

35th
Anniversary
Gala



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**Inspired By Our Past.
Invigorated By The Future.**

October 20th, 2023
New Rochelle, NY



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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Message from the
**Executive Director and
Chair of the Board of Directors**

Welcome to our 35th Anniversary Gala!

Our theme this year is “Inspired by Our Past. Invigorated by the Future.” From our humble beginnings when nine Dominican women started the organization with \$30 and a dream, DWDC has emerged as the largest existing independent Dominican non-profit organization in the United States providing culturally competent social services to thousands of families per year in the Washington Heights and Inwood area as well as advocating for the rights of women, immigrants, low-income families, and the LGBTQIA+ communities. This has been quite a journey of love, dedication, passion, work and personal sacrifices from past and present staff, members of the board of directors, and supporters like you.

Inspired by our 35-year history, our impact today includes providing services to over 10,000 women and their families per year, including 1,000 survivors of domestic violence, 3,000 callers in our domestic violence hotline, 110 children in our early childhood education center, 72 families in our early head start program, over 56 families who receive parenting support, 450 individuals in our health education program who participate in the prevention of HIV, diabetes, pediatric asthma, and long COVID, 50 young people in our LGBTQ Drop-In Center, and over

1,000 applicants for health insurance. In the last year, we also advocated for the reduction of health disparities, and distributed 7,200 bags of food, thousands of pieces of clothing, pampers, and other basic necessities to our families.

We are invigorated by the future crafted in the Strategic Plan we developed in 2022 where we created a Meta vision that envisions DWDC as a multiethnic, multi-generational, self-sufficient, socially, and politically empowered national and international women's organization. Our plan confirms our mission to be a leading agent of change in the fight for social justice and to create a diverse, equitable, and inclusive world for all genders and families. We will continue to offer financial literacy and independence, immigration resources, mental health and wellness, health services, LGBTQIA+ services, family services, early childhood education, adult education (English, citizenships, etc.), anti-domestic violence services, and expand our early childhood literacy programs to the Bronx.

Thank you all for your support in helping us achieve these goals and enjoy our program tonight!!!

Sincerely,



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER



RITA MELLA
Chair of the Board of Directors

ROSITA ROMERO, MSW
Executive Director

Staff and Board of Directors 2023



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Marisol Alcantara

Nathalie Tejada

Mamá Tingó Child Care & Learning Center

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Nermis Calderón

Camilo Honorio

Maribel Santana

Arlette Rodriguez

Carmen Diloné

Celeste García

Madelyn Gonzalez

Franceli Garcia

Elianny Guzmán

Edymaris Martinez

Staff and Board of Directors 2023



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María Suarez
Paula Pichardo
Reymy Gomez
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Johanna Ventura
Alexander Veras Gonzalez

Consultants

Dr. Rosa Lavergne
Carlos Bravo-Gogny
Angelica Santana
Marianela Nuñez
Jenny Méndez
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Manuel Rivera
Nathalie Tejada
Pedro De La Cruz
Rosa Saldana

Mamá Tingó Early Head Start

Carolina Capellán
Petra M. Cruz
Sofía Lucero
Miriam Arrieta
Heidy Angeles
Carmen Robles De Vilcara
Leticia Gonzalez

Lisbeth Green
Joselin Madrigal
Denyely Morales
Sandy Rodríguez
Jazmin Montalvo
Ana Ramos de Rosario

Healthy Families Washington Heights

Melfi Mena
Jennifer Gomez
Kenia Jorge
Sergia J. Peguero
Victoria Martinez
Kenia Jorge
Melfi Mena
Jennifer Gomez

New Dawn Anti-Domestic Violence

Karina Bernabé
Verenice Heredia
Ana Guaba

Uptown STEAM Program

Danisha Feliz
Danisha Feliz
Kevin Ortiz
David Montesdeoca

Economic Development Program

Esteban Escalona
Mariacely Alvarado



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

35th Anniversary Gala

2023 Gala Benefit Committee Members



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GALA CHAIR



**JEAN
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GALA CHAIR



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TEJADA**



[P R O G R A M]

