PROGRAM

Introduction and Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Remarks NYS SENATOR LEE M. ZELDIN

Honorable Mentions

ELIZABETH MOSQUERA STEPHANIE TORRES WILLIAM FLOYD HIGH SCHOOL & 2013 THE UNIDAD LATINA SCHOLARSHIP

> JOSE & NORMA PAREDES PAREDES TAX SERVICES, INC

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Ceynote Speaker DR. HUBERT BENITEZ PROVOST & CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER BRIARCLIFFE COLLEGE

Performance by TRADITIONES DE MI TIERRA TRADITIONAL ECUADORIAN NATIVE FOLK DANCE GROUP

> Honorees MS. EVELYN CABRERA PASTOR ENRIQUE CARBAJAL MR. DAVID MANZUETA MR. WILLIAM MENEDENZ MS. JEANNETTE MORALES MS. CARMEN NAVARRO-GAO MS. AMPARO SADLER

Performance by

CENTRAL ISLIP HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT CHOIR

Closing Remarks NYS SENATOR LEE M. ZELDIN





Keynote Speaker

DR. HUBERT BENITEZ, DDS, PhD



Dr. Hubert Benitez is the Provost and Chief Academic Officer at Briarcliffe College, a career-focused and student-centered institution, regionally accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, with three campus locations in Bethpage, Patchogue, and Long Island City (Queens), New York. Dr. Benitez

came to Briarcliffe College in 2010 with more than 20 years' experience as a licensed dental practitioner for eighteen years; and as an administrator, researcher, and faculty member in higher education institutions.

As Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Benitez is responsible for the day to day operations and academic oversight of all College campuses, for managing the academic organizational structure of the College and responsible for the oversight of all teaching, instructional and institutional effectiveness processes. During his tenure, Briarcliffe College introduced clinical licensed professions through a dental hygiene program; formally added service learning into the College's academic programs; increased fully online program offerings and student enrollment; and registered five new degree programs at the institution, to include, allied health; healthcare administration; nursing; legal studies and advertising and design communications.

Prior to coming to Briarcliffe College, Dr. Benitez served as the National Director for Dental Sciences for Career Education Corporation and Missouri College; as Director for Continuing Education and Director of Practice Management for the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry; assisted with the recruitment and extramural funding efforts for the Doisy College of Health Sciences at Saint Louis University; and served as Assistant Professor and Assistant Dean and Associate Director for Health Career Opportunity Programs, at the University of Connecticut.

A native from Colombia, Dr. Benitez received his first doctoral degree in Dentistry in 1985 from Javeriana University, a Catholic, research-intensive institution of higher education, categorized as one of the most traditional and well renowned universities in Latin America. From 2002-2005, Dr. Benitez completed his Post-doctoral Fellowship in Education and Research at the University of Connecticut, School of Dental Medicine. More recently, Dr. Benitez completed all requirements for his second doctoral degree, PhD in Higher Education Administration and Educational Leadership, which he will receive by the end of the year from Saint Louis University, College of Education and Public Service.

Dr. Benitez is a member of numerous academic and dental organizations; serves on program and institutional advisory committees and has been a guest lecturer in the US and abroad. He has been the recipient of more than ten federally and privately funded research grants; has been recognized for his Special Service to the Community through Excellence in Education by the Peruvian-American Chamber of Commerce; for Contributions to Suffolk County by the Suffolk County Executive; Office of Minority Affairs and the Colombian-American Chamber of Commerce; as one of the Top 25 Advocates for Latino Empowerment in 2013; by inductions into Alpha Epsilon Lambda and the Golden Key International Honor Society; recognized as one of America's Top Dentists 2010, 2011 and 2012; and by an excellence in teaching award at the University of Manitoba is 2009.

Dr. Benitez has been married to his wife and the love his life Sandra Patricia for 24+ years and they have two children: Ana Ximena, 21 and Daniel, 20. They live in Manorville, New York.

Dr. Hubert Benitez, DDS, PhD, was selected as a 2011 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.

Entertainment

TRADICIONES DE MI TIERRA

Tradiciones de mi Tierra is a traditional Ecuadorian Native Folk Dance Group established in Patchogue in 2011 - representing the Southwestern region of Azuay, Ecuador. This dance group takes great pride in performing traditional Ecuadorian dances in various religious & cultural events.







2013 Hispanic Business Award

PAREDES CONSULTING & TAX SERVICES, INC.



