

# annualreport

2022-2023 SEASON

#### Dear Friends of Teatro SEA,

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the resilience and determination demonstrated by our board, staff, artists, and supporters over the past year. Despite the immense challenges posed by the pandemic, SEA has remained steadfast in our dedication to serving the community and promoting Latinx cultural heritage through theater. We have successfully adapted by offering a diverse range of programming, including captivating performances, engaging art workshops, publications, and online initiatives.

Nevertheless, it is important to acknowledge that our resources have been significantly impacted due to the extended closure of our theater and budget reductions. Our in-school programs have also been severely curtailed, making it even more crucial to find reasons for gratitude in these circumstances.

However, I am truly thrilled by the remarkable progress SEA has achieved in recent years. We continue to evolve and expand our programming in innovative ways, such as our exciting online ventures like the "Nunito's Calendar" web series on our new YouTube Channel, and our groundbreaking series of bilingual theater productions. This past season, we successfully premiered shows like "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote" and revitalized "My Magical Colombian Bus." Additionally, Teatro SEA's Punto SEA has provided a captivating bar-cabaret setting to showcase the emerging talents of the Latinx community.

SEA recently concluded its 38th season, a year marked by immense challenges but also unforgettable milestones. The Borimix Puerto Rico Fest 2022 brought us together to celebrate Puerto Rican Arts and Culture alongside Venezuela, while our fundraising event in March, featuring the premiere of our new Don Quixote show, celebrated SEA and World Puppetry Day. These events ignited hope and reinforced our belief in the limitless possibilities that lie ahead. Through these trying times, we have learned a profound lesson: no matter how arduous the journey, if we wholeheartedly believe in one another, in our mission, and in our collective ability to overcome obstacles, we can achieve greatness. I am immensely grateful for the past year and for everyone who has embraced our mission, especially our children and youth. Your unwavering support has been invaluable.

Looking towards the future, we hope you will continue to stand by SEA for many years to come. Let us embark on this inspiring journey together, united in our commitment to make a lasting impact. Thank you!

In addition to the aforementioned accomplishments, I am delighted to share another significant milestone we reached this year. Schools gradually began to reopen, allowing us to offer our educational programs in a familiar setting. Witnessing the return of students to our theater and the success of "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote" marked a pivotal moment of normalcy towards the end of the season. These milestones reminded us of the transformative power of the arts and the enduring commitment of our community.

As we reflect on the past year's achievements, we are grateful for the opportunities that arose in the face of adversity. Bringing our programs back to schools, returning to our theater, and the success of "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote" have renewed our hope and motivation to serve the community.

Our theater is gradually coming back to life, with families and school audiences returning. We have also strengthened our administrative and artistic staff. Despite financial difficulties, we have embraced the challenge by developing new and exciting projects, reaching new audiences through online and outreach initiatives, and achieving success with our publishing project.

As we look to the future, I remain confident in Teatro SEA's ability to weather any storm. Our strong foundation and unwavering commitment to our mission will carry us through to brighter days ahead. I am eager to witness the new heights we can reach as we continue to bring the power of theater to diverse communities.

Thank you for your continued support of Teatro SEA. Together, we will emerge from this situation stronger and more vibrant than ever before.

Dr. Manuel A. Morán CEO and Founder Society of the Educational Arts

#### MESSAGE FROM SEA'S BOARD OF DIRECTOR CHAIRPERSON

Dear Teatro SEA Fans and Patrons,

Here I am addressing you once more on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Society of the Educational Arts Inc, NYC—also known as Teatro SEA. The world continues to throw curveballs at us, but I am happy to report that Teatro SEA is resilient and continuously reinventing itself. It is literally reimagining itself and the products and programs it produces in service of our community. The world continues to battle COVID and now Monkey Pox alongside a myriad of climate disasters and geo-political strife... The list of things that confuse us, confound and concern us is never-ending. Teatro SEA's commitment to being a respite, an oasis, and a place of relief is an inspiration in the middle of the apparent chaos.

In the last twelve months, we saw Teatro SEA open way to Punto SEA: a new and refreshing cabaret space providing an open forum for new and emerging artistic talents to hone their stage skills and experience. Teatro SEA has also fostered a growing repertoire of MICRO Theater, and of course the Puppet Fringe Festival, Arte Pa' Mi Gente, and Borimix festivals that we have grown to love.

Each and every event promotes artistic and cultural diversity, and fosters the central themes of Teatro SEA's mission since its founding: namely, the importance of multilingualism and ethnic diversity, in particular for Latinos, in the USA. SEA continues to make the contributions of Latinos visible, and continues on its mission to exalt the beauty of the Spanish language and the plethora of educational advantages represented by bilingualism. At the same time, they open the doors to all cultures and languages through the common language of the Arts.

We do it for you! We do it for our community! We do it for all of the children who need to see and hear creative, artistic images that they can relate to! We do it for the child that lives in each of our hearts who aspires to relive and recapture the fleeting seconds of a not-so-distant past that is woven through each of Teatro SEA's creations.

Everything that SEA does, and dreams of doing, is for you. That is why on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for showing up! Thank you for spreading the word about Teatro SEA. More importantly, thank you for your financial support, without which nothing we do would be possible.

To support Teatro SEA's 2022/23 SEAson, please visit SEA's webpage at: <a href="https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/store/27335/alldonations">https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/store/27335/alldonations</a> and consider making a donation. No donation is too small.

See you at the next show!

Sincerely,

Isabel DeJesus Collazo Chairperson



## NEW YORK'S ONLY LATINO THEATER FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

This year, we produced over 350 performances, which included 15 Latinx Cabarets and 100 Microtheater performances, and our Main-Stage Performances, Mid-Format Puppet Shows, and Small-Format Puppet Shows at schools, libraries, parks, museums, senior centers, other theaters, and homebased theater on the Lower East Side Teatro SEA.