35th Anniversary Gala

“Inspired By Our Past. Invigorated By The Future”

Friday, October 20th, 2023
8:00 PM Program

Host

Isolda Peguero
Actress, Voice-Over Artist, Journalist

Dinner is served

Honorees

Outstanding Legal Services Award

Rolando T. Acosta, Partner at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Champion of Social Justice Award

Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member for the 76th District

Special Recognition to DWDC's Outstanding Employee

Elizabeth Javier, Care Coordinator at DWDC Health Promotional Program

Outstanding Health Practitioner and Educator Award

Dodi Meyer, MD, Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Vice Chair of Community Health, Dept of Pediatrics, and Medical Director Community Health NYP Div of Community and Population Health/Columbia Campus

Outstanding Political Leader Award

Carmen De La Rosa, New York City Council Member for District 10

LIVE ASK

DWDC Video Inspired By Our Past. Invigorated By The Future

Special Performance

Milly Quezada
La Reina Del Merengue

DJ Javi



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

35th Anniversary Gala

HONORING

Isolda Peguero

Mistress of Ceremony



Actress, Voice-Over,
Journalist

Isolda is an actress and voice-over artist with an outgoing personality and a friendly, nuanced and dynamic voice. She is a natural storyteller, bringing 30 years of journalistic experience that includes radio, print and television; 25 of which were as a National Correspondent for Telemundo Network to her work. Though her voice is one of the most trusted and recognizable in the Hispanic Market, Isolda is also able to alter it through inflection, diction and speed, making her quite the chameleon. Her versatility, fearlessness and approachable personality are some of her major assets. Although fully bilingual, her focus is to work for the Hispanic Market. Her outstanding media career is an example of her

dedication, discipline, determination and talent. She has interviewed over 30 heads of state, US Presidents, Grammy and Oscar winning celebrities, maintaining complete decorum and control. Isolda's accolades and awards include Emmy's, Pico de Oro, Most Influential Woman of The Year by the NY Governor's office, Associated Press and many more. She is also proud to have won a Mortales's Award for Best New Actor in a series aired in the US and abroad. She has performed in several acting roles including theater, commercial and currently works narrating audiobooks in Spanish. Isolda is available for voice-over and on-camera work.



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

35th Anniversary Gala

HONORING

Milly Quezada

Singer Performance



La Reina Del Merengue

Milly Quezada was Born the 21st of May in Santo Domingo, thatsDominican as Milagros Quezada Borbón. She is without question that's Dominican female Merengue artist of her homeland.

Better known as “La Reina Del Merengue” (The Queen of Merengue) Milly Quezada’s career spans from 1975 and carries on until today. Since young, Milly Quezada has enjoyed music, having four siblings (all who are also musicians) they migrated to New York where she attended highschool and college where she graduated with high honors from New York City College.

Her start in music was with her siblings, Rafael, Martín and Jocelyn, and together formed what was then known as “Milly Jocelyn y Los Vecinos,” they would perform locally at first in Washington Heights, New York.

During the start of the 80’s, success soon came mainly due To Milly Quezada’s unique style of singing and

a strong voice.

They had hits like “La Guacherna,” “Volvió Juanita” and many more. In her career, Milly has won many awards including The Casandra Awards in Dominican Republic, Billboard Awards, Premios Lo Nuestro in 1998, Ace awards and many more.

In 2011 La Reyna de el Merengue released her new album celebrating 30 years in the entertainment business. The album entitled “Aqui Estoy Yo” features many high profile collaborations including one with Juan Luis Guerra titled Toma Mi Vida, the video for that here: Toma Mi Vida Video.

In her solo career, Milly has encountered even more success than she had with her group and is known and beloved by all her people, not only in the Dominican Republic but in all Spanish speaking countries. Milly Quezada’s struggle to make it in a male-dominated scene is only surpassed by her success.



