

The Illustrious Awards

Honoring Distinguished Latinos

Over the centuries, remarkable scientists and physicians have emerged from Spanish-speaking lands, cultures and ancestors. They have practiced their professions preserving the finest traditions to the benefit of mankind.

From groundbreaking biologists and physicists to innovators in the fields of environmental studies and quantitative social research, Latinos are present in a wide range of academic centers and institutions that support faculty experts, practical research, innovative educational programming and community outreach initiatives.

- Mario Molina is the first Mexican-born scientist to win a Nobel Prize in Chemistry. He discovered the serious environmental threat posed by chlorofluorocarbon gases (CFCs).

- Astrophysicist France A. Córdova is the director of the National Science Foundation, a federal agency that develops programs to advance all fields of scientific discovery. Back in 1993, she also became the first woman to hold the position of NASA Chief Scientist.

- Rudolfo Anaya, known as the father or sometimes godfather of Chicano literature, was recently, the recipient of the National Humanities Medal.



José Holguín-Veras,
Ph.D.



Silvio Torres-
Saillant, Ph.D.



Irma Nicasio
Rodríguez, Ph.D.



Illustrious Award Recipient - Social Sciences

Civil Engineering



José Holguín-Veras, Ph.D. is a William H. Hart Professor; Director of the Center for Infrastructure, Transportation, and the Environment; and the Volvo Research and Educational Foundations' Center of Excellence on Sustainable Urban Freight Systems at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

He received his B.Sc. in Civil Engineering, Magna Cum Laude, from the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in 1981; his M.Sc. from the Universidad Central de Venezuela in 1984; and his Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin in 1996.

He has been a faculty member at The City College of New York, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His work has received numerous awards, including the 2013 White House Champion of Change Award for his contributions to freight transportation and disaster response research.

His pioneering design of the off-hour delivery project in New York City had a huge effect in freight policy. His research in humanitarian logistics has pioneered the multidisciplinary study of post-disaster humanitarian logistic operations. The lessons learned are then used to support future disaster response policy and the development of novel analytical formulations.

Currently, he is a member of the Board of the New York State Thruway Authority—the only researcher in the board's history; he helps oversee toll policy and the replacement of the \$5 billion Tappan Zee Bridge, one of the largest construction projects in the US.

According to Google Scholar, he is the most widely published and cited freight researcher in the world.

The Illustrious Awards

Illustrious Award Recipient - Humanities

Pioneering Research

Silvio Torres-Saillant, Ph.D. is Dean's Professor in the Humanities and Director of Undergraduate Studies at Syracuse University. He serves in the core team of DK (Democratizing Knowledge), an initiative supported by the Chancellor's Leadership Project that promotes strategies for decolonizing the academy, and in the Syracuse University chapter of The Future of Minority Studies, a nationwide consortium of scholars working on efforts to foreground the ways of knowing and bodies of knowledge subjugated by the colonial transaction.

Professor Torres-Saillant went to teach at Syracuse after having founded the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute, a prestigious interdisciplinary research unit located in the City College of New York. He has held visiting appointments at Amherst College, Harvard University, the University of Cartagena, and the San Andrés campus of Colombia's Universidad Nacional.

Professor Torres-Saillant has recently lectured in Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Germany, Italy, Jamaica, and Mexico, apart from cities throughout the United States.

Professor Torres-Saillant's research and teaching interests revolve around some central concerns pertaining to the enduring legacy of the colonial transaction spearheaded by the Christian West starting over five centuries ago. They involve the disparate value attached in the academy to ideas and ways of knowing depending on the geopolitical location of their producers. They respond to the continuing monopoly that the Christian west holds over the authority to define the human. As such, his research and teaching projects touch on race, ethnicity, intellectual history, imperial violence, the problem of culture and civilization, diaspora, migration, the tension between the ethnic and the human, and the necessity to interrupt the logic of maltreatment that informs the corporate capitalist system spawned by the colonial transaction.

