



LATINO 2016 Fall Preview
of Performances

**NOCHE
DE GALA**

Saturday, September 24
7:30 p.m.
Latino Arts Auditorium & Gallery



**Mariachi Flor de
Toloache**

Friday, November 4
7:30 p.m.
Latino Arts Auditorium



**Gabriel Alegria
Afro-Peruvian Sextet**

Friday, December 2
7:30 p.m.
Latino Arts Auditorium



Buy your tickets online at www.mivoz.com

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LATINO
**NOCHE
DE GALA**

Saturday,
September 24, 2016
7:30 p.m.

Latino Arts Auditorium & Gallery

Don't miss Latino Arts' annual fundraiser for cultural arts education! Treat your ears to live Salsa, Cumbia, and Bolero from **Edward's Latin Ensemble** featuring Bruce-Guadalupe Community School alum Alejandro Cortés, and enjoy special performances from the **Latino Arts Strings Program & Mariachi Juvenil**.

Plus, step up your skills with dance demonstrations and group lessons, auctions and raffles, and tapas and sangria from our own Café el Sol!

Show your commitment to arts education by purchasing your table or sponsoring the event; call (414) 384-3100 or email info@latinoartsinc.org.

Students Learn Culture and Music from Proyecto Bembe

Proyecto Bembe (Project "Bembe") will start its 2nd year at Bruce-Guadalupe Community School this year. The group, founded by Bruce-Guadalupe Community School parent Johanna de los Santos and local artist Cecelio Negron, is an Afro-Latino percussion-based performing arts after-school program for BGCS students. Proyecto Bembe promotes musical and performance skills, builds youth leadership, assertive communication and collaboration skills, and self-respect, and allows for cultural identity exploration through Afro-Latino musical culture.

Proyecto Bembe operates under the founding partnership of Milwaukee Public Theatre and last year participated in many different activities, including art therapy with the seniors at the UCC Senior Center. You may have even seen the group perform at BGCS or out in the community this summer. This year the group has many exciting things planned including a holiday performance, Noche Buena on December 9th and a Carnival presentation in March 2017. Check out their website at <http://www.proyectobembe.com/>



Booties, Balloons, Blankies and More...

The law offices of Michael Best & Friedrich looked dramatically different a few weeks ago when the downtown office held a community baby shower to benefit the clients of UCC's Latinas Unidas program. This program serves women struggling with alcohol or other drug addiction and targets outreach and services to pregnant women or women with infants. Many of the clients arrive to the facility after giving birth or shortly thereafter with very few items for their children. They need everything from the essentials like diapers and wipes to other items that they might be able to take with them when they complete treatment such as a stroller, blankets, or a high chair.

The "Catch the Bug" Committee at the office, which helps to raise awareness and support for a variety of Milwaukee area causes, decided to create the event to help the agency collect some of these essential items. The staff at the law firm donated items including bathing products, blankets, a high chair, a swing, a play mat, and more. While these mothers are struggling to provide a better life for their children, this support only makes their journey easier.

Thank you Michael Best & Friedrich.



New Beginnings this Fall...

While a new school year signals the end of summer, it is the beginning of an amazing future for students who arrive at UCC with energy, enthusiasm, and an eagerness to learn! This fall, we are thrilled to welcome 50 new 6th graders to the UCC campus as part of the UCC Acosta Middle School. This new school, located at 6th and Washington, will continue to build off of the success of Bruce-Guadalupe Community School while incorporating project based learning and new technology curriculum to help prepare students for many career options in the future.

Another addition to the campus is also underway this fall. An additional women's residential treatment home is under construction. This residential facility will serve our Latina's Unidas program, which focuses on helping women overcome their addictions including a

special focus on pregnant women and women with infants. This new 16 bed home will allow us to provide hope and a brighter future to more women seeking help.

As parents, students, and staff start to flood the halls again, we all awaken with a renewed sense of purpose and passion. We invite you to come down and get your own dose of inspiration this fall. Check out all of our events and happenings as you read this newsletter!

Hope to see you soon.

Francisco Hernandez



Latino Arts Strings Program Journeys to California

This summer, members of the Latino Arts Strings Program's Mariachi Juvenil took their talent on tour to California.

