



# NEW YORK STATE SENATE

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## JOSÉ M. SERRANO

28<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

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## SENATOR SERRANO HOLDS MAMMOGRAM SCREENINGS THROUGHOUT THE 28TH SENATE DISTRICT



SUMMER 2011

As part of an initiative to encourage the early detection and prevention of breast cancer, Senator Serrano and the Project Renewal Scan Van Program held free mammogram screenings for eligible women throughout the 28<sup>th</sup> District. Screenings took place in the Bronx, Roosevelt Island, East Harlem, and Yorkville. “Every woman can take an active part in the early detection of breast cancer by having regular visits to the doctor, self breast exams and mammograms,” said Senator Serrano. “However, for uninsured women, getting a mammogram can be costly and inconvenient. If more women took advantage of early detection tests for breast cancer, countless lives could be saved, and this was a great opportunity to bring these screenings to the community free of charge.”

*El Senador Serrano se embarcó en una iniciativa para promover la detección temprana y prevención del cáncer del seno. Serrano patrocinó mamografías gratis en el Bronx, Roosevelt Island, East Harlem, y Yorkville. “Muchas vidas pueden ser salvadas con visitas regulares al doctor, autoexámenes, y mamografías anuales,” dijo el Senador Serrano.*

## SERRANO AND ROOSEVELT ISLAND ELECTED OFFICIALS RALLY TO SAVE THE POST OFFICE



AUGUST 18, 2011

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, State Senator José M. Serrano, Assemblyman Micah Kellner, City Council Member Jessica Lappin, and Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation President Leslie Torres joined Roosevelt Island community leaders and residents for a rally to urge the United States Postal Service to keep the Roosevelt Island Post Office in operation. This post office had been listed for possible closure by the USPS. “For the most vulnerable Roosevelt Island residents, traveling to Astoria or Manhattan to drop off mail is clearly not an option,” said Senator Serrano. “Closing the only post office on Roosevelt Island simply does not make sense, and I urge the United States Postal Service to ensure that the Roosevelt Island Post Office remain open for business.”

*El Senador Serrano y otros oficiales electos se reunieron con la comunidad de Roosevelt Island para pedirle al servicio postal de los Estados Unidos que mantenga el La Oficina de Correo Postal de Roosevelt Island abierta. “Cerrar la única oficina de correo en Roosevelt Island será una gran inconveniencia para mis constituyentes, muchos quienes no pueden viajar distancias largas para enviar correspondencia,” dijo el Senador Serrano.*

# OPENING OF THE NEW AQUATICS CENTER AND SWIMMING POOL AT ROBERT CLEMENTE STATE PARK

JULY 22, 2011

Senator Serrano attended the re-opening of the Roberto Clemente State Park pool, a project which he supported from its inception. The renovated facility includes an Olympic size pool, a sprinkler park for children, a wading pool, a diving tank, and a new indoor basketball court with locker rooms. “Our residents now have a way

to combat the heat by taking advantage of this much needed facility. I’m extremely proud to have supported such a fantastic project, which will provide access to recreation for countless families in the Bronx for years to come.”



*El Senador Serrano y líderes comunitarios asistieron la reapertura de la piscina del Parque Roberto Clemente. “Afortunadamente, nuestros residentes ahora tienen una forma más de combatir el calor del verano con este nuevo centro,” dijo el Senador Serrano. “Me siento orgulloso de haber apoyado este proyecto, el cual ofrecerá acceso a la recreación para muchas familias del Bronx.”*

# SENATOR SERRANO JOINS COUNCILMAN JIMMY VAN BRAMER TO CELEBRATE THE ARTS - MAY 21, 2011

Senator Serrano served as a panelist for Culture Vision NYC: Envisioning a City Sustained by Culture and the Arts. The event was presented and organized by Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer, Chair of the Cultural Affairs Committee in the City Council. It featured live performances, refreshments and a lively discussion at the newly transformed Museum of the Moving Image, and featured Academy Award Nominee, Sigourney Weaver and BAAD Founder, Author Aviles. As the Ranking Member on the Senate Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation, Senator Serrano spoke of the importance of the arts as an economic engine, and how to advocate most effectively for the arts during a difficult economy.



“The arts industry generates \$25.7 billion worth of economic impact in New York State,” said Serrano. “For every dollar in direct spending on the arts, another 98 cents of value is generated in the state’s economy. The arts are a smart investment and can be extremely helpful in bringing our State and country back to economic prosperity.”

# SERRANO RANKED AMONG MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY SENATE MEMBERS

OCTOBER 14, 2011

State Senator José M. Serrano was ranked one of the most environmentally conscious members of the New York State Senate in 2011. The EPL/Environmental Advocates scorecard, which tracks legislators’ votes on bills affecting New York’s environment, gave Senator Serrano a score of 99 out of 99, tying him for the highest score among his Senate Colleagues. State Senators Thomas Duane, Bill Perkins, Gustavo Rivera also received a score of 99. The final 2011 scorecard issued by the EPL/Environmental Advocates follows their preliminary scorecard issued in June, which, similarly, ranked Senator Serrano tops among his peers.

“I’m fortunate to have the opportunity to have a lasting impact on New York’s environmental decisions, and I thank EPL/Environmental Advocates for shedding light on the outcome of the legislature’s decisions,” said Senator Serrano, who has been a longtime advocate for environmental issues in Albany.