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HONORING

Rolando T. Acosta, Esq.

Partner at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw
Pittman LLP



**Outstanding
Legal Services Award**

*R*olando Acosta brings over 25 years of experience as a sitting New York judge to guide clients through all phases of litigation.

Justice Acosta has decades of experience as a trial and appellate judge on the Supreme Court of the State of New York. Most notably, he served on the Appellate Division, First Department for 15 years, including as Presiding Justice for six years. Widely recognized as one of the foremost jurists in the United States, Justice Acosta has earned a reputation for his uncompromising adherence to the rule of law. Throughout his tenure as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department, the Court underwent a swift and strategic modernization, achieving improved efficiency and affording the public greater access to justice.

Justice Acosta presided over hundreds of bench and jury trials and thousands of appeals of complex civil and criminal cases, including but not

limited to commercial disputes, torts, and real estate matters. For example, Justice Acosta handled an appeal and authored the majority opinion in a dispute over the America's Cup, where the plaintiff alleged that the defendant club breached a contract by rejecting plaintiff's timely application to compete in the sailing regatta. In addition, Justice Acosta presided over and authored the majority opinion in an appeal involving the novel issue of whether a statute required a private developer on public land to post a bond to guarantee an affiliate's performance under a construction management agreement.

Prior to his judicial service, Acosta held various posts with the Legal Aid Society, including Attorney-in-Charge of the largest civil trial office and Director of Government and Community Affairs. He also served as First Deputy Commissioner and as Deputy Commissioner for Law Enforcement at the New York City Commission on Human Rights.



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
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HONORING

Rebecca Seawright

Assembly Member



**Champion of
Social Justice Award**

Rebecca A. Seawright represents the Upper East Side, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island in New York's 76th Assembly District. As the first woman to serve the district and since her election in 2014, she is known as a strong voice for over 133,000 constituents, securing over \$17

million in funding for public schools, senior centers, parks, and non-profits.

Appointed by the Speaker in 2023, she holds the leadership position of Chair of the People with Disabilities Committee. Previously, she served in leadership as the Chair of the Majority Steering Committee, Secretary of the Majority Conference, and as Chair of the Task Force on Women's

Issues. Nominated by her colleagues, she serves as a Director of the Legislative Women's Caucus and works with her colleagues as part of the Bipartisan Pro-Choice, Jewish, Environmental, and Gun Reform

Legislative Caucuses. As a member of the Ways and Means; Banking; Codes; Higher Education; and Judiciary committees, Seawright is motivated to protect her constituents' interests in our great State of New York.

Inspired to renew the movement for the federal Equal Rights Amendment to guarantee that our rights are anchored in our state and U.S. constitutions, she proudly authored and passed an Equal Rights Amendment to our New York State Constitution. For the first time, voters will have the opportunity to vote on the equal rights amendment as a ballot referendum in the 2024 general election.

A champion for high-quality, public education, Seawright champions our public schools and helped obtain more than \$1 billion in new state support and sponsors the Teach LGBT curriculum bill to ensure that the NYS Education Department develops curriculum on the historical

Rebecca Seawright

Assembly Member

treatment of and contributions by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in America.

Rebecca fights for our community through major environmental and sustainability initiatives such as her sponsorship of air quality monitoring legislation to mitigate the impacts of a waste transfer station at East 91st Street. She is a leading advocate for affordable housing and landmark housing reform laws to abolish vacancy decontrol and restrict rent hikes. A proponent of strong democratic values, Rebecca strongly supports reforms to run elections efficiently, accurately, and with integrity to protect our voting rights. Notably, for the 2020 General Election and the 2021 New York City Primary, Rebecca successfully secured additional early voting and Election Day poll sites.