A renowned and prolific scholar in Caribbean Studies, Latino Studies, and intellectual history, Torres-Saillant has published widely.

Dr. Torres-Saillant holds a BA from Brooklyn College, and an MA as well as a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from New York University.



ILLUSTRIOUS AWARDS 2018



Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo

PRIMADA DE AMERICA / Fundada el 28 de octubre de 1538

Salutes the

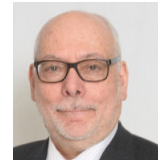
Institute for Latino Studies at Berkeley College & its Partners the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, and the CUNY's Center for Latin American, Caribbean & Latino Studies

on the occasion of

The Illustrious Awards Ceremony, honoring distinguished Latinos, at the Graduate School of The City University of New York.

On behalf of our faculty, staff, students and alumni, we congratulate our very own tenured-faculty member **Irma Nicasio Rodríguez, Ph.D.** on receiving *The Illustrious Award in Social Sciences - Sociology/Research Methods*.

We are also very proud to extend our sincere congratulations to a select group of distinguished alumni being honored with *Illustrious Awards* on this momentous occasion:



Dr. Ramón Antonio Veras, Esq., *Illustrious Lifetime Achievement Award - Social Justice*

Hugo M. Morales, MD, *Medicine - Pioneering/Psychiatry*

Carlos Lugo, MD, *Medicine, Pioneering/Sexology*

Nancy Álvarez, Ph.D., *Communications*

Juan De Dios de la Cruz, MD, *Medicine - Pioneering/General Surgery*

José Holguín Veras, Ph.D., *Social Sciences - Civil Engineering*



Illustrious Award Recipient - Social Sciences

Sociology/Research Methods

Irma Nicasio Rodríguez, PhD -

is a professor at Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), the oldest university system of the Americas. An expert sociologist, who attained a Doctorate in Methodology of Social Research from Muster University in Germany; a Master's Degree in Development & Gender from Universidad INTEC; and a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo.

An educator and champion of women and human rights and development, Dr. Nicasio has exerted influence from various private and public positions: Director of the Sociology Department of UASD, Deputy Secretary of State for Gender Issues, General Coordinator of Dominican Republic National Census on Population and Housing, Advisor to the State Department of Education, Advisor to the Institutional Committee on Support & Protection of Migrant Women (CIPROM), and Advisor to the Executive Power on Gender Issues.

Dr. Nicasio has been instrumental in the passage of laws to protect women from domestic abuse in DR, one of the countries in the world, with the highest incidence of abuse of women. She has taught and trained thousands of educators from around the world, and particularly from NYC public schools and University systems, about the identity and idiosyncrasy of Dominican people. She and Néstor Montilla, Sr. joined efforts in the production of the widely acclaimed original documentary *Dominican Identity and Migration to Hispaniola*, a retrospective and contemporary video/film account of the different migratory groups conforming the true identity of the Dominican people.

She has written extensively about Dominican identity, women contribution to Dominican Republic's economy, and research methodology. The Institute for Latino Studies at Berkeley College, in partnership with the Dominican American National Roundtable published her book titled *Four Decades of Women Migration and their Contribution to the Economy of the Dominican Republic (1970-2010)*. Most recently, she published a required text for post graduate studies, masters, and doctoral degrees titled: *Manual de Metodología de Investigación--Aplicada a las Ciencias Sociales y Jurídicas con Perspectiva de Género*. She has also been co-editor of *Vanguardia* newspaper.

The Illustrious Awards

ILLUSTRIOUS AWARDS 2018

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Congratulate

Amílkar Vélez-López

on being a recipient of
an **Illustrious Award**
for his
Outstanding Leadership
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Illustrious Awards - Sports

The Illustrious Awards

Honoring Distinguished Latinos

Many Latinos have become US sports heroes. More than 25 percent of players in Major League Baseball are from Latin American countries. 12 Latinos have been inducted into the MLB Hall of Fame; the first was Puerto Rico's Roberto Clemente.

