



# Novedades

News & Updates

May 2005

## Board of Directors

- Silvia Guzman
- Sergio Jaramillo
- Pedro DeJesus
- Cesar Martinez
- Luis Prado
- Gladys Vega
- Tito Meza
- Freddy Gonzales

## Executive Staff

- Juan R. Vega  
Executive Director
- Bob Boulrice  
Deputy Director—Finance
- Ruthie Gomez  
Deputy Director—Programs

**Centro Latino de Chelsea**  
267 Broadway  
Chelsea, MA 02150

**Phone: (617) 884-3238**  
**Fax: (617) 884-4646**

[www.centrolatino.org](http://www.centrolatino.org)

## Centro Celebrates 15 Years

On April 1, 240 enthusiastic guests filled the ballroom at the Hyatt Harborside Hotel to celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Quinceañero) of Centro Latino de Chelsea. The Gala Fundraiser brought together community members, corporate partners, and public officials for an evening that was distinguished by the extraordinary energy and exceptional camaraderie of the partygoers. The event raised approximately \$50,000, the proceeds of which will directly support Centro's community service programs. More than a fundraiser, this event quickly became a celebration of community where old friends reunited and new friendships began.



Current Board member Silvia Guzman and founding Board Member Marta Rosa cut the cake at Centro's Quinceañero Gala.

The event featured a silent auction, dinner buffet, and live music. Jerry Villacres, Director of El Planeta Newspaper, emceed the speaking program, which highlighted Chelsea's transformation since 1989. Founding Board Member Marta Rosa, Executive Director Juan Vega, and student Cristina Cervantes gave presentations.

### Gracias!

Centro Latino is very grateful to all the sponsors, donors, volunteers and guests who helped to make the Quinceañero such a great success.

## Upcoming Events...

### Chelsea Day June 4, 2005

Come stroll down Broadway and get to know Chelsea businesses and agencies. Enjoy music and food. Call the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce for more info, (617) 884-4877

### Aids Walk June 5, 2005

Join Centro's Vidas Unidas group in their effort to raise funds for the Aids Action Committee. The 10K walk starts and finished at the Hatch Shell. [www.aidswalkboston.org](http://www.aidswalkboston.org)

### Chelsea River Revel, June 18, 2005

Join the kids from Centro's LASI program as they participate in the festivities of the Chelsea River Revel, an annual event on the Meridian Street Bridge featuring family activities, games, music and a 5K race. [www.chelseariverrevel.com](http://www.chelseariverrevel.com)



CENTRO LATINO DE CHELSEA

MISSION

*To improve the quality of life and self-determination of Latinos in Chelsea and surrounding communities through economic development, education, health and social well-being strategies.*

**Quinceañero Host Committee**

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ray Monkiewicz,         | Stop & Shop               |
| Silvia Guzmán,          | The TJX Companies         |
| Mass General Hospital   | Boston Red Sox            |
| Eastern Salt Company    | Centro Board of Directors |
| Banknorth Massachusetts | Chelsea Teachers' Union   |
| Global Companies, LLC   | Child Development         |
| Anonymous               | Centers & Systems         |
| Bunker Hill Community   | Countrywide Home Loans    |
| College                 | Comcast                   |
| Chelsea Provident Co-op | Feeley & Driscoll, P.C.   |
| Bank                    | Hacienda Realty           |
| Citizens Bank           | IUPAT District Council 35 |
| Jaile & Associates      | Rep. Eugene O'Flaherty    |
| Liberty Loan Co.        | The Puig-Antich family    |
| Massport                | UFCW Local 1445           |
| Sovereign Bank          |                           |

**Enfoque Client Profile**



Cristina addresses the guests at Centro's Quinceañero Gala on April 1, 2005.

"I need to speak English because I work in a place with American people who only speak English. After 6 months of studying, everyone was saying, 'Much better, Cristina, your English is much better!' Studying at Centro is a privilege for me."

Cristina Cervantes came to the U.S. two years ago from Uruguay. She enrolled in a free English class at Centro Latino, and after a year of study was able to move on to a more advanced class at Bunker Hill Community College. Cristina demonstrated her ability when she addressed more than 200 people in English at Centro's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. She has also just completed a computer course at Centro and hopes to apply her new skills in future employment.

**Actualidades Program Updates**

**Computer Program**

After a rigorous examination of Centro's finances, facilities, instructors and curricula, our Computer Program was licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Education as a proprietary school. This recognition has reinforced Centro's commitment to program quality.

The Computer Technology Program offers eleven different courses ranging from computer basics to advanced software application to computer maintenance. All courses meet once per week for ten weeks (a total of 30 instructional hours) and are taught in Spanish.

**Workforce Development Program**

Centro Latino is proud to announce a new partner in its Workforce Development Program. Thirteen employees at IGS Store Fixtures in Peabody, MA have begun ESL classes at their worksite. IGS hopes to promote many of those employees as a result of their participation. Eight of the management staff have also begun Spanish classes to help increase communication at the workplace.

**Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language**

Centro is looking forward to continue working in partnership with Bunker Hill Community College, LARE, Roca and the Intergenerational Literacy Project to provide Adult Basic Education services to Chelsea. The MA Department of Education recently announced the results of its competitive proposal process. Centro is pleased that the Chelsea ABE partnership was funded for a five-year cycle.

With this support, Centro is able to provide free English as a Second Language classes and Spanish Language Literacy classes for adults.