



## Dominican American National Roundtable 12<sup>TH</sup> Annual National Conference

### **The State of Dominicans in the US:** *Renewed Vision – Renewed Commitment*

December 4 - 6, 2009

**Coronado Springs Resort  
Walt Disney World®, Florida**

#### **CONFERENCE AGENDA**

**Friday, December 4, 2009**

- 10:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.      **Registration open for the DANR 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**
- 10:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.      **Exhibit Hall and Art Exhibit Open**
- 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.      **Meeting, DANR Board of Directors**
- 2:30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.      **DANR's National Strategic Meeting of Educators and Education Advocates**  
Moderator: Francesca Pena, DANR Vice President for Membership  
Juan Mendez, President, Association of Dominican American Supervisors and Administrators (ADASA) – confirmed.  
Delegation of ADASA Officers (confirmed)  
Ana I. Garcia Reyes, Hostos Community College (confirmed)  
Prof. Washington B. Collado, Florida (confirmed)  
Dr. Santiago Taveras, Deputy Chancellor, NYC Dept of Ed (confirmed)  
Dr. Rosario Espinal, Temple University (confirmed)  
Dr. Jocelyn Santana Ph.D., NYC Schools Deputy Network Leader and author (confirmed)  
Dean Feniosky Pena-Mora, Columbia University's School of Engineering (confirmed)  
Patricia Bombelyn, Esq. Advocate for School Vouchers & Charter Schools (confirmed)  
Jonathan Wunderlich, Director of Development, DREAM Project (confirmed)  
Dr. Hugo M. Morales, CUNY Trustee (confirmed)  
Rita DiMartino, CUNY Trustee (confirmed)
- 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.      **Opening Welcome Reception:**  
**Honoring Dominican Elected Officials in the US**  
Welcome to the DANR's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Nestor Montilla, President, DANR – Opening Remarks  
Distinguished Guests' Salutatory Remarks  
Hon. Buddy Dyer, Mayor, Orlando, FL (invited/confirming)  
Hon. Jim Swan, Mayor, City of Kissimmee (invited/confirming)  
Mr. Denny Herzberg, First Inducted Friend of *DANR's One Hundred Friends*
- The National Guanin Excellence in Public Service Award:**  
Hon. Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, US Department of Justice (confirmed)
- Guanin Youth Leadership Award**  
Elias Alcantara, Co-chair, DANR Youth Initiative, CUNY's Lehman College Student

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8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Comedy Night** with Freddy Beras-Goyco, an internationally acclaimed Dominican comedian, television personality and author  
\*Part of proceeds will go to the DANR' student internship & scholarship funds

9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. **National Networking Social & Welcome Celebration**  
with *PericoRipiao*, traditional Dominican *merengue* & hilarious performances by typical Dominican characters. *Performer Jose Bonilla (confirmed)*

## **Saturday, December 5, 2009**

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. **Registration open for the DANR 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open** (Over 20 exhibitors)

### **National Issue Breakfast**

#### **Census 2010 & Redistricting: Impact on Our Communities**

Hon. Adriano Espaillat (confirmed)

In lieu of Dr. Robert Groves, Director of Census, Ms. Cathy McCully, Chief, Census Redistricting Data Office and Mr. Arnold Jackson will present (confirmed)

Rev. Miguel Rivera, President, National Coalition of Latino Ministers (confirmed)

Dr. John Mollenkopf, CUNY Graduate School and University Center (confirmed)

DANR Guanin Public Service Award: Hon. Camelia M. Valdes, Prosecutor

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Networking Break, Prize Drawings & Local Entertainment**

Interactive performances by typical Dominican characters.  
Domino's Tournament begins

10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Morning Concurrent Workshop Sessions**

#### **1. Running for Office: High Points and Pitfalls**

MODERATOR: Dr. Maria Teresa Feliciano, DANR Director (confirmed)

Hon. Idanys Rodriguez, NYC Councilman (confirmed)

Hon. Martin Perez, Esq., President, Latino Leadership Alliance of NJ (confirmed)

Hon. Fernando Cabrera, NYC Councilman (confirmed)

Dr. John Mollenkopf, CUNY Graduate School and University Center (confirmed)

Hon. Miguel Santana, County Committee Member (confirmed)

#### **2. Education: The Key to Success**

MODERATOR: Ms. Francesca Pena, NYC School Superintendent (confirmed)

Dr. Santiago Taveras, Deputy Chancellor, NYC Dept of Ed (confirmed)

Dr. Rosario Espinal, Temple University (confirmed)

Dr. Jocelyn Santana Ph.D., NYC Schools Deputy Network Leader and author (confirmed)

Dean Feniosky Pena-Mora, Columbia University's School of Engineering (confirmed)

Patricia Bombelyn, Esq. Advocate for School Vouchers & Charter Schools (confirmed)

#### **3. The Battle for Immigration Reform: Reports from the Front Line**

MODERATOR: DANR Director (To be confirmed)

