

COMMUNITY BUILDING & LEADERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEW YORK CITY TEACHING AID

The Evelina Antonetty Edition

Teaching Aid, Lesson Plans & Materials based on the exhibition:

The Hell Lady of The Bronx



Evelina Poses Outside
The United Bronx Parents
Office Window

Grades: **6-12**

Subjects: **English, History, Social Studies, Visual and Media Arts**

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General Bronx History

Bronx Rate of Poverty is Highest

NY Times. By Edward C. Burks, Nov. 4, 1972



This archived New York Times article reports growth in poverty among families through an analysis of 1970 census data while drawing a comparison to the economic development of the 1960s. The article states, "The Bronx has the smallest slice of prosperity and the largest proportion of poor families among the 19 counties of the tri-state metropolitan region and all 62 counties of New York State.” It highlights that 15% of Bronx families live below the poverty level. Burks also notes that 22% of Black families and 30% of Puerto Rican families in the Bronx live below the poverty level.

Bronx News and Citizen Reports

Urban-Enterprise Zones

News Week February 23, 1981

This News Week article dated 1981 discusses president Regan’s Urban Enterprise Zones initiative to establish tax cuts to entice businesses to move into or remain in the nation’s poorest neighborhoods. Critics argue that the tax break reduces labor and labor liabilities costs and establishes a subminimum wage at businesses where half the employees come from these impoverished neighborhoods.

Bronx News and Citizen Reports

The movie 'Fort Apache' is anti-Puerto Rican & anti-Black

Informational Poster



“This is a protest flyer denouncing the 1981 film “Fort Apache, The Bronx” for its racist and classist portrayals of Black and Puerto Rican people in the South Bronx. The film presented harmful stereotypes that led to a negative public perception of people of color in low-income neighborhoods.”

Bronx News and Citizen Reports

Letter from Bohique, INC to the Committee Against Fort Apache



Bohique, Inc. was an organization for Puerto Ricans in the Behavioral Sciences. In this letter, the members of Bohique condemn the screenplay and film production of "Fort Apache, The Bronx." "It is their expert opinion that producing and disseminating "Fort Apache" in any version would be detrimental to individual and community health."

Writings About Evelina Antonetty

Woman of Distinction

by Dr. Essie Lee, Hunter College

Dr. Essie Lee documents the life and work of Dr. Evelina Antonetty as the Executive Director of United Bronx Parents in this essay titled "Women of Distinction." In this work, Dr. Lee presents a brief history of the Bronx, Dr. Antonetty's experience as a new arrival from Puerto Rico, and her transition from a socially aware concerned parent to a community leader demanding change in poorly served public schools.

Writings About Evelina Antonetty

The Legacy: Despierta Boricua, Defiende Lo Tuyo – Power to the People!

Marta Moreno Vega

In this article, Marta Vega Moreno eulogizes Evelina Antonetty, The Mother of The South Bronx. As a community leader and organizer, Vega Morena describes Antonetty as a person who "understood the interrelationship between exclusion, marginalization, and the lack of opportunities [...] in the areas of education, legal, health, policymaking that retain poor Black and Puerto Rican communities in a depressed state." Antonetty was part of the frontline leadership on the issue of unity among all races.

Writings About Evelina Antonetty

Recollections of Evelina

Jitu Weusi

In this essay, Weusi reflects on Dr. Evelina Antonetty and her work forming multiracial coalitions. Wesui documents Antonetty’s speeches Afro Puerto Ricans, The Puerto Rican Independence Movement, which promoted their interest in learning about Puerto Rican history.

Evelina’s Letters and Writings

Cover Letter for Booklet Describing United Bronx Parents Summer Lunch Program of 1971

This cover letter accompanied the United Bronx Parents Summer Lunch Program booklet. In this letter, Antonetty expresses gratitude to those who worked to fund the free summer lunch program while reporting that United Bronx Parents successfully served 6,000,000 free lunches to New York City schoolchildren.

Evelina’s Letters and Writings

Statement of Evelina Antonetty for the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs

In this letter, Antonetty presents “Buen Apetito The Story Of United Bronx Parents Summer Lunch Program, 1971.” Antonetty reports that the program was responsible for feeding approximately 150,000 children daily throughout New York City. In addition to providing Summer Lunch Program data facts, Antonetty also contests several arguments in Edward J. Hekman's testimony for the food and nutrition service of the USDA.

Evelina’s Letters and Writings

The UBP Personnel Manual or Practices and Procedures

This manual contains instructional, background, procedural and Human Resource information to familiarize United Bronx Parents employees with the organization.

Bronx News and Citizen Reports

The Educational Needs of the Puerto Rican Child in New York City. With Special Emphasis on District 7, South Bronx.

Evelina Antonetty prepared this presentation for the New York Board of Regents on March 25, 1971. Antonetty’s presentation outlines data points regarding Puerto Rican children as an underserved and marginalized population in public schools. Antonetty also explores the root causes of inequality in the school system and solutions for change.

FAMOUS QUOTES

“The day has come when it should be understood by all that Puerto Ricans are no longer content to exist in a minor role. There comes a time when people get tired of being trampled underfoot. We have now come of age!”

