

Puerto Rican Bar Association

# Scholarship Fund Gala

Tuesday, September 30, 2025



# PRBA President's Message 2025 PRBA Scholarship Fund Gala

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

As we gather for this year's Gala, I am honored and humbled to serve as your President of the Puerto Rican Bar Association and its sister Scholarship Fund organization. Since our founding in 1957 as a beacon of advocacy, community, and professional excellence, the PRBA has stood as a bulwark for Latino legal professionals and the communities we serve. Today, as we face mounting challenges—threats to funding for scholarships, mentorship, and the pipelines that nurture future Latino leaders in law—we must remember that our legacy depends not only on what we have achieved, but on what we pay forward.

#### The Importance of Giving Back

When resources are scarce and voices are tested, giving back becomes not a choice but a necessity. Our young attorneys, law students, and aspiring legal minds are counting on us to create opportunities: through financial support, through mentorship, through inclusion. These are the very foundations upon which equitable representation is built. Without sustained investment, we risk stalling the momentum we have worked so hard to generate.

#### Progress Under Our Leadership

I am proud to say that the PRBA has made tremendous strides under our leadership:

- We have been intentional in inviting younger attorneys and law students to take leadership roles—on committees, in events, and in decision-making spaces. This is not tokenism; it is strategy: elevating new voices makes us stronger, more relevant, more connected to the future.
- We have advocated for Latina associates and non-equity partners to take on influential roles as partners at firms, executives at companies, appellate positions in the judiciary, and key positions in municipal government.
- We established through amendments to our by-laws (subject to membersip approval) (i) the first LGTBQ+ Committee, (ii) extended the terms of Officers for two years to better promote leadership stability and continuity, and (iii) preserved the independence of judiciary members while streghthning Directors' efforts to fundraise through he creaton of an independent Judicial Advisory Board.
- We have modernized and diversified our programming to bridge the gap between established lawyers and new voices: more mentorship opportunities, more networking, more focused CLEs, and targeted polls and surveys to gain a better understanding of what young attorneys want from the PRBA.

#### A Call to Action

This Gala is not only a celebration of our history and achievements, but a renewed commitment to what lies ahead. In these times, our responsibility is clear: to safeguard and expand the future for Latino lawyers. The progress has been real, but the journey is long. With your help—and with the energy, passion, and talent I see in this membership and under our President-Elect and Gala Chair, Lillian Mosley—I know we will write another chapter in the proud tradition of the PRBA.

Thank you again for your continued commitment, generosity, and faith in what we can build together. I look forward to celebrating with you tonight—and to the work that awaits.

#### Renier Pedro Pierantoni

68th President Puerto Rican Bar Association of New York Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund

Cuídate, mantente bien y a salvo,

#### **EVENING AGENDA**

COCKTAIL RECEPTION

#### PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Presented by Renier P. Pierantoni, Esq. 68th President of the Puerto Rican Bar Association

PROJECT CLUB CLEMENTE

**OPENING OF SILENT AUCTION** 

U.S. AND PUERTO RICAN NATIONAL ANTHEMS
Performed by Capt. Jessica Hernandez

#### AWARDS CEREMONY-

**Corporation of the Year** 

Presented by Jason Canales, Esq. & Lissett C. Ferriera, Esq.

**Attorney of the Year** 

Presented by Vivian Drohan, Esq.

Law Firm of the Year

Presented by Leilani Rodriguez, Esq. and Elena Makau, Esq.

Carol Robles-Román Public Service Award

Presented by Hon. Nelson Roman and George Adames, Esq.

