

DEAR LATIN N.Y.

Dear Mr. Rios:

Being in the Army and away from home for a long period of time can be sort of lonely, leaving you out of the scene for so long. But when my brother sent me a copy of your fabulous magazine, over here to me in Germany, I was really overwhelmed.

Being a musician myself, with the Army Band in Germany, it's really wonderful to know that there is something worth going home for and that Latin is bigger than ever. Therefore, I wish to subscribe to your fabulous magazine, so as not to miss any future issues I am happy to say that you'll have our fullest cooperation from all the Latins stationed in my unit in Germany. Your magazine makes me feel that I have a home away from home.

Sincerely,

P.F.C. Frank E. Ortiz, Jr.
RA11816387
82 Army Band
A.P.O. New York, 09107

Dear Readers:

In the past issues we've asked for your ideas and your comments, and we're happy to say we're getting them.

We'd like to thank you for your especially kind response to our readers in the Armed Services.

Our boys overseas really appreciate receiving mail from home. We'll be publishing as many letters from our GI's as possible, together with their addresses and we'd like to encourage you to drop them a line.

LNY

Dear Mr. Pete Rios:

I just had to write a few lines to tell you how much I enjoyed your book.

I think it was great.

I happened to mention it to an older friend of mine and ended up making her subscriptions.

I think I won't tell any more of my friends.

It might cost me too much to advertise.

Keep up the good work. Sincere wishes and success.

Sincerely,

Minerva Saldana

P.S. I was only kidding about not telling my friends of your GREAT LATIN NEW YORK.

Dear Leo:

I'm very happy to see that you took the time to write to Latin New York about me and the orchestra, which I think it was very nice of you.

Oh! by the way Leo, when is your next dance???????????

Thanks again,
Joe Quijano

EDITORIAL

A Point of View

In our last issue LNY raised the question, "How involved are you in community action?" We now feel that it is most important that we confront ourselves and our society and ask "Do I have a point of view?" A point of view that will be the basis of intelligent, relevant action - be it individual or community-wide?

Mass media, particularly newspapers and T.V., are constantly bombarding us with reports on conflicts and crisis in our neighborhoods, in our city and throughout the world. How current is our thinking about these events? Do we simply bemoan the "trouble and the troublemakers" or are we prepared to take a stand in our neighborhoods, in our schools, at our jobs, in our social clubs?

LNY sees its role as providing a forum for a frank exchange of opinion and facts that will help us stay current and relevant to the many challenges facing the Puerto Rican - Hispanic community. We want to stay lively, rhythmic and youthful by providing features that are meaningful. We are therefore planning to expand our subsequent issues so that we can offer more information on education, employment, the arts, latin cultures and the personalities who are "making it" in our community.

In this issue Latin N.Y. is offering employment ads by the I.B.M. Corporation and McGraw-Hill Publications in addition to provocative articles on the Community Action Project in East Harlem led by Msgr. Robert J. Fox, Coordinator of the Spanish Community of the archdiocese and the inspirational story of one of our young cats who has gone from the streets to the Mayor's Office (Arnie Segarra) and of another (Eddie Mercado) who has become an official with the State Commission on Human Rights.

We also are planning to present discussions of such issues as: school decentralization; relations between Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Dominicans, and anyone else you care to name; the question of cultural integrity; How can we function bi-lingually, without putting down our need for high competence in English and our need to relate to our Spanish-speaking parents and grandparents; the civil rights struggle and the role of the Latin New Yorker; the Poor People's Campaign; the Annual Puerto Rican Parade and our role in making it respond to our needs; the entertainment scene, and the latest in books which speak of our concerns and aspirations.

In short, we intend to involve ourselves by taking the pulse of our community and give our own, young and old alike, a chance to speak for ourselves, instead of always being studied, surveyed and researched by others. We are tired of others being glib about us! We want to "tell it like it is" and will respond to any topics which you suggest!

In essence, what we hope to do is present a point of view, for whatever it is worth. Do you have a point of view? We invite your comments and contributions (short stories, poetry, questions, reviews, etc.).

VOL. 1-5

LATIN N.Y.

JUNE, 1968

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Managing Editor _____ Alfredo Mathew, Jr.
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LATIN N.Y. is published monthly by Latin N.Y. Incorporated. Subscriptions: \$2.50 yearly in the U.S.A. (C) Copyright 1967, 1674 Broadway, Suite 914, New York, N.Y. 10019 Telephone: 212 246-3688