*Entre los miembros del Senado Estatal de Nueva York, el Senador Serrano fue nombrado uno de los miembros más conscientes de la ecología del 2011. Serrano obtuvo 99 puntos- el puntaje más alto. “Me siento muy afortunado de tener la oportunidad de impactar positivamente los asuntos ecológicos de Nueva York,” dijo el Senador Serrano.*

*El Senador Serrano, quien es miembro de rango superior del Comité de Asuntos Culturales, Turismo, Parques y Recreación, fue panelista durante un evento llamado, Culture Vision NYC, el cual fue presentado por el concejal Jimmy Van Bramer, Presidente del Comité Cultural en el concejo municipal. El Senador Serrano habló sobre como abogar por las artes durante tiempos económicos difíciles, y la importancia de las artes para la economía estatal.*



# SERRANO CELEBRATES HISPANIC HERITAGE WITH METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011



Senator Serrano celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with Metropolitan Hospital. The event featured health education and screenings, cultural exhibits, music, food and entertainment. “Health disparities remain extremely high for minority residents,” said Senator Serrano. “Although our hospitals have been threatened with budget cuts, the administration and staff at Metropolitan Hospital continues to demonstrate how essential their services are in this community.”

*El Senador Serrano celebró el Mes de la Herencia Hispana junto a Metropolitan Hospital. El evento ofreció información, exámenes de salud, presentaciones culturales, musica, comida, y entretenimiento. “La*

*disparidades de salud permanecen altas para los residentes en el distrito 28,” dijo el Senador Serrano. “Los servicios que ofrecen la administración y empleados de Metropolitan Hospital son esenciales para nuestra comunidad.”*

# HUNTER COLLEGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK BUILDING OPENS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

Senator Serrano attended the opening of the Hunter College’s Louis V. and Samuel J. Silberman School of Social Work Building. The building, located in the East Harlem community, houses the CUNY School of Public Health, the library and archives of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, the Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging and Longevity, and the Graduate Center Apartments. “It is great for a building of this magnitude to be in the East Harlem community”, said Senator Serrano. “Hunter College has one of the top social work programs in the nation, and having their main facility in East Harlem will be a great addition to the neighborhood. The services they offer will undoubtedly bring much-needed resources into our community.”

*El Senador Serrano asistió a la apertura del edificio Louis V. Samuel J. Silberman School of Social Work. El edificio de Hunter College, localizado en East Harlem, consiste de uno de los mejores programas de estudios sociales en la nación. “Los servicios que este centro ofrecerá sin duda traerán recursos muy necesarios para esta comunidad,” dijo el Senador Serrano.*



# SENATOR SERRANO RALLIES TO SAVE RUPPERT PLAYGROUND IN YORKVILLE



Senator Serrano joined Yorkville residents and elected officials for two rallies at Ruppert Playground on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, as part of a campaign to save the park from permanent closure. Related Cos., has proposed building a 49 story building at the location, and is ready to begin preliminary work on the site. The park was closed on September 12<sup>th</sup>, and local elected officials are working to prevent any future construction and to once again make the park available for community use. “This park is a small oasis in the middle of this busy city, and local families depend on it for recreation,” said Senator Serrano. “We will do everything in our power to ensure that the residents of this community are heard, and that a compromise is achieved.”

*El Senador Serrano se reunió con residentes de Yorkville en una campaña para salvar a Ruppert Playground. El parque fue cerrado el 12 de Septiembre y los oficiales electos están trabajando para prevenir la construcción de edificios residenciales sobre el parque. “Muchas familias en esta comunidad dependen de este parque para tomar aire fresco o jugar basketball.” dijo el Senador Serrano. “Voy a hacer todo lo posible para que los residentes de esta área no pierdan uno de los únicos parques que tienen.”*

## LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS!

This past legislative session, I introduced 44 bills and co-sponsored 128 bills. Below are just a few highlights!



### **Bill S1681 will:**

- Reform process for the distribution of legislative grants.
- Provide that all legislators receive equal funding regardless of political party or geographical district.
- Empower state agencies to oversee the spending of the allocated funds, and to publicly report on the usage of member items.

*El proyecto de ley S1681 reforma el proceso para la distribución de fondos legislativos, para que cada legislador reciba la misma cantidad.*

### **Bill S1912 will:**

- Establish an economic grant program for the businesses affected by the Second Avenue Subway construction area.
- Create a Second Avenue Subway construction economic development grant program for the purpose of providing financial and technical assistance to small businesses located within the construction area.

*El proyecto de ley S1912 establece un programa de subsidios económicos para las empresas afectadas por el área de construcción del tren subterráneo en la Segunda Avenida.*

### **Bill S2743 will:**

- Require medical professionals to take courses on cultural competency. Doctors, nurses, etc. would be required to enroll in cultural training.
- Disparities in access to quality health care are one major component of the discrepancies in general health. This bill seeks to close the gap by ensuring that medical professionals that serve minority populations are able to provide culturally sensitive care.

*El proyecto de ley S2743 requiere que profesionales médicos tomen cursos multiculturales. Médicos, enfermeras, etc. serían requeridos a inscribirse en estudios de formación cultural para que puedan servir a comunidades de minorías.*

## PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH!

*Please feel free to call the office at (212) 828-5829,  
or e-mail me directly at [serrano@nysenate.gov](mailto:serrano@nysenate.gov).*

*We're constantly updating our contact lists, and if you send us your e-mail address we can notify you of important news and events in the community.*