

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Hispanic Heritage Celebration at PBCC to feature art, music and dance

(Lake Worth, Fla.- Sept. 2, 2009) – Palm Beach Community College at Lake Worth has partnered with the Puerto Rican Organization for Cultural Enhancement and Reaffirmation (PROCER) to host its Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

Themed “Hispanic Expressions: Art, Music & Dance,” the celebration features a variety of exhibits and music and dance events from Sept. 16 through Nov. 10. The events are free and open to the public.

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationally Sept. 15-Oct. 15 to recognize the contributions of Latinos who, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, are the nation’s fastest growing population and the largest minority group.

The celebration includes:

Sept. 16

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

TC Courtyard

Modern Latin American Dances - Featuring Latin Beat Dance Studios salsa, merengue, regaetton and other rhythms, this is the kick-off event for the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. In this interactive show, dancers will perform, share the origin and background of modern Latin American dances, and teach basic dance steps. Hispanic cultural organizations and PBCC students will showcase crafts, souvenirs and other items from their respective countries, including Puerto Rico, Colombia, Peru, Guatemala, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Bolivia and Cuba. Latin foods and delicacies will be served.

Sept. 17- Oct. 23

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed weekends and holidays)

(Opening reception - 5 p.m. – Sept. 17)

Jan and Gary Dario Gallery in the Humanities building

Guardians, Oceans and Windows by artist Harak Rubio - exhibition of sculptures and paintings.

Sept. 21- Oct. 16

8 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 5 p.m. on Fridays

Harold C. Manor Library – 2nd floor gallery

(Opening reception - Noon - Sept. 23)

Latin American Arts & Crafts Exhibition – paintings and crafts from diverse countries showcasing folklore, traditions and culture. Some paintings and crafts have been loaned by private owners while others have been provided by the artists themselves. This exhibition is coordinated by the Puerto Rican Cultural Society.

Oct. 29- Nov. 10

Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed weekends and holidays)

(Opening reception - 5 p.m. – Oct. 29)

Jan and Gary Dario Gallery in the Humanities building

This “open theme” exhibition will feature paintings by 10 Hispanic artists living in South Florida. Countries represented include Venezuela, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Costa Rica, Uruguay and Honduras, as well as “special guest” artwork from Brazil. This exhibition is coordinated by the Cuban Art & Culture Society.

Oct. 31

8 p.m.

Duncan Theatre

Fiesta en America! – Hispanic music, dance and poetry by local dance troupes and artists in a festive display of cultural diversity. Enjoy a salute from the Hispanic community to all nations of the American continent. Starting with a medley of modern Latin dances, the show includes folkloric dance and poetry from Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Bolivia and Peru, with the special presentation of Puerto Rican composer and pianist Rafi Escudero.

Nov. 4

11:30 a.m.

Natural Science building - Room 129

Latino Identity: One Name, Many Voices - Through entertaining activities the many dimensions of "Latin Pride" and "Hispanic Identity" will be explored. Share stories and conversation in learning about the diversity of the Latino/Latina experience at PBCC.

For more information on these events, please call PBCC at (561) 868-3800 or contact PROCER at (561) 439-5631.

About Palm Beach Community College: Serving more than 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach Community College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing the bachelor's degree, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Florida's first public community college, PBCC offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

Media contact:

Tabatha B. McDonald

College Relations and Marketing Specialist

(561) 868-3127