



**HISTORIC CHANGE:  
CELEBRATING THE LIFE  
AND LEGACY OF**

*Celia  
Cruz*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27  
1 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**LEHMAN CENTER  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
BRONX, NY**



**LEHMAN  
COLLEGE**



**National Women's  
History Museum**



**TELEMUNDO**

# Program

## National Anthem

Performed by **4-Train Vocals** and **Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Jazz Choir**

## Welcome

- **Dr. Fernando Delgado**, President, Lehman College
- **Laurie Cumbo**, Commissioner of Cultural Affairs, City of New York
- **Vanessa L. Gibson**, Bronx Borough President

## Performance

"Oye Como Va", performed by **4-Train Vocals** and **Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Jazz Choir**, under the direction of Ms. Jacqueline Bergland

## Remarks

- **Whoopi Goldberg**, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony Award-winning Performer
- **Ariana DeBose**, Academy Award-winning Actress, Dancer, and Singer (via video)

## Remarks

- **The Honorable Ventris C. Gibson**, Director, United States Mint
- **Susan D. Whiting**, Board Chair, National Women's History Museum
- **Mónica Gil**, Chief Administrative and Marketing Officer, NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, and Board Member, National Women's History Museum

**Quimbara** Celia Cruz

## Remarks

- **The Honorable Rosie Rios**, Chair, America250, and 43<sup>rd</sup> Treasurer of the United States
- **Gloria Estefan**, Grammy Award-winning Singer, Songwriter, Actress, and Businesswoman (via video)



## Panel Discussion

- **The Honorable Ventris C. Gibson**, Director, United States Mint
- **Jennifer Herrera**, Vice President of External Affairs, National Women's History Museum
- **Gloria Calderón Kellett**, Writer, Director, Producer, and National Women's History Museum Ambassador
- **Omer Pardillo-Cid**, Former Manager, Celia Cruz

*Moderated by **Gina Torres**, Actor and Producer*

## Remarks

- **Fred Walsh**, Superintendent, CUNY & Urban Assembly High Schools
- **Melissa Aviles-Ramos**, Deputy Chancellor, NYC Public Schools

## Performance

"Guantanamera," performed by **Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Big Band**, under the direction of Mrs. Penelope Smetters-Jacono

## Remarks

**Linda Pritchett**, Niece of Celia Cruz

## Coin Pour

## Closing Performance

"La Negra Tiene Tumbao," performed by **4-Train Vocals** and **Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Big Band**



Scan to read  
the biographies  
of today's  
participants



Scan to read  
the National  
Women's History  
Museum's  
biography of  
Celia Cruz

# IN GRATITUDE

**The National Women's History Museum and the U.S. Mint extend our sincere appreciation to the following people and organizations for their support of this event:**

4-Train Vocals, Indira Almeida-Pardiillo, Ms. Jacqueline Bergland, Ariana DeBose, Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music, Celia Cruz High School of Music Big Band, Mercedes Diez, Gloria Estefan, Whoopi Goldberg, Mark Green, Kalahb Joseph, Gloria Calderón Kellett, Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, Lehman College, Brendan McGibney, Monet Molock, Omer Pardiillo-Cid, Vern Ram, Fausto Ramirez, Richard Relkin, The Honorable Rosie Rios, Rene M. Rotolo, Janet Sanchez, Penelope Smetters-Jacono, Telemundo, Gina Torres.

This event would not be possible without the support of the Celia Cruz estate and the incredible staff at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music, Lehman College, and the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts.

## Here's to the Queen of Salsa, Celia Cruz. ¡Azúcar!

### ABOUT THE AMERICAN WOMEN QUARTERS™ PROGRAM

The American Women Quarters™ Program is the first circulating coin program dedicated to honoring women whose achievements, triumphs and legacies reflect the strength, perseverance, and resiliency of our nation. Beginning in 2022, and continuing through 2025, the U.S. Mint will issue five new reverse designs each year on quarter dollars honoring prominent American women from a variety of fields, including, but not limited to, suffrage, civil rights, abolition, government, humanities, science, space, and the arts.

The National Women's History Museum is proud to serve as a consultant to the U.S. Mint on this inspiring project. In addition to participating in the honoree recommendation process, the Museum hosted an online portal for public feedback in which more than 11,000 submissions were received for consideration in the program.

The 2024 Celia Cruz Quarter is the 14<sup>th</sup> coin in the American Women Quarters™ Program. Other coins in the program for 2024 include: Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, poet, writer, activist, lawyer, and Episcopal priest; Patsy Takemoto Mink, first woman of color to serve in Congress; Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, Civil War-era surgeon, women's rights advocate, and the only woman to be awarded the U.S. Medal of Honor; and Zitkála-Šá, writer, composer, educator, and political activist. To learn more about the American Women Quarters™ Program, visit [usmint.gov](https://usmint.gov).

### ABOUT THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

Founded in 1996, the National Women's History Museum (NWHM) is an innovative cultural institution and virtual-first museum dedicated to uncovering, interpreting, and celebrating women's diverse contributions to society. A renowned leader in women's history education, the Museum brings to life the countless untold stories of women throughout history and serves as a space for all to inspire, experience, collaborate, and amplify women's impact—past, present, and future. We strive to fundamentally change the way women and girls see their potential and power. Learn more about NWHM's resources, programs, and exhibitions at [womenshistory.org](https://womenshistory.org).

### ABOUT 4-TRAIN VOCALS

4-Train Vocals is an award-winning vocal jazz ensemble formed in 2019 under the direction of Ms. Jacqueline Bergland. Each year, the 4-Train vocals have competed and placed in HS National Jazz Competitions from Berklee School of Music in Boston, MA to the National Jazz Festival in Philadelphia, PA.

### ABOUT CELIA CRUZ BRONX HIGH SCHOOL OF MUSIC BIG BAND

The Award-winning Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music Big Band is a powerhouse of young talent under the direction of Ms. Penelope Smetters-Jacono. Their infectious energy and technical mastery have earned them a reputation as one of New York City's Premier High School Jazz Ensembles.



**American Women Quarters™ Program**



**National Women's History Museum**