Mr. Rhadames Peguero, Dominican American National Foundation (confirmed)

Ms. Damaris M. Vasquez, Director, Barry University (confirmed)

Mr. Nelson Valdez, 1199 SEIU Representative (confirmed)

Rev. Miguel Rivera, President, National Coalition of Latino Ministers (confirmed)

Hon. Adriano Espaillat, NYS Assemblyman (confirmed)

Mr. Guillermo Linares, Former Commissioner for Immigration, NYC (confirmed)

#### **4. Dominican–Puerto Rican Relations: Let's talk about it**

MODERATOR: Claribel Martinez-Marmolejos, Chair DANR Affairs in Puerto Rico

Dr. Felix V. Matos Rodriguez (confirmed)

Dr. Hugo M. Morales, CUNY Trustee (confirmed)

Hon. Rita DiMartino, CUNY Trustee (confirmed)

Mr. Moises Peres, Executive Director, *Alianza Dominicana* (confirmed)

Hon. Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez, NYS Secretary of State (confirmed)

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## **5. Broad Band Technology: Opportunities for Minorities**

MODERATOR: Mr. Victor Diaz, DANR Board Director (confirmed)  
Mr. Emilio Gonzalez, Vice President, Verizon Wireless (confirmed)  
Hon. Julio Tavarez, Councilmember, Paterson, NJ (confirmed)  
AT&T Representative  
Hon. Francis Lorenzo, Embajador Alterno, Mision Permanente de la Republica Dominicana en las Naciones Unidas

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## **Networking Break & Local Entertainment**

Domino's Tournament in progress

12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

## **National Agenda Leadership Luncheon**

Distinguished Guests' Remarks:

Hon. Charlie Crist, Governor, State of Florida (Invited)  
Hon. Charles Rangel, US Congressman (invited/confirming)  
*Hon. William Lantigua (D), first Hispanic elected Mayor in Lawrence, MA. First Hispanic elected Mayor in the State of Massachusetts (confirmed)*  
*Hon. Alex. D. Blanco, First Dominican elected Mayor in the US, Passaic, NJ*  
*Hon. Eric T. Schneiderman, NYS Senator*

MOU Signing: DANR & CONDEX Collaboration Agreement  
Lic. Jose Alejandro Santos, Secretary of State, Dominican Republic  
*Consejo Consultivo Para Los Dominicanos en el Exterior (CONDEX)*

"State of Dominicans in the US Address" by DANR President Nestor Montilla  
\*(Address will be broadcast live via television, radio & Internet)

DANR President Community Service Award: Hon. Julio Tavarez,  
Councilmember, Paterson, NJ  
DANR President Award: Cid Wilson

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

## **Afternoon Concurrent Workshop Sessions**

### **6, Women: Challenges and Rewards**

MODERATOR: Ms. Maria Moreno, DANR Director (confirmed)  
Dr. Rosario Espinal, Temple University (confirmed)  
Hon. Camelia Valdez, NJ Passaic County Prosecutor (confirming)  
Prof. Stefan Bosworth, Hostos CC (confirmed)  
Celines Toribio, TV Personality

### **7. Next Generation Youth Leadership Track**

MODERATOR: Ms. Amaris Guzman, DANR Board Secretary (confirmed)  
Dr. Angulo Nieves, Professor, Hostos CC (confirmed)  
Diverse delegation of college students from across the US & Puerto Rico (confirmed)

### **8. Building Alliances: Haitian - Dominican Relations**

MODERATOR: Julio Guridy, DANR Director and Alba Mota, DANR Youth Co-Chair  
Ms. Solange DePierre, MUDA (confirmed)  
Hon. Edwin Paraison, Former Haitian Ambassador to the DR (confirmed)  
Mr. Fred Price, Medgar Evers College of The City University of New York (confirmed)  
Dr. Maritza Jimenez, FuntoSalud and Border Health Mission to DR & Haiti (confirmed)  
Dr. Ramon Antonio Veras (El Negro Veras), Dominican Jurist, autor and former member of the United Nation World Peace Council (confirmed)

### **9. Health in our Communities**

MODERATOR: Mr. Luis Guzman, DANR Director (confirmed)  
Dr. Rafael Lantigua, Columbia University (confirmed)  
Dr. Olveen Carrasquillo, MD, MPH, Associate Prof. of Medicine (confirmed)  
Juan Pena, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, George Washington University (confirmed)

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## 10. Doing Business in the Dominican Republic and the US

**Time: 2:00pm to 4:30 pm**

MODERATOR: Rafael Núñez Cedeño, Ph.D., DANR Board Director (confirmed)  
Dr. Rafael Núñez-Cedeño, Midwest Representative CEI-RD  
Lic. Alejandro Santos, Secretario de Estado de la República Dominicana, Vice Presidente del CONDEX (confirmed)  
Ms. Darys Estrella, President, Dominican Republic Stock Exchange (confirmed)  
Ms. Josephine Infante, Exec Director, Hunts Point Development Corporation (confirmed)  
Mr. Denny Herzberg, President, VITUSA Corp (confirmed)  
Mr. Van Woods, President, Sylvia's Restaurant (confirmed)  
Mr. Lebron, President/Founder, Telelatina (confirmed)

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### **World Premiere film-documentary *Santiago's Pamphleteers***

MODERATOR: Ms. Fathima Torres, DANR National Board Director (confirmed)  
Q&A with Dr. Ramon A. Veras (El Negro Veras), Dominican Jurist, autor and former member of the United Nations World Peace Council (confirmed)

5:00 p.m.

