



DJJ welcomes The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre to Horizon Juvenile Center for a performance of 'los Jibaros Progresistas.'

The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre Performs for Youth at Horizon Juvenile Center

On Friday, August 15, 2008, residents at the Horizon Juvenile Center in the Bronx were treated to a presentation of 'los Jibaros Progresistas' performed by The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre Company.

An audience of 100 residents and staff enjoyed the colorful and elaborate production that included a "fiesta" to the accompaniment of guitar "guiro" and the typical Puerto Rican instrument, the "cuatro".

As the play begins, Cleto, the father, arrives in town excited by news of a Festival of progress in the far away city of Ponce. Juaniya, his young daughter, begs to attend. Chepa, his wife, objects, calling the trip a waste of money. Cleto overrules her, reassuring Juaniya. When Cleto leaves; Chepa accuses her daughter of wanting to attend the Festival so that she can flirt. Juaniya defends her virtue passionately, and Cleto returns announcing that Anton, Juaniya's boyfriend, has arrived to serenade her.

The plot resonated with the residents, who enjoyed the visit by the traveling theatre company.

Juvenile residents were also provided with a copy of the production synopsis in English.

Horizon Deputy Director of Programs Susan Campos said, "Although it was in Spanish, it was easy to follow. The residents enjoyed it and they all seemed to have a good time."

This is the second time that The Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre has performed at Horizon. Last summer, the organization presented productions at Horizon and provided residents with an opportunity to speak with theatre company producer and renowned actress, Miriam Colón.