#### NATIONAL TOUR: LA CUCARACHITA MARTINA AT THE CENTER FOR PUPPETRY ARTS

During Hispanic Heritage Month, from September 20th to October 3rd, 2022, the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, a longtime collaborator of Teatro SEA, celebrated with a series of performances of "La Cucarachita Martina." This Latin rock-n-roll musical, based on a beloved children's tale from Cuba and Puerto Rico, brought joy and cultural appreciation to audiences during this special time. The story followed the adventures of a little roach named Martina as she embarked on a journey to find true love while imparting valuable lessons. Through their partnership, the Center for Puppetry Arts and Teatro SEA showcased their shared commitment to promoting diverse cultural stories and providing engaging theatrical experiences.

#### INTERNATIONAL HISPANIC THEATER FESTIVAL OF MIAMI

Teatro SEA had the great honor of being invited to join forces with Teatro Avante for a momentous occasion, the celebration of International Children's Day. Taking place on Sunday, July 17, 2022, this remarkable event was part of the esteemed International Hispanic Theatre Festival of Miami.

A highlight of the event was a captivating family-friendly theater performance presented entirely in Spanish. The stage came alive with "The Colors of Frida," our mesmerizing bilingual one-woman show that pays homage to the legendary Mexican painter, Frida Kahlo.

Teatro SEA was thrilled to be part of this exceptional collaboration, as the event united diverse artistic elements to create an unforgettable experience. It was a joyous celebration of culture, creativity, and the universal language of theatre, bringing families together to revel in the magic of International Children's Day.

#### LITTLE AMAL WALKS NYC: FIESTA AT THE CLEMENTE

Teatro SEA took center stage as a proud host of one of the remarkable events during Little Amal Walks NYC. Amidst the vibrant atmosphere at the Clemente Soto Vélez Center, Amal was graciously welcomed by Teatro SEA, where she encountered an enchanting surprise—puppet friends specially crafted by the talented artists of Teatro SEA. In the spirit of unity, they joined together to celebrate and honor the cherished traditions and diverse cultures that make this place truly extraordinary.



#### THE JOURNEY OF PURA BELPRE'S TALES AT THE SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO

The Journey of Pura Belpre's Tales took place at the Smithsonian National Museum of American Latino on September 17th, 2023. Pura Belpré (1901-1982), a remarkably talented author, collector of folktales, puppeteer, and storyteller, left an indelible mark with her writings and reinterpretations of Puerto Rican folk tales. As the trailblazing first Puerto Rican librarian in the New York Public Library system, she revolutionized programs and services for the Latino community. A captivating re-enactment of her legendary "Bilingual Story Hour" unfolded before the audience's eyes during the event. Through a creative and interactive experience, her famous tales, including Pérez & Martina, Juan Bobo, and The Three Magi, came to vibrant life, blending the art of storytelling with the enchantment of puppetry.

#### **EXHIBITIONS & SCREENINGS**

We presented four exhibitions at the 16th edition of Borimix: Puerto Rican Fest and seven screenings as part of the Arte Pa' Mi Gente 2022 Festival.

#### **Exhibitions: Borimix: Puerto Rican Fest**

- Al Pairo
   At EL BARRIO'S ARTSPACE PS109
   Curated and Recent Work of Miguel Trelles
   Exhibition on view November 1 November 30, 2023
- See You in Florida: A Vene-Rican Odyssey
   At Abrazo Interno & LES Galleries + Latchkey @ The Clemente Soto Velez
   Cultural and Educational Center.
   Curated by Roberto Weil, Manuel Martinez Nazario & Miguel Trelles
   Exhibition on view Exhibition on view November 4 November 30, 2023
- Edra Soto and Emanuel Torres
   At LatchKey Gallery at 173 Henry St. NYC, 10002
   Exhibition on view November 4 December 18, 2022.
- No existe un mundo poshuracán
   Exhibited at the Whitney Museum of American Art
   Exhibition on view November 23, 2022 April 23, 2023

#### Screenings: Arte pa' Mi Gente 2022 - Kabayitos Cinema by Vieques Film Festival

- Cuba: El Monte (documental) 13min.
- Argentina: Como en la T.V. (ficción) 14min.
- España: Otra forma de caminar (documental, con animación) 21 min.
- Puerto Rico:

Aquí (documental) 6min.
Nuevo Rico (animación) 16min.
\$7.25 (ficción)
Alma (ficción) 15min.
Calle de la Resistencia (musical) 1hr 20min
Matahambre film preview on Tito Matos

# **GUESTS ARTISTS**

Swedish Cottage Marionette Theater

Kabayitos Cinema

BombaYo

Matahambre

Braulio Basilio

Zu Ralat

La Alfombra Teatro

Trinidad Alcorta

Pilar Mejia

Valeria Llaneza

Asier Kintana

Teatro del Aire

Teatro TEBA

Lulu Gomez

Andrea Meirelles

Martin Chamorro

Ximena Ibarra

Sebastian Cruz

Alejandro Flores Dúo

Mestizo

Tobias Arizio

Diana Sophia and her Migrant Band

Experience

La Caribeña

Dath & Mitchell

Martin Vejareno

Juan Diego

Gabriel Chakarji

Jaime Lozano

Guillermo Vaisman

Alvaro Ortega Beltran

Daniel Fetecua

**Ingrid Hamster Harris** 

Miguel Valderrama

John D'Onofrio

The People's Bus & Yazmany Arboleda

Vieques Film and Human Rights Festival

Somos Parranda

NYC Department of Education, Office of

Family and Community Engagement

NYC Department of Education, Office of

**Multilingual Learners** 

**ArtsConnection** 

Psycho Clan

Whitney Museum of American Art

Silverio Perez

Sagitario Music

**Denise Reis** 

Silverio Perez

Jeannie Sol

Edwin Vazquez

G.O.T.A Group of the Arts

Funded in part by NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson and NYC Council Member Carlina Rivera featured several festivals and events for all ages, including:

