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Brooklyn Public Library Branches Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

Ten Brooklyn Libraries Host Events; Celebration Begins with Festival at Sunset Park Library on September 30

Brooklyn, NY—Brooklyn Public Library’s branches will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a series of fun, family-friendly programs featuring Scaramouches Latino Puppet Theater’s performance of *Fearless Juan*, a ghost story that teaches children how to handle fear.

“The beauty of living in Brooklyn is that no matter where you’re from or what language you speak, you can visit a public library—usually one within walking distance—to check out a great book or attend a free program,” said **Brooklyn Public Library President and CEO Linda E. Johnson**. “We’re proud to host a large Spanish-language collection and many helpful multilingual resources, and we hope Brooklynites from every neighborhood will join us at an event this month to celebrate Latino heritage and culture.”

The Library’s observance of Hispanic Heritage Month will kick off with a festival at Sunset Park Library on Friday, September 30. More Spanish-language materials circulate at Sunset Park than at any other library in Brooklyn. Other branches hosting events include Cortelyou (October 3, 3:30 pm), Arlington (October 4, 11 am), Williamsburgh (October 5, 10:30 am), New Lots (October 6, 3:30 pm), Coney Island (October 7, 4 pm), Cypress Hills (October 11, 3:30 pm), DeKalb (October 12, 3:30 pm), Washington Irving (October 13, 4 pm) and Carroll Gardens (October 14, 3:30 pm).

The celebrations at the Sunset Park, Carroll Gardens and DeKalb branches will be sponsored by Apple Bank, which is supporting the Library’s multilingual programming and language access resources for the second straight year. Apple Bank will purchase new ESOL materials for the Library’s New Americans Corners, fund its continued provision of Language Line interpretation services and present a series of 14 multilingual family cultural programs, including the Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, a three-part Russian concert series, commemorations of the Lunar New Year, four Dia de Los Ninos/Immigrant Heritage Week programs in April and the second annual World Language Family Day for Immigrant Heritage Month in June.

“We are very pleased to partner and support the Brooklyn Public Library’s family-oriented programs which have brought fun and entertainment to so many people of different ethnic origins throughout Brooklyn,” said James Matera, Executive Vice President and Head of Apple Bank’s Consumer Banking Division. “This is the second year that Apple Bank has joined hands with the Library to provide essential materials and access to resources that enhance citizenship and learning. It’s a great partnership and win-win for Brooklyn.”

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About Brooklyn Public Library

Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) is an independent library system for the 2.5 million residents of Brooklyn. It is the fifth largest library system in the United States with 60 neighborhood libraries located throughout the borough. BPL offers free programs and services for all ages and stages of life, including a large selection of books in more than 30 languages, author talks, literacy programs and public computers. BPL’s eResources, such as eBooks and eVideos, catalog information and free homework help, are available to customers of all ages 24 hours a day at our website: www.bklynlibrary.org.

About Apple Bank

Apple Bank, established in 1863, provides consumer and small business banking services in greater New York through its branch network and online banking platform and is an active lender in the commercial real estate and corporate banking sectors. Apple is the second-largest state chartered savings bank in New York State, with \$12.8 billion in assets and 79 branches located in the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, Westchester and Rockland. Visit us at www.applebank.com