

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- November 29, 2005 -

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

- WHAT:** Young People's Poetry Marathon in Spanish
In Celebration of *Don Quijote's* 400th Anniversary
- WHERE:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Public Library
901 G Street, NW, Washington, DC
- WHEN:** Thursday, December 8 (elementary schools), 10am - 12 noon, and
Friday, December 9 (middle & high schools), 10am – 12 noon
- COST:** FREE!

A Festival of the Spanish Language

Teatro de la Luna and the Washington, D.C. Public Library System announce the **6th Young People's Poetry Marathon in Spanish**, an event unique in the United States. Produced through Teatro de la Luna's **Experience Theater Program**, the marathon is dedicated to maintaining and teaching young people good use and interpretation of the Spanish language. Taking place from 10:00 a.m. until noon over two days this year, December 8 (elementary students) and 9 (middle and high school students), the Young People's Marathon in Spanish will celebrate the 400th anniversary of one of the masterpieces of Spanish literature, *Don Quijote de la Mancha* (1605-2005). The marathon will be held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Public Library, 901 G St., NW, Washington, DC, in Auditorium A-5.

Acclaimed area Hispanic poets Luis Alberto Ambroggio and Rei Berroa will join Teatro de la Luna Artistic Director Mario Marcel in hosting the marathon.

Teatro de la Luna calls young people from around the metropolitan area together to participate in this Festival of the Spanish Language, either through performing poems they have written in Spanish, or reciting selected poems by published authors. Friends and schoolmates are invited to listen while peers showcase their poetic talents.

Elementary students participating on the 8th include children from Bancroft, Bruce Monroe, Brightwood, Powell, Oyster Public Schools in D.C., plus Elsie Whitlow Stokes and Capital City Public Charter Schools. From Virginia come children from Key and Claremont Elementary Schools. On the 9th, young people from Gunston Middle School in Arlington, Washington International School and ABC Bilingual Community Academy in the District, and Washington Waldorf in Maryland will take the stage.

Educators interested in their students attending this one-of-a-kind event should call Teatro de la Luna at 202-882-6227 as soon as possible to ensure there is space for their classes. Participation and entrance to this event is free.

Teatro de la Luna, Northern Virginia's only Spanish-language theater, is celebrating its 15th season this year. Besides its celebrated Young People's Poetry Marathon in Spanish, it also produces plays for adults and young people, conducts workshops, and hosts the Mid-Atlantic area's only International Festival of Hispanic Theater.

INFO & RESERVATIONS: 202-882-6227

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

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