**Judiciary Excellence Awards** 

Presented by Hon. Carmen A. Pacheco & Hon. Lumarie Maldonado-Cruz

Presentation of Governor Kathy Hochul Citation

Presented by Hon. Walter Mosley

**Presentation of 2025 Scholarship Recipients** 

Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarships Felipe N. Torres & Frank Torres Scholarship Hon. Sallie Manzanet Daniels "Dare to Dream" Scholarship

Presented by Maya Ureño-Dembar

Hon. Sallie Manzanet-Daniels "Dare to Dream" Scholarship

**Lifetime Achievement Award** 

Presented by Hon. Betty Lugo-Martinez and Hon. Wanda Y. Negron

**Arts and Entertainment Legacy Award** 

Presented by Kathleen Garcia-Aracena

CLOSING OF SILENT AUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE/ENTERTAINMENT

DJ Charlie Chase



# SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GALA HONOREES

Judiciary Excellence Award

#### Hon. Maite D. Oronoz-Rodríguez

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico

Maite D. Oronoz-Rodríguez joined the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico in 2014 as an Associate Justice and was sworn in as Chief Justice on February 22, 2016.

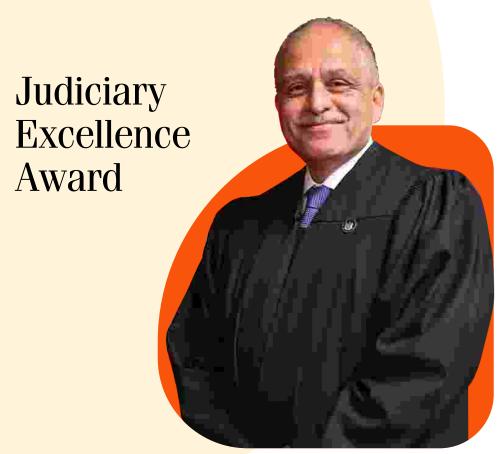
During her tenure, Justice Oronoz-Rodríguez has navigated Puerto Rico's judiciary through the island's fiscal crisis and a series of natural disasters, while significantly enhancing access to justice, transparency, and efficiency through technology. Under her leadership, six primary goals have guided the Judicial Branch's quinquennial Strategic Plan: Efficient Judicial Management, Education and Community Relations, Administration and Support for Judicial Service, Technology for Justice, Judicial Independence, and Access to Justice.

A staunch advocate for gender equality, Justice Oronoz-Rodríguez has led efforts to combat gender-based violence and eradicate gender inequality. She presides over the Committee on Gender and Equality and currently chairs the Permanent Commission on Gender and Access to Justice at the Ibero-American Judicial Summit —a permanent multilateral forum that promotes cooperation between the Judicial Branches and Councils of 23 countries of Ibero American.

Justice Oronoz-Rodríguez has lectured at various prestigious institutions, including the 26th Justice William J. Brennan Jr. Lecture on State Courts and Social Justice at New York University School of Law (2020). More recently, she delivered the keynote address at the 7th Annual Congress of Civil Law organized by the Puerto Rico Law Association (2024).

She holds a B.A. from Villanova University (cum laude), a Juris Doctor (magna cum laude) from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law, and an LL.M. from Columbia University. She has also completed postgraduate studies in history and literature at the University of Florence, Italy.

Justice Oronoz-Rodríguez is married to Gina R. Méndez-Miró, Judge of the U.S. District Court for Puerto Rico, and is the proud mother of twins.



#### Hon. Rowan D. Wilson

Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the State of New York

The Honorable Rowan D. Wilson, Chief Judge of the State of New York and the New York Court of Appeals, was born in Pomona, California, and grew up in Berkeley, California. He received his A.B. degree from Harvard College in 1981, and his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1984. He was admitted to the bar of the State of California in 1985, and the bar of the State of New York in 1987. From 1984 to 1986, he served as a law clerk to the Honorable James R. Browning, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, based in San Francisco, California. In 1986, he joined the firm of Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York City as an associate, and was elected to partnership there in 1991, in which position he continued until February 2017. His practice encompassed a wide variety of matters, including antitrust, intellectual property, securities and common-law fraud, contract, labor and employment, civil rights and first amendment issues.

