



[Home](#) | [Features](#) | [Columns](#) | [Hit Parades](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Calendar](#) | [News](#) | [LB Style](#) | [Contacts](#) | [Shopping](#) | [E-Back Issues](#)



News ⊕⊕⊕

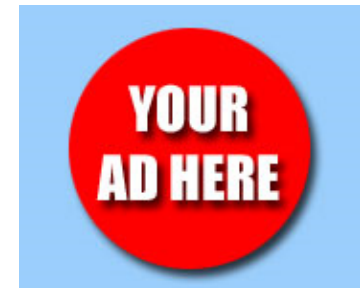
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012 ISSUE

737 people like this. [Sign Up](#) to see what your friends like.

A Tribute to Piri Thomas at Hostos

Photos by Allen Spatz

From the Hostos News Release by Rosalie Roman



Bloque 53

Cogelo Ahi

Windows Media

Quicktime

Chico Álvarez

El Indio Caonabo

Windows Media

Quicktime

Bio Ritmo

La Muralla

Streaming Music

Louie Cruz Beltran
Paint the Rhythm
Windows Media
Quicktime

Cintron Band Live
Human Nature
Windows Media
Quicktime

Vanelis
Como Lo Extraño
Windows Media
Quicktime

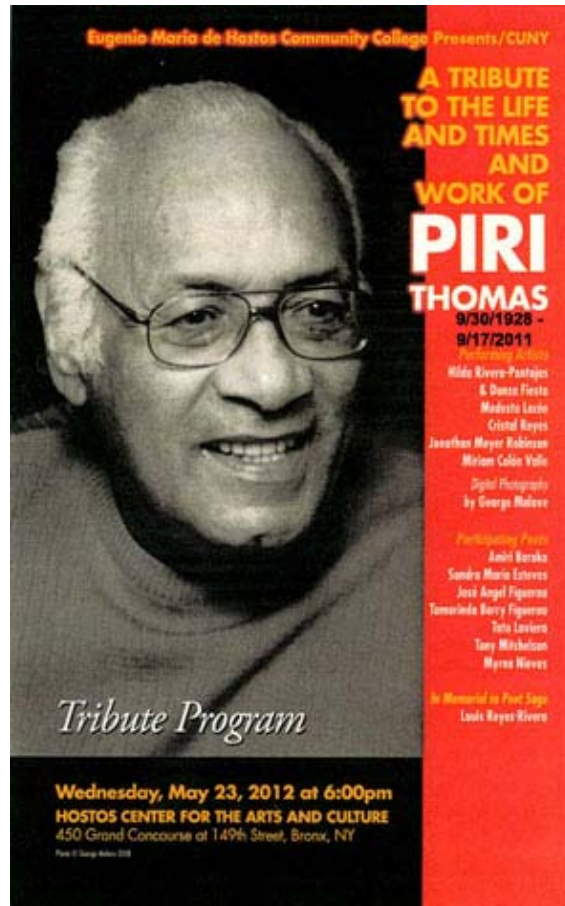
Nayibe
Borinquen
Windows Media
Quicktime

Luis González
Spain
Windows Media
Quicktime

Rolando Sanchez
Vamonos De Fiesta
Windows Media
Quicktime

Steve Pouchie
Watch Ur Wallet
Windows Media
Quicktime

Somos Son
Bilongo



On Wednesday May 23, 2012, at 6 pm, an iconic figure of contemporary American literature was honored when A Tribute to the Life and Times and Works of Piri Thomas was presented at the Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture at 450 Grand Concourse (at 149th Street). Sponsored by Hostos Community College, and produced and directed by the noted poet and author, José Ángel Figueroa and co-produced by Elba Cabrera, this special evening featured performances of Mr. Thomas' poetry, as well as works by a broad range of artists, friends, and people that he influenced.

**Windows Media
Quicktime**

**The Estrada Brothers
Mr. Ray
Windows Media
Quicktime**

**Manny Silvera
Bassed in America
Windows Media
Quicktime**



The 'cast' included Amiri Baraka, Miriam Colón Valle, Modesto Lacen, Tato Laviera, and Hilda Rivera-Pantojas & Danza Fiesta, and his wife Suzie Dod Thomas, among others. Also included in the program was a remembrance of Louis Reyes Rivera, another brilliant poet whose voice was

stilled earlier this year.



