Centro is proud to present a full calendar of exciting events for the spring 2016 semester. As the financial and humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico continues to unfold, now is a great time to learn more about the issues affecting the Puerto Rican community by engaging with the nation’s only academic and cultural center dedicated to the study of Puerto Ricans.

The highlight of this semester’s program of events will be “Puerto Rico, Puerto Ricans: A Diaspora Summit.” This weekend-long event will focus on the impacts of the island’s crisis on stateside Puerto Ricans. The summit will feature panels and educational breakout sessions led by top scholars, professionals, and political organizers. Join us on April 22 and 23 at Hunter College as we set out to find solutions to critical problems. Check our website [3] for more details.

On March 15, we’ll be exploring the history of Puerto Rican, Italian, and Mexican migration in search of the American dream at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute [4], from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The directors and deans of the Jaime Lucero Mexican Studies Institute [5] and the Italian American Institute will join Centro director Edwin Meléndez in a discussion about each cultural groups’ migrant experience.
In April we will be hosting the closing celebration of *Homenaje: A Travelling Homage to Our Puerto Rican Heroes*, an exhibit showcasing photographs captured by Ricardo Muñiz. The exhibit will be on display through April 23, but the closing ceremony, which will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on April 7, is not to be missed!

On April 14 join us for a forum on New Approaches on the Study of Race in Puerto Rico, hosted by the Advanced Research Collaborative and the Anthropology program at the CUNY Graduate Center [6]. Guest panelists include anthropoligists Isar Godreau and Hilda Llorens, and activist-scholar, Alaí Reyes. Centro’s Research Associate, Carlos Vargas-Ramos will be the discussant. The program will run from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The month of May will open with the exhibition “Cruising the Atlantic from Porto Rico to New York: the Steamship Journeys, 1900-1940s.” Join us on May 4 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Centro Library room at the Silberman School of Social Work [7] to learn how steamship cruises dominated transportation between Puerto Rico to New York. The programs for the rest of the month will be mostly musical, beginning with a symposium May 12 to 14 on Puerto Rican rhythms in roots, jazz, and classical music. The event will feature world-renowned musicians and will take place across multiple locations. See Centro’s calendar for details.

We close out the semester with the world premiere of Grammy-nominee composer Roberto Sierra’s *Missa Latina* two piano and percussion arrangement. The concert will be held at Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College. The concert begins at 3:00 p.m. and tickets can be purchased at the Playhouse box office or via e-mail through centro.events@hunter.cuny.edu [8].

Remember to catch Puerto Rican Voices, our web and TV series airing each Sunday this spring at centropr.hunter.cuny.edu/centrovoices [9] and on television stations across Puerto Rico.