Her bills have been signed into law requiring all those convicted of hate crimes to undergo tolerance training as a condition of their sentence and rehabilitation; reinstating the Clean Waterways Fund; capping annual fees from lenders; implementing a study on consumer financial literacy; streamlining boards of election; requiring health insurance policies to include 3-D Mammography at no cost to the consumer; encouraging greater representation of women on corporate boards; and identifying how many policy-making positions are held by women in the New York State government. In response to the

COVID-19 pandemic, Rebecca co-sponsored emergency legislation that suspends rent payments for small business commercial tenants and certain mortgage payments due to COVID-19.

Rebecca is the recipient of The Schneps Media Power Women of Manhattan '22, '23; The Schneps Media Power Women of The East End '22, '23; Planned Parenthood Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Champion; The Queer Big Apple Corps Award '22; Women's eNews 21 Leaders for the 21st Century '21; The Met's 13th Annual Women's Award '20; Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney Fearless Girl Award '19; A Place to Be(ad) Me Honoree '19; Super Happy Healthy Kids Black Tie Gala Honoree '19; James Dudley Luce Foundation Humanitarian of the Year '19; Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Elizabeth Rohatyn Award '17; The New York Board of Rabbis Humanitarian Galal of the Year '15; and The Feminist Press at The City University of New York 40th Anniversary honoree '10.

She formerly served for 8 years as Chair of the Board of the Feminist Press at the City University of New York, the oldest nonprofit literary publisher of feminist literature. Currently, she Chairs the CUNY Law School Board of Visitors. In 2023, Speaker Heastie appointed her to the City University of New York Construction Fund Board of Trustees.



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
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35th Anniversary Gala

HONORING

Dodi Meyer, MD

Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Vice Chair of Community Health, Dept of Pediatrics, and Medical Director Community Health NYP Div of Community and Population Health/Columbia Campus



**Outstanding Health Practitioner
and Educator Award**

Dodi Meyer, MD, Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University Irving Medical Center, Vice Chair of Community Health, Dept of Pediatrics, and Medical Director Community Health NYP Div of Community and Population Health/Columbia Campus Outstanding Health Practitioner and Educator Award.

Dodi Meyer is a Professor of Pediatrics and Vice Chair of Community Health in the Department of Pediatrics at Columbia University Medical Center, and Medical Director of NYP's Division of Community and Population Health/Columbia Campus and Attending Physician at Morgan Stanley New York Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia campus. Dr Meyer works in health disparities and community health. She has expertise in developing and

sustaining community-academic partnerships for the purpose of training, service, and research. She oversees several population and community health initiatives that address major challenges to health through the interlinking contexts of biology, family, and community. Over the past several years her focus has been on implementing programs that integrate social determinants of health screening and closed loop navigation into primary care settings. As a member of the Division of Child and Adolescent Health, she sees patients and teaches residents and medical students at a community-based, hospital-affiliated practice in Washington Heights.

Dodi is a graduate of the University of Buenos Aires, Medical School and arrived to the US in 1988 to do her training in General Pediatrics.



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

35th Anniversary Gala



HONORING

Elizabeth Javier

Care Coordinator at DWDC Health
Promotion Program

Employee of the Year Award

*E*lizabeth Javier better known as “Liz” is a Dominican immigrant who came to the United States in the early eighties. She is currently a Care Coordinator at Dominican Women's Development Center with over 15 years of experience protecting vulnerable families.

In 2013, Liz became an activist for HIV promoting the “Let's Stop HIV Together” campaign and cultivated relationships with individuals and organizations to increase awareness in marginalized communities and stigmatized individuals.

Elizabeth studied Nursing at Bronx Community College and is a proud veteran of the New York City Emergency Services. In 2013, Liz earned a Sound Engineer certificate at SAE University in New York City and is currently working on a Psychology Master's degree at Southern New Hampshire University.

Liz plans to use a holistic approach including music therapy to help her future patients improve their quality of life.

Elizabeth Javier contributes to the strengthening and empowerment of families in the community.



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

35th Anniversary Gala

H O N O R I N G

Carmen De La Rosa

Council Member



Outstanding Political Leader Award

Carmen De La Rosa emigrated from the Dominican Republic as a child and grew up in Inwood where she has lived her entire life.

