



rebuilding neighborhoods one block at a time

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August 29, 2006

Lino Rios, Chair
Manhattan Community Board 11
55 East 115th Street
New York, NY 10029 -1101

Dear Chairman Rios:

Hope Community, Inc. has long supported the arts in East Harlem and we have worked to build a sense of community among local residents by producing annual fairs, street festivals, neighborhood murals, and, more recently, sponsoring an art gallery that highlights the work of local artists.

For eight years, we have also produced an annual poetry series, Poetas con Café, in during which local residents have gathered in our Modesto Flores community garden to hear distinguished Puerto Rican artists and poets such as Américo Casiano, Wanda Ortiz, Mariposa, Frank Pérez and Jesús Papoleto Meléndez, perform for local residents each year.

As such, Hope Community, Inc. is proud to support El Museo del Barrio's petition to designate a secondary honorary name for East 106th Street in honor of Julia de Burgos an exceptionally gifted poet who contributed greatly to the present cultural bounty in East Harlem and whose body of work continues to inspire local residents and artists alike.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Jacoby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

William Jacoby
Executive Director