

July 10, 2010
To Honor the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of
Don Rafael Cepeda
The Patriarch of Puerto Ricos Drum Music

Saturday, July 10, 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of the most important figure of the 20th Century that successfully preserved the culture and songs of Puerto Ricos drum music the music of Bomba and Plena. Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on July 10, 1910, Don Rafael Cepeda is considered the patriarch of Bomba and Plena and holds a special place in the hearts of all who love drums and culture and those of us from the Caribbean Antilles who are products of mixed Indian, European and African ancestries. By preserving this rich Afro-Puerto Rican legacy, Cepeda battled against racism and the indifference to all things Black in our communities. Subsequently he became the first Puerto Rican ever to receive the prestigious National Heritage Award from the National Endowment on the Arts in 1983 for his work as a folklorist, composer, performer, collector and historian of Afro-Puerto Rican heritage.

This Saturday, July 10, Segunda Quimbamba New Jerseys premier Bomba and Plena dance and drum ensemble will celebrate the remarkable legacy of Don Rafael Cepeda in solidarity with a four-day festival of song and dance occurring now in San Juan, Puerto Rico and sponsored by the Rafael Cepeda Foundation. Our events are free and open to the public at two public libraries:

Lecture and Dance/Drum Performance, 12:30 to 1:30pm

Biblioteca Criolla, Jersey City Free Public Library, 472 Jersey Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07302

www.jclibrary.org

Come by for a short lecture on the legacy of Rafael Cepeda by New Jerseys Master Drummer Juan Cartagena followed a live performance of Bomba & Plena music by Segunda Quimbamba.

Segunda Quimbamba: Selections from the Cepeda Songbook

Live Performance of Bomba and Plena Music, 5:00 pm

Montclair Public Library, 50 South Fullerton Avenue, Montclair, NJ 07042

www.montclairlibrary.org

Join us in a live celebration of dance and drum to honor the birthday of Don Rafael Cepeda