



Producer and actress Miriam Colon signs autographs for Horizon residents following performances by The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre.

The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre Performs for Residents at Horizon

On Friday, August 10th, residents in secure detention at Horizon Juvenile Center were treated to a presentation of two plays authored by Don Quijote scribe Cervantes and performed by The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre Company.

An audience of 100 residents and staff enjoyed the colorful and elaborate production that included ‘Entremes de Refranes,’ the story of a young woman who must marry to collect an inheritance left to her by her uncle, and ‘El Juez de los Divorcios,’ a tale of three couples seeking a divorce before a reluctant judge who ultimately dismisses all cases and attends a party given one of the couples he refused to divorce. The theatrical performance at the Horizon Juvenile Center is the first presented by the Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre for juveniles in detention.

Following the performances, cast and crew mingled with the juveniles. Residents were so interested in the production that theatre company producer and acclaimed actress Miriam Colon Valle was met with 15 minutes of questions from the attentive audience. The actress who has appeared in more than 100 film and television productions ranging from Bonanza, The Dick Van Dyke Show and L.A. Law to Isabel La Negra opposite Jose Ferrer and One Eyed Jacks with Marlon Brando, has been the Artistic Director of The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre for the last 40 years. She was perhaps most recognizable as Mama Montana in Scarface with Al Pacino.

At the residents’ request, Ms. Colon Valle happily signed autographs for all of the juveniles who asked.

Quintin, a Horizon resident, said, “I really thought it was a good show. Even though it was in Spanish, it was good to watch. I really enjoyed myself.”

Horizon Executive Director Eduardo Marcial said, “This was a great opportunity for residents to have some fun and learn about the arts. The kids enjoyed the plays and learning about film and theatre production from Ms. Colon.”

The first-ever performance by The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre at the New York City Department of Juvenile Justice was planned and arranged by the DJJ’s Director of Programs Sonia Galarza.

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