Hispanics make up a third of fans at Major League Soccer matches. Notable stars have included Tab Ramos, Claudio Reyna and Carlos Bocanegra.

There are Hispanic Americans in other sports, basketball, boxing, tennis, golf, hockey, softball and football. Behind notable athletes there is usually an outstanding, disciplined and committed coaching staff.



Alfredo "Freddie" De Los Santos

Illustrious Award Recipient - Sports

Hand-Cycling

Alfredo "Freddie" De los Santos

is a native of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He arrived to the United States in 1986, attended Park West High School in NYC, and subsequently graduated from City College of The City University of New York with a Bachelor's degree in Graphic Design. After the 9/11 attack, Freddie joined the US Army.

On October 20, 2009, while serving with US Army in Helmand Province in Afghanistan, Freddie was wounded in action when the vehicle in which he was riding was hit by rocket fire. As a consequence of the injury, Freddie lost his right leg above the knee.

He did not surrender to adversity. Instead, he took up hand-cycling as part of his rehabilitation.

In 2011, Freddie received support from *Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF) Operation Rebound* for his hand-cycling endeavors. Since then, CAF Foundation has helped Freddie achieve his goal of racing his hand-cycle at an elite level around the world. The CAF Foundation's mission is 'to provide opportunities and support to people with physical challenges, so they can pursue active lifestyles through physical fitness and competitive athletics. 'Involvement in sports at any level encourages independence, enhances quality of life and increases self-esteem.'

Freddie wakes up everyday with a lot of optimism and a sole purpose in mind -- to train hard to win at every competition. He is convinced he needs to be in the best shape to be victorious at representing USA in competitions around the world. He runs daily, for hours and hours; on average, he runs between 50 to 60 miles per day. He is proud to identify himself as an American of Dominican descent who loves America, his wife and his children to eternity.

Join the [Institute for Latino Studies at Berkeley College](#) in congratulating Freddie for his sacrifice for a better and more inclusive United States of America; for his relentless determination to enjoy life to the fullest, and for being the recipient of the *2018 Illustrious Awards in Sports - Hand-Cycling*.



Alfredo "Freddie" De los Santos



Photos provided by Alfredo de los Santos



Freddie wearing his bionic leg poses with his beloved wife and children at their residence upstate New York.


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**CENTRO FOR
PUERTO RICAN
STUDIES**

HUNTER CUNY The City University of New York

Our Mission

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College-CUNY is a research institute that is dedicated to the study and interpretation of the Puerto Rican experience in the United States and that produces and disseminates relevant interdisciplinary research. Centro also collects, preserves, and provides access to library resources documenting Puerto Rican history and culture. We seek to link scholarship to social action and policy debates and to contribute to the betterment of our community and enrichment of Puerto Rican studies

Research

Our research department investigates, documents, and broadens the understanding of the Puerto Rican experience in the U.S. We heighten the impact of the data by sharing it in research-based conferences and publishing in original publications and refereed journals.

Library and Archives

The Centro Library and Archives is the world's only institution solely dedicated to collecting, preserving, and disseminating the story of the stateside Puerto Rican. Our collections include audio and video oral histories, photographs, original works by prominent writers and artists, papers of elected officials, early records of major community organizations, and other primary materials available nowhere else. A major strength of the Library collection is the history of Puerto Ricans in the United States, particularly in New York and the Northeast region, and also in all the areas of the humanities, the social sciences and the arts.

Education

We support and expand the area of Puerto Rican Studies by offering opportunities for students and educators. Our Cultural Ambassadors Program educates our young people to be ambassadors of our rich history. For more information: centropr.nationbuilder.com/ambassador

Publications

Centro Press enables us to engage in robust participation in the fields of Puerto Rican, Latino, New York City, and American Studies. By taking advantage of our vast archival resources and connections in the Puerto Rican community, we disseminate crucial information about the Puerto Rican experience and contribution to the political, economic, and social cultures of the United States through the following mediums:

- **CENTRO Journal** - the premier journal of Puerto Rican studies and the place to go for contemporary analyses of the Puerto Rican experience.
- **Centro Voices** - our e-magazine profiles the multiple manifestations of Puerto Rican identity and culture.
- **Puerto Rican Voices** - videos highlighting the contributions of Puerto Ricans in the U.S.