The program itself was designed to reflect his love, not just of words, but of the rainbow-hued people of the urban communities who inspired him. There was a screening of the documentary film "Every Child is Born a Poet: The Life and Work of Piri Thomas" directed by Jonathan Meyer Robinson, and a special presentation from the digital archives of master photographer, George Malave. Each individual performance piece, be it dance, poetry, essay, or personal recollection, was staged to celebrate the way that he lovingly embraced language as force of nature. One that he wielded with care because of his deep and abiding respect for its power.



Piri Thomas burst onto the scene in 1967 with his memoir *Down These Mean Streets*. The book's brutally honest depiction of life as a young Black Puerto Rican growing up in El Barrio was arguably the first to acknowledge the experiences of Latinos in urban America. His follow up books *Savior*, *Savior Hold My Hand*, and *Seven Long Times* helped established him in the literary scene, but his passion for words led him beyond simple autobiographical narrative and into poetry. And this is where his profound influence is still found to this day.

A photographic exhibition "Constructing the Legacy of Piri Thomas" will be on display courtesy of Centro Library and Archives, Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College.



A Tribute to the Life and Times and Works of Piri Thomas at the Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture was an incredible evening filled with laughter and tears of joy that came from the depths of the soul.



55th Annual
MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL
 September 21-23, 2012 / Monterey Fairgrounds

Mongorama Caused a Heat Wave in Beverly Hills

Photos by Ricky Richardson

2012 Arena Artists - www.montereyjazzfestival.org

FRIDAY NIGHT, September 21

Eddie Palmieri Salsa Orchestra

Melody Gardot

Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, September 22

Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue *For True Tour*

Robert Randolph & the Family Band

SATURDAY NIGHT, September 22

Tony Bennett

Jack DeJohnette* / 2012 Showcase Artist Special Trio featuring Pat Metheny & Christian McBride

Bill Frisell / 2012 Commission Artist *Beautiful Dreamers Meets the 858 Quartet*

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, September 23

Esperanza Spalding *Radio Music Society*

Next Generation Jazz Orchestra Directed by Paul Contos with Ambrose Akinmusire / 2012 Artist-In-Residence

Top High School Big Band from the 2012 Next Generation Jazz Festival: Los Angeles

County High School for the Arts

SUNDAY NIGHT, September 23

Pat Metheny Unity Band with Chris Potter, Antonio Sanchez, Ben Williams

Monterey Jazz Festival On Tour *55th Anniversary Celebration* Dee Dee Bridgewater, Christian McBride, Ambrose Akinmusire, Chris Potter, Benny Green, Lewis Nash

*2012 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master This event is supported by NEA Jazz Masters Live, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

FULL WEEKEND ARENA PACKAGES

- Priority reserved seating in the Arena for all 5 Jimmy Lyons Stage concerts, renewable and upgradeable annually
- Access to 7 general admission Grounds Stages and all Grounds activities at no extra cost
- Exclusive option to purchase on-site Fairgrounds Parking

SINGLE DAY ARENA TICKETS

- Reserved seating (non-renewable) in the Arena for Jimmy Lyons Stage concerts on the day you select (On Sale June 28)
- Access to 7 general admission Grounds Stages?and all Grounds activities at no extra cost

Festival Hours: **FRIDAY** / 6:00 pm - Midnight **SATURDAY** / 11:30 am - Midnight **SUNDAY** / 11:00 am - 11:30 pm

Looking for Grounds Artists? Go to the Grounds.

Eddie Palmieri Salsa Orchestra



Pianist Eddie Palmieri, known for his charismatic power and bold pioneering drive, has a musical career that spans over 50 years as a bandleader of both Salsa and Latin Jazz orchestras. Born in Spanish Harlem in 1936, Eddie began piano studies at an early age, as did his celebrated older brother, the late Salsa legend and pianist, Charlie Palmieri. For Latin New Yorkers of Eddie's generation, music was a vehicle out of El Barrio. At age 11, he auditioned at Weil Recital Hall, next door to Carnegie Hall, a venue as far from the Bronx as he could imagine. Possessed by a desire to play the drums, Palmieri joined his uncle's orchestra at age 13, where he played timbales. Says Palmieri, "By 15, it was good-bye timbales and back to the piano until this day. I'm a frustrated percussionist, so I take it out on the piano."

