. LaGuardia is an educational institution,” she said. ■

S.A.G.A. attacked on Halloween night

By ERIC SHLEYER

On Oct. 31, 2005, ghosts and goblins wandered around the halls of LaGuardia Community College. It was once again time for the annual Straight and Gay Alliance’s (S.A.G.A.) Halloween party.

The party was a hit with attendees. Creatures from all over New York State attended. “I’ve been out longer. I was not as shocked and hurt as some of the other members of the club. I felt like it was my fault - I was so busy; I should have made sure the door was closed. I feel like my kids were assaulted,” said Alejandro Lopez, the president of S.A.G.A. at the time of the event.

School security was helpless to stop the robbery. “It definitely think there was a lack of security. There’s something you do in order to pass your classes and exams?” said Faulkner.

“Baruch’s system, which is also part of CUNY, could be a model for LaGuardia’s security system. Pace College has a strict security policy where you can only enter the campus by swiping in as opposed to the open door policy at LaGuardia.”

School security was helpless to stop the robbery. “I definitely think there was a lack of security. The M Building is old. There are not as many cameras there as in the other buildings, but the school did the best they could,” said Lopez.

Ruben Rivera, a current student, agreed, “There definitely is not enough security throughout the campus.”

“Could we have the type of security that would secure us completely,” said Faulkner. “But if it were in place, we would be giving up our freedoms.”

Baruch’s system, which is also part of CUNY, could be a model for LaGuardia’s security system. Pace College has a strict security policy where you can only enter the campus by swiping in as opposed to the open door policy at LaGuardia.

When asked why would anybody leave their belongings in an unguarded room, Lopez replied, “People think of their club office as a second home. All clubs leave their stuff in the offices all the time, so it was relatively safe before this incident.”

Hate crimes could happen anywhere at any time. “It could have been any club, one day S.A.G.A., the next day the Ecuadorian club with anti-Latino phrases or the Black Student Union with the ‘N’ word,” claimed Faulkner.

The LaGuardia faculty and other clubs quickly offered their response through sympathetic and angry filled e-mails and quickly asked S.A.G.A. what they wanted to do about the hate crime. S.A.G.A. took the lead and held a Tolerance Day, where club representatives handed out red and black armbands, which read, “Stop the Hate.”

“Keeping in mind that this was made, we received support and everyone said sorry,” Lopez commented.

Gail O. Mellow, President of LaGuardia denounced the attack in her e-mail to LaGuardia and said that such attacks are unacceptable.

So far, no perpetrators have been caught. ■