



## A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

### **CELINA SOTOMAYOR (1927-2021)**

The Hostos family has suffered a grievous loss: beloved alumna Celina Sotomayor left this world on Sunday, July 25. She was 94 years old. Her daughter is Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Sonia Sotomayor, the first woman of color, the first Hispanic, and the first Latina member of the Court.



Justice Sotomayor was the Guest Speaker at the 2010 Commencement Ceremony. She spoke of the College's opening, and of how it "opened the door to my mother's dreams, and it opened the path to where I am today."

On that day Celina Sotomayor received an Alumni Pioneer Award, which is given to alumni who exemplify the intellectual growth and accomplishments that an Hostos education can provide. She was a graduate of the Hostos nursing program, class of 1973.

We mourn the loss of this gracious and determined woman, and send our sympathies to Justice Sotomayor. The world was lucky indeed to have, for a time, such a presence as Celina Sotomayor.

This justly-celebrated Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi seems appropriate during this time of remembrance and sorrow.

*Lord make me an instrument  
Of thy peace, where there is hatred,  
Let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
And where there is sadness, joy.  
O Divine Master, grant that  
I may not so much seek  
To be consoled as to console;  
To be loved as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we  
Are pardoned, and it is in dying  
That we are born to eternal life.*

Rest in Peace, Celina Sotomayor. Your good work lives on.

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.  
President

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