On January 15, 2017, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo nominated Judge Wilson to serve as an Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, and the New York State Senate confirmed his nomination on February 6, 2017. On April 10, 2023, Governor Kathy Hochul nominated Judge Wilson to serve as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the State of New York. The New York State Senate confirmed his nomination on April 18, 2023. While in private practice, Judge Wilson served on the boards of several charitable and not-for-profit organizations and handled numerous pro bono matters.

# Law Firm of the Year



A century of innovation, expansion, and commitment. An Am Law 100 firm with more than 700 lawyers in 25 cities across the United States. A celebrated, sterling provider of legal advocacy and guidance for industries from the generators of technologically complex ideas to the builders putting fresh bricks, mortar, and timber on the ground. That's the Akerman story.

Akerman's accomplishments revolve around the companies, industries, entrepreneurs, and individuals they have been privileged to serve over these many years.

Throughout boardrooms and executive suites, Akerman is known for delivering results across the full scope of their practice areas, including Bankruptcy and Reorganization, Consumer Financial Services, Data and Technology (CFS+); Corporate; Government Strategies; Healthcare; Intellectual Property; Labor and Employment; Litigation; Real Estate; and Tax.

A full-service, national firm with lawyers and professional business staff coast to coast, they assemble a hand-crafted team for every client to get to the right answer, achieve the ideal resolution, and deliver the best experience for you. From geography to practice specialty and industry knowledge, versatility is a core trait for Akerman. The breadth of their experience and the backgrounds of their attorneys mean that the right match is always there for its clients.

Akerman combines a culture of innovation and creativity with a century of enterprise stability. Akerman is fiercely loyal, thoughtful, and committed to delivering an exceptional client experience.



#### Carlos Perez-Hall, Esq.

Senior Partner at Borah, Goldstein, Altshuler, Nahins and Goidel, P.C.

Carlos Perez-Hall is a Senior Partner at Borah, Goldstein, Altshuler, Nahins and Goidel, P.C., where he also serves on the Board of Directors and Co-heads the Landlord/Tenant division. He oversees the firm's Bronx County practice and represents a wide range of property owners, including those managing rent-regulated units, affordable housing developments, Mitchell-Lama cooperatives, and market-rate properties. He is highly experienced in navigating Section 8 programs, city and state subsidies, and most recently, the Good Cause Eviction Law. In addition to his transactional and advisory work, Mr. Perez-Hall defends property owners against lawsuits and code violations brought by agencies such as HPD, DHCR, and the Department of Buildings.

Beyond his legal practice, Mr. Perez-Hall has been deeply involved in professional and civic leadership. He served as the 58th President of the Puerto Rican Bar Association and chaired its Judiciary Committee for eight years, during which he participated in numerous judicial screening panels and task forces across city, state, and party lines. He has also been appointed three times to the Housing Advisory Council of the Civil Court of New York City, where he helps evaluate candidates and sitting judges for Housing Court appointments. Additionally, he previously served on the Character and Fitness Committee for the First Department.

Mr. Perez-Hall is a frequent lecturer to both the public and the judiciary, having led countywide judicial seminars on topics ranging from Good Cause Eviction to the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019. His expertise has also been published in outlets such as the NY Law Journal and RSA Reporter. A graduate of Emory University (B.A. 2000) and Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (J.D. 2003), he was admitted to the New York Bar in 2004 and is also admitted to practice in the Southern and Eastern District Courts of New York.

Lifetime Achievement Award

#### Michael D. Nieves

President and CEO of HITN

Michael D. Nieves is the President and CEO of HITN, the nation's first non-profit Spanish-language television network. Since assuming leadership, he has expanded the network's audience by more than 10 million Latino households and secured strategic partnerships, such as with Sprint Communications. He has also overseen the development of impactful programming, including Tú Momento, which simplified the U.S. electoral process during the 2016 election cycle and earned the Cynopsis Media Social Good Leader Award. Under his direction, HITN has earned six Emmy nominations and, in 2024, won its first Emmy Award for Ramon and Irmgard, part of the Puerto Rican Heritage Series he launched. His vision has also fostered award-winning initiatives such as the Tu Cuentas Cine Youth Project.