In 2016, Carmen was elected to represent her community as the State Assembly Member of the 72nd District where she served for five years. She successfully negotiated and passed the New York State DREAM ACT and the first in the nation Excluded Workers Fund (EWF) at \$2.1 Billion. As the member of the Assembly representing the district with the highest number of rent-stabilized

apartments, Carmen actively participated in passing the strongest tenant protection laws in a generation.

In 2021, Carmen became the first Dominican woman elected to represent District 10 (Washington Heights, Inwood, and Marble Hill) at the New York City Council and serves as the Chair of the Civil Service and Labor Committee and Vice Co-Chair of the Progressive Caucus. Since she took office, she has passed legislation on pay equity, improving the civil service exam and hiring process, and supporting workers' rights.



KATHY HOCHUL
GOVERNOR



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

October 20, 2023

Dominican Women's Development Center
519 West 189th Street, Ground Floor
New York, NY 10040

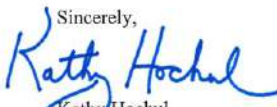
Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the Dominican Women's Development Center (DWDC) 35th Anniversary Gala.

Since its founding in 1988, the DWDC has provided the residents of Washington Heights and Inwood with vital resources that both strengthen quality of life conditions and dismantle barriers to success. Through a comprehensive range of wellness services, including ESL classes, housing support, and HIV prevention, the DWDC creates opportunities for both individual and widespread well being. Programs such as the Mamá Tingó Childcare & Learning Center and the La Sala LGBTQ Youth Drop In Center address the needs of young people from all backgrounds and pave the way for a brighter future for the newest generation.

Today, you come together to commemorate this anniversary milestone and celebrate multiple individuals who have demonstrated their dedication to DWDC's mission. I join in recognizing these distinguished honorees. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I appreciate your assistance in creating a healthier, more prosperous state.

Best wishes for an enjoyable celebration.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hochul
Governor

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND
NEW YORK



UNITED STATES SENATOR

October 20, 2023

Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to send greetings to everyone attending the Dominican Women's Development Center's 35th Anniversary Gala. I want to thank Rosita Romero, Executive Director of Dominican Women's Development Center, for her leadership and unwavering commitment to public service. I also want to thank the staff and board members for their commitment to fulfilling the vision and goals of this important organization.

I am grateful to organizations like Dominican Women's Development Center for their commitment to empowering women and their communities to advance and achieve gender equality and social justice. Through advocacy, organizing, and vital programs and services, Dominican Women's Development Center continues to create inclusive spaces and fight for equity and justice in underserved and vulnerable communities.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event and many more years of continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirsten Gillibrand". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator





OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
New York's 13th District

October 20, 2023

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 35th anniversary gala of the Dominican Women's Development Center (DWDC), Mamá Tingó Childcare and Learning Center, recognizing the tremendous dedication of the DWDC throughout our community and its work to champion the rights of women, children, and families.

For over three decades, the DWDC has provided essential services that improve the well-being of Latino communities around the country – and these services are more important than ever before. From aiding those most impacted to helping fill out unemployment, SNAP, and health insurance applications, providing increased virtual domestic violence counseling, and hosting remote learning activities for nearby area children, the DWDC has stood firm in its commitment to provide innovative, quality and meaningful services to empower women and their families – even in the most challenging of times.

Congratulations to this year's honorees: **Rolando T. Acosta**, Partner at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP; **Carmen De La Rosa**, Council Member District 10; **Rebecca Seawright**, Assembly Member District 76; and **Dodi Meyer**, MD, Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia Irving Medical Center, Vice Chair of Community Health, Dept of Pediatrics, and Medical Director Community Health NYP Division of Community and Population Health/Columbia Campus – each for their tremendous dedication, commitment to public service and professional accomplishments.

