



Illustrious Award Recipients - The Arts

Latino artistic expressions, including the visual and performing arts, have made fundamental contributions to North American culture.

Chicanos and Neuyoricans found confidence and affirmed pride in their working class bicultural identities through their *poetry*.

Theater has been a stage for heroic struggles as well as a showcase of talent. *Dance* retains ancient ties to ritual and spiritual practices, as well as cultural and classic expressions. Latino *musicians* are a lively part of U.S. popular culture, performing in a broad range of genres – from pop, rock, and rap to salsa, Latin jazz and reggaeton. A recent phenomenon gone viral is the case of composer, lyricist, playwright and actor Lin Manuel Miranda, who immortalized the American musical *Hamilton*, the story of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, who was born in the Caribbean island of Navis. There are many prominent Latinos in American *film and television and theater* today.

A number of visual *artists and muralists* have sought to capture the Hispanic-American experience; and Latino image-makers assumed major status as visual educators and memory keepers. The graphic arts, especially *posters, photography and design* are significant to the shaping of Latino Artistic legacy in the United States.



Nitza Tufiño
Artist



Aurora Flores-Hostos
Musician



Dinorah Coronado
Dramaturge

The Illustrious Awards

Taller



Boricua

Taller Boricua/Puerto Rican Workshop, Celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2019

Congratulates

The Institute for Latino Studies (ILS) and Recipients of
The 2018 Illustrious Awards Honoring Distinguished Latinos

We are proud that one of our own, Nitza Tufiño, is an Honoree

Our best wishes for the continued success of ILS.

Taller Boricua Board of Directors

Jose Carrero, Ethan L. Casey, Humberto Cintron, Marcos Dimas,
Dan Comas, William Cruz, Roger Hernández, Nitza Tufiño



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Tallerboricua.org

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Painting



Nitza Tufiño was born in 1949 in México City, and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She is a recognized muralist, public artist and printmaker with studios in Manhattan and South Orange, New Jersey.

In her youth, she learned graphic arts while working with her father, the painter Rafael Tufiño. After earning a B.F.A. from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, she moved to New York City.

In 1969, together with a group of artists, educators and activists, Tufiño founded *El Museo del Barrio*.

As a community activist and art educator, she has helped found community-based organizations and art institutions in New York City such as *Loisaida, Inc.* She serves as a consultant on Puerto Rican and Caribbean Art at The Brooklyn Museum and the Metropolitan Museum. She has been commissioned by important entities to develop and create murals for their facilities. Today, her art can be seen at the 3rd Street Music School in Manhattan, in the subways of New York as commissioned by the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority, at medical facilities of the New York City Health and Hospital Corporations, at La Guardia Community College, at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, and the Hospital for Special Care.

Among her remarkable portfolio, the piece in view at the NYC subway station 103 stands out; with this rendering she depicts the indigenous peoples of the Americas, and particularly highlights the cultures of Puerto Rico, México, the Caribbean and Latin América.

She was the first female artist of *El Taller Boricua* since 1970; and is now a founding member of *Consejo Gráfico*, a national coalition of Latino printmaking workshops and individual printmakers.

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Honoring Distinguished Latinos

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Music

Aurora Flores-Hostos is the proud great-grandniece of the Puerto Rican educator of Spanish, Cuban and Dominican descent, the patriot, historically known as “El Gran Ciudadano de las Américas,” the intellectual whose paternal great-grandparents were from Cuba and Spain, maternal grandfather from Cuba, and grandmother from the Dominican Republic, the noble and illustrious Eugenio María de Hostos. He was born in Rio Cañas, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, and was highly regarded as attorney, sociologist, novelist, distinguished Citizen of the Américas and outstanding philosopher of the world, whose remains, as per his epitaph, lay in the Dominican Republic until Puerto Rico is free.

Aurora Flores is today a proud Hostosiana, carrying the remarkable legacy of her great-granduncle. While attending Columbia’s Journalism School, she broke into mainstream media penning articles and opinion pieces in international, as well as national publications such as the *New York Times*, the *Village Voice*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Nuestro Magazine*, the *Daily News* and many more.

A BMI composer with several hits over the Nickelodeon children’s show *Dora the Explorer*, Aurora composes songs for her own band, *Zon del Barrio*, an eclectic blend of music from the streets of Latin NY, bringing together modern music genres in a high-octane dance format. From the South Bronx to the South of France, the band performs internationally, recently touring the French Caribbean with Afro-Cuban trumpet legend Alfredo “Chocolate” Armenteros.

Through *Zon del Barrio*, Aurora provides a platform for the next generation of young *Salseros* & *Salseras*. Her television scripts for *BET’s Pasos Latinos/Latin Steps* and the *CBS Nueva Estrellas* reality show earned her a shared Emmy.

Aurora travels the country conducting lectures/demonstrations on Latin music and culture. She can be seen over *BET’s Pasos Latinos*; *BRAVO’s “Palladium, When Mambo was King;”* the Smithsonian’s “Latin jazz, La Combinación Perfecta;” and in Edward James Olmos’ feature film: “*Americanos: Latino Life in the US,*” alongside the late Tito Puente.



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Dramaturge



Dinorah Coronado was born in the Dominican Republic in the province of La Vega. Located in a beautiful valley, La Vega Vieja (as La Vega was known before) has historically been praised for being the second oldest European settlement in the Western Hemisphere.

Dinorah is a dedicated artist and advocate whose passion is to promote theater and literature in the Dominican Diaspora. A prolific author, she has published 24 books, including: *Entre dos mundos*, *A la sombra del flamboyán*, *Raquel*, *Soy campeón*, *El Aviador*, *Amazonas del silencio*, *Andanzas poéticas*, *Dos caminos*, *Homeless en Nueva York*, *Gabriela Mistral*, *Minerva y Manolo*, *Máscaras errantes*, *Las Gemelas de Bonanza*, among others.

Dinorah Coronado is a highly respected and cherished dramaturge, whose credits include the play *Gabriela Mistral*, and the theatrical adaptation of President Juan Bosch's novel *La Mañosa*.

She founded Teatro Coronado en New York in 2000. Her academic credentials include two bachelor's Degrees in Counseling and Educational Psychology, two Masters' degrees in Culture and Counseling, and studies in Literature and Theater in Spain, Puerto Rico, and New York.

Dinorah, the author, psychologist and counselor advances the concept that:

"En cada poste de luz debería haber un poema, un cuento, la portada de un libro, que llame la atención de la gente sobre la literatura; los libros deberían venderse a más bajo precio para que estén al alcance de la mayoría; y los padres deberían apagar el televisor y ponerse a leer junto a sus hijos, para crear niños lectores, pero también niños autores que se animen a contar sus experiencias."

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Illustrious Awards - 2018

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