



## A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

### **IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR DOMINICAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

Tragedy struck early on the morning of Tuesday, April 8, in the Dominican Republic: The roof of the Jet Set, a popular nightclub in Santo Domingo, collapsed during one of the club's highly popular Monday evening merengue concerts. As of this writing, the BBC reports that 124 lives are known to have been lost and 150 people were injured. It is expected that more fatalities will be reported. Dominican Republic President Luis Abinader has declared three days of national mourning.

Hostos has a special place in its heart for the Dominican Republic. A substantial percentage of the College's student population is from there or has roots there; the same can be said of many of our faculty, staff, and administration. Nearly half of all Dominicans in NYC live in the Bronx, the borough we call home. My own connection to the country is as close as can be: I was born in Santo Domingo.

As events unfold in a grieving nation, our hearts are with all those whose lives have been so brutally affected by this appalling accident. We mourn for the dead. We weep for the injured. May peace and comfort come to them all.

In sorrow,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.  
President

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