

Community Directory

Al Día Newspaper, Inc.

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Al Día is a Hispanic-owned and operated newspaper, founded by publisher Hernán Guaracao and Elizabeth Guaracao in 1992. Al Día is a member of the National Association of Hispanic Publications (NAHP). Al Día's publisher is also the current President of the NAHP Executive Board. Of Hispanic print media in the northeast, Al Día is the fastest growing. Between 1992 to 1998, Al Día's circulation jumped 1,000 percent. Al Día currently has a weekly circulation of 50,000. **M**

Asociación de Músicos Latino Americanos (AMLA)

Jesse Bermudez, Executive Director
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amla@amla.org
www.amla.org

Founded in 1982, the Asociación de Músicos Latino Americanos (AMLA) is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to promoting the development, dissemination, and understanding of Latin American music and culture in the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley region, with an emphasis on youth. AMLA believes music is the heartbeat of the Latino community, and is also a powerful tool for its advancement. Therefore, AMLA pairs its expertise in performing arts presentation and training with its philosophy of using Latin culture to address the community's social and economic concerns.

AMLA presents performances featuring local, national, and international artists; delivers music education services to schools, nonprofit youth groups, and cultural organizations; commissions new works by recognized and emerging Latin composers; and founded Pennsylvania's first Latin School of the Arts.

Today, AMLA's members range in age from three years old to seniors. They are not only musicians, but also students or just lovers of Latin music. AMLA members represent interests in a wide variety of folkloric, classical, and contemporary Latin music styles. **C E**

Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha

Dr. Jesus Sierra, Executive Director
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Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha (APM) was formed in 1970 to promote the welfare of the Puerto Rican/Latino residents of the Delaware Valley. APM provides services that improve the quality of life by creating opportunities for all in the Latino community and supports families and individuals with programs and services in the areas of education, health (including mental health services), employment, housing, recreation, job training, and children's welfare programs. **S E**

S = Service Organization B = Business E = Education M = Media C = Cultural R = Religious
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Asociación Nacional Peruano-Americana (ANPA)

Dora Viacava, President of the Board
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Asociación Nacional Peruano-Americana, Inc. (ANPA) is a Peruvian American organization whose objective is to promote Peruvian culture, to advocate for human and civil rights, and to develop cultural, educational, social, religious, and labor-related issues. The organization was formalized in 2000, and obtained its 501(c)(3) status in the beginning of 2002. **C**

ASPIRA

Alfredo Calderon, Executive Director
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ASPIRA was founded in 1969 by a group of concerned leaders who believed that the most effective way to combat the socioeconomic ills that afflict the Puerto Rican community is to educate its youth.

The ASPIRA Association promotes the empowerment of the Puerto Rican and Latino community by developing and nurturing the intellectual, cultural and leadership potential of its youth so that they may contribute their skills and dedication to the fullest development of the Puerto Rican and Latino community everywhere.

Among ASPIRA’s goals are comprehensive leadership development programs that encourage Puerto Rican and Latino youth and parents to become aware of the needs of their communities, and comprehensive educational programs that motivate, orient, and assist young people toward their educational and intellectual development.

ASPIRA is part of a national movement and has associate offices located in Connecticut, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Puerto Rico, and a national office in Washington, D.C. **E**

Casa del Carmen

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Casa del Carmen, a Family Service Center of Catholic Social Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, has a long history of service in the Latino community of North Philadelphia. Founded in 1954, its goal has been to serve the social service needs of this community in a culturally sensitive way. Initially established to support the transition of a growing Hispanic population primarily from Puerto Rico to North Philadelphia, Casa has developed a range of family support services to meet the needs of the local Latino community.

Services include emergency assistance, comprehensive case management, pregnancy services, services for older adults, utility assistance, document assistance, a day care center, mental health counseling, and in-home services to families and children in crisis. **S R**

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Centro Nueva Creación/Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creación

Rev. Patrick Hansel, Executive Director
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215-426-8762
215-427-2176 (fax)
phcreate@aol.com
www.centronueva.org

Centro Nueva Creación is a nonprofit community-based organization. It began with a summer camp in 1994. Its mission is to build hope by creating opportunities for youth and families to transform their community. This mission is realized through programs in education, community service, career development, parenting, technology and the arts. All programs are bilingual and reflect the varied cultures of the neighborhood. Centro Nueva Creación partners with churches, schools, businesses and community groups to develop leaders and uplift Fairhill and surrounding communities. Centro Nueva Creación is affiliated with Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creación.

Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creación-New Creation Lutheran Church is a bilingual, multicultural congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It was started as a new mission plant, with its first worship service on March 20, 1994. It provides services in worship, education, spiritual growth, counseling, and community transformation. Its co-pastors are Rev. Luisa and Patrick Cabello Hansel. **S E R**

Congreso de Latinos Unidos

Xochitl Marsilli Vargas, Manager of Community and Public Relations
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www.congreso.net

Congreso is committed to providing innovative, bilingual/bicultural service programs that support and prepare families to live happier, healthier, more peaceful lives.

Since 1977, Congreso has evolved from a primarily health-focused agency, with a budget of \$15,000, to a multiservice center, with an annual budget surpassing \$14 million, that addresses both the social and economic development of the people they serve.

Congreso’s comprehensive services now include the first Latina domestic violence program and the first bilingual One Stop Career Center in Pennsylvania, two comprehensive treatment and education centers for adjudicated youth, a broad array of after-school and summer youth programs, HIV prevention and case management services, drug and alcohol counseling, housing assistance and counseling, and financial literacy services. By building productive partnerships with government agencies, health providers, labor organizations, businesses, and other community-based institutions, Congreso is strengthening Philadelphia’s Latino communities. **S E**

Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of Philadelphia, Inc. (Concilio)

Roberto R. Santiago, Executive Director
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concilio@elconcilio.net
elconcilio.net

The Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations (Concilio) was founded on October 1, 1962 by a group of Latino leaders concerned with the many problems facing Philadelphia’s Latino community. Since its inception, Concilio has been guided by a mission to ensure that equitable social, educational, health, and cultural services are available and

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affordable for everyone. For over 40 years, the organization has provided the most disadvantaged in North Philadelphia, particularly Latinos, with opportunities to obtain employment, health services, family counseling, adult and technical education, and cultural opportunities, among others. **SE**

El Mercado

Patricia de Carlo, Executive Director, NSCA
1751 North Front Street
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215-426-0388

El Mercado is a farmers' market offering a variety of Latin foods and Lancaster County produce, and is a meeting place for an eclectic mix of Philadelphians of all races, incomes, and ages. It is run by the Norris Square Civic Association (NSCA).

The primary mission of El Mercado is to stimulate neighborhood business activity through supporting local food entrepreneurs. El Mercado has also evolved into an important model for connecting local farmers with consumers in the innercity.

El Mercado started with two tents and eight tables in August 1997 at NSCA's annual neighborhood festival. In 1998, El Mercado was accepted as a participant in the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. This program brings thousands of low-income seniors and mothers with small children to the market where they redeem their vouchers for quality produce. El Mercado quickly became one of Pennsylvania's most important FMNP outlets, providing the state with an invaluable resource to connect small local farmers to a city population in need. More specifically, El Mercado connects Lancaster Amish and Mennonite farmers with Philadelphia's Spanish-speaking community. El Mercado is now among Philadelphia's largest outlets for small Pennsylvania growers.

In 2003, El Mercado moved to a newly renovated warehouse of 5000 square feet. Here it was finally able to install a commercial kitchen and start health outreach programming, handle storage and distribution of local farm products, and offer local entrepreneurs an ideal place to start and grow their businesses. At present El Mercado distributes high quality produce to NSCA's Children's Center, a new facility that provides affordable child care to low-income families.

During the summer of 2003, El Mercado began a series of free Latin music concerts, held on Friday evenings, and produced in conjunction with AMLA (Asociación de Músicos Latino Americanos). **BS**

El Hispano

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El Hispano was established on October 19, 1976 in Reading, Pennsylvania, by Aaron G. Lopez and his family, with the mission of providing the Spanish-speaking and non-Spanish-speaking communities of the area with news, editorials, entertainment, and knowledge. In the 1980s, the Allentown/Bethlehem, Lancaster, and Harrisburg editions of the paper were begun. In 1987, the Philadelphia edition was introduced. Camden and Trenton editions followed in the 1990s.

