



*“Building Bridges to Transform Communities
and Secure Social Justice for All”*

Institute for Multicultural
Communications Cooperation and
Development, Inc.



A Celebration of Diversity
The Princeton Club of New York
Friday, June 9, 2017 – 6:30PM



Program

15 W 43rd St, New York, NY 10036



*“Building Bridges to Transform Communities
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A Celebration of Diversity at The Princeton Club of New York

| *Speakers*

Ismael Betancourt, Jr.
Master of Ceremonies,
Founder and President, IF•MC•CA•DI

Mehnaz M. Afridi, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Manhattan College

H. E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser
High Representative for the United Nations
Alliance of Civilizations

Edward F. Cox, Attorney-at-Law
Chairman of the New York
Republican State Committee

Rev. Carmen Hernández
President, NYC LGBTQS Chamber of Commerce

Torian A. Richardson
Chairman, GlobalMinded

John Wang
President, Asian American Business
Development Council

| *Special Guests*

Dr. George Andreopoulos, Director, Center for
International Human Rights, John Jay College of
Criminal Justice

Barry M. Bloom, Attorney at Law, Drohan Lee Firm

Tonio Burgos, CEO, Tonio Burgos and Associates

H.E. Mrs. Anayansi Rodríguez Camejo, Permanent
Representative of Cuban Mission to the United Nations

Reverend William D. Carter, III, Director, Interfaith
Relations, IF•MC•CA•DI

Alí Curi, President, Hispanic Professionals Networking
Group

Klaus A. Hamacher, Ph.D. MSEE, Associate Professor of
Radiology at CUMC, Chief Nuclear Medicine Physicist

Narinder K. Kakar, Representative in New York
UN-mandated University

Suhail Akhtar Khan, Gender Affairs Officer, Gender Unit,
ODSRSG RC/HC United Nations Mission in South Sudan

Dr. Hanifa Mezoui, Senior Adviser, Humanitarian Affairs
and Civil Society United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Felipe Quepo, Information Officer, Outreach, Engagement
& Global Communications, Department of Public
Information, United Nations

Ya Yun Teng, Museum of Chinese in America

George A. Zeppenfeldt, President, Association of Hispanic
Healthcare Executives

| Speakers Biographies

Master of Ceremonies



Ismael Betancourt, Jr., Founder and President, IF•MC•CA•DI

He founded the Institute in 1989 to bridge cultural divides between diverse communities. Today, he leads the Institute's various local-global development projects. Betancourt has devoted more than forty years to management and management consulting, focusing on strategic planning and development. Formerly, he worked with public and private institutions in New York City. He was an Assistant Professor of Business, City University of New York (York College); General Director for Administration, Boricua College; Senior Vice President, New York Urban Coalition, and CEO of L.B., LTD., a food industry small enterprise. Betancourt studied government, business and political science and holds degrees from Columbia University, the Harvard University Graduate School of Business and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.



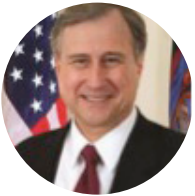
Mehnaz M. Afridi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Manhattan College

With a doctorate from the University of South Africa and an MA from Syracuse University, both in religious studies, Mehnaz M. Afridi is Associate Professor of Religious studies and Director of Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith Education Center at Manhattan College. She teaches and works in: Contemporary Islam, Judaism, world religions, genocide studies, women and religion and Arab and Israeli literature. Her recent book is entitled Shoah Through Muslim Eyes (Academic Studies Press, 2017). "Shoah" is another term for the Holocaust. A native of Pakistan and a practicing Muslim, Afridi has received numerous research grants and awards for her teaching, writing and principled advocacy. She has taught or lectured at universities in Istanbul, Rome, Israel and throughout the United States. She is a member of the ethics and religion committee of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.



Ambassador Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, High Representative, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

A native of Qatar, Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser studied diplomacy and political science in Qatar and Lebanon and began his diplomatic career at the Qatari Foreign Ministry in 1972. He has served in Pakistan, Dubai and the United Arab Emirates, as Deputy Foreign Minister as and ambassador to Jordan. He is the former permanent representative of Qatar to the United Nations, appointed in 1998. He was the President of the United Nations Security Council in 2006 and President of the Sixty-Sixth Session of the United Nations General Assembly from 2011 to 2012. In 2012, he became head of the United National Alliance of Civilizations which promotes understanding between the Islamic world and other peoples. In 2013, Al-Nasser received the Global Thinkers Forum Award for Excellence in Leadership.



