



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose M. Serrano

## SOMOS Workshop

JOSE M. SERRANO March 8, 2025



On March 8th, Senator Serrano was proud to sponsor a workshop during the annual Somos Inc. New York Conference, which serves as a vital gathering for community leaders and advocates. The workshop, titled "Un Verano En Nueva Yol: The Puerto Rican Influence on NYC's Public Spaces and Cultural Landscapes," aimed to explore the vibrant contributions of Puerto Rican culture to the fabric of New York City.

The discussion featured an impressive lineup of speakers, including Dr. Yomaira C. Figueroa-Vásquez, Director of The Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENTRO), who shared her insights on the historical context and significance of Puerto Rican heritage in urban development. Miteri Tucker Concepcion, Executive Director of Bombazo Dance Co., Inc., brought a dynamic perspective on the role of dance and music in preserving cultural identity and community engagement. Additionally, Cynthia Carrion, Director of Government and Community Affairs at El Museo del Barrio, highlighted the importance of community spaces in celebrating and showcasing Puerto Rican art and history.

Attendees were also treated to an educational performance by Bombazo Dance Co., which captivated the audience with traditional Puerto Rican rhythms and vibrant choreography. This workshop not only celebrated the past but also aimed to inspire future generations to continue fostering cultural appreciation and community cohesion.