Eddie Palmieri has a discography that includes 36 titles and has been awarded nine Grammy Awards. The first Grammy Award he received was in 1975 for *The Sun of Latin Music*, which was a historic moment — it was the first time the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (NARAS) recognized Latin Music. He would win again the following year for *Unfinished Masterpiece, Palo Pa 'Rumba* in 1984, *Solito* in 1985 and *La Verdad* in 1987. He received both a Latin Grammy and a traditional Grammy for the 2000 release with Tito Puente entitled *Obra*

Maestra/Masterpiece. Listen Here! would win in 2006 and *Simpatico* in 2007, a collaborative effort with trumpet master Brian Lynch. That same year, *Simpatico* was recognized by the Jazz Journalist Association as Best Latin Jazz Album. In 1993, Palmieri was appointed to the Board of Governors of the New York chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, and in 1995 he was instrumental in creating the new category for Latin Jazz. His album *Palmas* was among the nominees in this newly created category, and in 1996 he was nominated once again for his album *Arete*.

Eddie began his professional career as a pianist in the early '50s with Eddie Forrester's Orchestra. In 1955, he joined Johnny Segui's band. He also spent a year with the Tito Rodriguez Orchestra before forming his own band, the legendary "La Perfecta" in 1961. *La Perfecta* was unique in that it featured a trombone section in place of trumpets (led by the late Barry Rogers), something that had been rarely done in Latin music, demonstrating the early stages of Palmieri's unorthodox means of orchestration. They were known as "the band with the crazy roaring elephants" because of the configuration of two trombones, flute, percussion, bass, and a vocalist. With its one-of-a-kind sound, *La Perfecta* soon joined the ranks of Machito, Tito Rodriguez and other major Latin orchestras of the day. Palmieri's influences include not only his older brother Charlie but also Jesus Lopez, Lili Martinez and other Cuban players of the 1930s and 1940s; jazz luminaries such as Art Tatum, Bobby Timmons, Bill Evans, Horace Silver, Bud Powell and McCoy Tyner. Says Palmieri, "In Cuba, there was a development and crystallization of rhythmical patterns that have excited people for years. Cuban music provides the fundamental from which I never move. Whatever has to be built must be built from there. It's a cross-cultural effect that makes magnificent music."

His unconventional style would once again surprise critics and fans with the 1970 release entitled *Harlem River Drive*. This recording was the first to merge black and Latin styles resulting in a free-form sound that encompassed elements of salsa, funk, soul and jazz. This new fusion moved effortlessly from mood, groove, texture and excitement with its multi-dimensional guitar, funky piano riffs, notable brass and unforgettable rhythm section. Led by Eddie, the group also included his brother Charlie, as well as excellent players from both communities such as Victor Venegas, Andy Gonzales, Bernard "Pretty" Purdie and Ronnie Cuber. Further to this proclivity for creating and performing in funk-Latin style, Little Louie Vega invited Eddie to record *Nuyorican Soul* in 1997, a release that became a huge hit with dancers and DJs in the house and underground music scene.

In 1988, the Smithsonian Institute recorded two of Mr. Palmieri's performances for the catalog of the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., a rare public honor. In 1990, he was invited by Paul Simon to serve as a consultant on his release *Rhythm of the Saints*. Palmieri was awarded the Eubie Blake Award by Dr. Billy Taylor in 1991, and is among the very few Latin musicians recognized by both the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico and New York State. The 1998 Heineken Jazz Festival in San Juan, Puerto Rico paid tribute to his contributions as a bandleader, bestowing him an honorary doctorate degree from the Berklee College of Music. In 2002, Yale University awarded Palmieri the Chubb Fellowship Award, an award usually reserved for international heads of state, but given to him in recognition of his

work in building communities through music. That same year he received the National Black Sports and Entertainment Lifetime Achievement Award. Other inductees were Roberto Clemente, Count Basie, Max Roach, Billie Holiday and Dinah Washington.