Paredes Consulting & Tax Services, Inc. provides accounting services to more than 300 individual clients and 130 Hispanic small businesses, to which consulting services and guidance are provided throughout the year. The company's specialties are bookkeeping, personal income taxes, corporation taxes, payroll services and administrative and financing consultation. The company's founder, José Paredes, received his accounting degree in his native country of Peru. In 2001 - along with his wife Norma, also an accountant, and their children, Roberto and Patricia - he migrated to the USA in order to pursue his professional and personal aspirations. He settled in Long Island, New York, and utilized his account-

ing knowledge to create a business from a small basement in the home in which he lived with his family. Mr. Paredes had a full-time day job but also attended evening English as a Second Language classes at Suffolk Community College. Moreover, he arduously studied the Form 1040 to become familiar with the personal income tax instructions. The first personal income tax Mr. Paredes led as a preparer was his brother Pablo's. Shortly afterward, he started working at a Hispanic accounting office located in Nassau County, from 2003 to 2004. In November 2004, Mr. Paredes decided to start his own business, and opened an office in May 2005 in the Town of Brentwood, Suffolk County, where he is currently located. His hard work, professionalism and dedication became well known in the community, and many individuals and business owners soon became his clients at Paredes Consulting & Tax Services, Inc. José Paredes believes one should "always dream and persevere to achieve the dreams," and also offers a valuable advice: "Believe in the Lord with all your heart."



Ms. Evelyn Cabrera

Evelyn Cabrera is an important asset to Pronto of Long Island. She has worked helping the community with compassion, respect, care and dignity for the past nineteen years. She started working at Sheppard's Gate Academy in Brentwood, in 1994 as an Administrative Assistant helping families with child care assistance, processing tuition payments and handling accounts payable and accounts receivables. She then went on to work for St. Anne's Church in Brentwood in 1999 as a receptionist then was promoted to an Intake Specialist. Evelyn was responsible for referring disadvantaged families and senior citizens to public assistance, health insurance, housing and Social Security. Ms. Cabrera has also helped the parents of the community obtain school supplies for their children as well as food for Thanksgiving and presents for Christmas.

In 2005, St. Anne's Church merged with Pronto of Long Island. Evelyn has since worked with Pronto for eight years. She has continued to dedicate herself to helping children, families and senior citizens with any assistance they may need and she does this with great passion and humility.

Evelyn was born in Puerto Rico to a family of nine children. She graduated Miguel Melendez Munoz High School in 1978 then moved to New York to help her family in Puerto Rico. Evelyn is a dedicated mother of two children, one of whom is multi disabled and has dedicated her life to raising them to be productive members of society. Her disabled son graduated with a high school diploma and is now working for United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). Her daughter graduated college with an Associate's Degree and is working as a NYS Court Officer for the Criminal Court of Queens.

Ms. Evelyn Cabrera was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.



Pastor Enrique Carbajal

Pastor Enrique is currently Senior pastor of the Hispanic Church "La MiSion" from the Lighthouse Mission in Bellport, where he serves also as the Outreach Director of the Lighthouse Mission's Mobile Food Pantry.

Pastor Enrique was born in Mexico in 1971 and came to the United States in 1999, first living in Riverhead, Northville, Mastic, Shirley and now in Holtsville. While in Mexico, he studied architecture at the University of Technology in Mexico City, where he graduated in 1994. He worked in MM Construcciones from 1991-1997 as Building Supervisor. From 1997-1999 he started a small building company. Pastor Enrique decided to give his life to full-time ministry in 1999. He attended Bible School at the Zion Ministerial Institute in Waverly, New York, where he graduated in 2001.

As Street Outreach Coordinator with the Lighthouse Mission, Pastor Enrique manages the Mobile Food Pantry Program, which distributes food to 3,000 people a week at eight locations in Suffolk County; Ronkonkoma, Coram, Central Islip, Bellport, Shirley, Port Jefferson, Patchogue and Riverhead. He also ministers to the large Spanish-speaking population that attends the outreaches.

Pastor Enrique is married to his wife Loreta (Worship leader and ESL Teacher), and together they have a 13-year-old son Juan Pablo.

Pastor Enrique Carbajal was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.



Ms. Carmen Navarro-Gao

Carmen is a native of Peru and a dedicated social worker who immigrated to the United States 20 years ago. In 2001, she arrived at the Mastics Moriches Shirley Community Library seeking assistance to learn English. Her goal was to learn the new language and better assimilate into our society. It did not take her long to do precisely that.

In 2004, Carmen received the prestigious Full Circle award from Literacy Suffolk, Inc., honoring her advancement from literacy student to literacy tutor. Ms. Navarro-Gao then started to teach English to a small group of students and continues to do so.

In 2008, Carmen started to work at the Mastics Moriches Shirley Community Library as a Spanish Speaking Program Assistant and has been tutoring classes exclusively for citizenship preparation since 2009. Additionally, she has long been involved with the Parent Child Home Program in the William Floyd School District.

Ms. Carmen Navarro-Gao was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.