Thank you to the incredible work and efforts of the DWDC leaders and staff, and I wish you many more years of success supporting women, children, and families throughout Washington Heights, New York, and around the nation.

With warm regards,

Adriano Espaillat
United States Congress





OFFICE OF THE

MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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Mark Levine, Borough President



October 20, 2023

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to join you in celebrating 35 years of the Dominican Women's Development Center's stellar track record of exceptional frontline service to empower Latinas, strengthen their families, and foster more successful communities.

We salute your accomplishments and your 2023 "Inspired By Our Past. Invigorated By Our Future" anniversary gala, a fitting theme that speaks to the tireless support DWDC has provided to generations of Latinas and DWDC's commitment to building a more just and equitable future.

I would also like to offer my own congratulations to this year's honorees: Rolando T. Acosta, Council Member Carmen De La Rosa, Assemblymember Rebecca Seawright, and Dr. Dodi Meyer. Your support and alliance with DWDC's mission is critical, particularly as DWDC rises to meet the challenges of the pandemic and continues to provide Dominican women with much-needed tools to achieve financial security and meet educational goals that will improve their families' future.

On behalf of the Borough of Manhattan, I wish you another year of success.

Sincerely,

Mark Levine
Manhattan Borough President

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THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
CARMEN DE LA ROSA
COUNCIL MEMBER, 10TH DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

October 11, 2023

Greetings!

Thank you, Dominican Women's Development Center (DWDC) for all you do on behalf of women in the Northern Manhattan Community. Best wishes on your 35th Anniversary, a celebration of creating paths of self-sufficiency, economic empowerment and bringing awareness to the importance of empowering women as a requisite for a more just and fair society.

This year's theme of "Inspired by our Past. Invigorated by the Future" is a perfect model to follow as it sets the goal continuously advancing the rights and advancement of women. DWDC is an organization that came out of a small group of immigrant women, who had a vision and a mission to move women, specifically immigrant women, in our community forward. The organization's expansion has significantly helped women and their families across New York City.

They serve as a reminder that in Washington Heights, we welcome all with open arms and a helping hand.

Sincerely,



Hon. Carmen De La Rosa
New York City Council Member
10th District



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REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT
78th District



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK

CHAIR
People with Disabilities Committee
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Banking
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MEMBER
Legislative Women's Caucus
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force
Task Force on Women's Issues



October 20, 2023

Dear Dominican Women's Development Center:

Congratulations on your 35th Anniversary Gala! I commend DWDC on its mission to share knowledge and resources that empower communities so women and families can build better lives. Your commitment to "*lifting others as we rise*" has not only helped people in Washington Heights and Inwood meet their essential needs, but also inspired countless New Yorkers to deepen their societal contributions for over three decades.

It is my deep honor to congratulate my co-honorees this evening: The Honorable Rolando T. Acosta, The Honorable Carmen De La Rosa, and Dr. Dodi Meyer. Each award recipient has uniquely advanced DWDC's vision of economic, racial, and gender equity. I am grateful to appear alongside these worthy honorees and receive the Champion of Social Justice Award.

With great pride, I congratulate the members of DWDC and my fellow 35th Anniversary Gala award recipients for their devotion to promoting strong families, vibrant community networks, and a better tomorrow for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca A. Seawright".

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

33rd ANNIVERSARY



34th ANNIVERSARY



34th ANNIVERSARY



34th ANNIVERSARY





DWDC Programs



CONGRATULATIONS DWDC ON 35 YEARS!

2023 Honorees

Rolando T. Acosta
Partner

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Carmen De La Rosa
Council Member
District 10

Rebecca Seawright
Assembly Member
District 76

Dodi Meyer, MD
Professor of Pediatrics at
Columbia University Irving Medical Center
Vice Chair of Community Health, Department of Pediatrics
Medical Director at Community Health
NewYork-Presbyterian
Division of Community and Population Health
Columbia Campus

NewYork-
Presbyterian



STARRY NIGHT FUND

CONGRATULATES THE



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**ON ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION
TO BUILDING A BETTER WORLD
FOR ALL**

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a strapless blue dress with a white fishnet pattern and a row of red beads, and a voluminous pink skirt. She is looking slightly to the right. The background is a warm orange color with faint, larger images of her face and dress. Thin white lines crisscross the background.

