



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose M. Serrano

Senator Serrano and Councilmember Melissa Mark-Viverito Celebrate Black History Month in East Harlem

JOSÉ M. SERRANO February 21, 2011

| ISSUE: **ARTS AND CULTURE**



Senator Jose M. Serrano and Councilmember Melissa Mark-Viverito celebrated Black History month in East Harlem on February 22nd. The program honored two outstanding African American members of the community: Ethel Velez, a lifelong resident of East Harlem, President and Chair of the North Council of Presidents (MNCOP), and President of James Weldon Johnson Tenants Association; and Carmen Villegas, Community Activist and Organizer for Our Lady Queen of Angels Church, and Advisor to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the U.S..

"Although Black History Month is celebrated only once a year, leaders like today's honorees are making contributions daily," said Senator Serrano. "Their contributions have greatly improved the lives of many East Harlem residents and inspire others to become active in our community."