

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- March 20, 2006 -

Contact: Nucky Walder / Tel: 202-882-6227

WHAT: 14th Poetry Marathon in Spanish **NOTE:** In Spanish Only

WHO: Teatro de la Luna, with Renowned Hispanic Poets Luís Alberto Ambroggio, Ivón Gordon Vailakis, Consuelo Hernández, Gladys Ilarregui, Eduardo Langagne, José Mármol, Ariel Montoya, Iván Oñate, Fernando Operé and Milagros Terán.

WHERE: CASA DE LA LUNA
4020 Georgia Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20011 (Georgia Ave/Petworth Metro Station - 'Green Line')

WHEN: Saturday, April 1 from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm

TICKETS: FREE (cash bar, concessions and lobby sales)

INFO: 202-882-6227 or www.teatrodelaluna.org

"La pluma y la palabra" / *The Pen and the Word* Celebrating the life and work of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (1648-1695)

Teatro de la Luna announces its 14th annual Poetry Marathon in Spanish, "La Pluma y la Palabra" (The Pen and the Word). This year's marathon is dedicated to the memory of the life and work of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, who was the greatest poet born on the American continent in the 17th century. A Poet Nun, a woman of genius, and a person of intellectual prowess whose ideas and accomplishments were ahead of her time, Sor Juana lived in Mexico from 1651 until 1695. The marathon will take place at Casa de la Luna on Saturday, April 1, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Entrance is free.

Spanish-language poets from many countries, including several living in the Washington, D.C. area, will join to celebrate Sor Juana's contribution to the world of literature and culture.

An event unique in the United States, Teatro de la Luna's *La Pluma y la Palabra* unites poets from the three Americas and Spain, including from the greater D.C. metropolitan area: Luís Alberto Ambroggio and Gladys Ilarregui (*Argentina*); Consuelo Hernández (*Colombia*) and Milagros Terán (*Nicaragua*). Coming from elsewhere in the U.S. are Fernando Operé (*Spain*) and Ivón Gordon Vailakis (*Ecuador*). From foreign countries are Eduardo Langagne (*Mexico*), José Mármol (*Dominican Republic*), Ariel Montoya (*Nicaragua*) and Iván Oñate (*Ecuador*).

The poetry group ParaesolaPalabra will also be joining this marathon, and Open Mike sessions (time reserved in advance) include area amateur poets and poetry lovers.

The 14th Poetry Marathon is coordinated by Professor Rei Berroa and Teatro de la Luna's Artistic Director, Mario Marcel. We welcome all who hold dear the poetic language of liberty.

Teatro de la Luna is Arlington County's only Spanish-language theater company. Its mission is to promote Hispanic culture and foster cross-cultural understanding between the Spanish- and English-speaking communities in the national capital area.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Friday, March 31, 2006

12:00 noon - 2 pm Library of Congress - Lunch
2:30 pm - 3:45 pm Library of Congress - Presentation of Poets' Books - Dialogue on Hispanic Poetry Today - Presentation of Poems and Comments by Poets and the Public
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Library of Congress - Tour of the Hispanic Rooms and the Main Library
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Encounter and Press Conference at Casa de la Luna

Saturday, April 1, 2006 - "La Pluma y la Palabra" (The Pen and the Word) 14th Poetry Marathon

2:00 pm - 2:15 pm Opening - *I, the Least of All* (actors from Teatro de la Luna)

First Round of Invited Poets

2:15 pm - 3:00 pm **First Group:** Ivón Gordon Vailakis, José Mármol, Gladys Ilarregui, Ariel Montoya, Eduardo Langagne

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm **Second Group:** Iván Oñate, Milagros Terán, Fernando Operé, Consuelo Hernández, Luís Alberto Ambroggio

3:45 pm - 4:30 pm The People's Voice: 1st Open Mike Session (previous sign up)

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm ParaesolaPalabra Ensemble of the New Cultural Group (MILPA)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm The People's Voice: 2nd Open Mike Session (previous sign up)

Second Round of Invited Poets

6:00 pm - 6:45 pm **First Group**

6:45 pm - 7:30 pm **Second Group**

7:30 pm - 8:00 pm The People's Voice: Last Open Mike Session

8:00 pm Closing - "*El abrazo fraterno*" (A fraternal embrace)

Throughout the Marathon there will be concessions, cash bar, book sales, a silent auction, and a bazaar.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 202-882-6227

Email: info@teatrodelaluna.org www.teatrodelaluna.org

Teatro de la Luna is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. This event is sponsored in part by the Arlington Commission for the Arts,
Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division, National Endowment for the Arts, Virginia Commission for the Arts,
DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Cultural Office - Embassy of Spain, private foundations, corporations and individual donors.