JEAN SHAFIROFF

PHILANTHROPIST & INFLUENCER

Congratulations to all the honorees, especially Assemblywoman Rebecca Seawright, for her outstanding work serving NYS. Thank you to the outstanding staff and Executive Director at the Dominican Women's Developmental Center. Let's continue serving the community for many more years. Invigorated by a the Future.



“

The theme of our 35th Anniversary is a humbling reminder of a journey inspired by migrant, Dominican women who by their sheer resolve were determined to rise above overwhelming socioeconomic barriers in their quest to create better lives for themselves and their families.

35 years later, we are witness to the power of collective perseverance and communal audacity (courage) that – through DWDC - has transformed lives and strengthened communities in which all can thrive.

Knowing what we can accomplish and recognizing our mission continues, we are invigorated by the future; a future where everyone – without exception – takes their rightful seat at the table of opportunity and thus elevating our communities and those we serve to even greater heights.

”

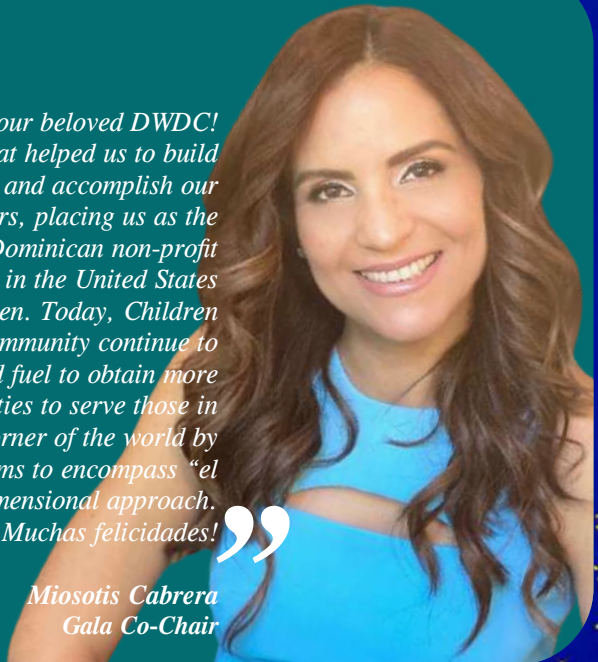
Fermin Espinosa
Gala Chair

“

Congratulations to our beloved DWDC! We embrace a past that helped us to build multiple programs and accomplish our mission for 35 years, placing us as the longest-founded Dominican non-profit organization in the United States established by women. Today, Children and women of our community continue to be our inspiration and fuel to obtain more significant opportunities to serve those in need from every corner of the world by creating more programs to encompass “el Centro” multidimensional approach. Muchas felicidades!

”

Miosotis Cabrera
Gala Co-Chair



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**Columbia University in the City of New York
Offices of Government & Community Affairs**

congratulate the

Dominican Women's Development Center

for 35 years of providing continued support and services to
empower women and their families

and salute this year's honorees

with special recognition to our very own

The Honorable Rolando T. Acosta, Esq.
Outstanding Legal Services award

Dodi Meyer, MD
Outstanding Health Practitioner and Educator Award



“Dwdc set the foundation for future women leaders to rise and continue the fight for our community and our people. 9 women put the effort for a Afro dominican director can get awards and advocate for our families. Without them we couldn't have us.

”

Carolina Capellán
Gala Benefit Committee Member

“Dreaming about our future while celebrating the work we've done and the work we've yet to do. Using our 35 year history to learn, to inspire and to propel us to the future to have an even greater impact on the community.”