El Hispano has received awards and honors in layout and editing from the National Association of Hispanic Publications and the National Federation of Hispanic Owned Newspapers. *El Hispano's* latest achievement was winning second place in 1995 for "Best Editorial" from the Hispanic Federation of Hispanic Owned Newspapers, a national organization. **M**

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Gay and Lesbian Latino AIDS Education Initiative (GALAEI)

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gloria@critpath.org
www.critpath.org/galaei

The Gay and Lesbian Latino AIDS Education Initiative (GALAEI) is a program designed to meet the HIV/AIDS education and prevention needs of Latino/a sexual minorities. GALAEI understands the impact of overall health on the well-being of Philadelphia’s Latino/a gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered communities, and seeks to address general health issues through education, prevention, advocacy, and representation. **S**

Grupo Motivos Catering

Iris Brown, Program Director
Mariana Kuperman, Development Coordinator
c/o Norris Square Neighborhood Project
2141 North Howard St.
Philadelphia, PA 19122
215-634-2227
215-634-4990 (fax)
marianak@nsnp.org

Grupo Motivos has met for nearly 15 years at the Norris Square Neighborhood Project. In the winter of 2002, the group began a catering business to generate income for its activities and programs for community members. As Puerto Rican women, rich in culture and years of experience, they strive to share traditions and link neighborhood women to opportunities. In addition to catering, the group’s activities include sewing, gardening, and educational workshops. **B S**

Hispanic Association of Contractors and Enterprises (HACE)

Guillermo “Bill” Salas Jr., President and Cofounder
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HACE (Hispanic Association of Contractors and Enterprises), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, was started in 1982 to respond to the need for economic empowerment in the Latino community. In fact, HACE was organized, in part, to prevent the impending foreclosure of a central shopping mall in the heart of the Latino commercial district in eastern north Philadelphia, known as El Centro de Oro (“The Golden Center”). HACE used the successful redevelopment of the mall as the starting point to demonstrate to the community that they could take charge of its economic destiny. Since then, HACE has evolved into a productive and effective developer of both residential and commercial real estate as well as an advocate on behalf of the neighborhood residents and small business. **B S**

HACE’s mission is to combat community deterioration through economic development initiatives that address commercial revitalization, employment opportunities, the creation of safe affordable housing, and the provision of support services to meet the needs of community residents towards rebuilding the neighborhood’s economic base. It focuses on the possible and works to restore its primary neighborhood so that residents will benefit from sound investments while improving their quality of life. **B**

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The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and Council Migration Service

Judith Bernstein-Baker, Esquire, Executive Director
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Philadelphia, PA 19103
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www.hiaspa.org

Since 1882, the mission of HIAS and Council Migration Service of Philadelphia has been to embrace the Jewish values of “redeeming the captive” – rescuing and providing safe haven for migrants fleeing persecution and oppression in their homelands. HIAS and Council serves the foreign-born community of Philadelphia through advocacy for the rights of immigrants, legal aid, counseling services, acculturation programs, and community education. The provision of low cost technical assistance and legal services for refugees and immigrants continues to form the core of its mission.

HIAS and Council has Spanish-speaking staff to assist members of the Latino community. It works closely with Latino community-based organizations to provide staff training and community education, in addition to developing cross-referral relationships. **S**

Hispanic Yellow Pages, Inc.

5553 Rising Sun Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19120
215-457-2100
215-329-6260 (fax)
arturoHYP@hotmail.com
www.phillyhyp.com

The *Hispanic Yellow Pages* (HYP) published its first directory in 1994, focused on serving the Hispanic community within the city of Philadelphia. Since then, Hispanic communities in the surrounding area have grown and developed their own identity and businesses serving the needs of their local area. By 2002, HYP had added two separate directories serving Camden, New Jersey, and Cumberland County, New Jersey, to better serve the growing Hispanic communities in the entire Delaware Valley. In spring 2003, the Atlantic County, New Jersey, *Hispanic Yellow Pages* had its initial publication.

Each directory is packed with city, county, and state information. The directories highlight Hispanic owned and operated businesses, and those businesses that want to reach out to Hispanic consumers. **B**

Juntos and La Casa de los Soles

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www.casadesoles.org

Juntos was founded in the spring of 2002 to address the unique issues faced by the growing population of Mexican and Latino immigrants in South Philadelphia. At the community center, La Casa de los Soles, Juntos creates a forum in which pre-existing informal and social networks can be unified towards a common goal, as well as linking Mexican people to the appropriate services and opportunities they need in a manner that is beneficial for community, institution and city, and offering services such as English as a Second Language classes and computer classes.

As an grass-roots organization, Juntos welcomes and encourages the input of the community, and includes them in the organizational decision-making process. **S E**

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The Latino Partnership Initiative

Felicita Feliciano, Coordinator
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 215-685-5430 (fax)
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The Latino Partnership Initiative (LPI) develops relationships across the diverse Latino communities of Philadelphia in order to increase awareness and action in developing a community-based prevention system that will empower communities to address alcohol and drug problems.