Nieves brings more than 25 years of experience in political strategy and public policy, having advised numerous elected officials across city, state, and federal levels, including Assemblymen José Rivera, Robert Rodríguez, Adam Clayton Powell, Nelson Denis, and Congressman Charles Rangel. His work also extended nationally, most notably with Jesús "Chuy" Garcia's historic 2015 Chicago mayoral campaign. In New York City, Nieves held senior roles within the City Council, where he shaped operations, managed budgets, and advanced state and federal advocacy efforts. His deep expertise in election law and strategy has made him a trusted advisor among Latino leaders.

Beyond government and media, Nieves has been a strong advocate for civic engagement and community empowerment. He has been recognized with numerous accolades, including honors from City & State, Schneps Media, and the National Hispanic Media Coalition. He also provides counsel on educational policy, including to the government of Puerto Rico. Deeply rooted in community service, he serves on the boards of SOMOS, the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture, the New York Puerto Rican Parade, and NYC Public Schools Community School Board #32. With his family, he remains an active member of St. Barbara's Catholic Church in Brooklyn, continuing his lifelong commitment to uplifting Hispanic communities through media, education, and civic leadership.



#### Sophia Zayas

Statewide Director of Latino Affairs for Governor Kathy Hochul

Sophia Zayas is the accomplished Statewide Director of Latino Affairs for Governor Kathy Hochul, a role in which she has demonstrated unwavering dedication to advancing the interests and well-being of Latino communities across New York State.

Ms. Zayas's journey in public service began in 2018 with her appointment as Bronx Regional Representative for the State of New York. As Bronx Borough Director, she was instrumental in fostering robust relationships and projects between city and state entities and key stakeholders in the Bronx. During the previous Governor's administration, Ms. Zayas played a pivotal role in leading the State's COVID-19 response, working alongside local elected officials and healthcare professionals to ensure the availability of PPE and healthcare supplies for the most vulnerable populations. She was also vital in establishing and coordinating COVID and antibody testing sites in the hardest-hit Black and Brown communities of the Bronx. Furthermore, Ms. Zayas contributed to key New York State initiatives focused on investing in the Bronx to create more opportunities for young people, including the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, which has funneled millions into transformative projects, particularly benefiting Latino and Black communities in the South Bronx.

In 2021, Ms. Zayas's exceptional contributions led to her promotion to Director for Latino Affairs for New York State under Governor Kathy Hochul. In this capacity, she has spearheaded numerous impactful initiatives. In November 2021, she accompanied Governor Hochul to Puerto Rico, gaining firsthand insight into the challenges facing the islanders, where they met with delegations and toured healthcare facilities and areas affected by COVID-19 and Hurricane Maria. Following Hurricane Fiona in September 2022, Ms. Zayas was again part of the Governor's Office delegation that traveled to Puerto Rico to assess damage and provide support.

# TO INNOVATIVE DRIVEN

Innovative Driven (ID) is an alternative legal support provider known for its creative solutions and exceptional consultative service to law firms, corporate counsel, and government agencies. We provide solutions across the litigation lifecycle from Information Governance and eDiscovery, Staffing and Recruiting, and Trial Support Services for the Delaware Court of Chancery. Our data-driven experts work closely with clients to develop personalized workflows to manage complex information while mitigating risk.

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DJ Charlie Chase

Co-founder of The Cold Crush Brothers

DJ Charlie Chase, born Carlos Mendes in 1959, is a pioneering Puerto Rican DJ who played a pivotal role in the early hip-hop scene of the Bronx, New York. As a co-founder of The Cold Crush Brothers in 1975, alongside DJ Tony Tone, Chase was instrumental in integrating Latino influences into hip-hop, thereby broadening the genre's cultural scope. His innovative techniques and dynamic performances not only set new standards for DJs but also paved the way for future generations of Latino artists in hip-hop. Chase's contributions have been crucial in shaping the genre's evolution and ensuring its rich, multicultural foundation.