#### ARTE PA' MI GENTE

Arte Pa' Mi Gente is an annual event that embodies Teatro SEA's core mission: to provide accessible art experiences for underserved communities. This captivating outdoor theater festival offers a delightful open-air setting that is perfect for families, and the best part is that all performances are free for the public to enjoy. Immerse yourself in a joyous atmosphere with a beautiful art fair showcasing talented individual artists and local gallery sellers, delightful food vendors, and a vibrant display of artesanía caribeña (Caribbean cultural arts and crafts).

Spanning three days, this great festival caters to families and individuals of all ages with a diverse lineup of outdoor performances, engaging workshops, captivating films, and unforgettable concerts.

This year's festival occurred from Friday, August 12th, to Sunday, August 14th. We were honored to feature the renowned Dr. Drum, director of BombaYo, who led an engaging workshop that ignited the ancestral rhythms of Bomba—a captivating African-derived music and dance tradition that originated in Puerto Rico. Additionally, we hosted a captivating film screening matinee by the esteemed Vieques Film and Human Rights Festival, as well as a mesmerizing La Gloria, a Latin Cabaret featuring the talented Mestizo. Furthermore, we were thrilled to present the workshop activations of The People's Bus, a groundbreaking civic engagement initiative by the visionary artist Yazmany Arboleda, which marked the newest destination point of La Plaza at The Clemente. And, of course, Teatro SEA delivered outdoor performances of its original puppet theater production titled Cesar Chavez and the Migrants, leaving audiences spellbound.



#### **BORIMIX**

BORIMIX Puerto Rico Fest 2022 Guest Country: Venezuela

BORIMIX: Puerto Rico Fest was established in 2005 to celebrate Puerto Rican Heritage Month by showcasing outstanding art in various mediums. Initially held exclusively at The Clemente Soto Vélez Cultural & Educational Center in the Lower East Side, the festival expanded in 2007 to include multiple venues across the city. In 2007, BORIMIX: Puerto Rico Fest also introduced the BORIMIX Award, which honored individuals and companies that had contributed to, supported, and advocated for Puerto Rican arts in New York City. The festival's mission was to make Puerto Rican arts accessible to a diverse audience of different ethnicities and generations and to promote collaboration among Latinx artists.

The 17th annual BORIMIX took place this past November, celebrating Puerto Rican Heritage Month with a month-long, citywide festival showcasing Puerto Rican artists in theater, dance, music, and the visual arts. Teatro SEA, Teatro LATEA, The Clemente, and CENTRO (Hunter College's Center for Puerto Rican Studies) collaborated to make Puerto Rican arts accessible to a diverse audience and foster creative collaboration among Latinx artists. BORIMIX 2022 also featured Venezuela as a guest country, continuing the tradition of recognizing and honoring the mutual bonds and intersections between nations. The festival featured various events, including panels, films, theater, literature, music, and the visual arts. These events celebrated the influence of Puerto Rican and Venezuelan identity and arts and culture within the City, Nation, and Hemisphere, showcasing intersections with other Latinx identities.

#### **MICRO THEATER**

Teatro SEA continued its Micro Theater New York Program with its twelfth and thirteen seasons, a theatrical format consisting of micro plays lasting 15-20 minutes that provided a space for dramatic exchanges for Hispanic theater groups and playwrights in New York City. This year, MicroTheater New York presented 120 performances.

#### 12th Season

The twelfth season of MicroTheater New York was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Under the theme "Holidays" celebration," the selected plays were:

December 2, 2022 - December 4, 2022

(Five performances per night)

- Ana y Franco
   Written and presented by Braulio Basilio and Zuleinette Ralat
- Esposa y Viceversa
   Written by Diana de Paco Serrano, presented by La Alfombra Teatro
- La Última Navidad
   Written by Trinidad Alcorta, presented por Trinidad Alcorta & Pilar Mejía
- Sillón de dos cuerpos
   Written by Florencia Aroldi, presented by Valeria Llaneza
- Turbulencias (una comedia celestial)
   Written by por Txemi Parra, presented by Asier Kintana

#### 13th Season

The thirteenth season of MicroTheater New York was held on March 10, 11, and 12, 2023.

Under the theme "My Body, My Choice," the selected plays were:

- Confundida (Confused)
   Written by Julie de Grandy and presented by Teatro del Aire
- Historias de mi gente (Stories of my people)
   Written by Carlos Canales, presented by Teatro TEBA
- Mujeres de cascos ligeros (Loose Women)
   Written by Indira Paez, presented by Lulu Gómez y Andrea Meirelles
- Ropa interior (Undergarment)
   Written by Julie de Grandy, presented by Teatro del Aire
- Un reflejo (A reflection)
   Written and presented by Martín Chamorro and Andrea Meirelles.



#### DÍA DE LOS TRES REYES MAGOS THREE KINGS DAY FESTIVAL

Teatro SEA's Three Kings Day festival on January 6, 2023, marked the joyous return of this cherished annual celebration, a beloved tradition of the holiday season for over two decades. The festival delighted attendees as they witnessed the majestic giant puppets of the Three Kings, who graciously greeted the first 1,000 children in attendance. This delightful family event was accompanied by enchanting live music and featured a heartwarming holiday toy drive, generously donating 3,000 toys each year to children in need.

