



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose M. Serrano

Senator Serrano Applauds Decision of Landmarks Preservation Commission to Grant Landmark Status to interior of Bronx General Post Office

JOSÉ M. SERRANO December 18, 2013

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(Bronx, NY) - Senator José M. Serrano applauds the recent decision of The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission to grant landmark status to the interior of the Bronx General Post Office (GPO), located on the beautiful and historic Grand Concourse (near E. 149th Street). In 1976, the exterior of the post office was designated a landmark, however, the interior containing the beloved WPA-era murals by Ben Shahn and Bernarda Bryson Shahn was not granted landmark status until yesterday.

"I am pleased that The Landmarks Preservation Commission has acknowledged the concerns of local community advocates and preservationists by protecting the historical and architectural integrity of the Bronx GPO interior," said Senator Serrano.

"Since the 1930s, the beautiful murals inside the Bronx GPO have been a part of the diverse artistic and cultural fabric of the South Bronx. It is indicative of a era now long gone, when artisans worked side by side with builders and architects to create structures that were aesthetically pleasing and inspiring, while being extremely functional. I am so pleased that this functioning work of art will be preserved for generations to enjoy," concluded Serrano.

Senator Serrano is a staunch advocate for cultural and historic preservation throughout New York. He is an outspoken arts advocate, and serves as the Ranking Member on the Senate Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks & Recreation.