Alyssa Navia
Gala Benefit Committee Member





The Healthfirst Foundation
congratulates the
Dominican Women's Development Center

We celebrate your success and share
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Dominican Women's Development Center

on their

35th Anniversary

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“

*Inspired by the past:
DWDC has inspired a community
for the past 35 years, it has aided,
educated, empowered women and
children to strive for a better life.
Invigorated by the future
DWDC's commitment envisions a
brighter future for all those families
that have received the much needed
resources through advocacy,
solidarity, and generosity.*

”

*Petra Cruz
Gala Benefit Committee Member*

“

*It's great to look back and
realize that taking action pays
off. Even greater it is to
renew our purpose and press
on. Here's to a bright future,
touching hearts and changing
lives.*

”

*Alberto Gomes da Silva
Gala Benefit Committee Member*



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Congratulations to DWDC on celebrating 35 years of
delivering life-changing services that inspire hope.

"Inspired By Our Past. Invigorated By The Future"

Congratulations

TO

DWDC

DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

AND

**PROUDLY SALUTE
THIS YEAR'S HONOREES**

The Miranda Family



“DWDC es una organización que tiene mucha importancia en mi vida personal por su ayuda a las familias y a cambiado la vida de muchas mujeres que hoy ocupan cargo en el gobiernos en todos los niveles gracias Rosita Romero y su equipo de trabajo por estos 35 años que celebramos por tú entrega a la comunidad.”

Luz Bermudez
Gala Benefit Committee Member

“I joined DWDC in 2007 inspired by it's dedication to bring hope and resources to the women and families it serves. Today, on its 35th Anniversary, I see a stronger organization committed and invigorated for the future that I hope to continue being a collaborator.”



Nathalie Tejada
Gala Benefit Committee Member



An Anthem Company

Congratulations to the

**DWDC 35th
Anniversary
Gala Honorees**

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Congratulations

to all the honorees for all their outstanding work in elevating Dominican Community.

Join us to continue enriching the community and the 10,000 women and their families we serve annually.

Miosotis Cabrera

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Congratulations

we congratulate our dear friend and columbia university classmate Rolando Acosta on being recognized by the DWDC for his myriad of professional achievements and for his life of public service to our hispanic community and the state of New York.



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**Rolando
Acosta, Esq.**

**Outstanding
Legal Services
Award**



Keep soaring higher.

JetBlue is proud to support the Dominican Women's Development Center and their 35th Anniversary Gala.

Dale vuelo a tus metas.

JetBlue se enorgullece de apoyar al Dominican Women's Development Center y su Gala del 35º Aniversario.



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ON BEHALF OF
President Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.

WE SALUTE
The Dominican Women's Development Center

ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
35th Anniversary Gala

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To empower all women and
communities to advance
gender equality and
social justice



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Congratulations to
Rosita Romero and DWDC

for reaching its 35th Anniversary

We are proud to be part of such a wonderful organization.

Miosotis Cabrera

FOUNDATION

Congratulates DWDC on its 35th Anniversary and wishes continued success to all the honorees.

We are honored to collaborate with DWDC in Turning Obstacles Into Opportunities in our Community.





The New York Liberty celebrates the Dominican Women's Development Center for their achievements in empowering women and communities since 1988.



The United Federation of Teachers

Salutes



DWDC
DOMINICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

on its

35th Anniversary Gala

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Invigorated By The Future**

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and strengthening community networks.



United Federation of Teachers
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Michael Mulgrew, President
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Congratulations to the Dominican Women's Development Center on its 35th Anniversary and all the remarkable honorees for their dedication to our community.

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Rita Mella

Sully Bonnelly and Robert Littman

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Blanca and Albert Navia

Thank You

The Dominican Women's Development Center (DWDC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1988 and today is the largest independent Dominican founded organization in the United States. Its mission is to empower all women and communities to advance gender equality and social justice by providing essential programs such as education, daycare, domestic violence, health promotion, and home-based services that support families prenatally and up to five years.



DWDC
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