Three Kings Day, El Día de los Reyes Magos, held deep cultural significance in Latin America and Spain. It symbolically marked the twelfth day of Christmas, signifying the culmination of the holiday season. The roots of this holiday can be traced back to the biblical adoration of baby Jesus by the Three Kings, who embarked on a profound journey through the desert for twelve days, bearing precious gifts for the newborn. Traditionally, observers of this special day received gifts on January 6th, in addition to the gifts exchanged on Christmas Day.

As part of the festivities, schools and community-based organizations were cordially invited to join the jubilant occasion, fostering a sense of unity and inclusivity. Among the attendees were students from the following schools/learning centers:

- University Settlement Early Childhood Center at 184 Eldridge
- PS 142 Amalia Castro
- PS 110 Florence Nightingale School
- PS 134 Henrietta Szold
- Escuela Hispana Montessori
- Henry Street Settlement Early Development Center
- P.S 140 Nathan Strouse
- Grand Street Settlement
- PS 188 The Island School
- PS 015 Roberto Clemente
- PS/MS 364 The Earth School
- PS 20 Anna Silver

This vibrant gathering served as a testament to the enduring spirit of community and shared cultural traditions that enriched the lives of all those who were fortunate enough to be a part of this magical event.









### **DIANA SOPHIA**& HER MIGRANT BAND EXPERIENCE

Carlos Mena (Bass) & Fernando Brindis (Guitar & Cajón)

#### SEPTEMBER 8th

at **Teatro SEA** 107 Suffolk Street, New York, NY 10002



## Punto



#### **DATH & MITCHELL**

#### SEPTEMBER 22nd

at **Teatro SEA** 107 Suffolk Street, New York, NY 10002



Doors open
at 7pm
Performances start
at 8pm



6/2/23 DENISE REIS



6/8/23 SILVERIO PÉREZ



6/17/23 JEANNIE SOL



6/24/23 A NIGHT OF PRIDE



6/30/23 EDWIN VÁZQUEZ

Official Spanish Language Newspaper **ELDIARIO** 

Performances are sponsored in part by the NYC Council and the Coalition of Theaters of Color Initiative





























#### **PUNTO SEA**

Punto SEA is an intimate venue within Teatro SEA. This space is dedicated to our cabaret series, part of MicroTheaterNY. Thursdays (8-11 pm), starting in Summer and ending in late Fall, we hosted different Latinx acts (no more than three performers), cabaret, burlesque, poetry, music, performance art, and stand-up. Punto SEA is a flexible space with a capacity of 25-35 people with a full bar.

#### SUMMER PERFORMANCES

- ¡Por Culpa de un Tango! Featuring: Ximena Ibarra Thursday, July 7, 2022, at 8PM
- Sebastián Cruz & Alejandro Flórez Dúo Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 8PM

#### FALL PERFORMANCES

- Tobías Arizio: Sophie y otros cuentos Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 8PM
- Diana Sophia & Her Migrant Band Experience Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 8PM
- La Caribeña Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 8PM
- Dath & Mitchell Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 8PM
- Martin Vejarano Thursday, October 6, 2022, at 8PM
- Zu Ralat: Quien no ha amado, nunca ha vivido
  - Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 8PM
- Juan Diego and Gabriel Chakarji Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 8PM

#### SUMMER PERFORMANCES

- Trayectoria de Tres Cantantes Saturday, May 27, 2023, 7PM
- Denise Reis Friday, June 2, 2023, 8PM
- Silverio Perez Friday, June 8, 2023, at 8PM
- Jeannie Sol Friday, June 17, 2023, at 8PM
- A Night of Pride Friday, June 24, 2023, at 8PM
- Edwin Vazquez Friday, June 30, 2023, at 8PM



# NEW ENDEAVORS AT TEATRO SEA

# **NEW PRODUCTIONS**

#### THE CRAZY ADVENTURES OF DON QUIXOTE

After overcoming the challenges posed by the pandemic, Teatro SEA proudly premiered their highly anticipated original production, "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote." This captivating bilingual musical, based on Miguel de Cervantes' timeless novel, finally took the stage from March 21st to May 13th, bringing joy and enchantment to audiences of all ages.

The show featured an original score with arrangements by Jaime Lozano, while Guillermo Vaisman provided musical direction. Master Puppeteer Álvaro Ortega Beltrán from Spain crafted stunning puppets for the production, adding to its visual appeal. Choreography was handled by Daniel Fetecua, and Ingrid Hamster Harris designed the classic Spanish Golden Age costumes. Miguel Valderrama took charge of the lighting design, and John D'Onofrio and Manuel Morán were responsible for the set designs.

Teatro SEA, known for its dedication to presenting high-quality productions that showcase the richness of Latinx arts and culture, brought "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote" to life with the aim of inspiring audiences. Dr. Manuel A. Morán, the Artistic Director of Teatro SEA, expressed enthusiasm about sharing this bilingual musical and the organization's commitment to highlighting Latinx literature and folktales, especially for children.

The limited nine-week run began with a Gala Performance on March 21st, 2023, benefiting the "Sponsor a Kid" campaign and the upcoming International Puppet Fringe Festival of NYC. The performances occurred on Saturdays at 3 PM, with weekday shows available for schools and groups.

Teatro SEA, a proud member of the Alliance of Teatros Latinos, New York, presented this production as part of TEATRO FEST 2023, a vibrant Latinx festival of drama, dance, music, and puppetry that took place across nine NYC theaters throughout March and April 2023.