#### **SILENT AUCTION**



1980 Olympic Hockey Team Signed USA Jersey



Alicea Keys signed display



Salvador Dali "The Lawyer" giclee



Pele signed Brazil shirt

All Inclusive trip to Cabo Mariano Rivera signed photo



#### PUERTO RICAN BAR A S S O C I A T I O N

## 2025-2026 Officers



Renier P. Pierantoni, Esq. 68th President



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Julia Galban-Carter



# 2025 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Lillian Mosley, Esq., Chair Jessica Brenes, Esq. Lissett C. Ferriera, Esq. Renier P. Pierantoni, Esq, Leilani Rodriguez, Esq. Julia Galban-Carter





























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Kim Conroy, Esq.

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#### 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS





#### Elisa Davila

Elisa is a proud Puertorriqueña from Alexandria, VA, and a current 3L at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. She served as Cardozo LALSA's President during the 24-25 academic year, and currently serves as the Vice President of Financial Affairs on MetroLALSA Inc.'s Executive Board. Additionally, she is the Co-Editor-in-Chief of Cardozo's Moot Court Honor Society, a Mentor, and Research Assistant. Elisa hopes to pursue a career in Plaintiff/Union side Labor & Employment work, having recently served as a Legal Intern in the Office of the General Counsel for District Council 37, New York City's largest Union.



#### **Abigail DeMonte**

Abigail is a proud first-generation Puerto Rican law student in her final year at Touro Law. She is deeply committed to advocating for equity, justice, and representation in the legal profession. Her experiences in law school—as an editor, researcher, and mentor to peers—have shown her the power of advocacy both inside and outside the classroom. She hopes to build a career in litigation where she can uplift others and give back to the communities that have supported her.



#### **Lorena Diaz-Germes**

Lorena Diaz-Germes is a 3L at Albany Law School where she serves as President of the Latin American Law Student Association and Vice President of the Immigration Law Society. She is deeply committed to advancing immigrant rights and promoting access to justice for marginalized communities. Her law school journey has been shaped by a dedication to advocacy, leadership, and accessibility for all. Lorena aspires to build a career in immigration law and public service, using her legal education to uplift and support those most in need.



#### Luzisania (Lucy) Figueras

Luzisania (Lucy) Figueras is a J.D. candidate at Rutgers Law School, Camden, where she serves as Vice President of the Student Bar Association, Vice President of the Veterans Law Society, Social Media Chair for ALIANZA, and Regional Representative for the Hispanic National Bar Association. She is also a Staff Editor for the Rutgers Journal of Law & Religion and a competitor on the Hunter Moot Court Team. Alongside her studies, Lucy works full-time in Progressive Insurance's Litigation Department, handling high-exposure personal injury claims, and serves in the New Jersey Air Force National Guard. A first-generation Puerto Rican law student, she is committed to service, community advocacy, and advancing opportunities for underrepresented voices in the legal profession.

#### 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS





#### Alicia Terrero

Alicia is currently a 1L at New York University School of Law. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Providence College in 2021, where she majored in Political Science and Global Studies with an Arabic advanced proficiency certificate. After college, Alicia worked as an Immigration Paralegal at the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) for four years, where she assisted clients in applying for citizenship, humanitarian visas, and family-based petitions. Motivated by her experiences growing up as a working-class immigrant from the Dominican Republic, Alicia is interested in civil rights, employment law, and immigration law.



