



**A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT**

**Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.**

*Whoever suffers from lack of truth and justice is my friend.*

*Quienquiera que padece por la verdad y la justicia, ese es mi amigo.*

Selected from *Eugenio María de Hostos, 50 Aphorisms-50 Aforismos*

Selection and translations by Prof. Orlando José Hernández, a publication of HCC.

My Dear Colleagues and Students,

Don Eugenio María de Hostos, the namesake of our beloved Hostos Community College, would be so proud of us today, as we celebrate the 53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the founding of our venerable institution. Hostos, this sturdy, generous and welcoming bridge to a better future for so many, is a friend of all those who speak truth to power as they struggle for justice, and strive for the truth that education provides time and again.

How meaningful that today, April 22, 2021 is International Earth Day and that the College has celebrated in multiple generous ways our Mother Earth, and underscored the need to protect, respect and live in harmony in actions and values with our environment and society.

Reflecting on the many struggles Hostos and the South Bronx have overcome and continue to overcome, in particular, living and moving through a pandemic that has brought the best of many of us, to continue to teach and learn what is truth, to have our students speak truth to power, resist injustices and embrace collaboration and a harmonious co-existence with the natural world and each other.

Here is to you, Don Eugenio, we celebrate your ideas, we sing your praise with gratitude as we augur our beloved College many more years of living up to your values, now our values and mission.

*Mil gracias y bendiciones, Daisy*

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.  
Interim President

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