#### **NUNITO'S CALENDAR**

Teatro SEA and SEA Kids Network (Youtube) were thrilled to announce Nunito's Calendar, a new web series about an extraterrestrial boy explorer who came to Planet Earth to learn about humans. In these exciting webisodes, Nunito highlighted important cultural holidays and their significant individuals, traditions, and history, sharing important facts about them. Imaginary trips were taken with him, allowing viewers to discover the richness and abundance of information within the yearly calendar. This weekly web series was packed with educational and entertaining content, as viewers followed along with Nunito on his exciting journey and adventure.

Returning to Planeta SEA, Nunito, a citizen of Planeta SEA, served as a researcher sent to Earth to document our culture and celebrations. He diligently gathered information and then reported it to his people and Earth's children through a new segment called *Nunito's Calendar* on the SEA Kids Network YouTube channel. In these episodes, he shared some of his research on holidays and birthdays of heroes and important figures.

#### **Episodes Released:**

- 1. Nunito's Calendar: 4th of July
- 2. Nunito's Calendar: Back to School
- 3. Nunito's Calendar: Grandparents Day
- 4. Nunito's Calendar: Labor Day
- 5. Nunito's Calendar: Fall
- 6. Nunito's Calendar: Rosh Hashanah
- 7. Nunito's Calendar: Columbus Day & Indigenous Day
- 8. Nunito's Calendar: Halloween
- 9. Nunito's Calendar: Day of the Dead
- 10. Nunito's Calendar: Election Day
- 11. Nunito's Calendar: Puerto Rican Heritage
- 12. Nunito's Calendar: Thanksgiving Day
- 13. Nunito's Calendar: Winter
- 14. Nunito's Calendar: Christmas
- 15. Nunito's Calendar: Pura Belpré
- 16. Nunito's Calendar: Valentine's Day
- 17. Nunito's Calendar: Independence Day of the Dominican Republic



# NEW COLLABORATIONS WITH

#### **PSYCHO CLAN: HAUNTED HOUSE - IMMERSIVE THEATER EXPERIENCE**

Teatro SEA hosted "Nightmare: Gothic" by Psycho Clan, an immersive theater experience set in a little town near an undisclosed location. The production revolved around the haunting mystery of a missing child, compelling everyone to take responsibility and join the search. Participants embarked on a journey that meandered through a landscape of Victorian Gothic imagery, encountering unsettling curios, captivating characters, and terrifying monsters. The story artfully combined intense emotions with elements of terror and death, creating a chilling and spine-tingling experience for the audience.

#### **CULTURE PASS: COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION TO TEATRO SEA**

Teatro SEA partnered with Culture Pass to allow cardholding patrons aged 13 and older from the Brooklyn Public Library, New York Public Library, and Queens Public Library to attend free performances during our 2022-2023 SEAson. Using their library cards, New Yorkers could reserve passes and enjoy complimentary admission to the diverse and captivating shows we presented. This collaboration not only allowed us to share the magic of theater with a wider audience but also promoted accessibility and cultural enrichment throughout the community. We were thrilled to welcome Culture Pass holders to our performances and provide them memorable experiences at Teatro SEA.

#### NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION: OFFICE OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT & Office of Multilingual Learners

#### 1. Teatro SEA Educator's EXPO

Teatro SEA, in collaboration with the NYC Department of Education's Office of Family and Community Empowerment, joined forces to present the Teatro SEA Educator's EXPO, held on March 28th from 10 am to 12 pm. Esteemed educators and dedicated parent coordinators from across the five boroughs were extended a warm invitation to partake in this exceptional event.

The expo served as an invaluable platform for attendees to immerse themselves in a world of educational resources meticulously curated by Teatro SEA. From the enchanting Theater Books to captivating In-School performances and transformative Integrated Arts Residencies, participants discovered a multitude of engaging avenues to enhance learning within their schools.

As a special highlight of the expo, guests were treated to an awe-inspiring performance of Teatro SEA's latest production, "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote." This remarkable opportunity allowed them to witness firsthand the spellbinding magic that unfolds on stage, leaving a lasting impression and igniting the imaginations of young minds and seasoned educators alike.

#### 2. GenConnect Program: Empowering Families Through Culture and Leadership

Teatro SEA partnered with the DOE Office of Multilingual Learners to present the GenConnect Program, a transformative six-week initiative designed to empower families (one guardian plus one child) through a culturally responsive experiential lens. This program provided a unique opportunity for participants to explore and expand their leadership skills while celebrating their cultural heritage and recognizing the value of their linguistic abilities.

Throughout the six weeks, families engaged in various multiculturalist activities and actively participated in community events. These experiences fostered a deeper understanding of the significance of multilingualism, native languages, and diverse cultures, challenging biases and misconceptions. By promoting conversations about money, education, and careers, the program also facilitated a greater appreciation for the substantial benefits of bilingualism in cognitive and affective development, as well as in the broader context of the workforce and society.

A core focus of the workshop was to empower families as community leaders and advocates for their needs. The program facilitated connections between participants and various government agencies, including community affairs, community boards, council members, and business improvement districts, to achieve this. By establishing these connections, families had the tools and knowledge to address their concerns effectively.

Upon successful completion of the six-week program, each family received a certificate of completion as well as a \$300 honorarium, recognizing their commitment and accomplishments.

The GenConnect Program had the following goals:

- Attendance of all participants at all six Saturday sessions.
- Development of stronger interpersonal relationships within families.
- Understanding of generational perspectives on career, money, and education.
- Building a common language and strengthening relationships.
- Heightened appreciation for participants' native culture and language.
- Addressing negative biases surrounding bilingualism and multilingualism.
- Empowering families and youth to become community leaders in educational, neighborhood, and government affairs, including their native countries.

