



Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

Kathleen Slocum
President

Jason Gots
Vice President

Anand Ragunath
Treasurer

Pamela Simon
Secretary

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!

Contact: William Castro, parent organizer

April 16, 2014

(718)554-3137, (845)701-5274

Latin Jazz Concert at TAG

May 30th from 6-8PM at the TAG school auditorium located at 240 E 109St,
New York, NY, 10029.

New York, NY April 16, 2014 – The Talented and Gifted School for Young Scholars (TAG) P.S. M014 will present a concert to celebrate the cultural heritage of our East Harlem “El Barrio” neighborhood. The school Latin Jazz Ensemble will play songs by the Great Tito Puente, for whom the school building is named after. Our tribute concert to Tito Puente will be something to remember!

Our students will play with celebrity musicians like Carlos Henriquez (former Musical Director of JALC) and his friends from Jazz at Lincoln Center <http://jalco.org/JLCO/carlos-henriquez> as well as our MC for the evening Mr. Bobby Sanabria, Grammy Award Nominee and Jazz percussionist of the year www.bobbysanabria.com. Latin dancers will display a spectacular presentation to the rhythm of Tito’s music. These students want every student at school to share their passion for music. 20% of the students are left out because they cannot afford to rent the instruments or the quantity of a particular instrument of interest is not available due to repair needs. TAG needs to add one part time music teacher, to purchase quality instruments and expand our inventory, to pay for repairs to our current inventory, and to maintain and care for music equipment going forward.



Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

Kathleen Slocum
President

Jason Gots
Vice President

Anand Rangunath
Treasurer

Pamela Simon
Secretary

TAG is one New York City's five citywide gifted and talented (G&T) schools. TAG has the most diverse student body of the citywide G&T programs. Of TAG's 530 students, 34% are Black, 29% Asian, 23% Hispanic, 4% White, and 12% other. 52% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch. TAG received an overall grade of "A" from the NYC Department of Education in its most recent progress report. In fall 2013 TAG was the recipient of the Blackboard Award for Outstanding Elementary and Middle School. It was also recognized by then Mayor Bloomberg as one of the top 22 schools in NY State.

In spite of TAG's vital mission to serve academically gifted children of all backgrounds, the school receives no additional funding for being a gifted school. In fact, TAG receives *less* funding on average than most neighborhood, or "zoned" schools, since it is not eligible for "No Child Left Behind" funding or other federal education funding sources. Moreover, TAG does not have an affluent parent base to fill the funding gap or cover the full costs of important enrichment activities like music.

The Latin Jazz Ensemble has put on successful performances every year usually involving all students in grades 5-8. The ensemble has become much in demand for outside performances including: Lehman College Jazz and Latin Festival (this is our 3rd year performing); CEI-PEA Black Tie Fundraiser at the Pierre Hotel (4th year in a row); District 4 Arts Celebration (twice); El Museo Del Barrio's 3 Kings Day Parade. They've been the subject of an article in El Diario and have performed for two DOE Chancellors.



Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

Kathleen Slocum
President

Jason Gots
Vice President

Anand Ragunath
Treasurer

Pamela Simon
Secretary

The concert will take place on May 30th from 6-8PM at the TAG school auditorium located at 240 E 109St, New York, NY, 10029.

For Latin Jazz Concert and ticket information go to: www.tagscholarspta.org and www.eventbrite.com/e/tag-school-latin-jazz-concert-tickets-11129276967 or contact William Castro at w.castro.parent@tagscholars.com, 718-554-3137, 845-701-5274, or Monica Florville 646-345-8010, 212-253-3547

TAG PTA: <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/>

TAG School: <https://www.tagscholars.com/>

TAG Insideschools.com review: <http://insideschools.org/elementary/browse/school/161>

TAG Latin Jazz Ensemble links:

http://www.tagscholars.com/docs/A_Pure_Jazz_in_Classroom_215_%20English.pdf

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHXdtxWakUk>

###