– **Evelina Antonetty**, South Bronx Community Leader, Activist, Executive Director of United Bronx Parents

“All people should have full access to information. Whether the information is cultural, technical [,] or simple survival information. Information is power. To break barriers of information, etc. we have to operate within and know how the power structure works. It is important to know about ourselves but we also have to know and be able to operate in the whole society.”

– **Lillian López**, Sister of Evelina Antonetty

FAMOUS QUOTES

“I believe one of the major obstacles in the delivery of adequate services to the Hispanic community is the lack of qualified personnel. The staff for a library in a Spanish-speaking community should be bilingual/ bicultural and sensitive to Hispanic community needs. In the absence of this, we should have library personnel who are understanding, flexible, and sensitive to the needs of people whose culture and language are different from those of the larger society. The staff should try to understand Hispanics not only with their minds but also with their hearts. It is important to have someone on the staff to whom the public can relate—someone who is ‘simpático.’ ”

– Lillian López, Sister of Evelina Antonetty

MEDIA AND ARTISTRY

Evelina Antonetty’s Centennial Celebration Exhibit at Centro – an exhibition featuring images and primary source records to celebrate the life, legacy, and immensely impactful work done by The Hell Lady of the Bronx, Evelina Antonetty.

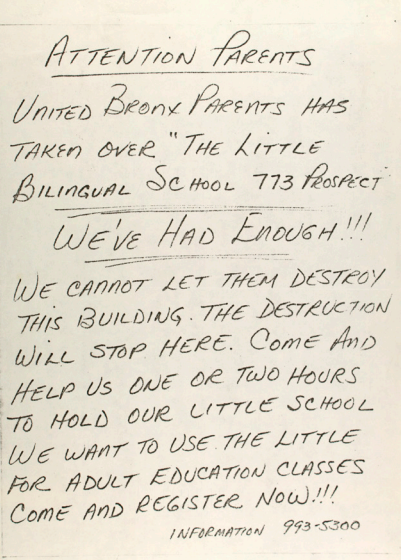


Evelina López Antonetty at a Bronx school board meeting
United Bronx Parents, Inc. Records

UNITED BRONX PARENTS POSTERS, BOOKLETS AND FLYERS



¡Despierta Boricua! / Wake Up Boricua!
Pura Belpré Papers



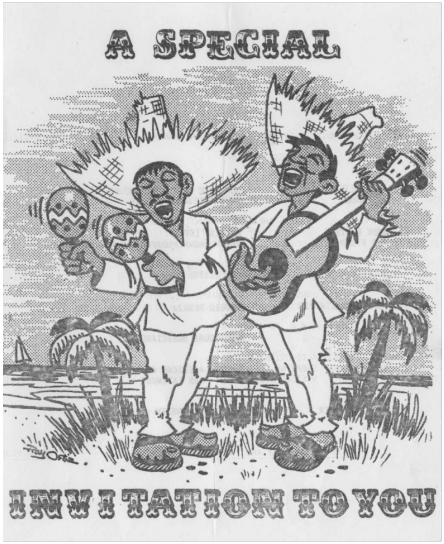
We’ve Had Enough
United Bronx Parents



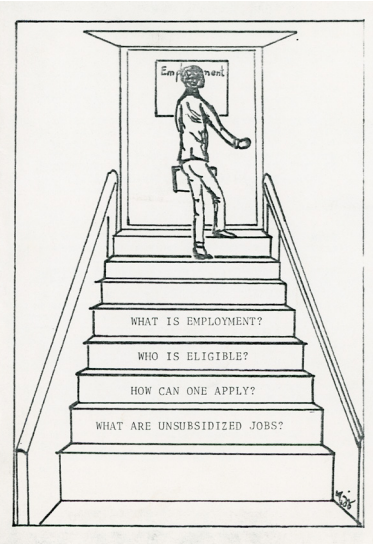
The Bronx is Dancing
Name of Source



Padres Unidos Del Bronx
United Bronx Parents



Fiesta Latina - A Special Invitation to you
Joseph Monserrat Papers



What is Employment Booklet Cover
Name of Source

“Titi”

is a memorial poem written by Afro Rican poet, performer and educator Tato Laveria. The caption below the title “Titi” reads:

(In memory of Dr. Evelina Antonetty,
Written in celebration of her SPIRIT,
On November 19, 1984, by Tato Laviera,
in conjunction with the
Insights of many friends and family
who expressed their unending love
and admiration for LA GRAN MAESTRA
on the first day of her wake at the
Walter B. Cooke Funeral Parlor in
TiTi’s beloved South Bronx)

“When was the last time you saw mami smile”

is a spoken word poem written and performed by Americo Casiano.

PERFORMANCES



“Evelina’s Heart: a play about the life of Bronx activist Evelina López Antonetty titled "Evelina’s Heart," a one-act play by Sandra Rodríguez. An early version of the play was possibly produced at The Vineyard Theater in the East Village of New York City. The play was also presented at Hostos Community College.”

Teaching Aid

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