#### **Ambar Larancuent**

Ambar Larancuent is a 3L at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and a Toll Public Interest Scholar. She has served as Co-President of the Latinx Law Students Association (LALSA) and is deeply committed to advancing access to justice, with particular interests in housing law and immigration rights. At Penn, Ambar has collaborated with the Penn Law Al Law Lab on projects exploring the ethical use of emerging technologies in legal practice and education. Before law school, she gained experience in research and community engagement, work that continues to shape her dedication to client-centered advocacy.





#### Paulina Calistru

A century of innovation, expansion, and commitment. An Am Law 100 firm with more than 700 lawyers in 25 cities across the United States. A celebrated, sterling provider of legal advocacy and guidance for industries from the generators of technologically complex ideas to the builders putting fresh bricks, mortar, and timber on the ground. That's the Akerman story.

HON. SALLIE MANZANET-DANIELS "DARE TO DREAM" SCHOLARSHIP



Akerman LLP is honored to be recognized as the 2025 Law Firm of the Year by the Puerto Rican Bar Association. We are proud to support the PRBA's commitment to community engagement and its ongoing efforts to empower and advance the Latino community.



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#### WE PROUDLY SUPPORT

The Puerto Rican Bar Association &
The Puerto Rican Bar Association
Scholarship Fund

CONGRAULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND HONOREES
EXPECIALLY OUR COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND

Carlos Perez-Hall
Attorney of the Year

# Gjelaj Law PLLC is a proud supporter of the Puerto Rican Bar Association

8

The Puerto Rican Bar Associaiton Scholarship Fund

# Congratulations

To

This Year's Distinguished Honorees and Scholarship Recipients



# DL Drohan Lee

Proud Supporters of the
Puerto Rican Bar Association
and the
Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund
Congratulations to the 2025
Scholarship Recipients and this
evening's Honorees

The NYPD Hispanic Society



# Congratulates

The 2025
Scholarship Recipients
&
Distinguished Honorees



#### Project Club Clemente, Inc. proudly supports the Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund!



If you'd like to learn more about PCC, our goal to build a museum in the Bronx, and our youth mentoring program, please contact Executive Director Roberto Velez, Esq. at roberto@projectclubclemente.com.



Congratulations to the 2025 Scholarship Gala Honorees:

Chief Judge Rowan D. Wilson and

**Chief Judge Matte Oronoz Rodriguez** 

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WORLDWIDE LOCATIONS

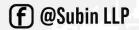
United States, Europe and the Middle East. Asia, Latin America



# Proudly supports the **Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund.**

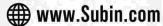
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# Congratulations to the **Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Gala** honorees!

BronxWorks would especially like to thank

Sophia Zayas, NYS Director of Latino Affairs 
Office of Governor Kathy Hochul,

for her unwavering dedication to the Bronx and
the communities we serve.



Sophia Zayas (L) and BronxWorks CEO Eileen Torres (R)

Learn more about our services at <a href="https://www.bronxworks.org">www.bronxworks.org</a>





## HITN

congratulates the

**Puerto Rican Bar Association** 

Scholarship Gala Honorees

for their service to our **Hispanic community** 











LOVE, Tito'S.

# TURNING SPIRITS INTO LOVE AND GOODNESS



"Spread some joy.

Spread some love."

-Tito

If you would like to request support for an upcoming program or event for a 501(c)(3) organization, please fill out a donation request form at titosvodka.com/donation to get started.