Also in 2002, Eddie was recognized by the London BBC, with the Award for Most Exciting Latin Performance. In 2005, Palmieri received another series of prestigious awards: the Alice Tully African Heritage Award from City College, the Harlem Renaissance Award and he was inducted into both the Bronx Walk of Fame and the Chicago Walk of Fame. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Urban Latino Magazine and acted as Godfather of the Puerto Rican Day Parade in New York City, as well as received the EL Award from *El Diario* newspaper. Yet another outstanding achievement that year was the debut of *Caliente*, a radio show hosted by Palmieri on National Public Radio. The show was a tremendous success being picked up by more than 160 radio stations, nationwide. In 2008, he received the Jay McShann Lifetime Achievement Award and was inducted into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. Yet another extraordinary achievement, Palmieri's composition "Azucar Pa' Ti" was inducted into the 2009 National Recording Registry of the United States Library of Congress as a significant and compelling sound recording of 1965. All inductees were selected for showcasing "...the diverse beauty, humanity and artistry found in the American soundscape." Palmieri is honored to be in the great company of other inductees such as The Band, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn, The Staple Singers, Patti Smith, Cliff Edwards, Little Richard and R.E.M., among many others. In April, 2010, he was included in the Celebrity Gallery of the first global Museum of Musical Instruments located in Phoenix, Arizona and on November 16, 2010 he was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.

Eddie Palmieri's musical style is paradoxical in nature. Married to preserving the core fundamentals of Latin orchestral tradition, he is possessed by a bold innovative drive and seeks all opportunities to challenge these very traditions. Eddie's unique vision and distinctive arrangements have paved the way for groundbreaking compositions, ensuring a unique musical legacy. Eddie has one of the most actively touring Salsa and Latin Jazz orchestras to date, tours of which have taken him to Europe, Asia, Latin America, Australia, North Africa and throughout the Caribbean. A true powerhouse of brilliance, he has shown that time is infinite with respect to his repertoire, as he continues to captivate live audiences throughout the world.



**Albert Torres & West Coast Salsa Congress
Presents: Cuban Music Icons ORQUESTA ARAGON
Celebrating a 73-year career anniversary!
Steven's Steakhouse
Friday October 26, 2012**



The legendary Orquesta Aragon, celebrating a career span of 73 years, arrives to Los Angeles for a unique and one night only performance on Friday October 26, 2012 at Stevens Steak House.

Fully cleared work visas in hand, Orquesta Aragon, together with Super DJ Robby will definitely have crowds dancing at popular venue Steven's Steak House, located at 5332 E. Stevens Place, Commerce, CA 90040

The iconic Orquesta Aragon has dazzled crowds throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and the United States to the rhythm of a rich fusion of chachachá, boleros, rumbas and danzones, while adding the violin instrument that enhanced their sound with a seductive touch.

Currently under the leadership of violinist Rafael Lay, Jr., Orquesta Aragon continues to write their history as true pioneers of Tropical music, always honoring their musical tradition inherited by each of its founding members.

Founded by Orestes Aragon Cantero, who premiered their sound in their native Cienfuegos (the third largest populated city in Cuba in 1939), becoming a musical institution. Orquesta Aragon has recorded multiple works exploring the musical diversity of classical sounds originating from the Island ranging from danzón, son to chachachá, add to that a discography of 100 albums; making them the most recorded musical entity in Cuba's music history.

Tickets are now available for advance purchase by calling (310) 445-9705 or contacting atevents@gmail.com

About Albert Torres Productions

Albert Torres' continuous efforts to globalize Salsa movement have made a major impact on the preservation and accessibility of both Salsa Music and Salsa Dance worldwide with nonstop co production over 40 events a year during 48 weeks on the road.

