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Boston University
THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL HONORS HISPANIC EMPLOYEES WITH WEEK-LONG CELEBRATION

Boston, Mass.--All this week, the University Hospital (UH) is honoring its Hispanic employees and educating other employees about Hispanic music, culture, food, art and literature. The week-long celebration--which coincides with National Spanish Heritage Week--is the first in a new series of events that the Hospital is dedicating to employees of various ethnic groups to increase intercultural awareness and harmony.

"Knowledge is the first step toward understanding," says Tina Lawson, UH's affirmative action officer and employment manager. "By exposing employees to the richness offered by the Hispanic culture and the myriad of cultures represented at UH, we hope to increase appreciation of cultural differences, while enhancing our sense of shared mission."

Among the highlights of the week is a collage of photographs of the Hospital's Hispanic employees, which is on display in the Hospital's Atrium Pavilion, 88 E. Newton Street. Other exhibits include a map of South and Central America and the Carribean, flags representing the native countries of UH employees, and literature and artifacts from those countries.

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At 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 12, in the B-conference room on the 2nd floor of the Atrium Pavilion, Jose Masso will speak about the challenges he has faced as an Hispanic in American society. Masso represents the Hispanic community to WCVB-TV, Channel 5, in their marketing and publications departments.

Authentic Hispanic cuisine and a medley of tango, merengue and salsa music, compliments of the local band, Fantastica, will delight and entertain employees in the UH cafeteria from noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Juan Lopez—an Hispanic representative from Mayor Flynn's office—will speak on Thursday, Sept. 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the B-conference room about his experiences as an Hispanic in the Boston political world. On the Mayor's behalf Lopez will present an award of recognition to a valued UH Hispanic employee.

Two videotapes—"Diversity in the Workplace" and "Communicating Across Cultures"—starting at noon in the B-conference room, will wrap up the week on Friday, Sept. 15. Both tapes are meant to inspire employees to respect and appreciate each others' differences and to teach strategies for communicating despite those differences.

The University Hospital, founded in 1855, is a principal teaching hospital of Boston University School of Medicine and a member of Boston University Medical Center.