Ed Cox, Attorney at Law, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

After graduating in 1968 from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, he worked with Ralph Nader as a founding member of the consumer advocacy group "Nader's Raiders." On graduating from Harvard law school, Cox campaigned for the reelection of his father-in-law, President Nixon. From 1981 to 1983, he was Vice President and General Counsel of the United States Synthetic Fuels Corporation. In 1983, he founded Student Sponsor Partners to mentor inner-city school students. Since 1994, Cox has been a SUNY Trustee and a director of the New York Institute for Special Education. He fostered the development of cutting edge policies and programs for K-12 education, teacher training and facilities evaluation and has been a leader in energy and environmental policy-making. After the 2006 election, Cox chaired Attorney General-Elect Andrew Cuomo's environmental transition team. He was elected chairman of the New York State Republican Committee in 2009.



Rev. Carmen Hernández, President, NYC LGBTQS Chamber of Commerce

For more than 30 years, Rev. Carmen Hernández has advocated in a variety of ways for at-risk youth and for tenants in the Bronx. Over 10 years ago, she co-founded the Bronx Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Latin Hip Hop Summit at Lehman College. Rev. Carmen has also promoted business-community cooperation to help build a positive environment for all in the Soundview area of the Bronx. Her belief in the power of business to transform led her to found the NYC LGBTQS Chamber of Commerce, an initiative that helps to ensure that all talents are given the chance to contribute to a productive, harmonious community. A servant of the underserved, she is the CEO, founder and pastor Stratford Community Services, Inc. (Giving Kids/Youth a Chance). She is the driving force behind creating the first Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in the Bronx.



Torian A. Richardson, Chairman of the Board, GlobalMinded

GlobalMinded, with headquarters in Denver, Colorado, is an educational and research non-profit organization committed to creating a capable, diverse talent pipeline for first-generation-to-college, at-risk and low-income students and job seekers. Torian A. Richardson, Chairman, has lived and worked on four continents, focusing on finance, education, transportation and management consulting. He is fluent in Mandarin. He has also collaborated with the University of Pennsylvania and Coursera and has delivered an online course on "Optimizing Diversity on Teams." Torian is a graduate of Harvard Business School and holds a Masters in International Development from Tsinghua University in Beijing and a Bachelors in Finance from Benedictine University.



John Wang, Founder and President, Asian American Business Development Council (AABDC)

Founded in 1994, the Council is a unique non-profit consulting organization that provides technical and professional assistance to Asian American small businesses. A key part of its work is promoting and advocating for Asian American entrepreneurship through the Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business Awards which recognize the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans in the general economy. Nearly 700 Asian Americans have been honored since 2001. AABDC has a distinguished record of leadership in promoting U.S.-China trade through trade missions, seminars, trade shows and conferences in the U.S. and China. In 2008, John founded the New York in China Center to create a New York presence in China to help our businesses access China's market and attract Chinese investment to New York, promote understanding and build business-conducive environments.



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| **IF•MC•CA•DI Programs**

For nearly three decades, IF•MC•CA•DI has organized forums, conferences and other events to bridge divides in New York City and elsewhere. In 2004, it gained consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Recently, it:

- Organized a 3-day conference on Puerto Rican self-determination and the debt crisis along with the John Jay College of Criminal Justice Center for International Human Rights (conference papers will be included in a book);
- Organized an immigration reform forum in Brooklyn to inform parents, teachers and administrators about recent immigration policies and actions;
- Launched the Bronx Transformation Project to generate transformation models and apply them to other communities;
- Held regular lectures and panels on diversity, human rights, demographics, inequitable incarceration and other issues;
- Applied to the United Nations Department of Information for access to important information and decisions of local and international leaders, enabling it to share information with the communities with which it works;
- Addressed the UN Commission on De-colonization with respect to the status of Puerto Rico;

| **Host committee**

Gardell Betancourt, Regional Business Manager at MannKind Corporation
Hon. Rita DiMartino, Vice-Chair, Bronx-Lebanon Hospital, CUNY Trustee
Angelo Giordani, Management Consultant
Hon. Frank Gómez, Retired Foreign Service Officer, Corporate Executive, Hispanic Activist
Mayra Gómez, Founder, Access International Group, Inc.
Alibe Hamacher, Director of Research and Development, IF•MC•CA•DI

Alfred Placeres, Attorney at Law, Hispanic Business Advocate
Gail Smith, Publisher, Impacto Latino
Bobby Sukhdeo, Founder, Pure Audio Visual, Entrepreneur, Innovator, Philanthropist
Tetteh Tawiah, Wellness Consultant, Fitness Trainer, Visual Artist, and Education Advocate
Louis Ventura, CEO of NYICAS and Saphira & Ventura Art Gallery



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Organization in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

IF•MC•CA•DI is grateful to the many volunteers who devoted their time and talents in support of this program. We also acknowledge the expert coordination by Alibe Hamacher, our Director of Research and Development, Frank Gómez, Member, Host Committee and Ismael Valentín, Marketing Director.