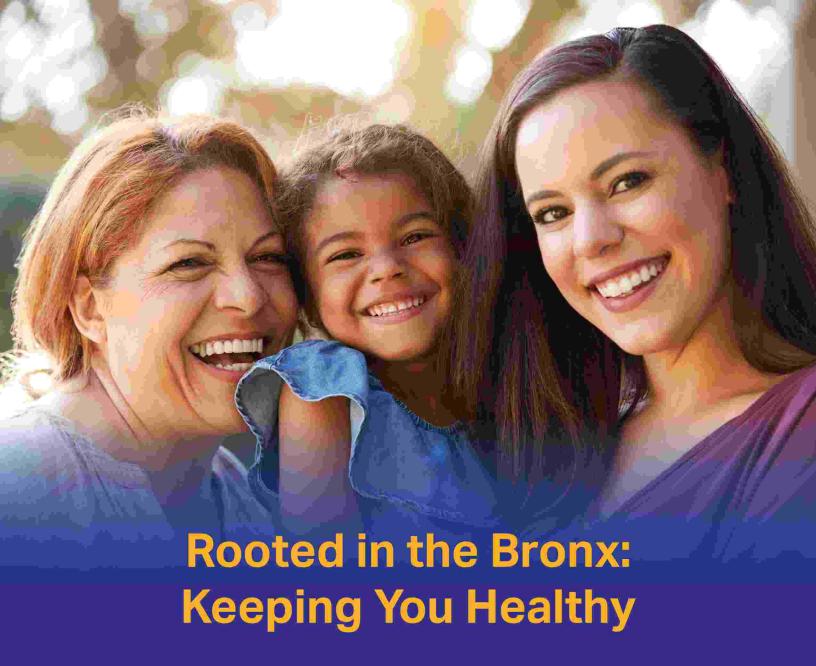


#### **ELEVATED ALL-INCLUSIVE**

CANCUN, CABO SAN LUCAS, PUERTO VALLARTA, RIVIERA MAYA, COZUMEL, HUATULCO, IXTAPA OR PUNTA CANA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2 PEOPLE, 4 NIGHTS

- 5 DAYS AND 4 NIGHTS IN A STUDIO ROOM AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SAMPLE RESORTS: DREAMS VALLARTA, DREAMS CABO, DREAMS RIVIERA MAYA, DREAMS CANCUN, DREAMS HUATULCO, SECRETS VALLARTA, SECRETS COZUMEL, SUNSCAPE PUERTO VALLARTA, SUNSCAPE COZUMEL, SUNSCAPE IXTAPA, HYATT ZIVA RIVIERA, HYATT ZILARA RIVIERA MAYA OR HYATT VIVID GRAND ISLAND CANCUN (COMPLETE HOTEL LIST AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)
- ALL MEALS, SNACKS AND BEVERAGES, INCLUDING ALCOHOL
- GRATUITIES AND HOTEL TAXES

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: PACKAGE FOR COUPLES ONLY. TRAVEL PACKAGE IS NON-REFUNDABLE AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. CERTIFICATES/GIFT CARDS CANNOT BE REPLACED. TRAVELERS MUST BE RESIDENTS OF EITHER THE UNITED STATES OR CANADA. PASSPORT REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL OUTSIDE THE U.S. PARTICIPATING PROPERTIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. TRAVEL IS VALID FOR 18 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE. HOLIDAY TRAVEL DATES MAY BE AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL COST. ANY UPGRADES, ADDITIONAL NIGHTS, OR ADDING ADDITIONAL GUESTS MUST BE BOOKED DIRECTLY WITH THE RESORT AFTER THE ORIGINAL PACKAGE BOOKING IS COMPLETED. A MINIMUM 60 DAY ADVANCE RESERVATION IS REQUIRED.



Caring for the community is a longstanding commitment at SBH Health System. With deep roots in the Bronx, we are dedicated to keeping our residents healthy by addressing health concerns and working towards a healthier future for everyone we serve.







#### Six Schools Infinite Possibilities

#### President Fernando Delgado and Lehman College Celebrate Leadership, Community, and Legacy

We are proud to honor two extraordinary members of our College family at the 2025

Puerto Rican Bar Association Scholarship Fund Gala:

#### **Michael Nieves**

A steadfast friend to the College whose leadership, advocacy, and dedication have strengthened opportunities for our students and the broader community–Michael's ongoing support exemplifies the power of partnership and the impact of giving back

#### Sophia Zayas

A proud alumna whose dedication to education, mentorship, and community engagement continues to inspire the next generation—Sophia embodies the spirit of service and the enduring connection between our alumni and the College