In addition to seeing sights and places they have never encountered, a highlight of the tour was the friendships the students formed with student musicians from across the country. They performed with Orange County Children's Therapeutic Arts Center's strings students. They met the students of the Chicago Mariachi Project for a workshop with Mariachi Divas' Director Cindy Shea. They also joined forces with students from L.A. Philharmonic's youth program, YOLA. A special treat on their trip was the rare opportunity to perform at Disneyland, where the ensemble received a standing ovation for their performance!

Our musicians also worked with professionals while in California. They joined the band Las Cafeteras to play *La Bamba Emigrante* live on the radio. They also joined the band La Santa Cecilia for the live premiere of *Caminante Nocturno* (a song that features our musicians on the band's *Buenaventura* CD).

"Playing with La Santa Cecilia was amazing. The band made me feel welcome and loved," said Francisco Hernandez, a Latino Arts Strings Program musician.

To all our supporters of this memorable trip: Muchas Gracias!



BGCS Students Appreciate the Living History of DC

In late May, about 40 8th grade students from Bruce-Guadalupe Community School learned about the history of our country by stepping out of the classroom and touring our nation's capital, Washington D.C. and Gettysburg, PA. Thanks to former U.S. Senator Herb Kohl, who funded the trip with a gift from Herb Kohl Philanthropies, students ventured on a five day excursion touring and learning about some of the most influential presidents and activists that helped shape our country. A complete itinerary of tours, museums and memorials, including a special Hispanic Liberators tour, was planned and coordinated to fill every day of the trip with the help of educational travel specialists from Brightspark.



To kick off their history lesson, BGCS students spent the first day visiting the Iwo Jima Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and some of the National Mall Monuments. It was an unforgettable day as students walked through the Arlington House, witnessed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and even visited the Eternal Flame at President John F. Kennedy's gravesite. In addition to seeing many memorials, students visited the Pentagon Memorial where they were able to honor and remember the victims of September 11.

The sightseeing and excitement continued as students journeyed to the top of the Washington Monument standing 555 feet tall overlooking the entire city. They also took a guided tour of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center where they learned about the struggle our country faced to gain independence and were introduced to the building that houses our Congress.

BGCS students learned so much throughout their trip to Washington, but most importantly, they learned the story of our country, the struggles and sacrifices taken to make our country great by many fearless leaders.

Students worked with staff to keep families and friends updated via social media throughout the trip. Here are few sample tweets:

- DC is surreal, I am so grateful to have gotten this opportunity! The Library of Congress was a book worm's heaven!
-Mariah
- My favorite place yesterday was the Vietnam War Memorial. I appreciated seeing the men that sacrificed their lives for us.
- Daniela R
- What I enjoyed the most from the first day of D.C. is seeing how much respect is provided towards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
-Eibar



This trip was the perfect end to their last year at BGCS. Muchas Gracias!

Building Friendships One Project at a Time

The fall will mark the inaugural school year for the new UCC Acosta Middle School (UCC AMS). To get ready for the year, the 50 new students attended a five week summer school. With a focus on experiential and project based learning, this first summer session included several hands-on projects with the school's first learners!



The Acosta Middle School students were strangers at the start of the summer, but they quickly developed teamwork that will carry into the new school year.

Garden Project

Students pulled up weeds and stones to clean up the existing outdoor space in order to plant a garden that will include tomatoes, onions, carrots, and cilantro. They are also working on a fence of sunflowers, and building compost bins out of old pallets to provide fertilizer for the garden, since it will be chemical free. The students learned about how the different parts of a garden function and even had the opportunity to dissect an earthworm. During the school year, this space will be used as an outdoor classroom.

Community Art Project

Students are working to beautify the school and build community through a photo collage that will feature a photo of each student and their answers to thought-provoking questions.

Book Making Project

Students wrote and illustrated their own books. The books ranged from biographies to sequels to their favorite stories. Students created their own schedules with deadlines for what they would accomplish each day. Each student chose how his/her book would be bound. The plan is to include the finished books in the school library.

Boatworks Project

One really exciting project offered to a smaller number of students was the community BoatWorks project. Students prepared for the project for three weeks by learning tool safety, how to measure, and woodworking. They created their own woodworking pieces such as tool boxes and guitars and took them home to their families.



