

For Immediate Release/November 2015 Contact: Rich Pietras

Additional Photos Available Upon Request

Hostos Community College and Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture present

A CELEBRATION OF MIGUEL ALGARIN CO-FOUNDER OF THE NUYORICAN POETS CAFÉ AND A LEADER OF THE NUYORICAN MOVEMENT

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

(Bronx, NY) – In the middle of Puerto Rican Heritage Month, Hostos Community College and the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture celebrates the prolific and polemic Miguel Algarín, the cofounder the world famous Nuyorican Poets Café.

The event takes place Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 7:00pm followed by a reception and book signing at Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture, 450 Grand Concourse. All the activities are free to the public but tickets are required for admission. For information call the Hostos Center at 718-518-4455.

The event will feature readings of Algarín's work by other writers including Mariposa, Nancy Mercado, Flaco Navaja, Carlos Manuel Rivera and Emanuel Xavier; a dance performance by Milteri Tucker's Bombazo Dance Company and testimonials by Lois Griffith long-time collaborator), Joe Pietri (brother of El Reverendo Pedro Pietri) and Dan Shot (former student and editor of Long Shot Art and Literary Journal who published Ginsberg, Bukowski, Myles, Baraka as well as Algarin), President of Hostos Community College, Dr. David Gómez, will kick-off the event.

In 1973, Algarín was using his living room in Manhattan as a gathering place for poets and artists. By 1975, there were so many he decided to look for a better suited location. Along with the noted poet and playwright **Miguel Piñero** and other poets, they rented a location on East 6th Street and named it the Nuyorican Poets Café. In 1980, Algarín purchased a building on East 3rd Street to expand the café where it has thrived for the past 35 years. The Nuyorican, as it is familiarly known, offers poetry and prose readings, theatrical and musical performances, and visual arts exhibits, and is considered a key cultural institutions of the Nuyorican Movement.

Algarín published five poetry books and edited three anthologies. He holds the status of Professor Emeritus for his more than 30 years of service to Rutgers University and received three American Book Awards and the Larry Leon Hamlin Producer's Award at the 2001 National Black Theatre Festival.

This event is presented by the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture in partnership with Hostos Community College, the Office of the President, the Office of Academic Affairs and the English Department.

<u>Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture</u> is located at 450 Grand Concourse in the Bronx. Tickets are free, and can be picked up by visiting the Hostos Center box office, by calling (718) 518-4455 or online at

www.hostos.cuny.edu/culturearts. Hostos Community College can be reached by the IRT 2, 4, 5, Bx1, Bx19 to East 149th Street and the Grand Concourse.

About the Hostos the Center for the Arts & Culture

The mission of the Hostos Center is to address the cultural needs of its surrounding inner-city communities while affirming the cultural heritages of its audiences, especially Latino and African-Americans. Since its inception in 1982, the Center has been an important agent for this affirmation, serving as venue for performances, festivals, residencies and commissions featuring a who's-who of Latino artists.

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