



# Chamber News

June 2021 | Volume 21 | Issue 6

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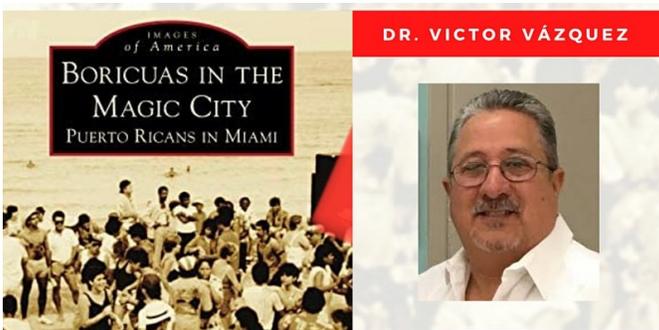
## MLK "Wheels to Work" program Annual Ceremony



L-R: Hon. Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Miami Dade County District 3; Carmelo Pacheco, title recipient; Pamela Ndah, title recipient; Christine King, MLK Foundation; Luis DeRosa, Puerto Rican Chamber

On June 18, 2021 the Martin Luther King Economic Development Corporation (MLKEDC) joined by Miami Dade County District 3 Commissioner Keon Hardemon in awarding recipients of the Wheels to Work program the titles to their cars after the successful completion of the program's requirements. The Wheels to Work Program was first funded by Miami-Dade County Commissioner **Keon Hardemon** when he was the District 5 City of Miami Commissioner as part of an anti-poverty initiative. The program assists low-income persons with obtaining a vehicle for school and job preparedness. Participants must complete training workshops and community service over a period of 36 months to receive full ownership of the cars. **Ms. Christine King**, President and CEO of MLKEDC, explained that lack of credit history or poor credit can make vehicle ownership an otherwise unattainable goal for most low income families. According to Luis DeRosa, Puerto Rican Chamber the wheels to work program has assisted many Hispanic and Puerto Rican families realize of their dream of a car ownership.

## Puerto Rican Author Spotlight: Dr. Victor Vazquez



This book is available on Amazon for purchase.

People from Puerto Rico have been traveling to Miami for more than a century. The island became a US territory in 1898, and Islanders became US citizens in 1917. Throughout the 20th century, Puerto Ricans have established communities across Miami-Dade County. They have come as farm workers, garment workers, bankers and investors, or as US service members. By the 1950s, the Puerto Rican community in Miami was strong and diverse. The first Hispanic Mayor in Miami was Puerto Rican Maurice Ferre. "Boricuas in the Magic City: Puerto Ricans in Miami" is a photographic voyage through the history of Miami and its Puerto Rican community. "Boricua" is a term of endearment that Puerto Ricans call themselves that identifies them with the precolonial period when the native Tainos referred to the island as Boriken.



Roberto Clemente Park  
Wynwood Committee





Join us for our  
**Puerto Rican Heritage Celebration at  
loanDepot park on Saturday, August 14 2021 at 6:10PM.**

Make some noise and cheer on the Marlins and Special Guest Puerto Rican Native Isan Díaz, as the Marlins take on the Cubs.

Purchase a Puerto Rican Heritage ticket package that includes an exclusive Puerto Rican Heritage Marlins cap. Enjoy post game entertainment sponsored by Truly Hard Seltzer on the West Plaza.

A portion of the proceeds from each ticket will benefit the Roberto Clemente Senior Arts & Youth Baseball programs.

Several seating locations are available. Musical instruments and flags will be welcomed and encouraged. Wind instruments and noise makers are prohibited.

Hat distribution is based on a first-come-first-served basis and will be available for pick up when gates open at 5:00 PM until the end of the 4th inning.

Ticket prices are subject to change and the Puerto Rican Heritage Cap is of limited quantity.

Contact Isaac Paladino at [IPaladino@marlins.com](mailto:IPaladino@marlins.com) or 305.480.1522 for tickets and more information.

