

## **HAPPY 57th ANNIVERSARY, HOSTOS!**

April 22 is a day dear to the hearts of all at Hostos. On this date in 1968, Hostos Community College officially came into being.

Hostos was founded in an era animated by sweeping demands for change on practically every level. The Civil Rights Movement, Women's Liberation, the War on Poverty – these and other causes were part of a fight for equity, representation, and access that characterized so much of the 1960s.

The educators, activists, and community leaders who founded Hostos shared in that ethos and wanted to bring affordable, high-quality second education to the South Bronx. Acting together, drawing from the strength and potential of the South Bronx, they made that dream a reality. All who wished to learn were welcome. The doors were open!

And, almost six decades later, they still are.

The College is named after Don Eugenio María de Hostos (1839-1903), the trailblazing Puerto Rican educator, writer, and advocate for human rights. Don Eugenio passionately believed in the power of education to transform lives. Our founders draw inspiration and encouragement from his work and his example, as do all who have followed in their footsteps.

I salute the visionaries who brought Hostos into existence and those who have given so greatly of their talents, hearts, and souls to keep the institution going through good times and bad. Our origins were humble, but our dreams were – and still are – immense. We look forward to providing students with the knowledge and skills they need to realize their ambitions for many more years to come.

Happy Birthday, Eugenio María de Hostos Community College!

In celebration,

Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D. President

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