The culmination of the project occurred on the last week, when students traveled to Waukesha and built a wooden rowboat by hand! The boat can be safely used on water! The students took part in every step of the process – applying not only the woodworking skills they learned, but the math skills as well.

Thanks to the support of program partner BoatWorks. This project was made possible by Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and other individual donors.

Learn more about the UCC Acosta Middle School at the Open House and Dedication on Thursday, September 15th at 3:00 p.m. RSVP to eyasias@unitedcc.org.



Wall of Fame Where are they now?

Every year for the past 28 years, exceptional students have been selected for the Badger Mutual Wall of Fame. What happens to these exceptional students after receiving the Wall of Fame? Do they graduate from college? Do they have successful careers? Where are they now?

UCC recently caught up with some Wall of Fame alumni to find out what happened after they received the Wall of Fame. Soon, we will start a new wall deemed "Wall of Fame-Where are They Now" to showcase updates from past Wall of Fame recipients. Here are a few highlights.



Hector Colon – Wall of Fame 1989

Hector is the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services for Milwaukee County. During his time as director, he streamlined operations, increased revenue, and expanded and enhanced programs. He is married to Solmaria Colon, and together they have two children.



Fatima Gomez – Wall of Fame 2009

Fatima is currently studying poetry, Latina/Latino studies, and anthropology at Northwestern University. During her time at Northwestern, Fatima was selected for a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship. She is expected to graduate in the spring of 2017.



Alicia Torres Moore – Wall of Fame 1999

Alicia graduated from Marquette University in 2003 with a degree in speech pathology and audiology and a minor in psychology. In 2007, she earned her doctorate in audiology from Central Michigan University. She currently works as a clinical audiologist in Naples, Florida.



Rafael Rodriguez Jr. – Wall of Fame 2011

Rafael is currently pursuing a degree in chemical engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is expected to graduate in the spring of 2019. Rafael has been recognized on the Dean's list for multiple semesters.



Marisela Rodriguez Gutierrez – Wall of Fame 2003

Marisela graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2012 with a degree in film studies and a certificate in Latin American and Caribbean studies. She currently works as an advisor for high school students in UCC's pre-college department.



Christian Villanueva – Wall of Fame 2014

Christian graduated from Marquette University in the spring of 2015. He is currently working as a registered nurse in Chicago. Christian is also pursuing a doctorate in nursing at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Want more updates? Come check out the new wall near the Community Learning Center. We are so proud of all of our Wall of Fame Alumni and proud to show them off!

ARE YOU A WALL OF FAME WINNER?
SEND US AN UPDATE TO
info@unitedcc.org

Fun and Fitness: Keep Calm and Run On

To promote healthy lifestyles and teach students the importance of nutrition and exercise, Bruce-Guadalupe Community School staff, Mrs. Rebecca Reyes-Clemente and Mr. Noah De Long, decided to share their love of running. The BGCS Run Club was born in April 2016.

The club is open to students in third, fourth, and fifth grades and meets twice a week. It emphasizes having fun while also focusing on setting and completing goals. At the end of the program, students complete their goal of running a 5K. Rebecca and Noah also hope to encourage families to become involved to help address the high rate of obesity and diabetes prevalent in the Hispanic Community.

Students in the club also learn the basic bones and muscles used when running and strengthen their leadership, teamwork, sportsmanship, and character skills. Those in fourth and fifth grade have the opportunity to be role models to the third grade students in the club by being junior coaches (fifth graders) or co-coaches (fourth graders).

On May 7, the BGCS Run Club ran their first 5K at the Royal Kids Family Camp-Starfish 5k event. A total of 18 students along with their families attended the event. The club encourages and welcomes

family members to be running partners to students. More than 11 family members ran with the students.

This year, the Starfish 5k opened up a special bracket for ages under 12. Two BGCS students earned medals for placing second and third within their age groups. Another five students placed in the top 10 for the under 12 age bracket.

BGCS Run Club has proven successful for both students and families. One parent has already completed his first 5K, and the aunt of another student is preparing to run with her nephew. Students involved with the club have encouraged their classmates in gym class.

BGCS Run Club's next 5K will take place this fall at the Milwaukee Running Festival.