Formed in 1995, LPI was established to develop goals that would strengthen Philadelphia’s Latino communities, which suffer disproportionately from poverty. LPI’s community-driven process promotes coalition building, increased awareness, and action. LPI began by initiating and convening focus groups involving individuals representing all social, age, and political aspects of the Latino community and the major institutions that serve them. **S**

The Latino Workforce Development Taskforce

Yvette Nuñez West, Co-Chair
 c/o PWDC, 1617 JFK Boulevard, 13th floor
 Philadelphia, PA 19107
 215-963-3469
 215-557-2621 (fax)
 ywest@pwdc.org
 www.lwdt.org

The Latino Workforce Development Taskforce (LWDT) is a volunteer organization of professionals representing government, universities, businesses, community organizations, and other agencies whose mission is to improve opportunities and conditions for employment among Philadelphia Latinos by initiating research, disseminating information, developing policies, and advocating on behalf of the training and employment needs of the Philadelphia Latino community. **S**

The Lighthouse

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 215-425-6091 (fax)
 jirizarry@lighthse.net

Since it was founded in 1893, the Lighthouse has been in continuous operation serving the City of Philadelphia. Over the years, it has become a multiservice provider to a multicultural community. Its programs include the Lighthouse Family School (which provides day care, before – and after – school care, and a food share program to 60 children and their families), the Youth Service Center (providing a variety of educational, occupational, cultural, and recreational programs to 800-1000 children and youth), an Adult Educational Program (which includes classes in English as a Second Language), an Economic Development Program (which works towards the revitalization of the economy of eastern North Philadelphia and Kensington), a Teen Parenting Education and Employment Program, and a Young Parenting Fathers Program. **S E**

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Lutheran Settlement House

Beatriz Vieira, Executive Director
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 Philadelphia, PA 19125
 215-426-8610
 215-426-0581 (fax)
 bvieira@lutheransettlement.org
 www.lutheransettlement.org

Lutheran Settlement House (LSH) was established in 1902 as a nonprofit, nonsectarian, community-based organization, committed to providing a variety of services to vulnerable children, adults, and families living in inner city Philadelphia. Over the past century, as the needs of the community have changed, the nature of the organization has also gone through transformations. Yet the core mission of Lutheran Settlement House – “to empower individuals, families, and communities to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency” – lives on.

Lutheran Settlement House’s current programming integrates social, educational and advocacy services through the provision of adult and family education, after-school care for children, the Bilingual Domestic Violence Project (BDVP), employment counseling and training, services for senior citizens, and Luther House, LSH’s emergency shelter for homeless families. Lutheran Settlement House’s services are offered free of charge and are open to all individuals regardless of income, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and religious or political affiliations.

Lutheran Settlement House began working with Latinos in Philadelphia by providing English and citizenship classes to newly arrived immigrants in the early part of the 1900s. In 1978, it became the first organization in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania to provide domestic violence services in Spanish. LSH is committed to working in conjunction with other organizations to provide the best services possible in the Latino Community. To that end, LSH works with Maria de los Santos Health Center and Centro Pedro Claver to provide domestic violence services; and the Lighthouse, Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Taller Puertorriqueño, and Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha (APM) to provide education and workforce development services in the Latino community. In terms of advocacy, LSH is a member of the Latino Workforce Development Taskforce and the Latino Partnership. LSH has also been featured in *Al Día*, on the topic of domestic violence. **S E**

Mexican Cultural Center

Elena Reilly, Executive Director
 111 South Independence Mall East, Bourse Building, Suite 310
 Philadelphia, PA 19106
 215-592-0410
 215-923-7281 (fax)
 mexicanculturalcenterphila@email.msn.com

Through cultural exchanges with Mexico, the Mexican Cultural Center promotes and encourages a better understanding of Mexico and Mexican cultures among the Mexican, Mexican American, and North American communities. **C**

Nationalities Service Center

Jeanne M. McGuire, Esquire, Executive Director
 1300 Spruce Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19107
 215-893-8400
 215-735-9718 (fax)
 info@nationalitiesservice.org
 www.nationalitiesservice.org

The Nationalities Service Center (NSC) is a United Way member agency that provides legal, social, and educational services to immigrants, refugees, non-English speakers, and those speaking limited English. It was founded in 1921 under the aegis of the Young Women’s Christian Association as the International Institute. The International Institute officially changed its name to the Nationalities Service Center in 1963.