Data Center

The Data Center packages and disseminates the most current information about Puerto Ricans. This information is provided to present socioeconomic and demographic portraits of the Puerto Rican population. The purpose is to provide basic descriptive information to scholars, policy makers and the public in general. The sources for this information are publically available repositories, such as the U.S. Census Bureau.

Events

Centro events look into our past, portray our present and explore our future, with lectures, panel discussions, performances, art exhibits and more.

The series *Puerto Rico, Puerto Ricans* conferences bring together stateside Puerto Ricans to gain a broader understanding of how the economic and humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico have affected those stateside.

Visit us on the web at:
<https://centropr.hunter.cuny.edu>

Centropr.nationbuilder.com



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ILLUSTRIOUS AWARDS 2018



CLACLS

Center for Latin American, Caribbean & Latino Studies

THE GRADUATE CENTER
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Special Message

With main offices at the Graduate School of The City University of New York (CUNY), the Center for Latin American, Caribbean & Latino Studies (CLACLS) promotes the study and understanding of Latin American and Caribbean cultures and the communities established in the United States, with a special focus on New York City, by peoples from this vast and extraordinarily diverse region.

Partnering with the *Institute for Latino Studies (ILS)* at Berkeley College and the CUNY's Center for Puerto Rican Studies to host the *2018 Illustrious Awards Ceremony* at the CUNY Graduate Center was most fitting as ILS is dedicated to quality research for advocacy and to document the Latino immigration experience in the United States of America.

Today, Friday, September 14, 2018, we are thrilled to witness over fifty distinguished Latinos being honored with *Illustrious Awards* for their contributions to the United States.

We seize this opportunity to congratulate each one of them, including the visionary late Frank Bonilla, recipient of an *Illustrious Lifetime Achievement Award in-Memoriam*, whose pioneering intellectual legacy includes the founding of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, the Institute for Dominican Studies at CUNY's City College, and a consortium for Latino studies in the United States.

Join us in congratulating the 2018 cohort of Illustrious Awards recipients hailing from Latino diverse communities. Most of them have graduated from universities and colleges across mainland USA, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Argentina, Colombia, Salvador, Mexico and Latin America.

¡¡FELICIDADES!! Congratulations!!

clacls.gc.cuny.edu

THE 2016 ILLUSTRIOUS HONOREES

								
Arthur O. Eve	María Magda O'Keefe	José Rohaidy	Antonio Ibarría	Robert Menéndez	Luis Quintana	Feniosky Peña-Mora	Aída Rosario	Carlos Medina
								
Hector Chiesa	José Rodríguez	Alejandro Benjamin	José Novas	Ramon E. Espinola	Hector Bonilla	Vanessa DeLeón	Cira Ángeles	Eduardo Hoepelman
								
Jaime Lucero	Hector Nuñez	John Estevez	Juan Guillen	William Sanchez	Fernando Aquino	Miguel Pérez	Malin Falú	José López
								
Gloria Bonilla Santiago	Isabel Nazario	Leonel Morales	Edwin Quezada	Loida García	Ana García Reyes	Dennys González	Seny Taveras	Lucio Fernández
								
Evelyn Padín	Fernando Alonso	Luz Santiago	Martín Pérez	Rosita Romero	Lourdes Lopez	Wilda Díaz	Charito Cisneros	Richard Rivera
							 <p>Quality Research for Advocacy www.instituteforlatinostudies.org</p>	
Julia Bello	Marcos Charles	Ramón Tallaj	Alvin Bridgewater	John Muniz	Sandra Harris	Sonia Rosado		