Albert Torres is the world's premier producer of live salsa music and dance events. Albert Torres Productions Inc. was founded in 1992 and has offered the top salsa congresses to crowds in the thousands in such exotic places as Dubai, Japan, Brazil, Romania, China, Colombia, Holland, Peru, Switzerland and New Zealand. ATP is also the co-producer of The World Salsa Championships, broadcast worldwide via ESPN, and the sole producer of The World Latin Dance Cup, the most prestigious dance competition for salsa, bachata and cha cha dancers in over 50 countries. ATP produces the Los Angeles Salsa Congress, the biggest event of its kind in the world, gathering DJs, artists, dancers and salsa enthusiasts from around the globe and held annually in Los Angeles, CA.

Salsa Congress Around The World Dates:

July:

5 to 8 / Medellin, Colombia & Las Vegas, Nevada

12 to 15 / Hamburg, Germany

19 to 22 / Beijing, China

August:

2-5 / Quito, Ecuador

7 to 12 / Black Sea, Romania

16 to 19 / Chicago, IL

21 to 23 / New Zealand

24 to 26 / Melbourne, Australia

30-September 2 / San Diego, CA

September:

6 to 9 / Oaxaca, Mexico

13-16 / Caracas, Venezuela

20-23 / Romania

26-30 / Marrakech, Morocco

October:

1-7 / R.Kelly Cruise / Out of Miami on Royal Caribbean (Destiny)

11 to 14 / Lima, Peru

15 to 21 / Cape Town, South Africa

22 to 28 / Tokyo, Japan

November:

1 to 4 / Santiago de Compostela, Spain

8 to 12 / Cruise Out of Miami / Aventura Cruise

14 to 18 / St Petersburg, Russia

22 to 25 / Rosario, Argentina

December

6 to 9 / Acapulco, Mexico

12-15 / Miami, Florida / World Latin Dance Cup Finals

Contact:

Vesper Public Relations

Public Relations & Sponsorship Opportunities

Mariluz Gonzalez

mgonzalez@vesperpublicrelations.com

(818) 667-6403



Maná Rocks Tel Aviv, Israel

**Maná Made Their First Concert Appearance in Israel
at the Nokia Arena in Tel Aviv**



"In Israel there are no physical copies of Maná's albums nor do they ever play their videos on the music channels. But despite all of this... people showed up to their concert in Tel Aviv last Thursday knowing every single lyric to all of Maná's biggest hits." - Terra (translated)

The Multiple GRAMMY Winning Mexican Supergroup Performed to a Sold-Out Arena

*By the early 1990s, rock en español, or Spanish-language rock music, grabbed a huge audience in the US and evolved into one of the most popular and lasting forms of pop music, with everyone from Ricky Martín and Jennifer Lopez to Carlos Santana and The Gypsy Kings staking their crossover claim. Maná rode the wave and made it to the top, with their 1992 album *Dónde Jugarán los Niños?* (Where Will the Children Play?) selling more than three million copies and becoming the biggest Spanish-language rock album of all time...rather than conform to commercial interests, the band stuck to their Spanish guns, and rock en español took off with Maná in the pilot's seat. - The Jerusalem Post (full article <http://www.jpost.com/ArtsAndCulture/Entertainment/Article.aspx?id=275567>)*

After Setting A New Tour Record At Staples Center In Los Angeles (7 Shows), And Already Reaching Over A Million Concert Goers With More Than 100 Dates Around The Globe, The Record-Setting *Drama Y Luz* Tour Will Continue With Additional Upcoming Concerts in Puerto Rico & More U.S. Shows This Fall

See Maná at These Remaining Dates for The Drama y Luz Tour

- 09.01.2012
Willemstad Curacao - World Trade Center - Piscadera Bay
- 09.07.2012
San Juan, Puerto Rico - Coliseo de Puerto Rico
- 09.13.2012
Bakersfield, CA - Rabobank Arena
- 09.14.2012
Oakland, CA - Oracle Arena
- 09.16.2012
Las Vegas, NV - MGM Grand Hotel
- 09.18.2012
Ontario, CA - Citizens Business Bank Arena
- 09.20.2012
Tucson, AZ - Tucson Arena
- 10.05.2012
Mexico City, DF - Palacio de los Deportes

"The most widely sold and heard Latin band in the world...one of the must-see shows of [the year]." - Billboard



Founders Marc Anthony and Henry Cardenas to Host Events in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York to Help Raise Funds for Orphaned Children in Latin America and the Caribbean

Global pop icon Marc Anthony and entrepreneur Henry Cardenas today announced a series of fundraisers they will host next month benefitting the Maestro Cares Foundation, an initiative that was launched earlier this year. The three-event series aims to raise funds for the completion of a new residence hall and learning facility for over 200 children living at Orfanato Niños de Cristo, in La Romana, Dominican Republic.

