

For Immediate Release

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New York State Assemblywoman Maritza Davila
North Brooklyn CommUNITY Parade and Resource Fair

(Bushwick, NY) – As Brooklyn, and especially North Brooklyn, becomes more and more a magnet for immigrants and visitors from across the globe, Assemblywoman Maritza Davila (D-53rd Assembly District), in conjunction with Community Based Organization El Puente, are calling on Brooklynites across Bushwick and Williamsburg to unite for a day of celebration of that diversity.

On Saturday, August 22nd, community organizations, agencies, and elected officials from across Bushwick and Williamsburg will march together down Knickerbocker Avenue, Bushwick's historic commercial strip. The parade will end at Maria Hernandez Park, a park named for a community activist who was killed for her commitment to keeping the Bushwick community safe and vibrant.

In the park, community residents will find over 40 agencies and organizations offering information about services and new initiatives in the community including Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams' "Take Five to Stay Alive" anti-gun violence initiative, onsite health-screening by Woodhull Hospital and HIV testing by CABS and the After Hours Project, and performances by the Brooklyn Gypsies and Dreams in Motion. Attendees will also be dancing to the sound of some of Bushwick's finest homegrown Salseros.

Assemblywoman Maritza Davila says "I am enormously proud of my community, of all we have been through and all we will become. As elected officials, we can sometimes spend too much time focusing on all that is wrong or divisive in our districts. That's why I thought it so important to give my district a chance to celebrate together all that is right about Bushwick and Williamsburg."

"As Bushwick and Williamsburg continue to grow as a mecca for innovation, creative arts and small businesses, it is important for us to recognize that it was the dedicated long time residents and organizations that helped stabilize these communities during years of crisis. Today, everyone wants to live and work in North Brooklyn and that is great. Today's celebration brings out the best in all of us. It embraces diversity and reaffirms the importance of respect, tolerance and equality. I thank Assemblymember Davila, El PUENTE and all of the participants for showcasing the best of our community." said **Congresswoman Nydia Valazquez**

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams said: "I am pleased to be part of Assembly Member Davila's North Brooklyn CommUNITY Parade and Resource Fair, highlighting the spirit of unity that is critical for a successful community. We are One Brooklyn, and the popularity of our brand must translate into prosperity for all Brooklynites. We strengthen the people of Bushwick and Williamsburg by connecting them to local services and to each other."

"Tomorrow's CommUNITY Parade and Resource Fair is a great opportunity to come out meet some wonderful people and visit with many of our extremely dedicated community organizations. Brooklyn truly is a grassroots community and each and every one of us make it what it is. It is something to be proud of." said **Senator Martin Malavé Dilan**.

WHAT: CommUNITY Parade and Resource Fair

WHEN: Saturday, August 22, 2015
Parade: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Resource Fair: 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

WHO: Assemblywoman Maritza Davila
Congresswoman Nydia Valazquez
Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams
NYS Senator Martin Malave Dilan
El Puente

WHERE: CommUNITY Parade
Knickerbocker Avenue (from Hope Park to Maria Hernandez Park)

CommUNITY Resource Fair
Maria Hernandez Park

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