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Among services provided in the 1960s were the resettlement of Cuban refugees in 1962, at which time the agency networked with other social service providers, churches, and the New York-based International Rescue Committee. Housing, furniture, clothing, linens, and cooking utensils/dishes were provided for every family. Through the International Rescue Committee, financial assistance for rent and food was provided until employment was procured or public assistance made available.

Current NSC services include English as Second Language, job placement for the foreign born, low-cost immigration legal assistance, low-cost translation and interpretation services, and other social services. In 2002, NSC served more than 4000 individuals from more than 90 different countries, including hundreds from Latin America. Several languages are spoken on staff, with Spanish spoken by at least 25% of the staff. **S E**

Naylamp Street & Puppet Theater

Gustavo Boada, Artistic Director
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Philadelphia, PA 19123
215-829-8118
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Naylamp Street & Puppet Theater is a multidisciplinary cultural and educational organization based in North Philadelphia. Our primary purpose is to create a world-class theatre by combining the work of artists and performers in collaborations that encourage and empower people of all ages and backgrounds to use their imaginations to reinvent the world around them.

Naylamp Street & Puppet Theater seeks to create original performance works that test and break the boundaries of dance, drama, puppetry, music, and text. Through its multicultural and forward-thinking ensemble of theater artists, Naylamp redefines theater as an interdisciplinary art form. In the process, Naylamp brings theatrical resources to the local community, promotes intergenerational relationships through workshop programs, and reaches out to new audiences, introducing them to both theatrical traditions and innovative technique. **C**

Norris Square Civic Association

Patricia de Carlo, Executive Director
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Philadelphia, PA 19122
215-426-8723
215-634-2251 (Child Care Center)
215-291-4896 (McKinley After School)
215-426-0388 (El Mercado)
215-426-5822 (fax)

The Norris Square Civic Association (NSCA) is one of Philadelphia's key community development organizations with a staff of 45 and an operating budget over of over \$2 million. Its mission is the revitalization of the Norris Square neighborhood in partnership with its residents. NSCA was the first community development corporation (CDC) to receive the Williams Award from the Philadelphia Foundation for its comprehensive approach to community development. Program areas include education, housing, community organizing, and economic development.

To date, Norris Square has developed over 100 units of affordable housing and invested over \$10 million in housing development, both rental and homeownership. In addition to housing, NSCA developed a \$2 million facility for children with 10 classrooms, a full service kitchen, and social services offices. The organization operates a dual language child care center which includes 82 Head Start slots and child care space for another 120 children. Norris Square also operates after-school programs in two local schools.

Since inception, NSCA's board of directors, comprised of community residents, recognized entrepreneurial development as an effective means for their neighbors to support themselves despite their lack of a high school diploma. The efficacy of entrepreneurial activity as a means for socioeconomic advancement was clearly evident in each corner bodega, often started and operated by recently arrived immigrants with limited education and/or English

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skills. Local business development also meant the retention of capital within the neighborhood; store owners, who often lived above or adjacent to their businesses, frequently invested in additional local housing and commercial real estate improvements.

To encourage local entrepreneurs to move their underground operations out of the home/garage and into a licensed commercial space, NSCA decided to develop El Mercado. (See El Mercado listing). **S E**

Norris Square Neighborhood Project, Inc.

Sister Carol Keck, Executive Director
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215-634-4990 (fax)
ckeck@hotmail.com

The mission of the Norris Square Neighborhood Project (NSNP) is to help neighborhood children and their families take responsibility for self, culture, community, and environment. In partnership with the neighborhood community, NSNP develops educational programs and learning experiences which promote access to community resources and provide support for personal growth. NSNP is the headquarters for Grupo Motivos, a Puerto Rican women's organization that runs its own catering business. (See Grupo Motivos listing)

Founded in 1973 by Natalie Kempner, a local fifth-grade school teacher, NSNP has been successfully working, educating and revitalizing this West Kensington neighborhood ever since. Through gardening, the arts, environmental learning, and cultural exploration, a generation of children has grown up at NSNP, and new members join this extended family every year. **S E**

Nueva Esperanza, Inc.

Reverend Luis A. Cortés Jr., President
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Philadelphia, PA 19140
215-324-0746
215-324-2542 (fax)
lcortes@nueva.org
www.nueva.org
www.esperanza.us

Nueva Esperanza is a nonprofit corporation and one of the largest Latino faith-based organizations in the United States. Founded in 1987 by Rev. Luis Cortés, together with the Hispanic Clergy of Philadelphia, Nueva Esperanza operates an impressive array of programs addressing the problems faced by the Hispanic community. These programs include the development of housing for ownership, job training programs, and a multitude of youth programs.