The Dominican orphanage will be the first territory to directly benefit from the non-for-profit organization.

"I have been granted the privilege to be the voice for these kids and they need all the support in the world. We are looking forward to having full participation from the philanthropic community in an effort to grant them a better tomorrow," said Anthony.

The series of events are set to kick off in Anthony's hometown of New York on Thursday, August 9 at El Museo del Barrio. The museum, which sits directly across from Central Park, is one of New York's leading Latino cultural institutions.

The second fundraiser is scheduled for Monday, August 20 at the Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, in the heart of Chicago's Gold Coast, while the third event will be held in Los Angeles on Thursday, August 23 at Club Nokia, located at the center of the entertainment capital, L.A. Live.

"We want to give these children the tools they need to be productive and to have a fulfilling life," said Cardenas. "Hope is one of the greatest gifts one can give and receive."

All events will include a cocktail reception and a silent auction featuring sports and entertainment memorabilia to help raise additional funds for the project.

By providing children with education, recreation, and other development programs at an orphanage, the Maestro Cares Foundation seeks to instill a culture that includes a strong work ethic, confidence, and discipline.

To purchase tickets to the fundraisers, or to learn more about the Maestro Cares Foundation, visit www.maestrocares.org, or follow Maestro Cares on Twitter @MaestroCares and via Facebook at www.facebook.com/MaestroCaresFoundation

ABOUT MAESTRO CARES

Maestro Cares (MC) is a 501(c) non-for-profit corporation established to support the overall wellbeing of disadvantaged children in developing Latin American countries. Through

contributions of its founders, entrepreneur Henry Cardenas and global artist Marc Anthony, as well as donations from individuals and corporations, Maestro Cares provides children with housing, food, and other basic needs while assisting with their academic and recreational development through various programs.



SESAC Latina Returns to Beverly Hills for the most Anticipated SESAC Latina Music Awards 2012



- Joey Montana: Songwriter of the Year
- "Dándole" by Leo James: Song of the Year
- EMI Foray Music: Publisher of the Year

Panamanian artist Joey Montana was SESAC Latina Songwriter of the Year 2012 while the Puerto Rican songwriter Leo James won in the Song of the Year category for his composition "Dándole," the most played track on radio during the period of eligibility. The Publisher of the Year was EMI Foray Music, represented here by Nestor Casonú.

The emotional ceremony for the annual awards was held at a special gala at the historic Beverly Hills Hotel in the presence of important personalities in the industry, members of SESAC Latina

and media representatives.

The event included a live music show with a performance by top Mexican pop trio Reik, who performed their hit tracks "Peligro" and "Creo en ti" and regional mexican stars Calibre 50, who performed their recent hit "Mujer de Todos, Mujer de Nadie" and "El Buen Ejemplo".

The awards were presented by Trevor Gale, Sr. Vice President of SESAC and J. J. Cheng, Vice President of SESAC Latina, and Celeste Zendejas and Albert Ramirez III, SESAC Latina's Associate Directors. The awards recognize authors and publishers of the songs played on radio, songs that reached #1 on the charts, songs that had significant chart longevity, and the composer and song of the year.

For his song "Promise" recorded by Romeo Santos/Usher, written by Rico Love, a well known American composer won two awards: One for radio rotation and the other for having achieved # 1 on the Billboard charts. Also winning in this category was Patricia Espinoza Loredo and Lina Patricia Bojorquez, co-authors of "Inténtalo," the 'tribal' hit single recorded by 3BallMTY.