**Networking Break, Prize Drawings & Local Entertainment**  
Domino's Tournament Ends: Winners are announced.

5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

### **Special Forum on Dominican Republic Politics**

MODERATOR: Jaime Matos (confirmed)  
Political leaders from the Dominican Republic.  
Lic. Miguel Vargas Maldonado, President, PRD (to be confirmed)  
Dr. Guillermo Moreno, President, Alianza Pais (to be confirmed)  
Dr. Elias Wessin Chavez, President, Partido Quisqueyano Democrata Cristiano (to be confirmed).  
General Jose Miguel Soto Jimenez, President, El Partido V Republica (to be confirmed)  
PLD Representative (to be confirmed).

**(VENUE, TIME & NUMBER OF PANELISTS FOR THIS FORUM SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

### **Local Entertainment & Freshen-Up-Break (*Tanybol*)**

Surprising interactive performances by typical Dominican characters.  
*Performer Jose Bonilla, Casa de la Cultura de Navarrete (confirmed)*

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### **12<sup>TH</sup> Annual Excellence Guanin Awards Ceremony**

DANR Guanin National Educator Award: Dr. Felix V. Matos Rodriguez, President, CUNY's Hostos Community College

DANR Guanin National Social Sciences Educator Award: Dr. Rosario Espinal, Temple University

DANR Guanin Entertainment Achievement Award: Ms. Celines Toribio

DANR National Fellowship Students Awards  
Dr. Hugo M. Morales & Dr. Teodoro Regus, Dominican American Foundation

DANR President's Award: Dr. Ramon Antonio Veras (El Negro Veras)

DANR Guanin National Science Award: Prof. Feniosky Pena-Mora, Dean of Columbia University's Fu Foundation School of Engineering & Applied Science.

**Keynote Speaker: Feniosky Pena-Mora**, Dean of Columbia University's Fu Foundation School of Engineering & Applied Science.

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8:00 p.m.

**Dinner-Concert by Maestro Rafael Solano & Nini Caffaro**

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of song *Por Amor*, an international immortal hymn sung and cherished by people of all ages from every corner of the earth.

DANR Guanin Lifetime Achievement Award: Maestro Rafael Solano

9:30 p.m.

**DANR President's Reception** (By invitation Only)

CO-Sponsors: Verizon Wireless and (TBA)

**Sunday, December 6, 2009**

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**DANR National Breakfast Forum**

The League of Dominican Elected Officials holds its DANR 12th National Conference Forum on the *State of Dominicans in the US: Setting the Direction*

*MODERATOR: Hon. Juan Pichardo RI State Senator (confirmed)*

*Hon. Adriano Espaillat (confirmed)*

*Hon. Jose Peralta (confirmed)*

*Hon. Vivian Villoria (confirmed)*

*Hon. Joseline Pena Melnyk*

*Hon. Julio Tavarez (confirmed)*

*Hon. Rigo Peralta (confirmed)*

*Hon. Julissa Ferreras (invited/confirming)*

*Hon. Manny Segura, Councilman, Trenton, NJ (confirmed)*

*Hon. Fernando Cabrera, Councilman, Bronx, NY (confirmed)*

*Hon. Julio Guridy, Allentown, PA (confirmed)*

*Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez (D), NYC Councilman (confirmed)*

*Hon. Diana Reyna (D), NYC Councilwoman (invited)*

*Hon. Wilson A. Terrero (D), elected Councilman, Yonkers City Council (invited)*

*Hon. William Lantigua (D), first Hispanic elected Mayor in Lawrence, MA. First Hispanic*

*elected Mayor in the State of Massachusetts (confirmed)*

*Hon. Frank Moran (D), Lawrence, MA. (invited)*

*Hon. Modesto Maldonado (D) Lawrence, MA (invited)*

*Hon. Oneida Aquino (D), Lawrence, MA. (invited)*

*Hon. Daniel Rivera (D), Lawrence, MA (invited)*

*Hon. Cris Mendoza, re-elected to the Town Council of Bladensburg Ward I, Maryland (invited)*

*Hon. Reynaldo R. Martinez, re-elected, Borough of Haledon, New Jersey (invited)*

*As of November 18, 2009, confirmed delegation attending forum include over 30 Dominican elected officials in the US and Puerto Rico)*

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**President's Report & General Membership Meeting**

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For more information, to register for the conference and reserve your sleeping rooms, visit [www.danr.org](http://www.danr.org).

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