HISPANIC HERITAGE

Mr. David Manzueta

David Manzueta is a person who puts others before himself and is always looking for a new way to help out his community. Currently a college student at Brockport, David is studying criminal justice and working on transitioning to a school that is closer to his home and family. He is actively pursuing a career in law enforcement and is expected to take the state trooper exam this month. David is a mentor in the YLP program for youth with disabilities as well as a mentor for young children in their summer programs.

David works for YES during the school year as an Assistant Program Coordinator in after school programs and also works for Jump and Slide in Deer Park during the summer. David helps organize and host social teen night coffee houses so that the youth in his community have a safe place to go on a Friday night. David helps to make sure that these events are enjoyable for everyone and tries to come up with innovative ideas that keep people interested. David always comes through and helps out whenever he can whether it's volunteering at a Breakfast with Santa event, marching in the Memorial Day Parade and even helping out with face painting at the country fair.

Since moving to Brentwood from New Jersey when he was six year old, David has been putting the needs of others and his community before his own. He has been a strong advocate for his community by participating in Advocacy Day and traveling to Albany to speak with political leaders to tell them about programs and advocate for his peers and his community. David is a volunteer for the BYA and is an avid wrestler and football player. There is never a time when David is unwilling to lend a hand and help others. David works hard to help make this community a better place for everyone and will not hesitate to stand up and fight for what he believes in.

Mr. David Manzueta was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.



Mr. William Menendez

William Menendez, known to all as "Bill", is a longtime resident of Brentwood and is a dedicated humanitarian. Bill's professional and personal affiliations reflect his commitment to servicing others.

He served as a New York City Police Detective for over 20 years. On September 11, 2001, it was natural for Bill to respond and conduct rescue and recovery efforts. Bill continued working at the World Trade Center in Staten Island at the Fresh Kills landfill and the New York City Medical Examiners Office until his retirement in 2002.

Bill has volunteered as a fireman for over 37 years and currently serves as an elected Fire Commissioner in Brentwood. He also serves as an Elected trustee for the Brentwood Public Library, and is an active member of the Brentwood Chamber of Commerce, Pronto of Long Island Advisory Board, Brentwood Historical Society, Knights of Columbus St. Anne's Council and is a founding member of the Latino Health Initiative, Bill is also a past member of the Suffolk County Hispanic Advisory Board.

William Menendez is a proud father of three and continues to serve others, instilling the values in his children to lead by example.

Mr. William Menendez was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.



HISPANIC HERITAGE

Ms. Jeannette Morales

Jeannette Morales has been a Suffolk County police officer for 11 years. Ms. Morales became a police officer because she enjoys helping others. At the age of 19, she worked as a receptionist for the Manhattan Special Prosecutor. Ever since then, Ms. Morales knew public service was in her future. Ms. Morales' public service career has led her to work in great institutions such as the New York City Police Department, the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, and the prestigious Suffolk County Police Department.

Ms. Morales became a mother at the age of 17, which made her accomplishments a bit more difficult, but that much more rewarding. While raising her son, she managed to go back to school and obtain her Bachelor's Degree from St. Joseph's College.

Since becoming a Suffolk County police officer, Ms. Morales has had the opportunity to work patrol, COPE and currently in the GANG unit in the 3rd Precinct. Ms. Morales is also an advisor for the 3rd Precinct Explorers.

The Explorer Program consists of young people ages 14-19 who are interested in law enforcement. Officer Morales is a mentor for these teenagers. The Explorers are exposed to the day-to-day work that police officers do. These teenagers also help paint over gang graffiti in the neighborhood, collect food to donate to pantries, and donate coats to homeless people. Also, they wrap up Christmas gifts for underprivileged children and deliver them to the Head Start Program in the 3rd Precinct area.

As a police officer, Ms. Morales believes that helping those in need is her main priority and especially enjoys being a role model to young adults.

Ms. Jeannette Morales was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.



STATE SENATOR LEE M. ZELDIN HISPANIC HERITAGE AWARDS CEREMONY

Ms. Amporo Sadler

Amparo Sadler is the oldest of seven children. Born and raised in Spanish Harlem, until her parents moved the family to Brentwood in 1969. Ms. Sadler graduated from Brentwood High School in 1971.

Ms. Sadler met her husband William in 1975, married in 1976 and have celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary this year. They have two children, nine children total, 18 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and three great, great-grandchildren.

One of Ms. Sadler's sons was in special education since he was three years old. As a result, Ms. Sadler got involved with the committee on Special Education in Brentwood, Bay Shore & Central Islip and was involved with the committee for 17 years. After moving to Bay Shore, Ms. Sadler volunteered in several different organizations before moving to Central Islip in 1994.

In 2005, Ms. Sadler became involved with the Alliance for Quality Education, a subject that is very near and dear to her heart. Ms. Sadler enjoys lobbying for all her school districts in Albany.

Ms. Amporo Sadler was selected as a 2013 Hispanic Heritage Award recipient by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.