The Illustrrious Awards

Honoring Distinguished Latinos

www.illustriousawards.com



The Illustrrious Awards is a signature initiative of The Institute for Latino Studies to document and highlight the contributions of tri-state area Latinos to the advancement of the United States of America. The contributions of Latino icons are video-featured and honored in a professionally produced formal ceremony, collectible Tribute Journal and film documentary.

www.instituteforlatinostudies.org thelatinoinstitute@gmail.com

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THE 2017 ILLUSTRIOUS HONOREES

								
Adelfi E. Molina	Albio Sires	Alicia Maury	Ana Ofelia Rodríguez	Andy Capellan	Angel Fuentes	Ángela Fernández	Angélica M. Jiménez	Annette Quijano
								
Antonio C. Martínez	Caridad Rigo	Carlos Fernández	Carlos Medina	Carlos Ulises Decena	Carmen Loran	Christopher Rodríguez	Consuelo Bonillas	2017 Invite
								
Dario Cortés	Edwin Meléndez	Eleazar Bueno	Esmeralda Santiago	Ezequiel Jiménez	Felipe Luciano	Francisco Joissim	Gregorio A. Luciano	Harry Ayala
								
Ida Castro	Ivan Lamourt	Iveth Mosquera	Jeff Vega	Joseline Peña-Melnyk	Juan González	Juan Pichardo	Juan Villar	Julio Guridy
								
Julio Morejón	Kittim Silva	Luis Barrios	Luis Rafael Gómez	Manuel Méndez	María Trusa	Moises Pérez	Nathaniel Cruz	Nilda Morales-Horowitz
								
Omar Feliciano	Paul Pérez	Peggy Anastos	Radhames Rivera	Ralph Rivera	Roberto Ramírez	Rolando Acosta	Rolman Vergara	Sara Peña
								
Sulma Arzu-Brown	Tony Bechara	Yolanda Méndez	<p>The Illustrious Awards Honoring Distinguished Latinos www.illustriousawards.com</p>					

The Illustrious Awards is a signature initiative of The Institute for Latino Studies to document and highlight the contributions of tri-state area Latinos to the advancement of the United States of America. The contributions of Latino icons are video-featured and honored in a professionally produced formal ceremony, collectible Tribute Journal and film documentary.

THE 2018 ILLUSTRIOUS HONOREES

The Illustrious Awards

Honoring Distinguished Latinos

								
Alberto Correa	Alfred de Los Santos	Alfredo Rodríguez	Amílkar Vélez-López	Angélica Infante	Antonio Pérez	Aurora Flores-Hostos	Carlos Guzman	Carlos Lugo
								
Carmen Arroyo	Caribel Martínez Marmolejos	Dan-el Padilla	Danny Rivera	David Greco	David Badillo	Denise Oller	Dinorah Coronado	Ephraim Rivera
								
Late Frank Bonilla	Ginetta Candelario	Late Gladys Halvorsen	Hector Lora	Irma Nicasio	José Arango	José Holguín-Veras	José Martínez	José Rivera
								
Juan de Dios de la Cruz	Julio Malone	Julio Marengo	Julio Pabón	Laila Roman Jiménez	Lenny Caro	Louis Hernández	Marcos Crespo	María Díaz
								
Miguel Hernández	Nancy Álvarez	Nitza Tufino	Pedro Díaz Ballester	Rafael Nuñez Cedeño	Ramón Antonio Veras	Late Ramón Jiménez	Raymond Lamboy	Rhina Espaillat
								
Ruben Díaz, Sr.	Silvio Torres-Saillant	Vasthi Reyes-Acosta	Víctor Álvarez	Víctor Capellan	Wendy Martínez	Zenaida Méndez	Hugo Morales	ILS

The Illustrious Awards is a signature initiative of *The Institute for Latino Studies at Berkeley* to document and highlight the contributions of Latinos to the advancement of the United States of America. Their life stories are video-featured and honored in a professionally produced formal ceremony, collectible *Tribute Journal* and original film documentary.

ILS INSTITUTE FOR
LATINO STUDIES

www.instituteforlatinostudies.org at  Berkeley College thelatinoinstitute@gmail.com

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