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Caridad De La Luz (La Bruja) and NeNe Ali are “Rappin’ and Riffin’ in the BX” with Desmar Guevara and DJ DP One on October 30

This explosive Young Roots Performance Series event is co-produced by Papatian

Bronx, N.Y. (Oct. 15, 2015) – The nationally renowned poet/actress/singer **Caridad De La Luz**, also known by her stage name **La Bruja**, partners with the young spoken word artist **NeNe Ali** for a special cross-generational performance, “**Rappin’ and Riffin’ in the BX**” on Friday, October 30, 7:30 pm at the **Hostos Center**. Both Bronx natives will perform their own sets as well as debut an original collaborative work. The keyboard accompaniment of the award-winning composer **Desmar Guevara** and intersecting tracks of the acclaimed deejay **DJ DP One** bring the power of hip-hop beats to round out the evening.

Tickets for the “Rappin’ and Riffin’ in the BX” in the Hostos Center’s Repertory Theater are \$10, with discounted student tickets at \$5, and are available through www.hostoscenter.org or by calling 718-518-4455. The Box Office window is open Monday through Friday, 1 pm to 4 pm, and two hours prior to events. The Center is located on the campus of Hostos Community College at 450 Grand Concourse in the Bronx, just steps from the 149th/Grand Concourse subway station.

Renaissance woman **Caridad De La Luz (La Bruja)** has produced achievements in fields as diverse as hip-hop, film and musical theatre, but she is most prominently known for her work as a spoken word poet. She appeared on HBO’s “Russell Simmons Def Poetry Jam” and has performed internationally at countless respected venues, including Joe’s Pub at The Public Theater, The American Museum of Natural History, El Museo del Barrio and The Bronx Museum of Arts. La Bruja is the creator of the highly successful musical *Boogie Rican Blvd*, which ran off-Broadway at The Puerto Rican Traveling Theater. She is featured on Prince Royce’s platinum-certified album “Phase II” and Bobby Sanabria’s Grammy-nominated album “Multiverse.” She has released four of her own albums and is currently touring *La Consulta*, which was created in collaboration with Desmar Guevara and produced by Papatian with Pregones Theater.

NeNe Ali began writing poetry at age six and first performed her original work at age nine. By 11 she made her Apollo Theater debut, captivating audiences with her spoken word poetry. Now, only 17 years old, she headlines performances across the Northeast while also taking classes at Hostos Community College. She says of her collaboration with La Bruja, “I’m amazed that I’m going to share the stage with someone who I admire, someone who has watched me grow both as an artist and on a personal level.” An activist as well as an artist, Ali was honored as the youngest recipient of both Miami Heat star

Dwayne Wade's Keeper of the Village Award and the Nelson Mandela Community Activist Award for her work in creating a safe environment for urban youth.

Desmar Guevara is a multi-instrumentalist, music educator, musical director and founder of genre-busting jazz ensemble Taller Sicá. He has performed internationally as a pianist for over 20 years and is the Resident Composer of the award-winning Bronx-based Pregones Theater. He is a recipient of the National Theater Artist Residency Program Award from the Theater Communications Group and the New York Foundation for the Arts selected him to be one of their Individual Artist Fellows.

New York City native **DJ DP One**, Daniel Pinero, first starting mixing at the age of 14 and is now one of the busiest DJs on the U.S. B-Boy/B-Girl scene. He is an original member of the Heavy Hitters and founder of the Turntable Anihilists. He has toured globally with artists such as Lauryn Hill, John Legend, Estelle and Immortal Technique when he is not spinning at the trendiest NYC nightclubs. In addition to concerts, he is also in high demand by companies such as Christian Dior, GameStop and MOMA for their events.

This event is co-produced with Papatian, a 30+ year old South Bronx based non-profit arts organization directed by Jane Gabriels, and part of the Young Roots Performance Series, a project that focuses on Latin@ artists experimenting with African roots.

Hostos Center events are sponsored by the Hostos Community College Foundation with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the Office of New York City Councilwoman María del Carmen Arroyo, the Office for New York State Assemblyman José Rivera, and the Office of New York State Assemblywoman Carmen Arroyo.

[Press Images for Concert](#)

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What: Caridad de la Luz (La Bruja) and NeNe Ali
Rappin' and Riffin' in the BX
With Desmar Guevara and DJ DP One

When: Friday, Oct. 30, 2015 at 7:30 pm

Where: Repertory Theater
Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture
Hostos Community College
450 Grand Concourse
Bronx, NY 10451

Pricing: \$10 (\$5 for students and under 18)

Box Office: 718-518-4455

Website: www.hostoscenter.org

Subway/Bus: IRT Trains 2, 4, 5 and Buses BX1, BX2, BX19 to 149th Street/Grand Concourse.

About the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture

The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture consists of a museum-grade art gallery, a 367-seat Repertory Theater, and a 900-seat Main Theater, presenting artists of national and international renown. It is easily accessible from Manhattan, Queens and New Jersey and is a mere 15 minutes by subway from midtown Manhattan

About Hostos Community College

Hostos Community College is an educational agent for change, transforming and improving the quality of life in the South Bronx and neighboring communities since 1968. Hostos serves as a gateway to intellectual growth and socioeconomic mobility, and a point of departure for lifelong learning, success in professional careers, and transfer to advanced higher education programs. The College's unique "student success coach" program, which partners students with individualized guidance, is emblematic of the premier emphasis on student support and services.

Hostos offers 29 associate degree programs and 5 certificate programs that facilitate easy transfer to The City University of New York (CUNY) four-year colleges or baccalaureate studies at other institutions. The College has an award-winning Division of Continuing Education & Workforce Development that offers professional development courses and certificate-bearing workforce training programs. Hostos Community College is part of CUNY, the nation's leading urban public university serving more than 480,000 students at 24 colleges.

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