



## A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

To the Hostos community:



We have lost a dear friend, a founding faculty member and a valiant warrior on behalf of the College, and a beloved colleague. Professor Emeritus Dr. Gerald Meyer passed away on November 10. A well-respected authority on leftist American history and politics, he himself became a figure of historical note when Hostos was threatened with closure during NYC's fiscal crisis of the mid-70s. "Jerry" jumped into the fray and fought to keep the doors open, serving as the chair of the "Save Hostos Committee." He and his

fellow activists won the battle. Why did he fight so diligently to save a young and feisty institution like Hostos?

"I really had the sense I was home," he said, years later. "I felt very welcome there from the administration on down. They were very interested in building something that worked, and I was eager and willing to participate in that from the very beginning."

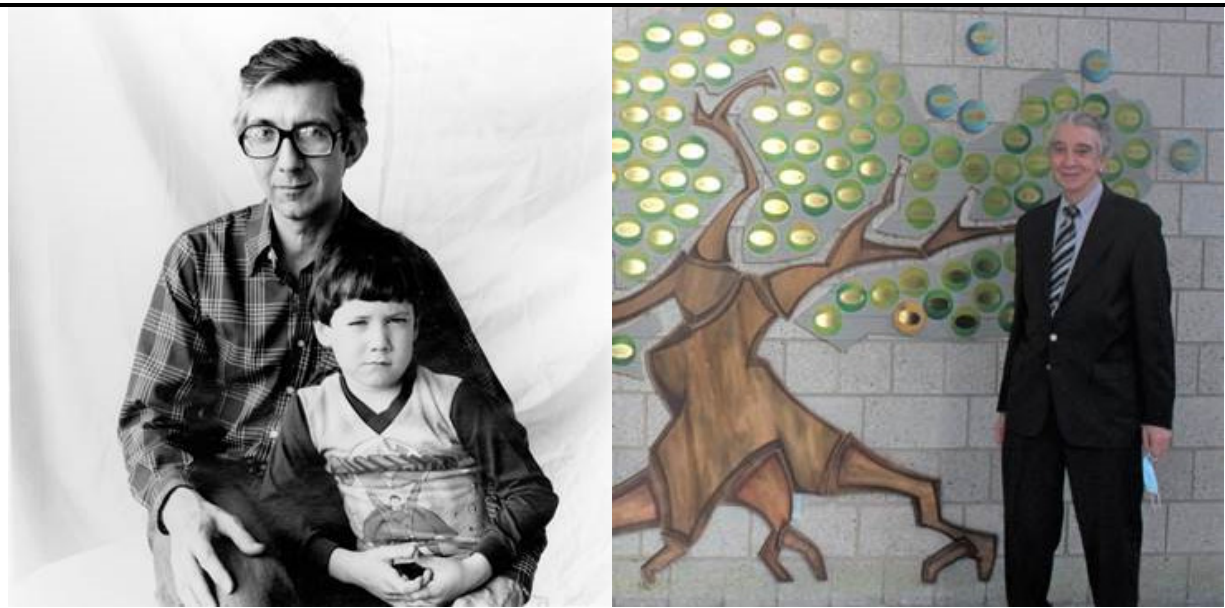
Jerry participated with all of his heart, and his contributions to Hostos are substantial and long-lasting. To name only a few, he helped establish the Gay and Lesbian Club and the Hostos Solidarity Coalition and, after retiring, he co-founded The Circle of 100 Scholarship and Emergency Fund. The Gerald Meyer Transfer Scholarship was established in 2016 and first awarded in 2017. Since that time, seven Hostos students have received awards of \$1,000 to help defray the cost of attending a four-year college.

He is survived by his partner, Luis Romero; his daughter, Anna Milat-Meyer; and his son, Adam Meyer. The family has kindly requested that his memory may be honored through donations to the Circle of 100 Emergency Fund.

Thank you, Jerry. Generations of students, faculty members, and scholars have had their lives and work enriched by your teaching, your writing, your generosity, and your warmth as a teacher and a member of the community. We will remember you with the greatest fondness and appreciation.

In sorrow,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.  
President



**Song of the Open Road**  
BY WALT WHITMAN

All seems beautiful to me,  
I can repeat over to men and women You have done such good to me I would  
do the same to you,  
I will recruit for myself and you as I go,  
I will scatter myself among men and women as I go,  
I will toss a new gladness and roughness among them,  
Whoever denies me it shall not trouble me,  
Whoever accepts me he or she shall be blessed and shall bless me.

[Song of the Open Road by Walt Whitman | Poetry Foundation](#)

Funeral Service:  
Sunday, November 14, 2021  
From 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Joseph G. Duffy Funeral Home  
MJ Smith Sons Funeral Home  
255 Ninth Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11215-3905  
718-499-8700

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