



A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

Today marks the 184th anniversary of a great man's birth: Eugenio María de Hostos.

Born in Puerto Rico, Hostos (1839-1903) is a crucial figure in the development of educational theory and social justice in the Americas. In the course of his 64 years on this planet, he championed Puerto Rico's self-determination, women's rights, and education for the many and not just the few. He was also a distinguished lawyer, author and sociologist.

Hostos' ideas were – and remain – so powerful that, nearly 55 years ago, a dedicated group of men and women chose to name a new institution of higher learning in the South Bronx after him. The College is firmly committed to his belief in the power of education and the inherent dignity of all beings. We find strength and inspiration in his writings and his example. We are proud to carry the mantle of *El Gran Ciudadano de las Américas*.

Then as now, Hostos upholds the democratic ideals of the community college system and draws strength from the ideas and spirit of its namesake, the trailblazing Puerto Rican educator, writer, and advocate for human rights. Knowledge and freedom were inextricably linked in Hostos' thinking. The College affirms that link and does its utmost to help its students become what Hostos once called "*Patriotas para la humanidad*" (Patriots for Humanity).

Much has changed in the last 55 years, but the College's commitment to access, diversity, equity, and social justice has never faltered or faded.

Please join me at 4:00pm this afternoon in the C-Lobby for a slice of birthday cake and a cup of coffee as we celebrate the life and legacy of a truly great man.

Mil gracias y bendiciones,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.
President

Office of the President
Eugenio María de Hostos Community College
475 Grand Concourse, A-Building, Room 341, Bronx, NY 10451
718-518-4300 | PRESIDENTSOFFICE@hostos.cuny.edu