The workshop took place on the following dates:

- May 6th, 10 am 1 pm
- May 13th, 10 am 1 pm
- May 20th, 10 am 1 pm
- May 27th, 10 am 1 pm
- June 3rd, 10 am 1 pm
- June 10th, 10 am 1 pm

#### 3. Teatro SEA & FACE Cultural City Tour: Welcoming "New" New Yorkers Home with Cultura and the Magic of Teatro

Teatro SEA, the premier Latino children's theater in the United States, partnered with the DOE Office of Family and Community Empowerment (FACE) and excitedly announced the launch of its Cultural City Tour, welcoming "New" New Yorkers home with Cultura and the Magic of TEATRO.

The tour featured the production of "My Magical Colombian Bus/Mi Chivita Mágica," a bilingual musical about a girl's fantastical journey throughout Colombia to find her missing grandfather. The show featured live folkloric music and showcased beautiful theatrical puppets.

The Cultural City Tour traveled throughout all five boroughs of New York City, providing private performances to schools while bringing the magic of TEATRO to children.

Teatro SEA visited and performed at the following schools on June 5-7th and June 12th-13th:

Staten Island: PS 19

Manhattan: PS 57, P.S 182

Brooklyn: PS 124

Queens: PS 149 The Bronx: P.S 152

#### ARTSCONNECTION: SPONSORSHIP OF A FREE PERFORMANCE

#### Mi Chivita Magica

On Saturday, June 3rd, at 6 pm, Teatro SEA treated the audience to an exceptional performance of "Mi Chivita Magica." Thanks to the generous sponsorship of ArtsConnection, this captivating production was offered free of charge, allowing attendees to enjoy an evening of enchantment.

"Mi Chivita Magica" took the audience on a mesmerizing journey through the heartland of Colombia aboard the magical bus known as "La Chivita." This bilingual production seamlessly blended English and Spanish, creating an immersive experience for everyone present. The enchanting narrative was brought to life by endearing characters who shared captivating traditional stories, connecting the audience with the rich cultural heritage of Colombia.

The event was attended by several Community-Based Organizations and Schools, including PS 5, PS 895, MS 419, NYC Cuban Embassy, District 1 Office and Community, LxNY, Venezuelan and Immigrants Aid, Intl. Rescue Committee, Urban Family Center, Breaking Ground, We Are Not Afraid Center, Henry Street Settlement, Emma Lazurus School, PS 150M, ArtsConnection Community, and the Caring for Colombia Foundation. Their presence added to the vibrant atmosphere, further enhancing community and shared cultural appreciation.

Teatro SEA, with its commitment to promoting arts and cultural experiences, ensured that this performance of "Mi Chivita Magica" was a memorable and inclusive event for all who attended.

#### **ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA**

Teatro SEA hosted its annual Benefit Gala on Tuesday, March 21st, a significant event to support the future of bilingual children's theater and the 3rd International Puppet Fringe Festival. The gala featured a special reception followed by a performance of the theater's newest production, "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote/Las Locaventuras de Don Quijote," a loving interpretation of Cervantes' classic tale. The show incorporated a mix of Spanish and English dialogue, appealing to a diverse audience.

The evening began with a red carpet and reception at 6:00 pm, allowing attendees to mingle and enjoy the atmosphere. The event's highlight was the world premiere performance of "The Crazy Adventures of Don Quixote" at 7:00 pm, showcasing the theater's commitment to producing exceptional and culturally relevant productions.

The gala aimed to raise funds to support Teatro SEA's mission of providing bilingual children's theater and promoting arts education in the community. It also sought to generate support for the highly anticipated 3rd International Puppet Fringe Festival. This event brings together talented puppeteers and storytellers worldwide to present their work in New York City through collaborations with esteemed organizations such as the Puppetry Guild of New York, UNIMA-USA, Heather Henson's Puppet Slam Network, and Handmade Puppet Films, Teatro SEA aimed to make this festival a remarkable celebration of puppetry on an international scale.

### INTEGRATED ARTS PROGRAM

We are overjoyed and immensely proud to have partnered with the following esteemed schools as part of our Integrated Arts Program. Throughout this year, we had the privilege of reaching hundreds of participants and bringing the transformative power of the arts to their lives. Collaborating closely with these schools, we facilitated engaging and enlightening instruction across eight residencies, extending our creative impact beyond the classroom walls and into senior centers. From Pre-K students to older adults, a diverse range of individuals had the incredible opportunity to immerse themselves in Dance, Theater/Drama, Puppet Making, Music, Mask Making, and the Visual Arts.

#### Our school partners include:

- P.S 39 Francis J. Murphy Jr.
- P.S 398 Q
- M862 Mott Hall 2
- Brooklyn School of Social Justice
- P.S 15 Roberto Clemente
- Q294 Bell Academy
- The STAR Academy P.S 63
- M550 Liberty High School Academy for Newcomers

It has been an absolute privilege to work alongside these schools, witnessing the enthusiasm and growth of our participants as they embraced the diverse forms of artistic expression. Together, we have fostered a love for creativity, nurtured talent, and instilled a lasting appreciation for the arts in the hearts and minds of those we enjoyed working with.



### Our new curriculum integrates two of OUR BEST EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



### **SEA PUBLICATIONS**

Teatro SEA's Theatre-Books series of bilingual picture books are based on scripts from their most beloved theatre productions. Created for students, teachers, families, and language learners, Theatre-Books bring the magic of Teatro to the page, offering engaging dialogue for readers of all ages to read, perform, and enjoy.

From Frida Kahlo to a tango-dancing Cinderella, the stories, distributed by Lectorum Publications, feature Teatro SEA's signature characters in a literary format. The picture books include full theatrical scripts in both Spanish and English, paired with original illustrations. Readers can flip the books between languages, creating an easy way to learn Spanish, English, or both.

This year we have sold over 4,000 books through Lectorum Publications, our Teatro SEA Website, Box Office, and Teatro SEA Puerto Rico.