We also extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Puerto Rican Bar Association and all of this year's honorees, scholarship recipients, and supporters-together, your work uplifts, empowers, and inspires helping create brighter futures for our communities



#### The Latino Lawyers Association of Queens County

### Congratulates all Puerto Rican Bar Association Honorees

Judiciary Excellence Award

Hon. Rowan D. Wilson, Chief Judge NYS Ct. of Appeals Hon. Maite Oronoz Rodriguez, Chief Judge, Sup. Ct. of Puerto Rico

Law Firm of the Year - Akerman, LLP

Attorney of the Year

Carlos Perez-Hall, Esq.,

Partner, Borah, Goldstein, Altschuler, Nahins & Goidel, P.C.

<u>Corporation of the Year</u> - Innovative Driven, Alternate Legal Services Provider

<u>Carol Robles-Roman Public Service Award</u> - Sophia Zayas, NYS Director of Latino Affairs - Office of Governor Kathy Hochul

<u>Lifetime Achievement Award</u> - Michael Nieves, President and CEO of Hispanic Information and Telecommunications Network, Inc.

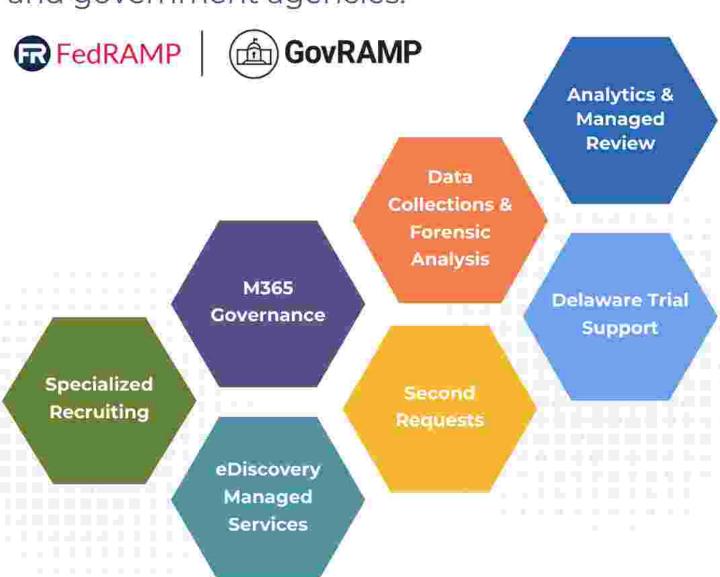
<u>Arts & Entertainment Legacy Award</u> - DJ Charlie Chase, Godfather of Latino Hip Hop, Cold Crush Bros.



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# Proudly Supports Puerto Rican Bar

**Association (PRBA)** 

2025 SCHOLARSHIP FUND GALA

AND

**Congratulates PRBA President** Renier Pierantoni, Esq. AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS WELL AS

CAROL ROBLES-ROMAN PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

## SOPHIA ZAYAS

DIRECTOR OF LATINO AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF THE NYS GOVERNOR

IT IS A WELL-DESERVED HONOR FOR HER EXCELLENT WORK IN STRENGTHENING AND **EMPOWERING THE** LATINO COMMUNITY.

& ALL THE EXTRAORDINARY HONOREES



LUIS A. MIRANDA, JR • ROBERTO RAMIREZ, ESQ. EDUARDO CASTELL • CATHERINE TORRES, ESQ. LUZ MIRANDA-CRESPO • JOHN EMRICK





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ACACIA NETWORK CONGRATULATES THE **PUERTO** RICAN BAR ASSOCIATION ON THEIR GALA AND COMMENDS THEIR **DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARSHIP** FUNDING HONOREES ON ALL OF THEIR **ACHIEVEMENTS!** 

WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT PRBA'S MISSION TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FUTURE LAWYERS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO SERVING AND UPLIFTING THEIR COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THEIR CAREERS.

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