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The  
University  
Hospital

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# NEWS

For Immediate Release  
September 4, 1990

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## UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL SPONSORS HISPANIC AWARENESS WEEK

Boston, Mass.--The University Hospital (UH) will spend the week of September 4-10 honoring its Hispanic employees and educating other employees about the Hispanic culture. In addition to featuring Hispanic music, culture, food, art and literature, the program will tackle such issues as working as a physician in a multi-cultural setting, health-care concerns of the Hispanic community and contributions the Hispanic culture has made to everyday life.

The second annual Hispanic Awareness Week is one of a series of events the Hospital's Affirmative Action Advisory Committee will sponsor this year to increase intercultural awareness and harmony. "Our purpose is to bridge cultural differences by exposing employees to the richness of this culture and increasing their appreciation for their Hispanic colleagues," says Alicia Martin, the coordinator and host of the week's events.

What it means to be a physician in a multicultural health-care setting will be the theme of a presentation by Rafael Ortega, M.D., an anesthesiologist at UH, at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 4, at the Hospital, which is located at 88 East Newton Street.

On Wednesday, Sept. 5, from noon to 1:30 p.m., employees will have the opportunity to dine on authentic Hispanic cuisine while being entertained by a medley of tango, merengue and salsa music, compliments of the local band, La Fantastica.

Gladys Barrientos, a refugee coordinator for women at Centro Presente in Cambridge, will discuss the contributions Hispanics have made to American society and illustrate aspects of our everyday life that have their origin in Hispanic culture on Thursday, Sept. 6, at noon.

At 12:30 p.m., on Thursday, Sept. 6, Nelson R. Reyneri, Jr., a representative from the governor's office, will present J. Scott Abercrombie Jr., M.D., the president of UH, with an award for UH's commitment to intercultural awareness and harmony.

Traditional Hispanic fashions will be modeled by students of Pimentel Original Modeling, Art and Design School on Friday, Sept. 7, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Spectators can expect to tease their palates with Hispanic food donated by various local restaurants and Hispanic UH employees. Gifts from local Hispanic businesses will be raffled off during the event.

Tania Garcia, assistant commissioner of minority affairs for the Massachusetts' Commission for the Blind, will speak about health-care issues concerning Hispanics on Monday, Sept. 10, at noon. Juan Lopez, an Hispanic representative from Mayor Raymond Flynn's office, will present awards of recognition for outstanding service on behalf of the mayor to valued UH Hispanic employees.

Throughout Hispanic Awareness Week, a collage of photographs of UH's Hispanic employees will be on display in the Hospital's Atrium Pavilion. Literature and artifacts from various Hispanic communities and countries will also be exhibited.

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.