Among these youth programs are a charter high school, a two-year undergraduate college, and a 150-acre campground site. The Nueva Esperanza Academy Charter High School emphasizes Spanish, English, mathematics, and technology in its academic offerings. The Nueva Esperanza Center for Higher Education, a partnership with Eastern University, is one of the few programs of its kind in the country—students study in Spanish, while learning English. At the successful completion of the two-year period, students are fully prepared to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. Nueva Esperanza's Campground and Retreat Center is located in Pottstown, and provides a haven for hundreds of children escaping the challenges of everyday life in some of Philadelphia's toughest neighborhoods. **S E**

R

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Office for Hispanic Catholics-Archdiocese of Philadelphia

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hiscath@adphila.org
www.archdiocese-phl.org/directory/ohic.htm

The Office for Hispanic Catholics strives to address the pastoral needs of the Hispanic community and to strengthen the ties between this traditionally Catholic people and the Church. **S R**

Pasión y Arte

Elba Hevia y Vaca, Cofounder/Artistic Director
6411 Overbrook Avenue
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215-687-4166 (fax)
lorca121@aol.com
www.pasionyarte.com

Pasión y Arte is a nonprofit, all female Flamenco company that develops and presents works that preserve and strengthen the Flamenco tradition and that empower women through cante (deep song), baile (dance), and toque (guitar). Pasión y Arte consists of performers from Latin America and Europe. Drawing on this multicultural diversity, the works examine gender, cultural, religious, socioeconomic and generational boundaries in the context of the Flamenco language. **C**

The Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

(Camara de Comercio Hispana de Filadelfia)
Luis Cruz, President
200 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102-3723
215-790-3723
215-790-3601 (fax)
phcc@philachamber.com
philahispanicchamber.org

The Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (Camara de Comercio Hispana de Filadelfia) was established to enhance economic development for the Latino business community in the City of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley and to increase participation of its members at the local, state, and national levels. **B**

Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas

Yolanda Alcorta, Executive Director
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www.raicesculturales.org

Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas is a folklore organization representing the 21 countries in Latin America. We are a Philadelphia based coalition of 19 dance and music groups and many individuals who since 1991 represent Latino traditions and culture through music and dance presentations and educational programs.

Raíces’s office is located at 2757 North 5th Street (at the corner of 5th and Somerset) in Philadelphia. **CE**

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School District of Philadelphia – Office of Language, Culture and the Arts

Margaret M. Chin, Officer
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The Office of Language, Culture and the Arts is a newly created office in charge of ESOL and Bilingual Programs, World and Heritage Language Programs, Newcomer Centers, Cultural Education, Special Events and Conferences, and Music and Art Programs in the School District of Philadelphia. Over 131 schools in Philadelphia have an ESOL or Bilingual Program, and approximately 13,000 students attend these programs.

The mission of this office is to promote academic excellence and success for all students, especially English language learners, by meeting students’ needs, promoting language competence, celebrating diversity through culture and the arts, and establishing partnerships with family and community. **E**

Taller Puertorriqueño, Inc.

Carmen Febo-San Miguel, Executive Director
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Taller Puertorriqueño was established in 1974 by Latino artists and activists in the North Kensington area of Philadelphia. They created a community based graphic arts workshop to provide cultural training alternatives to local youth. Throughout its history, Taller has been a vital resource to the barrio and to the region. It is now nationally recognized as a model organization that uses the arts as a vehicle for social change.

From a humble beginning as a storefront workshop, Taller has developed into a dynamic multidisciplinary cultural and educational center. Now housed in two buildings, the organization has grown to include classrooms, a theater, two galleries, and a books and crafts store.

Taller’s mission is to preserve, develop, and promote Puerto Rican artistic and cultural traditions, as well as to support a better understanding of other Latin American cultures and their common heritage. Taller’s programmatic and organizational goals include serving as an educational vehicle in the advancement of the Puerto Rican and Latino individual, supporting the community’s pursuit for cultural identity and affirmation, preserving and promoting the contributions of Puerto Rican and Latino artists of all disciplines, educating students about their cultural roots and history, and serving as a cultural institution committed to the quality preservation of Latino cultural expressions. **C E**

S = Service Organization **B** = Business **E** = Education **M** = Media **C** = Cultural **R** = Religious