The SESAC Latina 2012 # 1 Award was also given to Jesus Ariel Barreras; composer of "Llamada de Mi Ex," Banda El Limon de Rene Camacho's hit record that remained on the top of the regional Mexican charts for 16 weeks.

Additional awards for radio rotation were as follows:

- Jesus Navarro, singer of Reik, for his song "Peligro" (Alvani Music Publishing), recorded by Reik
- Alicia Esparza and Arturo Valdez Osuna, for "Ataca y Atrapa" (AMGMEZA Publishing and Greatest Hits ARPA), recorded by El Coyote y Su Banda Tierra Santa
- Carlos Baute, for his song "Quién Te Quiere Como Yo" (EMI Foray Music)
- Jorge Hernández "El Güero", songwriter and performer of "Quítate La Venda" and publisher Genio Musical
- José Alfredo Cázares Rocha, composer of "Aunque Sea En Silencio" (Cervantes Publishing), recorded by Enigma Norteño
- Miguel Angel Romero (Composer of the Year 2011) and his publisher Editor of Ideas received the Award for Most Recurrent song for "Dime Que Me Quieres", released over two years ago by Banda El Recodo.

During the ceremonies, J.J. Cheng said that this was the third time that the SESAC Latina Music Awards took place at the historic Beverly Hills Hotel, which is currently celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

Defining the year as "fantastic" for the extraordinary achievements of the composers and publishers affiliated with SESAC Latina, she gave a warmly welcome to attendees who traveled from Mexico, Texas, New York, Puerto Rico, Miami, Panama, Spain and Ecuador especially to attend the ceremony.

Established in 1993, SESAC Latina is the Latin music division of SESAC, a service organization created to assist both the creators of music and music users through timely, efficient royalty collection and music licensing. One of only three performing rights organizations recognized by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, SESAC was founded in 1930 and is the nation's second oldest and fastest growing PRO. SESAC maintains a diversified repertory that includes the best of Adult Contemporary, R&B/Hip-hop, Jazz, Rock, Americana, Contemporary Christian, Country, Gospel, Dance, Classical, New Age, music for Film and Television, and, of course, Latin music. Headquartered in Nashville, the company also has offices in New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Miami and London.



Porfirio Piña Elected President of Board of BMI Foundation, Inc.

Porfirio Piña has been elected President of the Board of Directors of the BMI Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to encouraging the creation, performance and study of music. Formed by BMI employees in 1985, the organization sponsors a variety of programs designed to support music education, encourage talented young musicians in all genres of music, and to promote music in communities all across America.

The board voted unanimously to appoint Piña, who replaces Ralph N. Jackson as the third President in the 27-year history of the BMI Foundation.

“Porfirio is a natural and inspiring leader with great passion for music and a truly generous spirit,” said outgoing President Ralph Jackson. “The board has every confidence that he is the perfect person to lead the Foundation to great new successes in the future.”



Piña is currently Senior Director, Writer/Publisher Relations for Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI). He joined BMI's Writer/Publisher Relations department in March 2005 after working in various positions in music publishing, marketing and promotions, including as Director of Sales & Marketing for independent label Latino Music (Sony Music) and Product Manager for Palm Pictures. He was also President and Co-Owner of two artist management and music production companies, Double P Music and PNP Productions and President and Co-Owner of Ritmo Loco Music Publishing. He attended both MTI Business School and Business Automation School in New York. Piña serves on the Board of Directors of The Recording Academy NY Chapter and is also Director of the BMI Foundation's peermusic Latin Scholarship, a national competition for young Latin songwriters and composers. Now in its tenth year, the \$5,000 scholarship competition is open to college students in the U.S. and Puerto Rico, and seeks to identify and

reward young talent in the Latin genre.

The BMI Foundation, Inc. is supported by tax-deductible donations from songwriters, composers and publishers, BMI employees and members of the public with a special interest in music. More information about the BMI Foundation is available at www.bmifoundation.org.



[Home](#) | [Features](#) | [Columns](#) | [Hit Parades](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Calendar](#) | [News](#) | [LB Style](#) | [Contacts](#) | [Shopping](#) | [E-Back Issues](#)

© 2000-2012, Latin Beat Magazine, All Rights Reserved