#### The Journey of Pura Belpre's Tales Book Presentation

On November 12th, 2022, Teatro SEA unveiled their highly anticipated new book, THE JOUR-NEY OF PURA BELPRÉ'S TALES. A collaborative masterpiece, this captivating book was skillfully written by Manuel Antonio Moran and beautifully illustrated by Abdel de la Campa. Seamlessly joining the esteemed Theater-Books Series, which Teatro SEA had launched over a year ago, this latest addition expanded the collection to a remarkable nine books, with no signs of stopping. The release of this publication held special significance, marking the momentous 90th anniversary of the groundbreaking debut of PÉREZ & MARTINA, a bilingual (Spanish and English) children's book by the renowned Puerto Rican author, Pura Belpré. PÉREZ & MARTINA proudly holds the distinction of being the first of its kind in the United States, opening doors to a world of language and culture for young readers.

#### Titles now available:

- The Colors of Frida | Los Colores de Frida
- A Tango-Dancing Cinderella | La Cenicienta Tanguera
- My Magical Chivita | Mi Chivita Magica
- Pedro Animal Falls In Love | Pedro Animal Se Enamora
- Marina, The Little Roach | La Cucarachita Martina
- Juan Bobo's Tales | Cuentos de Juan Bobo
- My Superhero Roberto Clemente | Mi Superhéroe Roberto Clemente
- ¡Viva Pinocho! A Mexican Pinocchio | ¡Viva Pinocho! Un Pinocho Mexicano
- The Journey of the Pura Belpré's Tales | El viaje de los cuentos de Pura Belpré

#### **Coming Soon:**

- The Toothache of King Farfan | La Muela del Rey
- The 3 Pigettes and The Big Bad Lady Wolf | Las 3 Cerditas y La Loba Feroz
- The Galapagos Animal Convention | La Asamblea de Animales de Galápagos
- Skeletons: A Day of the Dead Beadtime Story | Esqueletos: Un Cuento del Día de Muertos, para dormir
- Ricitos and The Three Bears | Ricitos y Los Tres Ositos



# THEATRE BOSTEATRO





# **GOVERMENT GRANTS**

SEA received 12 grants from the NYC Council to implement bilingual arts and cultural programs throughout New York City.

#### **CULTURAL AFTER-SCHOOL ADVENTURES (CASA)**

#### District 36

School Partner: P.S 44K- 432 Monroe St, Brooklyn, NY 11221

- 20-Hour Visual Art Residency from January 13, 2023 February 10, 2023
- In-School Performance of Pedro Animal Falls in Love on June 12, 2023, at 9:40 am
- In-House Performance of The True Story of Little Red on February 1, 2023, at 11:00 am
- 170 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022- 2023 SEAson productions

#### District 1

School Partner: P.S 140 M - 123 Ridge St, New York, NY 10002

- 10-Hour Visual Art (Sculpting) Residency from October 26, 2022 January 18, 2023
- In-School Performance of Galapagos Animal Convention on November 3, 2022, at 1:30 PM
- In-House Performance of The True Story of Little Red on January 26, 2023, at 3:30 pm
- Total of 170 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022- 2023 SEAson productions
- 100 tickets to Teatro SEA's Three Kings Event on January 6, 2023
- In-School performance of The Journey of Pura Belpre Tales on June 7, 2023, at 3:30 pm
- 2-Hour Visual Art Workshop on June 6, 2023, at 3:30 pm

#### District 17

School Partner: P.S 67X-2024 Mohegan Ave, Bronx, NY 10460

- 10-Hour Dance Residency from November 16, 2022 December 21, 2022
- 10-Hour Visual Art (Sculpture) Residency from January 12, 2022 February 9, 2023
- In-School Performance of The Colors of Frida (Small Format) on June 22, 2023, at 1:15 pm
- In-School Performance of Ricitos and the Three Bears on January 25, 2023, at 11:20 am
- 170 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022- 2023 SEAson productions

#### District 34

School Partner: P.S 319K - 360 Keap St, Brooklyn, NY 11211

- 20-Hour Music Residency from November 2, 2022 December 6, 2022
- In-School Performance of Galapagos Animal Convention on December 7, 2022, at 9:30 am
- In-House Performance of The Colors of Frida on February 8, 2023, at 10:30 am
- 170 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions





#### District 38 - Council Member Aviles

- The Colors of Frida Performance on April 28 at 4:00 pm at Sunset Park Library
- The Journey of Pura Belpre Tales at Sunset Park on June 30th, 2023
- Delivered 110 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions
- Delivered Virtual Performances of The Journey of the Pura Belpre Tales, The Colors of Frida, Pedro Animal Falls in Love & Juan Bobo's Tales to Maimonides Children's Hospital

#### District 22 - Council Member Caban

- Christmas Extravaganza Performance on December 23rd, 2022, at 11:00 am at the Peter J. DellaMonica Older Adult Center
- Juan Bobo at Astoria Park Playground on May 24th at 3:00 pm
- Pedro Animal se Enamora at Hoyt Playground on June 2nd at 3:30 pm
- The Colors of Frida at Astoria Heights Playground on May 5th at 3:30 pm
- The Journey of the Pura Belpre Tales on June 16th, 2023, at 11:00 am at Queens Public Library Astoria Branch
- Provided 110 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions

#### District 1 - Council Member Marte

- Christmas Extravaganza Performance at the Grand Street Settlement Essex Crossing Community Center on December 30th at 1:30 pm
- The Colors of Frida at the New Amsterdam Library on 4/25 at 3:30 pm
- Pedro Animal Falls in Love at Battery Park Library on 4/27 at 4:00 pm
- The Colors of Frida at Seward Park on Wednesday, May 17th, 2023, at 3:00 pm
- Provided 400 tickets to various neighboring Community-based Organizations and Educational Institutions for Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions

#### District 46 - Council Member Narcisse

- Christmas Extravaganza Performance to the JASA at HES Older Adult Center on December 30th at 11:30 am
- The Journey of the Pura Belpre Tales Performance on March 18th at 2:00 pm at the Mill Basin Library
- The Colors of Frida performance on March 18th at 2 pm at Gerritsen Library
- The Colors of Frida Performance on March 11 at 12:00 pm at Canarsie Library
- Juan Bobo's Tales Performance on May 31 at Jamaica Bay Library
- Mariachi Performance on October 12, 2022, at 6565 Flatlands Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11236
- 4 Family Gift Certificates (4 tickets, 2 Adults and 2 Children per certificate)
- Juan Bobo Tales at Jamaica Bay Library on May 31st, 2023, at 1:00 pm
- Provided 110 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions

#### District 28 - Speaker of the Council Adams

- Christmas Extravaganza Performance at the Rochdale Village Senior Center on December 28th at 1:15 pm
- Christmas Extravaganza Performance at the Allen Community Rockaway Senior Center on December 19th at 11:00 am
- Juan Bobo's Tales at Queens Public Library at Baisley Park on June 12th at 3:30 pm
- Juan Bobo's Tales on May 26th at 3:00 pm at M. Fitzgerald Playground.
- The Galapagos Animal Convention on May 12 at 3:30 pm at South Rochdale Playground
- The Colors of Frida on June 5th at 10:00 am at Queens Public Library South Ozone Park Branch
- Juan Bobo's Tales June 12th, 2023, at 3:30 pm Queens Public Library Baisley Park Branch
- Provided 110 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions

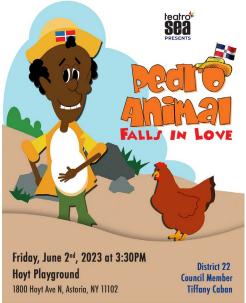
#### District 18 Council Member Farias

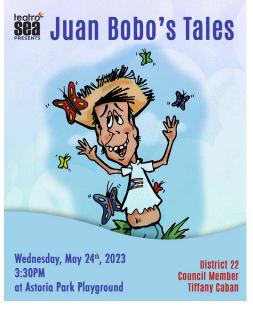
- Christmas Extravaganza Performance at the Bronx River Neighborhood Senior Center on December 22nd at 11:00 am
- Christmas Extravaganza Performance at the James Monroe Neighborhood Senior Center on December 29 at 1:00 pm
- The Galapagos Animal Convention on 4/28 at 3:00 pm at Soundview Library
- Pedro Animal Falls in Love on 4/20 at 4:00 pm at Clason Point Library
- Pedro Animal se Enamora on April 28 at 3:30 pm at Caserta Playground
- The Galapagos Animal Convention on May 19th at Soundview Park at 3:30 pm
- Provided 110 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions

#### District 16 Council Member Stevens

- Pedro Animal Falls In Love at Grant Park Playground on June 6th at 3:30 pm
- Pedro Animal Falls in Love: Claremont Park, June 10th at 12 noon
- Juan Bobo's Tales at Claremont Park on June 23rd, 2023, at 2:30 pm
- Provided 110 tickets to various Teatro SEA's 2022-2023 SEAson productions







#### **SU-CASA**

Teatro SEA had the privilege of receiving a SU-CASA grant from Council Member Alexa Aviles from District 38. Collaborating with the Sunset Park Older Adult Center, Teatro SEA facilitated a captivating theater residency where participating seniors could immerse themselves in the theater world. During this past residency, the seniors actively contributed to the creation and execution of their unique performances, showcasing their artistic talents and bringing their creative vision to life.

In addition to their performance, Teatro SEA also provided the participating seniors with tickets to see Teatro SEA's acclaimed production, "The Colors of Frida." This special opportunity allowed the seniors to experience a professional theater production and further appreciate the vibrant world of Frida Kahlo portrayed on stage.

SU-CASA stands as an exceptional community arts engagement program that garnered support from the New York City Council. Its mission is to foster cultural enrichment among seniors in various senior centers across New York City. With funding received in FY23, the program extended grants to individual artists and cultural organizations, empowering them to create and deliver beautiful arts programming meticulously tailored for senior citizens.

SU-CASA's unwavering commitment to supporting residencies for individual artists and cultural organizations spanned senior centers across all 51 Council districts in New York City.

Dance Music Theater Aerobics Arts and Crafts lessons

Concerts
Theater performances

Story hours and more



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www.teatrosea.org

#### **STAFF**

Dr. Manuel A. Morán, CEO & Artistic Director
Richard Marino, Associate Director
J. Edgar Mozoub, Managing Director & Associate Producer
James Figueroa, Financial Manager
George Riverón, Art Director
Casey Dath, Director of Sales & Executive Associate
Ámbar Colón Fargas, Sales & Art Coordinator
Kodi Stanley, Finance Associate
Fabricio Saquicela, Lead Technician
Aksel Tang, Anibal Cabello, Technical Personnel

#### **CONSULTANTS**

Elsa Mosquera, Ágora Cultural Architects Robin Carol, Communications Manager Juan Ward Cid, Esq. WCE, LLC Miguel Trelles, Curator John Christopher William, Educational Consultant

#### **CREATIVE TEAM**

Dr. Manuel A. Morán, CEO & Artistic Director Dr. Manuel Calzada, Associate Musical Director Iván Alexander Bautista, Associate Musical Director Ingrid Harris, Costume Designer in Residence Daniel Fetecua, Associate Choreographer Dimitri Saari, Prop Master

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

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